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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BUTTERFIELD).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 4, 2020.

I hereby appoint the Honorable G.K. BUTTERFIELD to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2020, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

RECOGNIZING EASTERN HANCOCK HIGH SCHOOL LIVESTOCK JUDGING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize four outstanding agriculture students from Eastern Hancock High School for winning the 4–H livestock judging contest at the Western National Roundup.

Conner Knudson, Hunter Knudson, Reed Hedrick, and Ashtyn Harvey represented the State of Indiana with integrity and skill. This team competed against 27 other teams from across the Nation and came out victorious.

Congratulations to these future farmers on their tremendous accomplishment. You have made the Sixth District proud.

SCOTT COUNTY, INDIANA, CELEBRATES BICENTENNIAL

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Scott County, Indiana, on their bicentennial celebration.

In these two centuries, Scott County has become a cornerstone of my Sixth District. With a growing economy, beautiful parks and lakes, and a close community of Hoosiers, Scott County continues to be a great place for all of us to call home.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Scott County on their bicentennial, and here is to the next 200 years.

RUSHVILLE ROTARY CLUB'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rushville Rotary Club for celebrating 100 years of service.

For a century now, the Rushville Rotary Club has been a pillar of community involvement in the district. The Rotary Club continues to support local service projects around the community and helps students at the Rushville High School.

I want to thank the members of the Rotary Club for their service and dedication to the people of Rushville and congratulate them on their 100th anniversary.

CONGRATULATING MARLIN KOHLMEIER

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Marlin Kohlmeier, who was named the 2019 Volunteer of the Year by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement and the Indiana Hunter Education Association.

Mr. Kohlmeier has been a teacher at South Ripley schools for over 40 years and volunteers his time to teach hunter safety to all the students at South Ripley.

According to his colleagues, Mr. Kohlmeier has a heart of gold, and there is no one more deserving of this honor.

As an avid hunter myself, I want to thank Mr. Kohlmeier for his work educating kids, and extend my congratulations for receiving this award.

RECOGNIZING RAILROAD DAY

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Railroad Day on Capitol Hill.

Today, we have 450 industry professionals from railroads, rail labor, rail contractors, and rail supply companies on Capitol Hill fighting for the issues that affect us all.

In my home State of Indiana, we have over 1,200 miles of Class III rail tracks and over 3,800 miles of Class I railroad tracks. As a crossroads of America, our rail industry is one of the busiest in the Nation and contributes to our thriving economy and business development.

I am proud to support policies that increase the safety and efficiency of infrastructure in Indiana and the rest of our great Nation.

We must support our country's railroads so that we can keep America's economy rolling.

CONGRATULATING SAM BENNETT

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sam Bennett of Delta High School for winning the 1–Meter Diving State Title at the 2020 Indiana Swimming and Diving State Meet.

Sam put in the hard work and dedication into his sport to rise from fourth place last year to the number one spot this year.

I wish Sam the best of luck next year as reigning champ for his senior season. I look forward to seeing him continue to make Indiana's Sixth District proud.

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LIARS CANNOT BE TOLERATED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. FOSTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I am a scientist, and if a scientist stands up and says something that they know is not true, it is a career-ending action. The reason for this is that science always operates at the edge of what is known, so we cannot tolerate liars.

The world is now facing scientific uncertainty in the spread and the severity of the coronavirus. And when the leadership of China confronted the reality of the pandemic, they chose to suppress scientific truth and lie to their people. That cost China and the world the opportunity to slow down and perhaps contain this outbreak.

In the U.S., we were recently exposed to the spectacle of our country's leader making self-serving pronouncements about the coronavirus outbreak that had no basis in scientific fact and that were immediately contradicted by his scientific experts.

As our Nation faces the serious threat of coronavirus, the American people deserve to know that they can trust the information coming from their government, and that the public officials that they elected are putting science ahead of politics or deranged conspiracy theories.

Unfortunately, after 3 years of consistently undermining scientific research and scientific fact, this administration is dangerously deficient in credibility, and that is directly putting the health and well-being of millions of Americans at risk with an opaque and chaotic response to this outbreak.

Just a few weeks ago, the Trump administration presented a budget that would slash almost $700 million from the Centers for Disease Control, cutting a vital resource that is at the front lines of this public health emergency.

This administration has left critical positions vacant at Homeland Security and the National Security Council, including positions responsible for managing pandemics.

Americans need their elected leaders to spend less time tweeting and more time making sure that government resources are coordinated and fully funded and ready to combat this outbreak.

Soon, the House will move forward to provide emergency funding that matches the scale and the threat of the coronavirus. We must make sure that the President and the administration uses these funds for what they are intended, a comprehensive and aggressive response to managing the coronavirus outbreak and making sure that any future vaccines or treatments are affordable and available to all who need them.

We also must hold the President and his administration accountable for the information they share with the American people. Three years of keeping science and facts at arm's length have rightly made people suspicious of what comes out of the White House. And now, as Americans worry for the health of themselves and their loved ones, they unfortunately must also worry about whether the information coming from the people that they expect to manage this crisis will be distorted for the President's political purposes.

When a leader lies to the public about important scientific facts, it is not acceptable. It is not cute. It is not just Trump being Trump. It is a dangerous act that puts our public health and our democracy at risk.

RECOGNIZING JACKSONVILLE NATIONAL CEMETERY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. RUTHERFORD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the many national cemeteries in Florida, especially the Jacksonville National Cemetery, which is in my district.

These hallowed grounds are sacred to the families of those who have served our country honorably, many of whom paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

Recently, the Department of Veterans Affairs ranked the top national cemeteries in the country, and I am proud to report that the Jacksonville National Cemetery of the Southeast District has earned the highest award, which was accepted by Al Richburg, the director of the Jacksonville National Cemetery.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Al and his wonderful team for all the work they do to preserve the final resting places of our Nation's military and creating a beautiful, peaceful, and memorable place for loved ones to visit.

CONGRATULATING WEST NASSAU HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADING TEAM

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the West Nassau High School Cheerleading Team, who recently won the State, National, and World Championships in Orlando.

With nine State titles, the Warriors are tied for the second most championships in the State of Florida. In fact, this is the second year in a row that they have claimed the State, National, and World titles, and they are the first high school in Florida to do so.

The team is spearheaded by Coach Samantha Beazley, who has led West Nassau to now five State championships, three National championships, and two World championships.

On behalf of Florida's Fourth Congressional District, I want to congratulate the West Nassau Warriors on a cheerleading dynasty.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 11 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Pastor Ethan Magness, First Christian Church, Johnson City, Tennessee, offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, we come to You in need of Your sovereign love, for Your power exceeds all human power, Your authority exceeds all human authority, and Your government will stand when all human governments have passed into history.

We come to You in confession of our weakness and sin, for we have sought too often our own power. We have fought too selfishly for our own glory. We have clung too tightly to our desires and our factions and our plans.

We come to You seeking the strength to repent. Turn us to Your wisdom instead of our own. Turn us to honesty instead of falsehood. Turn us to humility and service instead of pride and self-seeking.

We come to You for a blessing. Like Jacob, we cling to You and will not let go until You have blessed us, for You are good and gracious and loving, and in You, we put our trust.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DAVID P. ROE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee 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.

WELCOMING PASTOR ETHAN MAGNESS

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DAVID P. ROE) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ethan Magness, who delivered today's opening prayer.

Ethan is the senior pastor at First Christian Church in my hometown of

Johnson City, Tennessee, where my wife, Clarinda, has attended for many years.

We are pleased to welcome Pastor Magness here today.

Ethan is originally from Elizabethton, Tennessee, and graduated from Swarthmore College. He received his master of divinity from Emmanuel Christian Seminary and served for 10 years at the Mountain Christian Church in Joppa, Maryland.

Ethan founded and still directs the Semester in Ministry program at Milligan College. He has served as an adjunct professor there for 10 years.

I am proud to welcome Ethan; his wife, Betsy; and his son, Evan, to our Nation's Capitol today. I am also pleased he could share the Word of God with us today.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

FLIGHT 3407 FAMILIES' ADVOCACY IMPROVING AIRLINE SAFETY

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, for 11 years now, the families of Continental Flight 3407 have come to Capitol Hill with the heart-driven goal of improving airline safety.

Thanks to their efforts, and with bipartisan support from Congress, the Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization bill of 2010 included measures to improve transparency and safety for the flying public.

At long last, the Pilot Records Database, one of the final elements to be implemented, is moving forward.

The captain of Flight 3407 had only 600 hours of flight experience and failed three practical tests known as check rides. Still, Continental and its regional carrier, Colgan Air, hired him.

The National Transportation Safety Board found that pilot error had caused the crash.

Led by the courageous family and friends of the victims of Flight 3407 and their tragic yet awe-inspiring public advocacy to protect the flying public, this success, in a deeply personal way, belongs to them and those they loved and lost.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Miss Kaitlyn Roberts, one of his secretaries.

AIPAC IS EFFECTIVE

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, this week, we welcomed the American Israel Public Affairs Committee to Washington for the annual AIPAC Policy Conference.

This conference, with over 18,000 attending, is the largest gathering of America's pro-Israel community. AIPAC President Betsy Berns Korn is a very effective leader.

Monday, I had the opportunity to have attended the AIPAC Leadership Reception hosted by Howard and Elayne Levkowitz with ADAM SCHIFF.

Yesterday, I met with AIPAC members, led by David Kulbersh and his wife, Jane, of Columbia. They continued the tradition of the late David Baker of Columbia advising my predecessor, Chairman Floyd Spence.

Americans appreciate Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, a world statesman, for his cooperation with Jared Kushner for peace. I will always cherish leading the congressional delegation for the opening of the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem with Ambassador David Friedman as President Donald Trump fulfilled ''Promises Made, Promises Kept.''

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11th in the global war on terrorism.

Our prayers for Jeannie Burkett.

CORONAVIRUS NOT A HOAX

(Mr. TED LIEU of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Madam Speaker, the coronavirus is not a hoax. There are over 90,000 cases worldwide and over 3,000 deaths.

In the U.S., based on various reporting, we think there are over 100 cases, with at least nine deaths.

Criticism of the Trump administration's botched response to this outbreak is not a hoax. They had faulty initial tests. They then compounded that problem by having overly restrictive test criteria that artificially deflated the number of actual coronavirus cases. And we don't have enough test kits, as of today.

In L.A. County, where I am from, they recently declared a state of emergency. L.A. County has a total of one coronavirus test kit.

I am pleased that this week the House of Representatives will pass a supplemental funding package to make sure we have enough test kits for all the jurisdictions that need it.

We need this administration to stop misleading the American people and start leading. Lives are at stake.

CONGRATULATING COACH PAT O'KEEFE

(Mr. WALBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Coach Pat O'Keefe of Grand Ledge, who is retiring after 51 seasons leading the high school's baseball program.

Coach O'Keefe led the Comets to a pair of State championships and an incredible 1,315 wins, making him the winningest baseball coach in Michigan history.

Adding to his accolades, Coach O'Keefe is a member of the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame, the Greater Lansing Sports Hall of Fame, and the Michigan Baseball Hall of Fame.

He shares the successes of his career and gives credit to his wife of 48 years, Melody.

Coach O'Keefe is an exemplary community leader who will leave a lasting legacy beyond baseball. He modeled the value of hard work and sportsmanship, and he taught valuable life lessons to the young men on his teams.

Once again, I wish to congratulate Coach O'Keefe on a remarkable career, and I thank him for making such a positive impact on five decades of students in Grand Ledge.

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate March as National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths for men and women in this country.

This year, almost 148,000 Americans will be diagnosed with this dreaded disease, and 53,000 will die from it. Yet, if we catch it early, 90 percent of patients could survive within 5 years.

The key is awareness and education. If we can educate more Americans about colorectal cancer, we can limit the number of deaths from it. We can remove the fears and stigmas that prevent people from getting screenings.

I lost my father 8 years ago this weekend, Congressman Donald Payne, Sr., to colorectal cancer. But if more people get screened, we have a chance to keep more families from losing their fathers, brothers, and sons to this disease.

SUPPORT TRANSPORTATION WORKFORCE TRAINING

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6032, the Transportation Workforce Centers of Excellence Act.

I recently introduced this bill alongside my colleague, Congressman JIM LANGEVIN. As co-chairs of the bipartisan Career and Technical Education

Caucus, we are constantly looking for new ways to support a skilled workforce.

A skilled workforce is critically necessary to support a 21st century economy, and the individuals who pursue a skills-based career, as well as the institutions that train them, deserve to be rewarded for their commitment to closing our Nation's skills gap.

The Transportation Workforce Centers of Excellence Act would establish a competitive $50 million grant program to strengthen education and training programs in critical industries.

A highly skilled workforce is necessary to revitalize our national transportation system. The demand for qualified workers is greater than ever. This bill will help us meet infrastructure demands, close our Nation's skills gap, and reward schools that have gone above and beyond by establishing centers of excellence.

Madam Speaker, I would like to encourage my colleagues to join our efforts in supporting career and technical education centers of excellence and increased transportation workforce training.

□ 1215

PREDATORY DEBT COLLECTION

(Ms. DEAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, our servicemen and -women deserve more than a thank-you. They deserve our support and our protection.

This week, with unanimous support, we passed H.R. 5003, the Fair Debt Collection Practices for Servicemembers Act, to stand up for our troops against abusive debt collection practices.

Many debt collectors have used manipulative practices against our soldiers, such as threatening to contact a soldier's superior officer, threatening to reduce rank, and threatening to revoke a security clearance. If these practices aren't shameful enough, many debt collectors have resorted to contacting the soldier's family.

Soldiers are already under enough stress keeping us safe. The House passage of H.R. 5003 sends a clear message that we will protect those who protect us, and predator debt collection practices are never acceptable.

I urge the Senate to consider our servicemembers and support H.R. 5003.

CONGRATULATING PLEASANT PLAINS CARDINALS

(Mr. LAHOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sangamon County's Pleasant Plains High School girls basketball team, who brought home the school's first State championship last weekend.

Last Saturday, at Redbird Arena in Normal, the Pleasant Plains Cardinals defeated the two-time defending champion Chicago Marshall Commandos in a performance dominated by Pleasant Plains' defensive efforts.

The Cardinals held Marshall to 32 percent shooting and forced 12 turnovers in the game, winning by a final score of 43–37. The Commandos, who have won 11 previous State titles, led for only a minute the entire game.

The Pleasant Plains victory was not without drama, however, as the Cardinals allowed a 13-point, fourth-quarter lead to dwindle to just 1; but, on the strength of strong senior leadership, the Cardinals were able to seal the game and bring a State championship home to Pleasant Plains.

The Pleasant Plains girls team made all of Illinois very proud with their accomplishments this season, finishing with a 28–3 record. Each girl's commitment to the champion team and their community is truly inspiring.

Congratulations to Coach T.J. Fraase and the Pleasant Plains Cardinals.

PERSONAL WELL TESTING

(Mr. DELGADO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DELGADO. Madam Speaker, I rise today because our communities need peace of mind when drinking water from their personal wells. This is felt acutely in rural communities, where a lack of water infrastructure leads people to use wells as their main water supply.

That is why I joined colleagues on both sides of the aisle to introduce H.R. 6053, which will give folks an easy-to-use tool through the EPA which would enable them to test their own well water. This tool will empower our communities and assure them that they are drinking water that is clean of toxic chemicals.

I will keep championing work at the Federal level to hold the EPA accountable to set a safe drinking water standard, make sure PFAS is regulated under the Clean Water Act, and more. At the same time, we can make sure our communities have the tools they need to feel safe when using well water.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF EVERETT ''CRUSTY'' TOLER

(Mr. ABRAHAM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ABRAHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Mr. Everett ''Crusty'' Toler, who passed away last week in his hometown of Jena, Louisiana.

Crusty was a tugboat captain who lost the use of his legs early in life, but it did not do anything to cast a shadow on his warm personality or his outgoing demeanor. He was just a phenomenal gentleman. A friend to all who knew him, Crusty was a member of the ''Ole Boys'' club and Pritchard Baptist Church in Jena.

Crusty is survived by his wife, Paula, of 46 years; three brothers; and several nieces, nephews, and godchildren.

Please join me in bidding Crusty Toler a warm farewell.

SHORTAGE OF MEDICAL DEVICES

(Mr. SCHNEIDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, we are all concerned about the growing spread of coronavirus, and these concerns are not relieved by troubling stories of shortages of critically needed medical devices, including respirator masks.

Concerningly, as our healthcare system responds, it is exposing serious weaknesses in the supply chain for medical devices. These are products providers depend on to deliver life-saving care.

That is why, today, with my colleagues JAN SCHAKOWSKY from Illinois and JODY HICE from Georgia, I am introducing important, bipartisan legislation to help the FDA combat the threat.

My bill would allow the FDA to act expeditiously to address shortages, including by importing medical devices as needed. It would ensure that the manufacturers are communicating with the FDA about expected shortages of medical devices and that this information is shared transparently with the public.

The FDA already has these authorities to act during drug shortages, and we should grant them the same ability to respond to shortages of medical devices.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join us in supporting this commonsense bill.

RECOGNIZING HANK WOLGAMOTT

(Mr. OLSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, last Thursday night, as the House was recessed, I stood at this podium with a future President of the United States of America. His name is Hank Wolgamott. He is on the right in this picture.

Hank is one of my bosses in Texas 22. When he was 9 years old, his left arm was in a cast. The doctors said he had fractured his elbow. They were wrong. Blood was going into his elbow joint. He had severe hemophilia.

With the love of his mom, Amanda; his dad, Jesse; and his brother, Jack, Hank went to war against his condition, even though he was too young to know what was happening inside his body.

At 16 months old, he had a port placed in his left chest as part of his immune tolerance induction therapy. That was there for over 6 years. A fever or a fall meant a trip to the hospital to stop the bleeding. But Hank soldiered on.

My dad always told me: There are no guarantees in life. I have been alive now for 57 years and 3 months, and my dad has never been wrong—until I met Hank. There is a new guarantee in my life: Never bet against Hank Wolgamott. Hank always wins.

Vote for Hank in 2048. You will be glad you did.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT JUAN ZAMORA

(Mr. RUIZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Riverside County Sheriff's Department Sergeant Juan Zamora and celebrate his decades-long career. Sergeant Zamora is a devoted public servant, a great father, a caring husband, and my good friend.

We both grew up in the Coachella Valley; we both graduated from Coachella Valley High School; and we are both the proud sons of farmworkers. In fact, it is in the fields where Sergeant Zamora gained an appreciation for honest, hard work, and it is that very same appreciation that fueled his desire to serve his community and drove him to become the first in his family to go to college.

In 1997, he joined the Riverside County Sheriff's Department, rising through the ranks and serving as public information officer before his appointment to sheriff's sergeant in 2010. As the recipient of the Lifesaving Award and the Unit Citation Award, he has received recognition for all that he has done to protect and inspire our community.

I thank Sergeant Zamora for his years of service. I wish him a long and happy retirement filled with many more fond memories and plenty of that barbecue shrimp he loves.

I am proud of him; our community is proud of him; and I know that Carmen, Matthew, and Nicholas are proud of him, too.

PROVIDING SUPPORT TO FAMILIES OF INDIVIDUALS SUFFERING FROM SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

(Mr. MEUSER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of an important bill I recently introduced with my friend and colleague, DAVID TRONE from Maryland.

H.R. 5572, the Family Support Services Act, would improve access to nonprofit community organizations that provide vital support for families of individuals struggling with substance use disorder.

Despite the Trump administration's strong support of significant funding increases through H.R. 6 and other means, last year, my district experienced over 130 overdose deaths in Berks County alone, 102 in Schuylkill County. The numbers are tragically high throughout my district.

Families play an essential role in helping their loved ones recover from addiction, but the recovery process can be intimidating, stressful, and confusing. Organizations across the Nation struggle to offer family support services, such as finding treatment options, navigating insurance coverage and funding assistance, joining local support groups, and training and educating parents.

Currently, organizations offering these services receive no government funding. H.R. 5572 would create a grant program to improve access to these vital services and save lives.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor H.R. 5572, and empower families to do all they can to help their loved ones recover.

PREPARATION AND PREVENTION OF CORONAVIRUS

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, just returning from my district, I am well aware of the sense of concern of our constituents regarding the coronavirus, having been the first Member to present this to her community after unclassified briefings left me with many more answers.

I believe it is imperative that we not panic, but prepare.

In San Antonio, this headline reads: ''San Antonio declares emergency after CDC released a woman infected with the coronavirus: 'Totally unacceptable.' ''

''Coronavirus: You may need to take a 2-week break from your life,'' CDC says.

I am intending to introduce legislation that deals with hourly wage makers in order to protect them if such happens.

But I think it is important, as well, to determine what equipment we have in the United States, to explain to the American people that there are now two strains—one more deadly than the other—and to be as forthright as you possibly can.

Information provides opportunity to prepare, and it embraces all of the community.

Finally, it is important that local health departments have test kits and that we explain to the Nation that a vaccine is not easily done. It has to be researched, tested, and vetted, and there will be a period of time.

So our actions should be preparation and prevention, not panic; but the reality is that we are dealing with something enormously serious, and I intend to continue to do that on behalf of my constituents.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. DEAN). The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 9455(a), and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy:

Mr. TED LIEU, California

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to The National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 955(b)), and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, of the following Member on the part of the House to the National Council on the Arts:

Ms. ADAMS, North Carolina

□ 1230

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1140, RIGHTS FOR TRANSPORTATION SECURITY OFFICERS ACT OF 2020; PROVIDING FOR MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES; AND WAIVING A REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(A) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED FROM THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 877 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 877

Resolved, That at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1140) to enhance the security operations of the Transportation Security Administration and stability of the transportation security workforce by applying the personnel system under title 5, United States Code, to employees of the Transportation Security Administration who provide screening of all passengers and property, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Homeland Security. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Homeland Security now printed in

the bill shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment under the five-minute rule and shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. No further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such further amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such further amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill, as amended, to the House with such further amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. It shall be in order at any time on the legislative day of March 5, 2020, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules as though under clause 1 of rule XV, relating to a measure making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020.

SEC. 3. The requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII for a two-thirds vote to consider a report from the Committee on Rules on the same day it is presented to the House is waived with respect to any resolution reported through the legislative day of March 5, 2020, relating to a measure making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Pennsylvania is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. LESKO), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

On Monday, the Rules Committee met and reported a rule, House Resolution 877, providing for consideration of H.R. 1140, the Rights for Transportation Security Officers Act of 2020, under a structured rule. The rule provides 1 hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Homeland Security and makes in order nine amendments.

Lastly, the rule provides suspension authority for Thursday and same-day authority for Wednesday and Thursday, both limited to the consideration of a supplemental appropriations bill.

Madam Speaker, when the Transportation Security Administration was established as a response to the September 11 terrorist attacks in 2001, its Administrator was given broad authority over its workforce with respect to setting up pay and workplace conditions. As such, Transportation Security officers, TSOs, have been unable to benefit from Fair Labor Standards Act protections or fall under the general schedule pay scale. This distinction puts TSOs in a different class from other federal workers, preventing them from having the representational rights afforded through the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978.

Each day, TSOs screen more than 2 million passengers at over 440 airports nationwide. These workers are critical to helping Americans travel safely and make up more than 70 percent of the Transportation Security Administration's workforce. However, TSOs are among the lowest paid Federal workers and routinely have among the lowest retention rate of any Federal agency. TSO annual pay lags well behind industry counterparts, and even the top performing TSOs with exceptional performance find it difficult to advance within their pay bands.

This was not Congress' intention when it gave the Administrator broad latitude to manage its own personnel system, nor was it Congress' intention that this authority should be used to benefit management over frontline TSOs, as is the case today.

As a result, in the past decade TSA has come to rank near the bottom in Federal employee morale surveys. This has created a culture in which last year the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General said that TSA must address its retention, hiring, and training challenges.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD excerpts from that 2019 report entitled ''TSA Needs to Improve Efforts to Retain, Hire, and Train Its Transportation Security Officers.''

TSA NEEDS TO IMPROVE EFFORTS TO RETAIN, HIRE, AND TRAIN ITS TRANSPORTATION SECURITY OFFICERS

WHAT WE FOUND

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) needs to continue to improve its retention, hiring, and training of Transportation Security Officers (TSO). Specifically, TSA needs to better address its retention challenges because it currently does not share and leverage results of TSO exit surveys and does not always convey job expectations to new-hires. Prior to August 2018, TSA did not always focus on TSO career growth. Thus, the agency may be missing opportunities to prevent early attrition. By improving its retention efforts, TSA could save funds otherwise spent to hire and train new TSOs.

Furthermore, TSA does not fully evaluate applicants for capability as well as compatibility when hiring new TSOs. Thus, the agency may be making uninformed hiring decisions due to inadequate applicant information and a lack of formally documented guidance on ranking potential new-hires. Without complete information, TSA may not be selecting the most highly qualified individuals as TSOs.

Prior to July 2018, TSA had not standardized the approach for training new TSOs before they attend basic training and did not consistently send TSOs to basic training immediately following onboarding. TSA also does not give all airports complete visibility into its basic training curriculum as a basis for training new-hires locally. Without an experienced workforce or a consistent, robust training program, TSA is missing opportunities to strengthen its workforce. Given the importance of TSOs fulfilling the aviation security mission, TSA must address its retention, hiring, and training challenges, which could save millions in taxpayers' dollars.

TSA RESPONSE

TSA concurred with all nine recommendations and initiated corrective actions to address the findings.

Memorandum for: The Honorable David Pekoske, Administrator, Transportation Security Administration.

From: John V. Kelly, Acting Inspector General.

Subject: TSA Needs to Improve Efforts to Retain, Hire, and Train Its Transportation Security Officers.

Attached for your action is our final report, TSA Needs to Improve Efforts to Retain, Hire, and Train Its Transportation Security Officers. We incorporated the formal comments provided by your office.

The report contains nine recommendations aimed at improving TSA's retention, hiring, and training efforts for its Transportation Security Officers. Your office concurred with all nine recommendations. Based on information provided in your response to the draft report, recommendations 4, 6, and 8 are closed while recommendations 1, 2, 5, 7, and 9 are resolved and open. Once your office has fully implemented the recommendations, please submit a formal closeout letter to us within 30 days so that we may close the recommendations. The memorandum should be accompanied by evidence of completion of agreed upon corrective actions and of the disposition of any monetary amounts. Recommendation 3 remains unresolved and open because we did not agree with TSA's proposed corrective action plan. As prescribed by the Department of Homeland Security Directive 077–01, Follow-Up and Resolutions for the Office of Inspector General Report Recommendations, within 90 days of the date of this memorandum, please provide our office with a written response that includes your (1) agreement or disagreement, (2) corrective action plan, and (3) target completion date. Also, please include responsible parties and any other supporting documentation necessary to inform us about the current status of the recommendations. Until your response is received and evaluated, recommendation #3 will be considered open and unresolved.

Consistent with our responsibility under the Inspector General Act, we will provide copies of our report to congressional committees with oversight and appropriation responsibility over the Department of Homeland Security. We will post the report on our website for public dissemination.

CONCLUSION

TSOs are critical to airline passenger safety and the security of the aviation transportation system. The Aviation and Transportation Security Act charges TSA with developing standards for retaining, hiring, and training security screening personnel at all

U.S. airports. Passengers rely on TSOs to screen other passengers and baggage properly at more than 400 airports nationwide. In FY 2017, TSA hired more than 9,600 TSOs and spent approximately $75 million to recruit, hire, and train them. Improving retention, hiring, and training of TSOs would save costs and provide a more stable, mature, and qualified workforce to better secure the Nation's aviation transportation system.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1: We recommend the Assistant Administrator, Human Capital, continue to coordinate efforts with Security Operations to implement actions that facilitate improvements in the hiring process to ensure applicants are informed of the Transportation Security Officer duties and that TSA continues to hire qualified applicants. At a minimum, TSA should:

a. require an applicant affirm whether he/she has reviewed the Transportation Security Officer Realistic Job Preview video and understands duties include interacting with passengers, passenger patdowns, shift work, weekend work, and holidays. If the applicant has not, ensure the applicant reviews the video as part of the application process; and

b. finalize the implementation of the agency's job compatibility assessment tool for use during the hiring process.

Recommendation 2: We recommend the Assistant Administrator, Human Capital, revise the exit survey process to:

a. ensure airports offer local exit interviews;

b. record results in a centralized system;

c. provide relevant stakeholders access to the results for analysis and process improvements; and

d. address areas identified in the exit survey results that would help retain a skilled and knowledgeable Transportation Security Officer workforce.

Recommendation 3: We recommend the Assistant Administrator, Human Capital, continue to review and develop recruitment and retention strategies for reducing attrition:

a. at smaller airports; and

b. among part-time Transportation Security Officers.

Recommendation 4: We recommend the Assistant Administrator, Human Capital, meet established timelines to implement the first phase of Career Progression for newly appointed entry-level Transportation Security Officers.

Recommendation 5: We recommend the Assistant Administrator, Human Capital, examine increases in pay based upon skill level for Transportation Security Officers that could help attract and retain a strong workforce.

Recommendation 6: We recommend the Assistant Administrator, Human Capital, compile a local hiring update message to remind airports to follow TSA records retention policies for Airport Assessment documentation.

Recommendation 7: We recommend the Assistant Administrator, Human Capital, formally document system functional requirements, such as the rating process criteria, for quality assurance purposes to ensure proper system logic in how applicants are ranked on the Certification Lists.

Recommendation 8: We recommend the Assistant Administrator, Training and Development, coordinate with Security Operations to enforce the pre-Basic Training Program requirements.

Recommendation 9: We recommend the Assistant Administrator, Training and Development, provide all airports access to the Basic Training Program curriculum in its entirety.

MANAGEMENT COMMENTS AND OIG ANALYSIS

TSA concurred with all of our recommendations and is taking steps or has implemented actions to address them. Appendix B contains TSA's management comments in their entirety. We also received technical comments to the draft report and revised the report as appropriate. We consider recommendations 1, 2, 5, 7, and 9 resolved and open. Recommendations 4, 6, and 8 are closed. Recommendation 3 remains unresolved and open because we did not agree with TSA's proposed corrective action plan. A summary of TSA's responses and our analysis follows.

TSA Comments to Recommendation 1: TSA concurred with the recommendation. TSA explained its efforts to make every TSO applicant aware of the realities of the TSO position and ensure the agency conveys job expectations to TSO applicants. These efforts include participating in job fairs and career events, hosting in-person and virtual information sessions, attaching an airport-specific fact sheet to every TSO Job Opportunity Announcement posted on the Federal Government's official employment site, USAJobs, and creating and sharing the TSO Realistic Job Preview video that is communicated throughout the hiring process and accessible through various avenues. TSA will mandate that personnel scheduling the Airport Assessment review an airport's hours of operations, typical shifts and days off, and typical duties of the position. Additionally, TSA will modify the Airport Assessment scheduling script to advise that each applicant is required to watch the TSO Realistic Job Preview video prior to attending the assessment. TSA expects these actions to begin by March 31, 2019. Additionally, TSA plans to include a compatibility assessment tool in the TSO hiring process, which the Office of Personnel Management will validate. The estimated completion date to pilot and fully deploy the compatibility assessment tool is September 30, 2019.

OIG Analysis of TSA Comments: TSA has taken steps to satisfy the intent of this recommendation. We consider this recommendation resolved, but it will remain open until TSA provides documentation to support that all planned corrective actions are completed.

Ms. SCANLON. Fortunately, Madam Speaker, this bill before us today will address each of those challenges. The Rights for Transportation Security Officers Act will honor those who protect America's aviation security by bringing the TSA personnel system within the bounds of the rest of the Federal workforce.

H.R. 1140 will put an end to the current TSA personnel directives that have allowed the TSA to be the judge and jury in workforce disciplinary matters, and require TSA to follow the labor-management employee relations statutes that provide workplace rights and protections to most Federal employees under title 5 of the U.S. Code; the provision that is most notable in efforts to increase employee retention and morale by putting TSOs on the general schedule pay scale and finally aligning pay with the vast majority of other Federal employees.

This legislation has been a long time coming for the men and women who protect our skies and keep millions of us safe on a daily basis. During the 35-day partial government shutdown at the end of the last Congress, TSOs were required to work for more than 5 weeks without pay. At Philadelphia International Airport in my district, a typical entry-level salary for a TSO is about $29,000 per year, without including additional locality pay.

Working without pay for over a month would be difficult if you made three times that amount, Madam Speaker, but it is unconscionable that the Federal Government would force the very people we trust to keep us safe into having to turn to food banks, short-term loans, and donations to make ends meet. Yet these Federal workers kept reporting for work even when they couldn't afford gas and parking. These are not hypotheticals. In my district alone we collected food, diapers, gas cards, and other necessities for TSOs who were not being paid.

The Federal Government did not live up to its commitment to these TSOs, but these civil servants did not waiver in their dedication to keeping the flying public safe.

My colleagues across the aisle have objected to this bill which would support our Federal workers by claiming that our national security is at risk, that TSA would lose flexibility, and that the bill is too expensive.

To the first point, I would say that a TSA staffed by underpaid and overworked TSOs is a greater threat to national security than paying a fair wage to keep Americans safe. Pay is one of the top reasons that the TSA struggles with keeping good employees. We lose current and potential TSOs every day because they can make more money in lower pressure work environments elsewhere.

Whether in business, law, or government, you get what you pay for, and I, for one, do not believe that the security of our airports and skies or the lives of the traveling public are something we should be looking to get a bargain on.

Further, granting the TSA workforce full collective bargaining rights under title 5 would not deny TSA the ability to remove bad employees or interfere with TSA's authority to direct security operations. Federal agencies already under title 5 jurisdiction have the flexibility to quickly deal with bad actors, but ensuring that proper protocols are followed in termination proceedings is a right that must be afforded to employees. This includes other Federal agencies with security and enforcement operations such as Customs and Border Patrol, the Department of Defense, and others.

The TSA has had years to address its issues of recruitment, retention, and training, but has failed to do so. Now it is time for Congress to bring TSA in line with other Federal agencies. The TSA is not a new Federal agency, nor is it destined to go away. So, in that sense we must make sure that these patriotic civil workers are properly compensated and given the workplace rights that they deserve.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative SCANLON for

yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, this bill has six main aspects that I have major concerns with.

First, the bill eliminates TSA's unique personnel management authorities created in the Aviation and Transportation Security Act of 2001, commonly known as ATSA.

This legislation moves employees of the TSA into the government pay schedule. In 2001, when Congress created TSA, the decision was made not to do this in order to give the agency flexibility. At present, the TSA Administrator has authority over employee pay, hiring, termination, and discipline.

TSA has repeatedly told us that placing the screener workforce under title 5 would tie the agency's hands related to national security policy, workforce management, and collective bargaining.

Specifically, TSA would not be able to continue a one-step removal process for employees found to have committed serious security breaches or misconduct, such as allowing unauthorized access to secure areas or allowing threat items and illicit contraband through the security checkpoint.

TSA's ability to move employees to different checkpoints based on passenger volume would also be curtailed. Currently, TSA can set new security policies TSOs must follow and move TSOs between checkpoints to manage passenger volume. Under this bill, however, both actions would be subject to collective bargaining and the security measures could be limited as a result.

TSA's ability to set security screening policies, such as when and how to conduct pat-downs, would be negotiable with the union instead of being driven by national security imperatives.

In fact, the bill eliminates the TSA's authority to immediately fire employees for serious misconduct, including sexual assault, drug and alcohol abuse, arrest, theft, and intentional security breaches, such as allowing guns, knives, and explosives past the checkpoint. In recent years, there have been several incidents of TSOs assaulting passengers, stealing passenger items, and allowing drugs past the checkpoint. Now, we all know the majority of TSOs are good people doing good jobs. But there are some bad actors.

On February 6, 2020, the State of California announced the arrest and prosecution of a former TSA screener resulting from a joint investigation effort by Federal, State, and local enforcement agencies and the TSA.

According to the criminal complaint, the TSA screener used fraud or deceit to falsely imprison a woman going through security while stationed as a travel document checker at Los Angeles International Airport in June of 2019. The screener allegedly insisted that the woman passenger needed extra screening in an elevator, where he told the passenger to reveal her full breasts and to lift her pants and underwear. The victim in the case stated that she complied with the TSO's instructions out of fear that he would inappropriately touch her.

This sort of horrible incident is why it is imperative that TSA retain its one-step removal process for employees who sully the integrity and honor of the TSA mission and put American travelers at risk.

Under title 5 protections, this TSA screener that I just talked about could remain on the Federal Government's payroll for years before removal. That is wrong. Under this bill, TSA leadership would lose the flexibility to respond effectively to incidents such as the one I just described.

The second reason I have concerns about this bill is just recently in 2019, the bipartisan Blue Ribbon Panel for the Transportation Security Administration on Human Capital Service Delivery specifically recommended that TSA not—I repeat not—switch to the general schedule, GS, system, calling it overly rigid and outdated.

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This panel is comprised of former officials from both Republican and Democratic administrations, and it is led by a Department of Homeland Security official from the Obama administration.

They all pointed out that, under the current system and law, TSA can pay its employees more than they can make under title 5. It called on TSA to use the statutory flexibility Congress provided it to provide targeted pay increases, which I support. The Blue Ribbon Panel specifically recommended against the policies contained in H.R. 1140.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the Blue Ribbon Panel report, titled ''Final Findings and Recommendations, Blue Ribbon Panel for the Transportation Security Administration.''

FINAL FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
BLUE RIBBON PANEL FOR THE TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (TSA)

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has faced numerous challenges with human capital policy, operations, and services to support mission requirements. The Agency determined it needed a third-party review to identify the underlying problems and recommend solutions. ICF was contracted to perform the work and convened a Blue-Ribbon Panel (the Panel) to review, analyze, and make recommendations for improvements. This Report documents the ''As Is'' state and recommendations for improvement. It is based on extensive interviews with Office of Human Capital (OHC) and other headquarters (HQ) stakeholders, interviews with airport leaders, and focus groups with the National Advisory Council (NAC) and Transportation Security Officers (TSOs). In addition, the Panel reviewed documents and data provided by TSA. ICF also analyzed TSA data to look for trends, corroboration, or potential root causes of identified issues.

Because of the nature of the Panel's work—identifying problems and recommending solutions—this report documents difficult, long-standing challenges. The Panel also found areas of excellence. The TSO workforce, for example, demonstrates a remarkable level of dedication to their work. Even during the seven-week partial government shutdown, the vast majority of TSOs showed up and did their jobs. Some even participated in recruiting events to help TSA recruit new officers. Given the low pay and difficult working conditions that are inherent in TSA's screening work, the dedication these officers show is extraordinary.

TSA's low ranking in the Partnership for Public Service's Best Places to Work in the Federal Government may lead some to conclude that there are no great leaders in TSA. That is not true. The Panel found there are airports with outstanding leaders whose work clearly demonstrates excellence. The challenge facing TSA is to take the lessons learned from those airports, feedback from employees and stakeholders, and Panel recommendations to transform human capital operations agency-wide.

The Panel's key findings and recommendations are categorized into two major areas: Examining Human Capital Service Delivery and Supporting the Transportation Security Officer (TSO) Workforce.

TSA human capital challenges include ineffective use of Aviation and Transportation Security Act (ATSA) flexibilities, an ill-defined service delivery model that relies on contractors with insufficient oversight and inadequate Human Capital Information Technology, poorly trained field staff, and a headquarters human capital office that lacks strategic focus and demonstrates insufficient teamwork.

The policy and human capital operations challenges appear to result from deficiencies in the Office of Human Capital (OHC) and an inconsistent approach to field delivery of human capital services. The OHC suffers from a lack of teamwork and leadership challenges. Interviews with customers, stakeholders, and OHC staff make clear that human capital programs are not designed in the context of a cohesive strategy. OHC customers gave negative feedback on key programs, particularly human capital information technology systems, classification and position management, and hiring and pay, with a few bright spots in employee relations and training. OHC leaders consistently reported a culture where cooperation across OHC organizations was lacking and peer relationships are poor.

TSA's Human Capital Office issues are significant, but the Panel has encountered other human capital organizations with such issues that have been transformed into effective units. With significant leadership support, the Panel believes the improvements in Human Capital Office leadership, work processes and policies required for TSA to have acceptable human capital services are achievable and has included recommendations for implementable and substantive changes that will provide a way forward for TSA. This report includes multiple recommendations. The most pressing among those recommendations are the need for more effective human capital leadership, a well thought out process for human capital service delivery, greater use of ATSA flexibilities, modern human capital technology, and standardizing and realigning the field human capital structure. Adoption of these recommendations, coupled with actions TSA is already taking to make improvements, should result in significantly improved human capital policies and services.

The 2018 TSA Exit Survey report indicated employees were concerned about leadership issues, having experienced a ''lack of management skills,'' ''unfair practices (e.g., in

performance appraisal, disciplinary actions, career advancement, etc.),'' ''unequal levels of respect,'' a ''hostile work environment,'' and ''inadequate communication with the workforce.'' TSOs perceive favoritism and express an inability to voice complaints about issues.

The Panel believes the systemic problems with TSO pay may be a major contributor to some of those perceptions, due to the inability of TSOs (even those with exceptional performance ratings) to advance within their pay bands. Employee perceptions of leadership and organizational fairness may undermine their commitment to stay at TSA.

Surveys and Focus Groups reveal that TSO pay is a key issue for the screening workforce, and a complex problem. These officers work long hours, have difficult working conditions, and are the backbone of the TSA mission. By some measures, TSO annual pay in some locations lags well behind industry counterparts. TSO perceptions regarding inequity in their pay are aggravated by the fact that their pay averages about one-third of that of TSA employees in Management, Administration and Professional (MAP) positions. The Panel recognizes that the nature of the TSO's work and that of employees in MAP positions means a disparity in pay is always going to exist. While there is no indication it was deliberate, TSA's use of its flexibilities has boosted MAP pay above government averages, with TSO pay remaining below those averages for comparable jobs.

The disparity is driven in part by a pay and performance management process that provides little hope of movement, especially within the E-Band. A TSO at the bottom of the E-band, even with exceptional performance ratings year after year, would take more than 30 years to reach the top of the E-Band. This produces the effect that the E-Band pay range is illusory, with few TSOs in the middle or at the top of the band.

TSO turnover is high in the first three years in comparison to other positions in TSA and in the federal workforce. TSO turnover is somewhat consistent with other low wage jobs in the private sector with comparable skill requirements for initial hiring, where annual turnover rates of 20 percent or more are common. That does not mean TSA should accept high turnover as a given. The cost of turnover (in terms of recruiting, hiring and training replacement officers and lower productivity of newer and less skilled officers) is high and the effect on the workforce which carries the screening workload in absence of a full TSO cohort is significant. If TSA can retain Officers beyond the first three years, turnover reduces to a much more manageable level.

Turnover among longer term employees may be driven by the stability of employment and benefits TSOs receive. Although TSA operates outside of the general government pay and classification statutes found in Title 5 of the U.S. Code, the agency offers the same or better benefits as other agencies and provides greater job security than many private sector employers. As a result, if TSA can address pay, leadership, and turnover issues, the Panel believes the agency will see reduced costs, better morale, and a more stable workforce.

This report includes recommendations to address TSO pay and advancement, and other critical issues for the TSO workforce. Although we often find that pay is a secondary issue for employees and other leadership issues tend to drive turnover, Focus Group findings highlight pay as the greatest issue driving turnover.

The Panel acknowledges that TSA recognizes the pay issues and is seeking ways to address them. The scale of TSA operations means that even small across-the-board pay increases can cost tens of millions of dollars. The Panel recommends targeted pay raises, rather than across-the-board increases that might consume precious salary dollars to raise pay in locations where pay is not a problem.

Although TSOs identify pay as the key driver of turnover, the Panel believes other problematic issues must be addressed as well. If pay problems are reduced, the other issues will continue to affect morale and turnover. Other key recommendations address the hiring process, which the Panel believes should be significantly modernized, and leader selection and development, which is essential to address many of the morale issues that are contributors to morale problems and turnover. The Panel also recommends changes to the promotion process and support for Information Technology improvements that can simultaneously increase operational efficiency and transparency, likely reducing concerns of favoritism expressed by the TSO workforce.

One recommendation the Panel heard repeatedly from employees was moving TSA into the General Schedule (GS). The Panel does not agree. The General Schedule is a 70 year-old classification and compensation system from the last century and is the subject of countless studies and recommendations from good government organizations who consistently find it is too inflexible to meet the needs of the 21st century workforce. A better course of action is to use existing ATSA flexibility to improve the TSA pay system so that it operates at a level superior to the GS system.

This Report provides a high-level roadmap for changes to TSA's Human Capital policies and processes, which if adopted, should have a significant positive impact on TSA workforce and mission operations.

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, third, some benefits currently available to the screener workforce under ATSA would not be possible if this bill were to become law.

The bill does not fix the morale problem.

The bill does not guarantee additional pay or benefits for TSOs. It may actually make situations worse. The bill eliminates the authority TSA has to pay TSOs more than other Federal employees under title 5.

It also eliminates several benefits, such as the broadest application of veterans' hiring preference in the Federal Government, meaning that veterans may not get the same preference that they do now; shift trades between employees; voluntary leave transfers; partial overtime pay as compensation for schedule changes; and career progression bonuses of up to 5 percent of a screener's salary.

Fourth, we have yet to receive a CBO score. However, TSA estimates the bill will cost $1.2 billion over the next 5 years. To cover the cost, funding for security priorities would be reduced. The bill does not even have a specific authorization of appropriations or means of paying for moving these employees under title 5.

The fifth reason I have a concern on this bill, H.R. 1140, amounts to a forced unionization of the TSA workforce and a forced designation of the union that will represent that same workforce. It does not allow for an intervening election for TSA screeners to choose their labor representation.

As such, this bill benefits one specific union, the American Federation of Government Employees. The bill does not provide for an intervening election to give screeners the right to choose which union they want to represent them.

In 2011, AFGE was recognized by the Obama administration to represent the screener workforce after two elections. Approximately 8,900 screeners voted for the union. However, today, there are approximately 45,000 screeners subject to this bill. While TSA employees did select AFGE as their bargaining agent in 2011, it is remarkable that this bill specifically dictates which union will be representing TSA employees without a more recent vote or all employees voting.

Sixth, this bill, once again, is a partisan messaging bill that will not become law. We know that because I highly doubt the Senate is going to hear this bill. Yet again, the majority refuses to work with the minority to move viable legislation to address real problems.

Madam Speaker, I urge opposition to the rule, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as expected, we have heard that eliminating the unique personnel management tools that were initially afforded to the TSA is somehow going to undermine the organization, but this ignores the reality that those tools are no longer needed nor effective.

The record is replete with evidence that we need to reform the way the TSA is managed in order to address very, very serious issues of recruitment, retention, and training.

What is posited here is a false choice between workers' rights and national security, and we reject that choice.

We were given an example of gross sexual misconduct as a reason why workers shouldn't have organizational rights. But under title 5's rule, which would apply under this bill, agencies can expedite personnel actions against employees accused of criminal activity, and they also can be removed from their duty post for potential harm to themselves or to others.

Again, this is a false choice between workers' rights and national security, or just plain old management.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCANLON), a member of the Rules Committee, for her leadership. I thank the minority's representative, as well.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to enthusiastically support H.R. 1140. I am very proud to be an enthusiastic cosponsor of this legislation and to explain to my colleagues and the American people how we started the Committee on Homeland Security, as a founding

member, if you will, being here during the heinous terrorist acts of 9/11 and knowing that the Nation needed to put together quickly a Homeland Security Department, second in size to the Department of Defense, I believe.

We organized the Transportation Security Administration fast and in a way that the Administrator would, really, have all powers—all powers. In doing so, we failed to give them Federal civil service protection. So, this legislation is legislation that is crucial because the TSA workforce is among the lowest paid in the Federal Government and lacks basic workplace protection afforded to most other government workers. As a result, TSA struggles with low morale and high attrition.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1140, the Rights for Transportation Security Officers Act of 2020, is nothing that has been previously described—nothing like that. It is an opportunity to maintain a professional force of individuals who every day protect Americans.

It is unfortunate that, as we go through our normal life and we see TSO officers, and we see them in their blue shirts and their dark pants, we take them for granted, quite frankly.

As a former chair of the Transportation Security Subcommittee of the Homeland Security Committee, I was intimately engaged in knowing just what the work was that they did.

Do we understand the numbers of weapons that are found every day? I am saying it generically because some of this is classified.

The number of incidences that are thwarted, if you will, by TSO officers—do we realize that one of our great officers lost his life in Los Angeles, and his family suffers?

This bill would provide reasonable protection. It would give gradations of salaries. It will allow us to keep a professional staff.

We attempted to put a Band-Aid on this by providing for professional development training in Georgia, where other Federal law enforcement academies were. That was not enough.

In fact, they had to change it for these individuals who work for a period of time before they went to the academy because they were losing people after they went to the academy because they were not earning the compensation that they should. There was no promotion.

Just the other day, a very fine young woman, excellent, who was respected and had come up to headquarters, she left us for another Federal agency because there was no advancement or opportunity.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RUIZ). The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, these are fine Americans. Many of them are former military, and they support their families. To give them the opportunity to, first of all, have a right to grievance, to ensure that they have nonreduction on pay and compensation, that they have preservation of their civil rights—there is no right to strike. But it is a right to have the ability to engage their employer and to be able to be respected.

Mr. Speaker, I am enthusiastic about this. Names like Bill and Patrick and Alfred, other men and women of the Transportation Security Administration, the TSOs' names, I am sure, that we could call in our respective airports, the people we know every day, our neighbors. They do a great and fine job.

We must pass this bill, and I hope we pass it in a bipartisan way. Think about not paying those who are saving your lives every single day in the Nation's airports. Think about how you are treating them. Think about the low pay. Think about the compensation that does not allow them to have high morale.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the show of support for passing this bill, and I ask my colleagues to support it.

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I, too, support increasing pay for our TSOs. I am the ranking member, Republican member, on the Homeland Security Subcommittee on Transportation and Maritime Security, so we have had hearings on this.

I do believe that they need to get a pay increase. It is a tough job. The ones I go through, in the Phoenix and Washington DCA airports, do a good job. So I am not opposed to that at all, and I am hoping I can work together with my Democratic colleagues on the budget so we can try to increase the budget so that they can increase pay for good TSOs who are doing a good job.

But what I do know is that I don't like this bill. I already said the reasons why I don't like this bill, but one of them is specifically about the case I talked about where a bad TSO officer, someone who did a bad thing—sexually assaulted a woman—that then they wouldn't be removed immediately if this bill came into law.

My colleague, Representative SCANLON, said: Well, under title 5 rules, they could be removed from their post.

Well, that is good, but they are still getting paid. And I can tell you what, I bet if I went out on the street right now and I said: Do you think it is fine if a TSO officer sexually assaulted a woman on an elevator under false pretenses, do you think that Federal employee should still be getting paid?

They would say absolutely not. They would be outraged. That is one of my major concerns on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will bring to the floor H.R. 5595, the Israel Anti-Boycott Act.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment in the RECORD, along with extraneous material, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions campaign, commonly known as BDS, is anti-Israel, anti-peace, and damaging to U.S. interests.

This bill amends the Export Administration Act of 1979 to prohibit boycotts or requests for boycotts imposed by international governmental organizations against Israel. This will protect American companies from being forced to give information to international organizations for the furthering of boycotts against Israel.

This bill establishes Congress' opposition to the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement, and establishes that Congress considers the United Nations Human Rights Council's creation of a database of companies doing business in the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and the Golan Heights in March 2016 to be an act of BDS.

□ 1300

We cannot be quiet when it comes to combating anti-Semitism and anti-Israel mentalities. We need to work together in Congress and pass commonsense legislation on this issue. H.R. 5595 does just that.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ZELDIN), my good friend.

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to defeat the previous question so that the House may take up H.R. 5595, the Israel Anti-Boycott Act, that would help fight back against the BDS movement.

This bill would prohibit boycotts or requests for boycotts imposed by international governmental organizations against Israel and would protect American companies from being coerced to provide information to those organizations for the purpose of furthering boycotts against Israel.

This bill holds individuals who attempt to violate this protection accountable. Additionally, it establishes Congress' opposition to the BDS movement and condemns the United Nations' Human Rights Council's creation of a blacklist of companies doing business in the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and the Golan Heights as an act of BDS.

This legislation does not impede the right of any individual American to boycott or criticize Israel. It is okay to have reasonable, legitimate concerns with any government, including our own and allies like Israel, but this hate-fueled movement is not all about affirming the rights of Palestinians.

The BDS movement has fueled anti-Semitism across college campuses and in our country's politics. I hear from Jewish students on college campuses across America who are being subjected to blatant anti-Semitism under the guise of BDS. For example, at Syracuse University, they are granting internship school credit to students interning with pro-BDS organizations

after a slew of anti-Semitic graffiti vandalized the school.

The founder of BDS was blatantly anti-Semitic, and this movement is being pushed by many people who support a one-state solution that would end Israel, our Nation's greatest ally.

BDS tries to delegitimize Israel by turning it into a pariah state cut off from all trade, tourism, military, diplomatic, and cultural ties with the rest of the world. Last month, the U.N. did it again and published a blacklist of companies doing business in the West Bank.

We must forcefully condemn this.

This House, last year, passed H. Res. 246, a resolution to condemn the BDS movement. Making a statement was a start, but now it is time to do something about it and pass legislation with teeth.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to defeat the rule and defeat the previous question.

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

In closing, I want to urge my Democratic colleagues to vote against this rule and H.R. 1140 and the previous question so we can assert my anti-BDS amendment.

The bill, as I stated, would eliminate TSA's ability to immediately fire employees for serious misconduct, like what happened in California. The bill would also take away TSA's ability to give the TSOs many of the benefits that they currently get, such as bonuses and overtime pay.

I really think we need to work together to ensure TSA employees are happy and enjoy their work, and that is why I said I am supportive of increasing their pay, especially that of good and productive TSOs. We need to provide incentives to help bring good morale to these hardworking employees, not the opposite.

Mr. Speaker, I urge ''no'' on the previous question, ''no'' on the underlying measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

H.R. 1140 is a pro-security and pro-Federal worker piece of legislation.

The TSA is no longer a startup agency requiring maximum flexibility during a period of national emergency, and Congress, in previous administrations, has taken actions to reflect that.

Ten years after its creation, in 2011, TSA employees were given labor union representation. This was a good step forward. However, the time is now to provide the 60,000 TSA employees the same worker rights and protections afforded to other Federal workers under the U.S. Code.

It is a sad and shameful day for the government when anyone is forced to turn to food pantries to feed their family, employed or not, but it is unacceptable that Federal workers who work to protect and serve all Americans would be without a paycheck for weeks at a time—over the holidays, no less.

Working people all over the United States are sacrificing more and earning less. This is a systemic problem that will not be solved by this bill. But, in order to rebuild the middle class that got so many of us into this body where we are today, we need to value Federal workers for the job they do and the services they provide to all of us.

There are times and places for cutting costs and reducing expenses, but I do not believe that we as a body should do so in a way that negatively impacts national security or does so to the detriment of the men and women who keep us safe. I believe it is the responsibility of the Federal Government to responsibly pay its Federal workers.

The hundreds of thousands of civil servants in this country do not belong to one political party or all subscribe to the same political beliefs. No, they do their jobs because they are in service to this Nation, and, in return, they deserve reasonable wages and rights in the workplace. I do not think that this is too much to ask.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a ''yes'' vote on the rule and the previous question.

The material previously referred to by Mrs. LESKO is as follows:

AMENDMENT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 877

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 4. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall resolve into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5595) to impose additional prohibitions relating to foreign boycotts under Export Control Reform Act of 2018, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. When the committee rises and reports the bill back to the House with a recommendation that the bill do pass, the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions. If the Committee of the Whole rises and reports that it has come to no resolution on the bill, then on the next legislative day the House shall, immediately after the third daily order of business under clause 1 of rule XIV, resolve into the Committee of the Whole for further consideration of the bill.

SEC. 5. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H.R. 5595.

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote on the question of adoption of the resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 219, nays 194, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 83]

YEAS—219

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Axne
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brindisi
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Case
Casten (IL)
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Cox (CA)
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Cunningham
Davids (KS)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doyle, Michael F.
Engel
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Finkenauer
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Golden
Gonzalez (TX)
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Haaland
Harder (CA)
Hastings
Hayes
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horn, Kendra S.
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Luján
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McAdams
McBath
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Morelle
Moulton
Mucarsel-Powell
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Norcross
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rose (NY)
Rouda
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shalala
Sherrill
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Soto
Spanberger
Speier
Stanton
Stevens
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres Small (NM)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NAYS—194

Abraham
Aderholt
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bergman
Biggs

Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Bishop (UT)
Bost
Brady
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Cline
Cloud
Cole
Collins (GA)
Comer
Conaway
Cook
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
Davidson (OH)
Davis, Rodney
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx (NC)
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (OH)
Gooden
Gosar
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harris
Hartzler
Hern, Kevin
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Hill (AR)
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hurd (TX)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Katko
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
Lesko
Long
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
Meadows
Meuser
Miller
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Newhouse
Norman
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Posey
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Riggleman
Roby
Rodgers (WA)
Roe, David P.
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Shimkus
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spano
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Timmons
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Van Drew
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Waltz
Watkins
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Wright
Yoho
Young
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—16

Byrne
Clarke (NY)
Doggett
Gomez
Grijalva
Johnson (TX)
Lewis
Ratcliffe
Rooney (FL)
Rose, John W.
Roybal-Allard
Scott, David
Sherman
Sires
Veasey
Waters

□ 1335

Mr. RASKIN changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 83.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 220, nays 192, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 84]

YEAS—220

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Axne
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brindisi
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Case
Casten (IL)
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Cox (CA)
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Cunningham
Davids (KS)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doyle, Michael F.
Engel
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Finkenauer
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Golden
Gonzalez (TX)
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Haaland
Harder (CA)
Hastings
Hayes
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horn, Kendra S.
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Luján
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McAdams
McBath
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Morelle
Moulton
Mucarsel-Powell
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Norcross
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rose (NY)
Rouda
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shalala
Sherrill
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Soto
Spanberger
Speier
Stanton
Stevens
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres Small (NM)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NAYS—192

Abraham
Aderholt
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bergman
Biggs
Bishop (NC)
Bishop (UT)
Bost
Brady
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Cline
Cloud
Cole
Collins (GA)
Comer
Conaway
Cook
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
Davidson (OH)
Davis, Rodney
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx (NC)
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (OH)
Gooden
Gosar
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harris
Hartzler
Hern, Kevin
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Hill (AR)
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hurd (TX)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Katko
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
Lesko
Long
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
Meadows
Meuser
Miller
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Newhouse
Norman
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Posey
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Riggleman
Roby
Rodgers (WA)
Roe, David P.
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Scalise
Schweikert
Sensenbrenner
Shimkus
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spano
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Timmons
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Van Drew
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Waltz
Watkins
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Wright
Yoho
Young
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—17

Bilirakis
Byrne
Doggett
Gomez
Grijalva
Johnson (TX)
Lewis
Ratcliffe
Rooney (FL)
Rose, John W.
Roybal-Allard
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sherman
Sires
Veasey
Waters

□ 1344

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 84.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 83 and "yea" on rollcall No. 84.

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL IN THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER FOR A CEREMONY TO PRESENT THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL COLLECTIVELY TO THE CHINESE-AMERICAN VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 91, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 91

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR CEREMONY TO PRESENT CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO CHINESE-AMERICAN VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center is authorized to be used on April 29, 2020, for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal collectively to the Chinese-American veterans of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated service during World War II.

(b) PREPARATIONS.—Physical preparations for the conduct of the ceremony described in subsection (a) shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR A CEREMONY AS PART OF THE COMMEMORATION OF THE DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE OF VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 87, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 87

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center is authorized to be used on April 21, 2020, for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust. Physical preparations for the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RIGHTS FOR TRANSPORTATION SECURITY OFFICERS ACT OF 2020

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 877 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 1140.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUELLAR) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 1351

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 1140) to enhance the security operations of the Transportation Security Administration and stability of the transportation security workforce by applying the personnel system under title 5, United States Code, to employees of the Transportation Security Administration who provide screening of all passengers and property, and for other purposes, with Mr. CUELLAR in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Homeland Security.

The gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ROGERS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1140, the Rights for Transportation Security Officers Act of 2020.

For well over a decade, Chairwoman NITA LOWEY and I have championed this legislation to provide TSA frontline security workers the basic rights and benefits they deserve.

Today, H.R. 1140 has 242 bipartisan cosponsors and is strongly supported by the American Federation of Government Employees and the Transport Workers Union of America.

When TSA was stood up after the September 11 attacks, Congress gave the agency broad authority to develop a new, more nimble personnel system to address national security issues that threatened our transportation system.

Over the years, TSA's security policies, technologies, and capabilities have evolved to provide a formidable defense against potential terrorist attacks.

Unfortunately, TSA's personnel management system has not evolved with the rest of the agency. The modern, nimble system Congress envisioned was never realized.

Instead, Transportation Security officers, or TSOs, are subject to an antiquated system that does not provide appropriate pay, regular salary increases, or basic civil service protections.

Further, an employee subject to a disciplinary action does not have the right to appeal to an independent third party, such as the Merit Systems Protection Board. Today, the TSA Administrator serves as judge, jury, and executioner for disciplinary proceedings.

According to a former TSA Deputy Administrator, the lack of due process protections within TSA has bred a culture of retribution and arbitrary personnel practices, leading to misbehavior and a reluctance to report security vulnerabilities.

When TSA leadership has used its special personnel authorities, it has been mostly to benefit senior management, not the frontline workforce.

In one instance, a senior manager received $90,000 in bonuses in a single year, yet the men and women in the screening workforce make starting salaries of just $29,000 and are among the lowest paid Federal workers. They are forced to live paycheck to paycheck even as their job responsibilities have grown increasingly complex with changes in threats and technologies.

Today, few TSOs have advanced beyond the bottom levels of TSA's pay bands, even after years of service.

Under the Obama administration, the frontline TSA workforce was, for the first time, granted the ability to unionize. Many of us hoped that this change would lead to TSA abandoning unfair practices.

Disappointingly, TSA limited the range of issues subject to collective bargaining to a narrow set of issues that, over time, have been repeatedly scaled back.

TSA struggles with low morale and high attrition, consistently ranking near the bottom of the annual ''Best Places to Work'' survey. In fact, this year, TSA ranked 415th out of 415 agency components—dead last—on pay satisfaction.

Low morale and high attrition have had an adverse impact on the agency, crippling TSA's ability to develop a mature workforce. According to the DHS inspector general, over a 2-year span in 2016 and 2017, one in three Transportation Security officers quit.

As Members of Congress, many of us fly two or three times a week. We probably see and interact with Transportation Security officers more than any other Federal employees. We know them.

How can we ask these brave men and women to protect us from terrorist attacks, yet not provide them with the basic protections most Federal employees receive?

This bill will place TSA under title 5 like most other Federal agencies, granting the workforce better pay and regular salary increases.

Employees would have robust collective bargaining rights like other Federal employees, such as Customs and Border Protection officers in the Department of Homeland Security. And

in instances when an employee feels they have been unfairly disciplined, they could have their case considered by an independent party like other Federal employees.

Importantly, TSA's management would still be able to remove screeners from duty if their presence jeopardizes the mission of the agency, and security procedures would not be subject to collective bargaining.

While investing in the workforce will have an up-front cost, it will pay off in the long run. The DHS inspector general found that, in 2017 alone, TSA spent approximately $16 million to hire and train nearly 2,000 people who left within months of being hired. That level of turnover is not sustainable.

Enactment of H.R. 1140 will reduce attrition, improve morale, and position TSA to have a more experienced workforce with the proficiency needed to execute TSA's national security mission.

Mr. Chair, I thank my colleagues for their support on this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1400

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 1140.

After the terror attacks of 9/11, Congress recognized that, in order for TSA to successfully carry out its critical mission, it had to accommodate the agency's unique operational needs. That is why, when Congress passed the Aviation and Transportation Security Act, we gave TSA one-of-a-kind authorities to respond to evolving threats.

TSA has used these authorities over time to remain flexible and accountable to the needs of a diverse transportation system where each airport faces a unique threat landscape. These flexibilities are key to keeping the public safe. That is why I am very concerned about the impact this bill will have on the security of our aviation system.

By moving the screener workforce under title V, this bill would eliminate many of those critical flexibilities. For example, current law allows for the immediate termination of employees who intentionally allow guns, knives, or explosives through a checkpoint. Under this bill, that employee could remain on the TSA payroll for months, or even longer.

Current law allows TSA to set new security requirements, such as enhanced passenger screening, when intelligence indicates credible threats. How new security requirements are implemented could be subject to negotiation if the union bill were to become law.

Right now, TSA has the flexibility to move screener checkpoints to alleviate long lines and ensure security. The legislation before us restricts that flexibility.

In addition to the impact on security, I am concerned with how the bill proposes to transition the screener workforce. I don't think it is fair for Congress to dictate which union gets to represent 45,000 screeners, but that is just what this bill does. The bill sets into law the exclusive bargaining agent for the screeners and requires TSA to immediately negotiate with them.

Under this bill, there is no intervening union election. Screeners never get a chance to exercise their constitutional right to choose their representation. I think that is wrong.

Beyond the consequences for aviation security and the fundamental questions of fairness, this bill does little to improve the pay and working conditions for screeners. In fact, TSA screeners will lose benefits under this proposal.

If this bill becomes law, screeners will lose the ability to trade shifts with one another or donate accrued leave to their fellow workers. Certain pay overtime would be prohibited. Career milestone bonuses would no longer be offered. Many veterans would no longer qualify for hiring preferences.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that this bill will cost $1.8 billion over 5 years. That is a 20 percent increase over TSA's current budget. That is a tremendous cost for so little return.

In May 2019, a blue-ribbon panel led by Clinton and Obama administration human capital experts strongly argued against moving screeners under title V as this bill would do. That panel rightly pointed out that, under current law, TSA can pay screeners more than they would make under title V.

That is the real irony with this bill. It purports to improve pay and benefits for screeners, but, under current law, screeners could be paid more and receive better benefits than this bill would allow.

I have long advocated for increased pay for the screener workforce, and I agree with the blue-ribbon panel that TSA should build a pay system superior to that of the GS schedule. The problem has always been funding.

Past administrations have requested funding for increased screener pay, and past Congresses have not provided it. Fortunately, the President's fiscal year 2021 budget requests an increase in funding to provide raises and bonuses for screeners.

If the majority truly wants to fix the problem, they should work with us on a bill to fund these pay raises and implement the recommendations of the bipartisan blue-ribbon panel. That is the bill we should have on the floor today. Instead, they have, yet again, decided to move a partisan messaging bill that rewards their political supporters. This time it comes at the expense of taxpayers and security.

Like the rest of them, this partisan messaging bill will never become law. The Senate won't take it up. The President said he would veto it. It is a waste of time.

At some point, I hope the majority rejects this partisan approach to legislating and works with us on our Nation's priorities.

Mr. Chair, I urge all Members to vote ''no,'' and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY), who has championed this issue from day one.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1140, the Rights for Transportation Security Officers Act of 2020. Chairman THOMPSON and I have worked on this bill for a very long time, and I am glad the House is considering it today.

H.R. 1140 would give TSA's screening workforce the same rights afforded to other Federal workers under title V, like fair pay under the General Schedule pay scale, sick leave according to OPM guidelines, and collective bargaining rights.

Our TSOs have earned these rights. TSOs serve on the front lines of aviation security and protect the traveling public on a daily basis. It is unreasonable to deny these hardworking men and women who keep us safe the basic protections of Federal civil service.

We must pass this bill today to send a clear message to TSA from Congress that a system denying TSOs predictability and consistency is unacceptable. H.R. 1140 would improve the morale and stability of our screening workforce and help ensure safety at our Nation's airports.

I urge a ''yes'' vote.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO), the chair of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

As a little bit of history, the gentleman from Alabama wasn't here when we created the Transportation Security Administration. It was created in the Aviation Subcommittee of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. I was the ranking member; John Mica was the chair. The provisions he referenced were not intended to oppress the workforce.

Before 9/11, all of the securities were provided by the airlines, and they never met a low bidder they didn't like. We had people who were felons and people who were in the country illegally who were doing the screening.

By the way, it was the lowest entry-level job in the airport, and we had testimony from the Screener of the Year, once, who said: Hey, you know, people just move through these jobs because they got to go to McDonald's. They'll do better.

Now, we aren't treating these professionals much better than that. They are the lowest paid Federal employees, providing security to the billion people who flew last year. They worked through the shutdown with no pay.

They don't earn much money, so they don't have a lot of savings, but they worked through the shutdown.

These people deserve not only a pay raise, but they also deserve workers' rights and whistleblower protections from abusive management.

The gentleman expressed concern about $1.8 billion over 10 years. Well, join me on my FASTER bill; that is, this administration is diverting $2 billion a year in passenger security fees. Passengers pay the fee. It is supposed to provide security. No, it is going into the maw of the Federal Government and being spent somewhere else. Reclaim that money.

Don't worry about the stupid scoring stuff. Oh, it is making the deficit look smaller. Whatever. We are charging passengers for security. Give them the security. Give these workers a pay raise, and give them decent workers' rights and protections.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, I would point out to my colleague from Oregon that the $1.8 billion was over 5 years, not 10 years. The screening fee that the gentleman was referring to was diverted under the Obama administration to general deficit relief.

But the fact is I agree fully with Chairman THOMPSON that we should be paying our screeners more. It is our fault. Congress has not funded the ability of TSA to raise their pay.

The irony of this bill is it would make it harder to pay them more; it would pay them less. If we would fund the TSA for what they are requesting, current law would allow them to have better incomes and better benefits than this bill would allow. That is the real irony here.

Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA), chair of the House Homeland Security Committee's Subcommittee on Transportation and Maritime Security.

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of H.R. 1140, the Rights for Transportation Security Officers Act.

Mr. Chair, I want to thank, again, Chairman THOMPSON for his leadership on this issue and bringing this bipartisan piece of legislation to the floor that I am cosponsoring.

Today, finally, we acknowledge that the TSA workers deserve a pay structure and personnel management system that recognizes their value. These employees have had a higher turnover than the average Federal employee, and, in fact, many went unpaid during the government shutdown.

These hardworking men and women are effectively the thin blue line that stands between us and our families while they are traveling by air and those who would do us harm by smuggling items onto planes through checkpoints. That is what a TSA officer does: protect us and our families.

We need to have professional TSA employees. We need to make sure that they are the best of the best. Our family's safety is worth it.

As chairman of the Transportation and Maritime Security Subcommittee, I am proud to stand with these men and women of TSA in strong support of this legislation, and I urge all of my colleagues to vote ''aye.''

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, I appreciate my friend and colleague from California's observation, but, again, I emphasize about the union representation.

The gentleman just made the statement and reiterated what the chairman had said in his opening statement, and that is there has been enormous turnover in the TSA over the last decade because of the poor pay, benefits, and working circumstances.

The fact is that very few people who work at TSA today voted for AFGE to be the union. It won by plurality—not a majority—10 years ago, and very few people who were there then are here now.

So, if, in fact, this bill were ever to become law—which it is not—at a minimum, we should allow the workers to decide who they want their representation to be. AFGE may win it, but it is wrong for Congress to dictate to 45,000 employees who they should have for representation.

Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Chairman, just for the record, nothing in H.R. 1140 restricts the workforce's ability to elect union representation. I want to be very clear on that.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman from Mississippi for yielding.

I want to thank the gentleman from Mississippi for his wisdom in putting forward a bill that is long overdue, and that is H.R. 1140, which is the Rights for Transportation Security Officers Act of 2020.

Let me congratulate the storied organization AFGE. They have a stellar reputation for fairly representing government workers in a way that provides them a better quality of life. I am not sure why they have become the issue on this floor, and our chairman has just indicated that there is no such language that limits any actions by our TSO officers.

Let me be very clear: Starting with the TSO and Homeland Security from the very beginning, this organizing was done for purposes of emergency. So now you have denied, for over 20 years, the rights of these individuals to live a decent life.

I take issue with this one example of an individual who, obviously, was not managed, because we all know that a man does not examine a female passenger, period, or traveler. We know that doesn't happen.

So a bad apple does not reflect on the fact that these workers need better rights, grievances, higher pay, professional development, and to be treated in the civil system such that we will develop a professional workforce that stays, that has a high morale and not a low morale.

□ 1415

Are we doing this to the FBI, the Defense Department, and ATF?

Are we telling them that at any moment they can be fired without due process?

This doesn't make sense. These people have put their life on the line. They have stopped so much that you do not even know protecting the traveling public.

Mr. Chairman, if you take a moment to talk with them, you will find out the massive number of weapons and other types of items that they have to be astute enough and keen enough to know what to do with.

I support the TSA. I support TSOs because I see them every day as the front line for this Nation in providing a safe and secure aviation system.

Yes, their job is difficult and deadly. We lost a gentleman in Los Angeles, and we all surrounded his family, he died in the line of duty.

I believe this is an important legislative initiative. Let us take this and finally give to these workers the decency that they deserve. Let us not make excuses. Let us make it right, and let us stand with them as American workers and defenders of the security and freedom of this Nation. Support H.R. 1140.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, in response to my friend and colleague from Mississippi, who, in his last statements, emphasized that the employees at TSA would have the right to elect their union representation, I would refer him to page 9, line 24 of his bill, ''Exclusive Representative—The labor organization certified by the Federal Labor Relations Authority on June 29, 2011, or successor labor organization shall be treated as the exclusive representative of full- and part-time nonsupervisory TSA personnel carrying out screening functions under section 44901'' et cetera, et cetera, et cetera.

This bill does pick winners and losers and, in this case, AFGE is the winner. I am just saying, I don't think that is right.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume to say that I appreciate my colleague next door to me citing the section about Federal Labor Relations Authority because that is my reference.

It says, ''or successor labor organization.'' And it says in the ''Sunset Provision—The provisions of this section

shall cease to be effective as of the conversion date.''

So there are options available. It is not a closed-door process, and we wouldn't have it that way anyway.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS).

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank our chairman for bringing this bill and his leadership on this issue.

I have the honor of representing Nevada's First Congressional District in the heart of Las Vegas. Every week, as I travel to and from Las Vegas through McCarran International Airport—just like more than 50 million travelers do each year—I see our TSA employees very hard at work screening passengers, baggage, and cargo. They play a critical role in allowing Las Vegas to be a truly international city with an economy that thrives on tourism and visitors who come to work, hike, and play.

More broadly, Transportation Security officers have the immense responsibility of making sure passengers from all over the world, on hundreds of flights a day, make it safely to their destinations, wherever they may be. Yet, Federal law prohibits them from collectively bargaining for better pay, better benefits, and better working conditions. This shortcoming has led to a high level of turnover at TSA which threatens our security.

It is time for that to change. That is why I strongly support this long overdue piece of legislation that will improve TSA agents' pay and boost their collective bargaining power, not to mention their morale.

So let's come together today to give them the rights that other Federal employees have and that they so rightly deserve. Let's respect them and give them this privilege so they can do what they do and keep us all safe. It is the least we can do to recognize that sacrifice.

Mr. Chairman, I strongly support this bill, and I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of it.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would say to my friend from Nevada that the irony with this bill is they are moving TSA under a 70-year-old personnel management system widely panned by good government organizations as unable to meet the needs of the 21st century workforce.

So which system really is outdated?

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Chairman, I think, for the record, we want our TSOs to be treated just like all other Federal employees. If it is good enough for everybody else except TSA, then it should be good for TSA too.

Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN).

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the gentleman for yielding to me, and I want to thank him for this leadership on this very important issue.

I join him in calling for support and passage of the Transportation Security Officers Act. We rely on Transportation Security officers to keep us safe. They work hard, including going without pay for more than 5 weeks during the last government shutdown. Yet these TSOs have none of the rights or the protections we have set for the rest of the Federal workforce, and that is what this bill would finally correct.

H.R. 1140 offers TSOs the ability to organize themselves and fight for better pay through collective bargaining and puts them on the Federal general schedule pay scale, ensuring they see the same regular step increases as the rest of the Federal workers who keep our government running.

It would ensure TSOs can appeal personnel decisions to a neutral third party—something their managers and others within TSA can already do. It would give these workers the paid family leave and medical leave that all other Federal workers now have, ensuring they can care for an ailing parent, be home with a new baby, or deal with a new diagnosis.

H.R. 1140 finally gives TSOs equal footing, recognizing that they are equally valued members of the Federal workforce—people we rely upon daily to keep our skies safe.

I am grateful to our chairman, Mr. THOMPSON, for his work to bring this bill through committee and for his tireless efforts of workplace rights and protections for TSOs.

Mr. Chairman, I urge the passage of this bill.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, the fact is, if we do treat the TSA officers the same as other employees by putting them in title 5, they will actually lose benefits. I talked about that in my opening statement.

Right now, they already get the same benefits like paid family leave, but they are going to lose the ability to have bonuses, get certain overtime pay, and trade shifts. Those are things that are valuable.

But the biggest problem I have is that we, as a Congress, have not funded the pay system they have now which would allow greater pay than title 5. I just think we need to stop shirking our duty and recognize it is our responsibility to pay these employees fairly. We have not been doing that, and this bill will accommodate that.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE).

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Chairman, first, let me commend the chairman of the Homeland Security Committee for this timely piece of legislation, this longtime coming piece of legislation.

As has been stated, we fly home every week, and us being in Homeland Security, we interact with the TSOs on a regular basis. I don't know what is going on in the gentleman from Alabama's airports, but these officers are really first responders who stand in the gap of whether we fly or travel safely every single day.

They check thousands of bags for weapons that could be used to harm people flying or the pilots or the staff on airplanes, and we can't give them a dignified wage, a living wage?

I talk to them. Some of them have two jobs.

Why should someone with such an important duty to keep our airways safe from terrorists and harm have to leave there and go work at Burger King?

It is not right. I commend the gentleman from Mississippi once again for this.

These people need to be given the dignity that they deserve. They stand in the gap every single day, and not to pay them a commensurate salary with their job is criminal.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, my colleague from New Jersey is a great member of the Homeland Security Committee, and his heart is obviously in the right place. Everything he said I agree with about our TSA workforce. I travel through airports every week just like all the Members of this House.

The fact is, it pains me to know we are not treating them better. These are the people who came to work in the last government shutdown without pay throughout that shutdown to make sure that we remained safe as we flew back and forth.

We ought to be treating them better, and this bill doesn't do it. If we want to treat these people the way they should be treated, we should use current law and properly fund it and give them pay and benefits better than anything this bill would ever accommodate.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Chairman, I have no more speakers, and I am prepared to close after the gentleman from Alabama closes.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I want to make Mr. THOMPSON aware that I have no further speakers and I am prepared to close.

Mr. Chairman, I want to close by thanking the men and women of TSA. The debate we are having today does not impact the sincere appreciation we have for the tremendous job they do each and every day. While we may disagree on the best way forward, I think we all share the same goal of improving screener pay and morale. We understand how important it is to the workforce and to our security.

Unfortunately, this bill would do little more than undermine the goal that we seek to achieve.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to oppose the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the arguments my colleagues have made in favor of this bill as well as the amendments offered to improve it. This is ultimately a simple bill with a simple but critical goal.

Following the September 11 attack, Congress determined that the need to ensure the security of our Nation's transportation systems required the creation of a new Federal agency, the TSA.

Yet, in standing up this critical national security agency, Congress mistakenly gave TSA broad personnel authority that has resulted in the workforce lagging far behind other Federal workers with respect to pay, benefits, and rights. By passing this bill, we will finish the job we started and make TSA a Federal agency that follows the laws Congress had constructed over many decades to govern treatment of Federal employees.

This is the right thing to do for the frontline workers, the right thing to do for the traveling public, and the right thing to do for our national security.

Mr. Chair, I thank my colleagues for their support, I urge passage of H.R. 1140, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. All time for general debate has expired.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Chair, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PAYNE) having assumed the chair, Mr. CUELLAR, Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1140) to enhance the security operations of the Transportation Security Administration and stability of the transportation security workforce by applying the personnel system under title 5, United States Code, to employees of the Transportation Security Administration who provide screening of all passengers and property, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO ZIMBABWE—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 116–104)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

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 before 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 13288 of March 6, 2003, with respect to the actions and policies of certain members of the Government of Zimbabwe and other persons to undermine Zimbabwe's democratic processes or institutions is to continue in effect beyond March 6, 2020.

In the wake of the resignation of former President Robert Mugabe in November 2017, Zimbabwe's national elections in July 2018, and President Mugabe's subsequent death in September 2019, Zimbabwe has had ample opportunity to implement reforms that could set the country on a constructive path, stabilize the southern African region, and open the door to greater cooperation with the United States. Unfortunately, President Emmerson Mnangagwa's administration has yet to signal credible political will to implement such reforms. Indeed, the Zimbabwean government has arguably accelerated its persecution of critics and economic mismanagement in the past year, during which security forces have conducted extrajudicial killings, rapes, and alleged abductions of numerous dissidents.

These actions and policies by certain members of the Government of Zimbabwe and other persons to undermine Zimbabwe's democratic processes or institutions continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13288 with respect to Zimbabwe.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *March 4, 2020*.

□ 1430

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. SCHRIER). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on the motion to suspend the rules if a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or if the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on the postponed question at a later time.

CORONAVIRUS PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6074) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6074

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 ''Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020''.

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ''this Act'' contained in any division of this Act shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.

DIVISION A—CORONAVIRUS PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020

The following sums are hereby are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for ''Salaries and Expenses'', $61,000,000, to remain available until expended, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, including the development of necessary medical countermeasures and vaccines, advanced manufacturing for medical products, the monitoring of medical product supply chains, and related administrative activities: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE II

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

DISASTER LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for the ''Disaster Loans Program Account'' for administrative expenses to carry out the disaster loan program authorized by section 7(b) of the Small Business Act, $20,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amounts may be transferred to and merged with ''Small Business Administration—Salaries and Expenses'': *Provided further*, That for purposes of section 7(b)(2)(D) of the Small Business Act, coronavirus shall be deemed to be a disaster and amounts available under ''Disaster Loans Program Account'' for the cost of direct loans in any fiscal year may be used to make economic injury disaster loans under such section in response to the coronavirus: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided under this heading in this Act may be used for indirect administrative expenses: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That amounts repurposed under this heading that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Balanced Budget

and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 are designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE III

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

CDC–WIDE ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAM SUPPORT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for ''CDC–Wide Activities and Program Support'', $2,200,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2022, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally: *Provided*, That not less than $950,000,000 of the amount provided shall be for grants to or cooperative agreements with States, localities, territories, tribes, tribal organizations, urban Indian health organizations, or health service providers to tribes, to carry out surveillance, epidemiology, laboratory capacity, infection control, mitigation, communications, and other preparedness and response activities: *Provided further*, That $475,000,000 of the funds made available in the preceding proviso shall be allocated within 30 days of the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That every grantee that received a Public Health Emergency Preparedness grant for fiscal year 2019 shall receive not less than 90 percent of that grant level from funds provided in the first proviso under this heading in this Act, and not less than $40,000,000 of such funds shall be allocated to tribes, tribal organizations, urban Indian health organizations, or health service providers to tribes: *Provided further*, That the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (''CDC'') may satisfy the funding thresholds outlined in the preceding two provisos by making awards through other grant or cooperative agreement mechanisms: *Provided further*, That each grantee described in the third proviso under this heading in this Act shall submit a spend plan to the CDC not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided under this heading in this Act, not less than $300,000,000 shall be for global disease detection and emergency response: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided under this heading in this Act, $300,000,000 shall be transferred to and merged with amounts in the Infectious Diseases Rapid Response Reserve Fund (''Reserve Fund''), established by section 231 of division B of Public Law 115–245: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Director of the CDC, shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate every 14 days, for one year from the date from any such declaration or determination described in the third proviso of section 231 of division B of Public Law 115–245, that details commitment and obligation information for the Reserve Fund during the prior two weeks, as long as such report would detail obligations in excess of $5,000,000, and upon the request by such Committees: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading in this Act may be used for grants for the construction, alteration, or renovation of non-Federally owned facilities to improve preparedness and response capability at the State and local level: *Provided further*, That funds may be used for purchase and insurance of official motor vehicles in foreign countries: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for ''National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases'', $836,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2024, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading in this Act, not less than $10,000,000 shall be transferred to ''National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences'' for worker-based training to prevent and reduce exposure of hospital employees, emergency first responders, and other workers who are at risk of exposure to coronavirus through their work duties: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES EMERGENCY FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for ''Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund'', $3,100,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2024, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, including the development of necessary countermeasures and vaccines, prioritizing platform-based technologies with U.S.-based manufacturing capabilities, and the purchase of vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics, necessary medical supplies, medical surge capacity, and related administrative activities: *Provided*, That such funds may be used to develop and demonstrate innovations and enhancements to manufacturing platforms to support such capabilities: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall purchase vaccines developed using funds made available under this heading in this Act to respond to an outbreak or pandemic related to coronavirus in quantities determined by the Secretary to be adequate to address the public health need: *Provided further*, That products purchased by the Federal government with funds made available under this heading, including vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics, shall be purchased in accordance with Federal Acquisition Regulation guidance on fair and reasonable pricing: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may take such measures authorized under current law to ensure that vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics developed from funds provided in this Act will be affordable in the commercial market: *Provided further*, That in carrying out the previous proviso, the Secretary shall not take actions that delay the development of such products: *Provided further*, That products purchased with funds appropriated in this paragraph may, at the discretion of the Secretary of Health and Human Services, be deposited in the Strategic National Stockpile under section 319F–2 of the Public Health Service Act: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading in this Act may be transferred to, and merged with, the fund authorized by section 319F–4, the Covered Countermeasure Process Fund, of the Public Health Service Act: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading in this Act may be used for grants for the construction, alteration, or renovation of non-Federally owned facilities to improve preparedness and response capability at the State and local level: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading in this Act may be used for the construction, alteration, or renovation of non-Federally owned facilities for the production of vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics where the Secretary determines that such a contract is necessary to secure sufficient amounts of such supplies: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided under this heading in this Act, $100,000,000 shall be transferred to ''Health Resources and Services Administration—Primary Health Care'' for grants under the Health Centers Program, as defined by section 330 of the Public Health Service Act, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

For an additional amount for ''Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund'', $300,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2024, for products purchased as described in the first paragraph under this heading, including the purchase of vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics, and under the same terms and conditions as the amounts made available in the first paragraph under this heading in this Act: *Provided*, That the amount made available in this paragraph shall only be made available if the Secretary of Health and Human Services certifies to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that the funds made available in the first paragraph under this heading in this Act allotted for such purchase of such products will be obligated imminently and that additional funds are necessary to purchase vaccines, therapeutics, or diagnostics in quantities determined by the Secretary to be adequate help to address the public health need: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate of such certification: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 301. (a) Funds appropriated in this title may be made available to restore amounts, either directly or through reimbursement, for obligations incurred by agencies of the Department of Health and Human Services to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, prior to the date of enactment of this Act. This subsection shall not apply to obligations incurred by the Infectious Diseases Rapid Response Reserve Fund.

(b) Grants or cooperative agreements with States, localities, territories, tribes, tribal organizations, urban Indian health organizations, or health service providers to tribes, under this title, to carry out surveillance, epidemiology, laboratory capacity, infection control, mitigation, communications, and other preparedness and response activities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus shall include amounts to reimburse costs for these purposes incurred between January 20, 2020, and the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) If any funds have been reprogrammed or transferred from an appropriation, as described in the notification submitted by the Secretary of Health and Human Services to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on

February 2, 2020, prior to the date of enactment of this Act, such amounts shall be reprogrammed or transferred back to that appropriation within 45 days of the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 302. Funds appropriated by this title may be used by the Secretary of the Health and Human Services to appoint, without regard to the provisions of sections 3309 through 3319 of title 5 of the United States Code, candidates needed for positions to perform critical work relating to coronavirus for which—

(1) public notice has been given; and

(2) the Secretary has determined that such a public health threat exists.

SEC. 303. Funds made available by this title may be used to enter into contracts with individuals for the provision of personal services (as described in section 104 of part 37 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations (48 CFR 37.104)) to support the prevention of, preparation for, or response to coronavirus, domestically and internationally, subject to prior notification to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided*, That such individuals may not be deemed employees of the United States for the purpose of any law administered by the Office of Personnel Management: *Provided further*, That the authority made available pursuant to this section shall expire on September 30, 2024.

SEC. 304. Funds appropriated by this title may be transferred to, and merged with, other appropriation accounts under the headings ''Centers for Disease Control and Prevention'', ''Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund'', and ''National Institutes of Health'' to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, following consultation with the Office of Management and Budget: *Provided*, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate shall be notified 10 days in advance of any such transfer: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from an appropriation by this title are not necessary, such amounts may be transferred back to that appropriation: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available by this title may be transferred pursuant to the authority in section 205 of division A of Public Law 116–94 or section 241(a) of the Public Health Service Act.

SEC. 305. Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall provide a detailed spend plan of anticipated uses of funds made available to the Department of Health and Human Services in this Act, including estimated personnel and administrative costs, to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided*, That such plan shall be updated and submitted to such Committees every 60 days until September 30, 2024: *Provided further*, That the spend plans shall be accompanied by a listing of each contract obligation incurred that exceeds $5,000,000 which has not previously been reported, including the amount of each such obligation.

SEC. 306. Of the funds appropriated by this title under the heading ''Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund'', up to $2,000,000 shall be transferred to, and merged with, funds made available under the heading ''Office of the Secretary, Office of Inspector General'', and shall remain available until expended, for oversight of activities supported with funds appropriated to the Department of Health and Human Services in titles I and III: *Provided*, That the Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate prior to obligating such funds: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided by this section is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law.

TITLE IV

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ADMINISTRATION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

DIPLOMATIC PROGRAMS

For an additional amount for ''Diplomatic Programs'', $264,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2022, for necessary expenses to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, including for maintaining consular operations, reimbursement of evacuation expenses, and emergency preparedness: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For an additional amount for ''Office of Inspector General'', $1,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2022, for oversight of activities funded by this title and administered by the United States Agency for International Development: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

GLOBAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

For an additional amount for ''Global Health Programs'', $435,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2022, for necessary expenses to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus: *Provided*, That such funds shall be administered by the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading in this Act, not less than $200,000,000 shall be transferred to, and merged with, funds made available for the Emergency Reserve Fund established pursuant to section 7058(c)(1) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2017 (division J of Public Law 115–31): *Provided further*, That funds made available pursuant to the previous proviso shall be made available under the terms and conditions of such section, as amended: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

For an additional amount for ''International Disaster Assistance'', $300,000,000, to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND

For an additional amount for ''Economic Support Fund'', $250,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2022, for necessary expenses to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, including to address related economic, security, and stabilization requirements: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 401. Funds appropriated by this title shall only be made available for obligation subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided*, That the requirement of this section shall not apply to funds appropriated by this title under the heading ''International Disaster Assistance''.

SEC. 402. (a) Funds appropriated by this title under the heading ''Diplomatic Programs'' may be transferred to, and merged with, funds available under the ''Consular and Border Security Programs'' account to maintain consular operations impacted by coronavirus.

(b) Of the funds appropriated by this title under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'', up to $7,000,000 may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated under the heading ''Operating Expenses'' in Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.

(c) Funds appropriated by this title under the headings ''Global Health Programs'', ''International Disaster Assistance'', and ''Economic Support Fund'' may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this title under such headings to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.

(d) The transfer authorities of this section are in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law.

(e) Upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred pursuant to the authorities provided by this section are not necessary for such purposes, such amounts may be transferred back to such appropriations.

(f) No funds shall be transferred pursuant to this section unless at least 5 days prior to making such transfer the Secretary of State or the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, as appropriate, notifies the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate in writing of the details of any such transfer.

SEC. 403. Paragraph (6)(B) under the heading ''Administration of Foreign Affairs, Diplomatic Programs'' of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2020 (division G of Public Law 116–94) is amended by striking '', not to exceed $10,000,000'' and inserting in lieu thereof ''for Worldwide Security Protection, not to exceed $100,000,000'' and by adding the following before the period at the end: '': *Provided*, That no amounts may be transferred from amounts that were designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985'': *Provided*, That the exercise of the authority provided by such paragraph shall be subject to prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 404. Funds appropriated by this title under the headings ''Global Health Programs'' and ''Economic Support Fund'' may be made available as contributions to international organizations to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 405. Funds appropriated by this title under the headings ''Diplomatic Programs'', ''Global Health Programs'', ''International Disaster Assistance'', and ''Economic Support Fund'' may be used to reimburse accounts administered by the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development for obligations incurred to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus prior to the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided*, That this section shall not apply to obligations incurred by the Emergency Reserve Fund, established pursuant to section 7058(c)(1) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2017 (division J of Public Law 115–31).

SEC. 406. (a) STRATEGY.—Not later than 15 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, following consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, shall jointly submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a strategy to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus abroad.

(b) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall jointly submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report on the proposed uses of funds appropriated by this title on a country and project basis: *Provided*, That such report shall be updated and submitted to such Committees every 60 days thereafter until September 30, 2022, and every 180 days thereafter until all funds have been expended, and shall include information detailing how estimates and assumptions contained in previous reports have changed, including obligations and expenditures on a country and project basis.

TITLE V

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS ACT

SEC. 501. Each amount appropriated or made available by this Act is in addition to amounts otherwise appropriated for the fiscal year involved.

SEC. 502. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 503. Unless otherwise provided for by this Act, the additional amounts appropriated by this Act to appropriations accounts shall be available under the authorities and conditions applicable to such appropriations accounts for fiscal year 2020.

SEC. 504. (a) Subject to subsection (b), and notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available in this Act, or transferred pursuant to authorization granted in this Act, may only be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to section 301(c) of this Act, or to reimbursements made pursuant to authority in this Act, or to funds made available in this Act for the Emergency Reserve Fund, established pursuant to section 7058(c)(1) of division J of Public Law 115–31, or to funds made available in this Act for the Infectious Diseases Rapid Response Reserve Fund, established pursuant to section 231 of division B of Public Law 115–245.

SEC. 505. Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on oversight of activities supported with funds appropriated by this Act.

SEC. 506. In this Act, the term ''coronavirus'' means SARS–CoV–2 or another coronavirus with pandemic potential.

SEC. 507. Each amount designated in this Act by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 shall be available (or rescinded or transferred, if applicable) only if the President subsequently so designates all such amounts and transmits such designations to the Congress.

SEC. 508. Any amount appropriated by this Act, designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 and subsequently so designated by the President, and transferred pursuant to transfer authorities provided by this Act shall retain such designation.

This division may be cited as the ''Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020''.

DIVISION B—TELEHEALTH SERVICES DURING CERTAIN EMERGENCY PERIODS

SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.

This division may be cited as the ''Telehealth Services During Certain Emergency Periods Act of 2020''.

SEC. 102. SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY TO TEMPORARILY WAIVE OR MODIFY APPLICATION OF CERTAIN MEDICARE REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO TELEHEALTH SERVICES FURNISHED DURING CERTAIN EMERGENCY PERIODS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The first sentence of section 1135(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320b–5(b)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (6), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in paragraph (7), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (7) the following new paragraph:

''(8) in the case of a telehealth service (as defined in paragraph (4)(F) of section 1834(m)) furnished in any emergency area (or portion of such an area) during any portion of any emergency period to an individual by a qualified provider (as defined in subsection (g)(3))—

''(A) the requirements of paragraph (4)(C) of such section, except that a facility fee under paragraph (2)(B)(i) of such section may only be paid to an originating site that is a site described in any of subclauses (I) through (IX) of paragraph (4)(C)(ii) of such section; and

''(B) the restriction on use of a telephone described in the second sentence of section 410.78(a)(3) of title 42, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation), but only if such telephone has audio and video capabilities that are used for two-way, real-time interactive communication.''.

(2) DEFINITION OF QUALIFIED PROVIDER.—Section 1135(g) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320b–5(g)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) QUALIFIED PROVIDER.—The term 'qualified provider' means, with respect a telehealth service (as defined in paragraph (4)(F) of section 1834(m)) furnished to an individual, a physician or practitioner (as defined in paragraph (4)(D) or (4)(E), respectively, of such section) who—

''(A) furnished to such individual an item or service for which payment was made under title XVIII during the 3-year period ending on the date such telehealth service was furnished; or

''(B) is in the same practice (as determined by tax identification number) of a physician or practitioner (as so defined) who furnished such an item or service to such individual during such period.''.

(3) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services may implement the amendments made by this subsection by program instruction or otherwise.

(b) CLARIFICATION OF DEFINITIONS OF EMERGENCY AREA AND EMERGENCY PERIOD.—Paragraph (1) of section 1135(g) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320b–5(g)) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) EMERGENCY AREA; EMERGENCY PERIOD.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), an 'emergency area' is a geographical area in which, and an 'emergency period' is the period during which, there exists—

''(i) an emergency or disaster declared by the President pursuant to the National Emergencies Act or the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act; and

''(ii) a public health emergency declared by the Secretary pursuant to section 319 of the Public Health Service Act.

''(B) EXCEPTION.—For purposes of subsection (b)(8), an 'emergency area' is a geographical area in which, and an 'emergency period' is the period during which, there exists—

''(i) the public health emergency declared by the Secretary pursuant to section 319 of the Public Health Service Act on January 31, 2020, entitled 'Determination that a Public Health Emergency Exists Nationwide as the Result of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus'; and

''(ii) any renewal of such declaration pursuant to such section 319.''.

SEC. 103. BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

(a) STATUTORY PAYGO SCORECARDS.—The budgetary effects of this division shall not be entered on either PAYGO scorecard maintained pursuant to section 4(d) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010.

(b) SENATE PAYGO SCORECARDS.—The budgetary effects of this division shall not be entered on any PAYGO scorecard maintained for purposes of section 4106 of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress).

(c) CLASSIFICATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.—Notwithstanding Rule 3 of the Budget Scorekeeping Guidelines set forth in the joint explanatory statement of the committee of conference accompanying Conference Report 105–217 and section 250(c)(8) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the budgetary effects of this division shall not be estimated—

(1) for purposes of section 251 of such Act; and

(2) for purposes of paragraph (4)(C) of section 3 of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 as being included in an appropriation Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GRANGER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 6074, currently under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, as the coronavirus moves closer to becoming a global pandemic, it is spreading within the

United States, including in my own home county, and its death toll continues to grow.

While the Trump administration has repeatedly demonstrated a failure to understand public health needs, Congress is acting with the seriousness and the sense of urgency the coronavirus threat demands.

This emergency supplemental is the product of thoughtful bipartisan cooperation. It provides $8.3 billion in entirely new funding to keep Americans safe, including:

More than $3 billion for research and development of vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics;

$300 million for the government to purchase vaccines at a fair and reasonable price;

$2.2 billion in public health funding for prevention, preparedness, and response, of which $950 million is to support State and local health agencies;

Nearly $1 billion for medical supplies, healthcare preparedness, community health centers, and medical surge capacity;

$1.2 billion to address the coronavirus abroad, which helps keep Americans safe here at home; and

Low-interest loans to affected small businesses to cushion the economic blow of this public health emergency.

Finally, several other important provisions have been included that will: allow seniors to access telemedicine services for coronavirus treatment, require the Trump administration to reimburse health accounts that were previously raided to pay for the coronavirus response, and ensure State and local governments are reimbursed for costs incurred while assisting the Federal response.

Madam Speaker, strong funding in this legislation is a critical first step to enable a strategic, coordinated, and whole-of-government response to the coronavirus.

While we all ardently hope that this public health emergency does not worsen, House Democrats will not hesitate to act again if we must augment this funding with more resources.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6074, an emergency supplemental appropriations bill to fund the U.S. response to the coronavirus.

When the news broke about this virus, the administration was able to respond immediately with reserve funds the Committee on Appropriations created for the Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Agency for International Development. These funds were championed by Republican leaders of our subcommittees and had broad bipartisan support. It is my hope that the supplemental funding bill will receive the same level of cooperation.

Madam Speaker, the bill before us today will allow the administration to continue its efforts to address the virus, both at home and abroad. Specifically, the bill includes funds for the development of broadly available testing kits to diagnose those who may be infected, medicines to minimize the symptoms of the disease, and vaccines to prevent its spread.

An overwhelming majority of our drug ingredients, pharmaceuticals, and medical devices are manufactured overseas. It is critical that we increase domestic drug production, increase the safety of the medical supply chain, and identify potential shortages.

That is why this bill also includes funds for the Food and Drug Administration to further ensure the safety and security of all Americans. The bill will also direct nearly $1 billion to State and local public health agencies on the front lines protecting our communities.

Finally, the bill protects American citizens abroad and helps prevent further spread of coronavirus worldwide by providing just over $1 billion for the State Department and USAID.

The Trump administration, through a task force led by Vice President PENCE, is doing what is required to respond quickly to this ever-changing threat. We must give them the resources they need.

The health and safety of the American people is not, and never should be, a political issue. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in voting for the measure so that we can continue fighting this virus and protecting our loved ones.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS), the former chairman of the full committee and the ranking member of the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of this bill, H.R. 6074. This coronavirus emergency supplemental, as has been said, provides $7.8 billion in additional appropriations for the U.S. response to coronavirus.

Within the total, more than $2 billion is included for the Centers for Disease Control, and $1 billion is for State and local preparedness. The bill also provides more than $4 billion for research and development of vaccines, diagnostics, and therapeutics.

As ranking member of the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee, I would also highlight the $1.25 billion in the bill for the State Department and the United States Agency for International Development, AID. These funds will help protect Americans abroad and support efforts to contain the virus worldwide. Specifically, it includes:

$264 million to maintain consular operations, pay for evacuation expenses, and address other emergency preparedness needs at our embassies and consulates around the world;

$435 million in global health funds, including $200 million for the emergency reserve fund that we established in 2017 to address emerging health threats abroad;

$300 million of international disaster assistance funding to respond to humanitarian needs related to the virus;

$250 million for economic and security needs in countries facing instability because of the virus; and

$1 million for the USAID inspector general to perform oversight of coronavirus response activities.

The bill also requires a comprehensive strategy to respond to the coronavirus overseas and regular reporting on the use of the funds so that we know how the moneys are being spent.

Madam Speaker, this is a good bill. The resources are needed urgently, and I urge our colleagues to vote ''aye.''

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON).

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, this legislation is how this place is supposed to work—real substance, forget the politics.

We have an emergency. We really do. And I thank the leadership on both sides of the aisle for bringing this bill to the floor so quickly.

The bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus met for an hour just yesterday at the White House to promise to work together, not only with the administration, but with Republicans and Democrats, House and Senate. Many of us, the last couple of weeks, have met with the HHS Secretary, CDC, FDA, NIH, as well as with our health leaders in our States.

This money is not only going to help our health officials on the front lines; it is going to help our families in virtually every community. It is also going to help develop the vaccine and the therapeutics to save perhaps tens of thousands of lives.

The 21st Century Cures legislation that most of us supported 3 years ago has laid the foundation to expedite the cures for so many illnesses, including this one. This is a moment in time when we need to step up for the safety of our families, our communities, and our Nation.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this money that is so desperately needed and get it to the President as quickly as we can.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, the government's greatest responsibility is to keep Americans safe. This emergency supplemental addresses the

coronavirus and takes critical steps to protect the American people from this deadly and expanding outbreak.

I urge my colleagues to vote for this critical assistance, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6074.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of this Supplemental bill, which will provide $7.8 billion for our country to prepare for, prevent, and respond to the coronavirus.

Congress thankfully began preparing for public health emergencies like the coronavirus five years ago, by including generous increases for the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Strategic National Stockpile.

Beyond that, in 2018 this Congress established the Infectious Disease Rapid Response Reserve Fund, which enabled our Administration and public health officials to direct a swift and decisive response to protect our citizens from day one.

The funding provided in this Supplemental bill will further target resources to state and local health officials. It will enable the government to procure medical supplies to supplement the Strategic National Stockpile. It will provide over $800 million for research into a vaccine, and provide additional funds to develop medicines, diagnostic tests, and aid in hospital preparedness.

The bill also includes language waiving certain telehealth requirements during this time to ensure Medicare beneficiaries can receive the care they need at home to avoid placing themselves at greater risk of the virus.

I'm glad we were able to come together in a bipartisan fashion to speed these funds to where they are needed.

Mr. BUCHANAN. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this Emergency Supplemental bill. I commend the bipartisan leadership of the Appropriations Committee for bringing this critically needed bill to the floor so quickly.

Time is of the essence for my constituents. Why? Because in my District, we already have 3 confirmed cases of Coronavirus.

I just finished 2 days of in-depth meetings with front-line medical experts at both the Doctors Hospital and Sarasota Memorial Hospital.

The message I have today for my colleagues in the House is crystal clear. We need to dramatically ramp-up the supply of test kits, increase the number of locations where people exhibiting symptoms can easily get tested, and accelerate the process of getting results back—hopefully in less than 24 hours.

It is imperative that Congress quickly pass this bill so that key state and local public health agencies and officials, who are on the front-line of this pandemic get all of the resources they need. This will help them to identify potential patients and treat confirmed patients while working to keep everyone else safe from further exposure to this dangerous viral agent.

Today is no time for partisan games.

Congress should rise to the occasion by working together to approve this bill so that President Trump can sign it into law and provide vital funds and assistance to my part of southwest Florida and the rest of the Nation.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation. Aside from the public health impact, this outbreak also threatens grave economic damage. Already, economists have lowered global forecasts with the dimmest outlooks predicting a fall from nearly 3 percent to just 1 percent growth due to the uncertainty and disruptions inflicted by the virus.

Small firms, in particular, can expect hardship from this public health crisis. From the local barber shop or neighborhood cafe to the innovative technology startup, a pandemic can mean fewer customers, supply chain disruption, and workforce reductions.

As the coronavirus spreads, so, too does misinformation and alarm. Because of stigma and xenophobia, many Chinatown restaurants and stores in my city of New York were already feeling economic pain before even one person in the city tested positive for the virus. Merchants in Chinatown have reported sales drops as high as 80 percent.

Provisions in this bill would mean all small businesses harmed by the virus could apply for emergency loans, with low interest rates, to help them meet financial obligations. Just as the SBA helps small firms get back on their feet after a hurricane, wildfire or earthquake, the agency can be critical to helping local economies recover from this public health crisis.

I want to thank Speaker PELOSI and Chairwoman LOWEY for working to include these provisions, which are modeled on legislation I introduced late last week. I encourage a yes vote.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. RUIZ) at 4 o'clock p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules and pass:

S. 1678, and

H.R. 6074.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the remaining electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

TAIWAN ALLIES INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT INITIATIVE (TAIPEI) ACT OF 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1678) to express United States support for Taiwan's diplomatic alliances around the world, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 415, nays 0, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 85]

YEAS—415

Abraham	Cicilline	Flores
Adams	Cisneros	Fortenberry
Aderholt	Clark (MA)	Foster
Aguilar	Clarke (NY)	Foxx (NC)
Allen	Clay	Frankel
Allred	Cleaver	Fudge
Amash	Cline	Fulcher
Amodei	Cloud	Gabbard
Armstrong	Clyburn	Gaetz
Arrington	Cohen	Gallagher
Axne	Cole	Gallego
Babin	Collins (GA)	Garamendi
Bacon	Comer	García (IL)
Baird	Conaway	Garcia (TX)
Balderson	Connolly	Gianforte
Banks	Cook	Gibbs
Barr	Cooper	Gohmert
Barragán	Correa	Golden
Bass	Costa	Gonzalez (OH)
Beatty	Courtney	Gonzalez (TX)
Bera	Cox (CA)	Gooden
Bergman	Craig	Gosar
Beyer	Crawford	Gottheimer
Biggs	Crenshaw	Granger
Bilirakis	Crist	Graves (GA)
Bishop (GA)	Crow	Graves (LA)
Bishop (NC)	Cuellar	Graves (MO)
Bishop (UT)	Cunningham	Green (TN)
Blumenauer	Curtis	Green, Al (TX)
Blunt Rochester	Davids (KS)	Griffith
Bonamici	Davidson (OH)	Grothman
Bost	Davis (CA)	Guest
Boyle, Brendan F.	Davis, Danny K.	Guthrie
	Davis, Rodney	Haaland
Brady	Dean	Hagedorn
Brindisi	DeFazio	Harder (CA)
Brooks (AL)	DeGette	Harris
Brooks (IN)	DeLauro	Hartzler
Brown (MD)	DelBene	Hastings
Brownley (CA)	Delgado	Hayes
Buchanan	Demings	Heck
Buck	DeSaulnier	Hern, Kevin
Bucshon	DesJarlais	Herrera Beutler
Budd	Deutch	Hice (GA)
Burchett	Diaz-Balart	Higgins (LA)
Burgess	Dingell	Higgins (NY)
Bustos	Doyle, Michael F.	Hill (AR)
Butterfield		Himes
Calvert	Duncan	Holding
Carbajal	Dunn	Hollingsworth
Cárdenas	Emmer	Horn, Kendra S.
Carson (IN)	Engel	Horsford
Carter (GA)	Escobar	Houlahan
Carter (TX)	Eshoo	Hoyer
Cartwright	Espaillat	Hudson
Case	Estes	Huffman
Casten (IL)	Evans	Huizenga
Castor (FL)	Ferguson	Hurd (TX)
Castro (TX)	Finkenauer	Jackson Lee
Chabot	Fitzpatrick	Jayapal
Cheney	Fleischmann	Jeffries
Chu, Judy	Fletcher	Johnson (GA)

Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lesko
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McAdams
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meadows
Meeks
Meng
Meuser
Miller
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Morelle
Moulton
Mucarsel-Powell
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Norcross
Norman
Nunes
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Olson
Omar
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Riggleman
Roby
Rodgers (WA)
Roe, David P.
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose (NY)
Rouda
Rouzer
Roy
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shalala
Sherman
Sherrill
Shimkus
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spano
Speier
Stanton
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Timmons
Tipton
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres Small (NM)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Van Drew
Vargas
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Watkins
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Wright
Yarmuth
Yoho
Young
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—14

Byrne
Doggett
Gomez
Grijalva
Johnson (TX)
Kaptur
Lewis
Rooney (FL)
Rose, John W.
Roybal-Allard
Scott, David
Sires
Veasey
Waters

□ 1630

Messrs. MORELLE and JOHNSON of Georgia changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CORONAVIRUS PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6074) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 415, nays 2, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 86]

YEAS—415

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amash
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brindisi
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten (IL)
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Comer
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Cox (CA)
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Cunningham
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson (OH)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Engel
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Ferguson
Finkenauer
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx (NC)
Frankel
Fudge
Fulcher
Gabbard
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Golden
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez (TX)
Gooden
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Haaland
Hagedorn
Harder (CA)
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Hayes
Heck
Hern, Kevin
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill (AR)
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Horn, Kendra S.
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hurd (TX)
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lesko
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McAdams
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meadows
Meeks
Meng
Meuser
Miller
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Morelle
Moulton
Mucarsel-Powell
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Norcross
Norman
Nunes
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Olson
Omar
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Riggleman
Roby
Rodgers (WA)
Roe, David P.
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose (NY)
Rouda
Rouzer
Roy
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shalala
Sherman
Sherrill
Shimkus
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spano
Speier
Stanton
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Timmons
Tipton
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres Small (NM)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Van Drew
Vargas
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Watkins
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Wright
Yarmuth
Yoho
Young
Zeldin

NAYS—2

Biggs
Buck

NOT VOTING—13

Byrne
Doggett
Gomez
Grijalva
Johnson (TX)
Lewis
Rooney (FL)
Rose, John W.
Roybal-Allard
Scott, David
Sires
Veasey
Waters

□ 1643

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I am not recorded on rollcall vote No. 83. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea". I am not

recorded on rollcall vote No. 84. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea". I am not recorded on rollcall vote No. 85. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea". I am not recorded on rollcall vote No. 86. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

RECOGNIZING BERTA CACERES

(Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today indigenous environmental activist, Berta Caceres, would have been 49 years old, but on March 2, 2016, she was viciously murdered in her own home by a coordinated effort between greedy corporate and government thugs.

She died defending the land of the Lenca indigenous people. Berta, along with countless other Honduran activists, was the victim of a government wracked with corruption and impunity. Drug traffickers have littered the highest ranks of Honduras' Government, and its military remains weaponized against its own people, all of whom are targets of victimization by this government, which is aided by U.S. security assistance. We turn away our brothers and sisters at the border, but we abet the very crimes they are fleeing.

Berta Caceras' legacy should serve to remind us of this, and enough is enough.

RECOGNIZING LAURA RANDOLPH STEVENS DEVENDORF

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the life of Mrs. Laura Randolph Stevens Devendorf.

Born in Savannah in Georgia's First Congressional District, Laura was a fearless advocate, a talented artist, and dedicated writer who used her gifts for the betterment of others.

Laura was an extraordinarily gifted designer. In fact, during the Atlanta Olympic Games, she served as assistant course designer, the first women in Olympic history to be so honored.

She was also a dedicated environmentalist and preservationist. In her late sixties, she became a certified Master Tree Farmer and Master Wildlifer and was an instructor for the University of Georgia's Master Naturalist Program in forestry and salt marsh ecology.

She served on numerous boards, including the Georgia Forestry Association. In fact, in 2000, she was named Georgia's Tree Farmer of the Year.

I was blessed to meet Miss Laura, so I can attest to her empathy, her intellect, creativity, courage, and compassion. She was a pillar in Savannah, and her legacy will live on.

Laura's family and friends will be in my thoughts and prayers during this most difficult time.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

IMPRISONMENT OF SAUDI WOMEN ACTIVISTS

(Ms. WILD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize three extraordinary women: Nouf Abdulaziz, Loujain Al-Hathloul, and Eman Al-Nafjan.

For nearly 2 years, these women have been imprisoned, placed in solitary confinement, and tortured by the Saudi Government, all because they used their voices to express the need for the government to recognize the fundamental rights and dignity of women.

Under Saudi Arabia's male guardianship system, which requires women to obtain permission of their male guardians in healthcare, employment, and travel decisions, the very notion of women's rights or, for that matter, human rights, is effectively nonexistent.

Despite the Saudi Government's recent claims of social reform, an unacceptably oppressive status quo continues to dominate virtually every aspect of life for women in Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me as a cosponsor of H. Res. 129, a resolution which calls for the immediate release of these activists and calls on the administration to impose sanctions on Saudi officials responsible for human rights violations.

Let us come together, Democrats and Republicans alike, in demanding the release of these courageous women.

CONGRATULATING THE WEST VALLEY GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, this past Saturday, the West Valley girls basketball team had a come-from-behind win to win the Northern Section Division IV championship in northern California.

After going 23–8 in the regular season, West Valley shut out their opponent in the fourth quarter to pull out a 29–26 victory.

After trailing 24–17 in the third quarter, Hannah Wayne scored seven of the next eight points for the Eagles, creating a momentum that allowed the Eagles to keep the lead for good.

Madalynn Bassett scored eight points, along with Hannah Wayne, for lead scorer of the game.

Congratulations on the win to the West Valley Eagles, and head coach, Lenny Ehn. Good luck in the play-offs for the State championship, we will be rooting for you.

CLERMONT NATIVE EARNS NATIONAL ATHLETIC RECOGNITION

(Mr. SPANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Clermont, Florida, native Diane Travis, who exemplifies the type of citizen who puts community above self.

Ms. Travis serves as a councilwoman, small business owner, and most recently was named as a finalist for the Anne Viviani Women's Great Grand Masters Duathlete of the Year. As a duathlete who runs, bikes, and then runs again, she truly exhibits tremendous perseverance, discipline, and strength of character.

Even more noteworthy is the fact that she dedicates each race to her friend, Anne Viviani, whom this award is named after, and who sadly lost her life in a car accident returning home from a competition.

Being recognized as a finalist for Duathlete of the Year reflects the great success Ms. Travis has displayed in past competitions, including being the 2019 champion in her age group at the Women's USA Nationals, and then capturing the silver medal at the world competition.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Councilwoman Travis the best of luck moving forward as a finalist and in all future competitions. I know she will continue to make Clermont, the 15th Congressional District, and our country proud.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE THOUGHT EXPERIMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, we are going to actually try to touch on 3 or 4 different things this evening, and I am going to try to make it all sort of connect together.

On a personal level, I was very pleased as we were doing the supplemental and the mechanism in regard to the coronavirus, a little widget of that was actually the telemedicine piece of legislation that I believe Mr. THOMPSON from the Ways and Means Committee and myself have offered. It is always nice to see some of these ideas you have been working on getting lifted up and moved forward.

But this evening I actually want to sort of continue to talk about science, and the fact of the matter is, the impact it can have if we actually think forward on functionally our debt, our

deficits, and our ability to keep our promises.

You know, I have been behind this mic dozens and dozens of times with my little boards, trying to demonstrate that over the next 30 years, functioning Social Security and Medicare, these are earned benefits, but they also are the primary drivers of U.S. debt. It is almost all of it. And a lot of it is just demographics, we are getting older as a society, and most of it is actually Medicare, it is healthcare costs.

And it turns out that there are opportunities that, if we can embrace technology to actually disrupt some of those healthcare costs—and at the end, we always sort of talk about we need to grow the economy, we need tax policy, we need immigration policy, we need regulatory policy, we need incentives for labor force participation, there are all these things that make the economy grow so we have the resources, the receipts, revenues, tax revenues, and other things, to actually keep our promises. But one of the other things we could do is also disrupt the price of healthcare.

So just as a thought experiment, except it is actually based in the living math—this slide is a little hard to deal with—but think of this, over the next 30 years—and this isn't adjusted for inflation—but over the next 30 years, if you were to remove Social Security and Medicare, you would have $23 trillion in the bank.

If you roll Social Security and Medicare back, you are $103 trillion in debt, and it is mostly Medicare, it is mostly healthcare costs. Well, 30 percent of that healthcare cost is just diabetes—and that is what this slide is sort of walking through—diagnosed, the individuals we know about, those we are expecting to come in the future years, and the cost curve.

The fact of the matter is, our investments, our ability to build policy that gets us to solutions for diabetes—and diabetes is complicated, you know, there are autoimmune issues, there are lifestyle issues, some are just some genetic issues. It is complicated.

□ 1700

But understand just curing diabetes would be 30 percent of the Medicare costs we are projecting over the next 30 years. It is a demonstration, when we can get the incentives here correct, to push science for these little labs, for these really smart universities that actually will break off something and go set up and raise capital and do these high-risk experiments to produce disruptions, cures, how important that is actually to our society today but also into the future. Because if those little biologic labs can produce a cure, can produce new therapeutics, and change this cost curve, they also change the projection of U.S. economics, U.S. debt.

I am trying to build an understanding here. So think about what we just did on the floor. We just moved eight-billion-something dollars working through the coronavirus, making sure there are supplementals and all these other things, and we also have had briefings, even earlier today, of some of the small labs and Big Pharma and little pharma that are desperately working to produce vaccines to also new therapeutics, antivirals.

Yet, this same body in December moved a piece of legislation through here that would functionally crush, would functionally put those small biologic innovators out of business. It would destroy what is often called the ''capital stack,'' the ability to raise money for high-risk therapeutics that most of the time fail.

If we care about drug prices, which both the Republican side and the Democrat side all focus on, can we make sure that, if you are going to move a bill like they did, H.R. 3, that—functionally you are going to get some price efficiency here, but you are going to wipe out the very innovation and the very biologics and small pharmas that we are relying on right now to produce some of the very disruptions for what is going on in the world right now.

Understand, we have to be so careful that we don't satiate our current political desire—and it is a real one, to deal with the cost of pharmaceuticals—and end up destroying future innovation that will save lives, but also make sure we have the infrastructure for when we take on something like we are right now with the virus around the world.

It turns out one of our greatest debt drivers is diabetes. It is 30 percent of the cost of Medicare over the next 30 years.

So why show this board?

Just a couple days ago, I came across a series of articles talking about another example of a miracle that science is bringing us.

This is a mouse experiment. And traditionally when you see a mouse experiment, we are still a decade away from the therapeutic. But this should be stunningly hopeful. They functionally found a way to put in living cells that associate as a pancreatic cell—and this just comes from reading three or four articles in some of the science journals—that produced insulin in this mouse experiment.

Is this the beginning of a therapeutic that is either a cure for part of the diabetic population, or a substantial portion of it, that also happens to have the economic benefit of dramatically changing the cost curve of healthcare, dramatically changing the cost curve of Medicare and Medicaid and so many other things?

As we sit here and talk about everything from conversations around the coronavirus to debt and deficits, understand if the primary driver of our deficits are functioning healthcare costs—and really it is actually our demographics; we have 74 million of us who are baby boomers, and we are moving into our benefit years—how do we build policy around here that says this is potentially a miracle?

If we can make this miracle work for our brothers and sisters across the country, how do we incentivize investment in this type of technology that not only may partially or substantially cure diabetes, but it also solves one of our greatest debt problems in the future? This is actually the sort of thing Republicans and Democrats should be embracing and the policy and ideas to move capital, to move incentives to make this work.

If this body is going to even have a discussion saying, hey, the world economics are going to slow down for a little while because of what is going on and we want to do some stimuli; talk about doing stimuli that actually isn't just a momentary change, but actually would change our future debt curve because it provides cures for our brothers and sisters with diabetes, a chronic condition that is 30 percent of just Medicare's future spending.

I am asking us to think not only strategically and creatively, but also incentivize the very science that actually helps change our future. And it is here. This is really exciting stuff.

You know, you hope and pray that the continuation of the experiments and the science continue to go in this direction, this is a big deal. And it is not only a big deal from a science standpoint for our brothers and sisters with diabetes, but even from debt and deficits. It turns out you really can actually have that holistic circle come together if we can get our policies right around here.

So another thing we spend a lot of time on is talking about energy policy. How do you deal with everything from the issues of greenhouse gases and how dysfunctional our actual policies are here?

And I don't mean to get snarky, but on one hand people get behind these microphones, and we give these beautiful speeches about how much we care. And then we look the other way when the actual things are going on in our economy are actually making things worse.

And let me give my example. Part of the thought experiment is to understand—do you see this multicolored layer? That is nuclear generation that is coming off-line. This is a 2017 slide. If you could see the slide—which it is very colorful—you would notice it is substantially taller than the yellow side. The yellow side is photovoltaic.

I am from Arizona. I love solar. It is wonderful. But I also realize nuclear power provides this amazing baseload that is really clean. And we have actually been here and shown that.

There is a gentleman with a Nobel Prize that wrote an article a few months ago thinking that in about 10 years they will actually have a way to break down nuclear waste with a type of pulse laser. The physics on that are a little beyond me, but this is sort of the point.

So we get our policy wrong on trying to keep our nuclear generation up and

running, and then we run around giddy that we have had so much photovoltaic hit the market, but you do realize what the slide is telling you? We actually went backwards, because that differential had to be made up by other types of power generation. We fell backwards because we didn't find ways to keep this nuclear power in production.

If we are going to talk about things, I just desperately wish we would get our math right.

Another thing, this one is optimistic, and this one actually is touching on a piece of legislation from Ways and Means. It is a bipartisan number of Republicans and Democrats trying to push an all-of-the-above-type of model. For those of us in the desert southwest in the afternoons we produce a lot of photovoltaic power, solar power. And then the Sun goes down and we are still running our air conditioners.

We actually have incentives for solar, for wind. Why wouldn't you actually design something that is a little more egalitarian in understanding the technology? And this charge is about batteries. And what is really amazing here is—see if I can bend over and read this line—battery prices have had an 85 percent fall in price per density in the last decade. When you see that curve going down, those little black lines, that is actually the falling price of battery storage.

Well, if you are going to have in the tax code an incentive for wind generation and solar generation, why wouldn't you have it, also, for battery storage? Why wouldn't you have it for a type of technology that we haven't even thought of that some freaky smart person is working on in their basement or their garage or in a fancy lab right now that they may be about to bring out?

So I am going to encourage Members to think about that as we are working on some of these packages, and it is often referred to as extenders and those issues. Why don't we get this right and incentivize those things that actually are the next disruption? Because for us in the desert southwest, incentivizing that power storage actually creates the mechanisms of photovoltaic and other types of generation and smooths it out so it actually works for us. So, please, for anyone that is listening, let's pay attention to that tax legislation.

The other one I want to touch on is another piece of legislation I am sponsoring and working on.

A couple years ago, we passed something called Q45. No one knows what Q45 is, but it is actually really important. It was everything in the tax reform data spot. It is the concept of a tax credit for capturing carbon. And then the other part of it for sequestering it or using it in other fashions. Wonderful.

We have a piece of legislation to take that and make it permanent because, as we have learned, the capital expenditures for the technology to be on top of a smokestack or even the ambient air capture where it is on top of a building and it is just pulling carbon right out of the air, those sometimes are very large capital expenditures. They need a longer time to amortize out their costs.

Well, it also turns out there are disruptions in that technology. This is a clip from an article back, oh, let's say, last October, and anyone that is tracking this just basically grab your phone, go to your search engine, and search ''MIT ambient carbon capture.'' They actually even have a little video to show you how it works.

What the researchers say on this technology is overnight they may have just cut the cost in half. Cut the cost in half for functioning, just pulling carbon right out of the air, let alone on top of a smokestack.

So it turns out that the technology of carbon capture and then the ability—if we could fix some of what we call that Q45, that tax credit that is already on the books, we are just trying to work out its timing—for sequestering that carbon in concrete or using it for enhanced oil recovery or—a couple researchers have been in our office and talked about—they can take that pure carbon with a little bit of a chemical treatment and turn it back into a clean burning hydrocarbon fuel. The technology is here.

How do you ever take a body like this, where you have a lot of smart people, but we have lots of different specialties, and keep up to date with the fact that we live in a time of miracles? And if you are one of the people who truly cares about greenhouse gases, carbon in the atmosphere, then you also have the obligation to keep track of the disruption in technology because I will make you the argument, if the underlying math in the article behind this MIT carbon capture is true, it is a miracle, they may have cut the costs of capturing in half.

So another one, and this has just been a project of mine for almost 5 years here. I can walk through the concept, and I actually even have a YouTube video. I think if you search ''Schweikert environmental crowdsourcing,'' I have a 90-second YouTube video trying to explain this concept.

We all walk around with these super computers in our pockets. We call them a smartphone. What would happen in your community if you had a couple thousand people in your community that had these new little sensors that have hit the market? They are here, they are now. And you can be driving around, it could be your Uber driver, your Lyft driver, your UPS driver, the person driving the kids to soccer practice and every few minutes it is taking a sample as you go through the neighborhoods. You would actually have crowdsourced environmental data. Because today, what we do is we put up these towers, and those towers cost about a million dollars a year just to maintain, but they lack so much of the community information you actually need. And I will get to my punchline here where this makes sense.

How do you know that the business over here is a good camper, but the folks down the street are painting cars in their backyard? Well, the fixed tower never tells you that. If you actually have a crowdsourced model of collecting air quality samples, you know the business is a good actor over here, but you have clowns over here breaking the law. Capture them.

It turns out if you built an air quality crowdsourcing model in your community—the world we have today, where you fill out lots of paperwork, then shove it in file cabinets, do the papers and file cabinets actually make the air quality cleaner in your neighborhood? Of course not. It is a 1938 regulatory model. We document things, and then when someone screws up, we know who to sue.

□ 1715

I will make you the argument that if you could crowdsource air quality samples in your neighborhood, you don't need the businesses or the others who are licensed today to fill out paperwork every quarter, every 6 months, every year, because if they screw up, you capture them immediately.

Think about it. You could crash the bureaucracy. You could crash filling out paperwork to shove in file cabinets and keep the air quality much, much healthier because you capture when there is a bad actor or when something has gone wrong. And you capture it instantly.

That community science, that citizen science, that crowdsourcing is here. It turns out that lots of smart people around the country are now producing products that will let you do this.

I am ordering a couple different ones, but this is one version we pulled off the internet just the other day. What they are trying to point to here is that this is how we do it today. We put up a single tower. It costs a million dollars a year. The technology is great. It has great sensitivity, but it doesn't tell you where the bad actor is.

In a crowdsource model, you instantly find out where the bad actor is.

In my State, in my county, Maricopa County Air Quality, instead of them being collectors of paperwork, they would have the data come in. They could see it on the heat map and immediately know where to go take a look to see if there is something wrong happening.

I am trying to make the argument—do you remember what I was saying earlier?—that we have to grow the economy rather vigorously to be able to have the resources to keep our promises. One of the things on that list, besides a tax policy that works and an immigration policy, was a regulatory policy.

I have never been thrilled when people walk around and use the term: ''Oh, we are going to deregulate.'' I beg of

you to think about ''smart regulations.''

This requires a dramatically smaller bureaucracy, dramatically less burden on those who are creating productive capacity in our communities, yet it would keep us healthier and would show us where the bad actors are.

I beg of this body, think forward. We keep designing pieces of legislation around here that might have been brilliant if it was still the 1980s or early 1990s. How do we push the way we think of everything, from the environment to environmental protection all the way down to creating the next generation of pharmaceuticals that cure us?

I truly believe we live in a time of miracles. I also believe that our inability to be forward-thinking in this body is one of the biggest problems we have in these sorts of technologies reaching our communities.

We always start with this slide, because, one more time: What is the greatest fragility, long term, to this country? I am going to argue it is debt, but that debt is driven by our demographics.

Our birth rates have collapsed over the last couple of decades, particularly these last few years. There is a large number of us who are baby boomers; we have our earned benefits coming to us. If you look at the debt accumulation that is about to happen, it is stunning.

How do we build a path that makes it so that we can keep our promises and still have a growing economy so that my 4-year-old daughter has the same opportunities I have had?

My brothers and sisters on the left will often come up with: ''Well, we will tax rich people.'' My brothers and sisters on the right will often say: ''Well, we are going to find waste and fraud.''

You do realize that is mathematical lunacy? None of that works mathematically.

You have to grow the economy. You have to have a disruption in healthcare prices. You have to have a disruption of how you incentivize people to stay in the labor force.

That is why we put up this slide, because we believe there are these five pillars that if we get the economic growth; the labor force participation; the adoption of disruptive technology; the population stability of encouraging family formation; and if you are going to change the immigration system, you actually incentivize more of a talent-based immigration system, because you need the economic velocity.

Now, a lot of this is really politically uncomfortable. I mean, some of these things, when you go talk about it, people get really mad because they are not comfortable with it. But it is almost the only way, at least in our little office, that we have been able to build a model that we can have enough economic growth, enough tax revenues, enough change in the price of what our promises are that we end up having a pretty amazing future as a country.

How do you ever get a body like this, where you have lots of smart people, to act when a lot of what we know is long since out of date and when the math is really, really uncomfortable to deal with and talk about? When you show up in front of an audience at home and say, ''You do understand the biggest driver of debt is Medicare?'' you will get booed, hissed at. But you need to understand, if you don't talk about it, how do you save it?

Remember, the Medicare trust fund, which is the part A, has only a few years left, and then it is gone.

We need to step up, both Democrats and Republicans, and start telling the truth about the math, maybe invest in that crazy thing called a calculator and start to build a model of how we disrupt the prices, how we grow the economy, how we create the velocity that makes this work and provides hope and opportunity.

My thesis is very, very simple: It is here. There is a way to do it. And the biggest barrier to it happening is this body here. We need to change the way we look at the disruption of technology.

The last one I will give you is just this simple example. I have come to the floor multiple times and sort of done a thought experiment: the technology of something that looks like a large kazoo that you can blow into and instantly tells you that you have the flu, that instantly can bounce off your medical records on your phone, that knows you are not allergic to a certain antiviral, and that orders your antivirals.

Isn't that wonderful? Think about just the cost disruption that technology would have, particularly with what is going on right now.

It turns out that technology exists, yet the professor who was working on it had incredible difficulties raising capital, being able to get investors to move it forward. You know why? Because it is functionally illegal. It would save lots of money, but the algorithm for being allowed to write a prescription is functionally illegal. It is illegal under State licensing laws, the Social Security Act, the way we reimburse.

We need to become much more forward-thinking because it is the way we save ourselves. If we stay the way we are, we do nothing but bathe in debt and stagnation.

But there is a path.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 4, 2020.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on March 4, 2020, at 2:57 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 1869.

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 4334.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5214.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

CALL FOR REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. PRESSLEY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my dear friend and sister in service, Representative TLAIB, for cohosting this special session with me this evening to discuss the critical issue of reproductive justice in our country.

As chair of the Abortion Rights and Access Task Force in this first-ever pro-choice majority Congress, I am proud to join my colleagues tonight as we stand up and push back against these unprecedented, coordinated attacks on our collective reproductive rights and liberties.

You see, Mr. Speaker, the stakes could not be any higher. Since 2011, anti-choice politicians have pushed a wave of nearly 450 restrictive laws through State legislatures and now all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. Over the last year alone, they have enacted 25 bans across dozens of States, pushing comprehensive reproductive healthcare, including abortion care, further and further out of reach.

They are working overtime to peddle harmful misconceptions and to legislate abortion out of existence.

As a result, reproductive health facilities have been forced to shut their doors, forcing individuals to travel across State lines, shoulder additional financial burdens, and jump through unnecessary and humiliating hoops just to access comprehensive care.

Just this morning, I, along with several of my House colleagues, marched to the Supreme Court to stand in solidarity with the justice warriors who are on the front lines, fighting for our collective humanity because, today, the Supreme Court begins deliberations on the constitutionality of a Louisiana State law that, if upheld by the Court, would literally shut down every abortion clinic across the State except for one.

To put this further into perspective, Mr. Speaker, this could leave just one doctor to provide abortion care for nearly 1 million individuals of reproductive age across the entire State.

If Louisiana's clinic shutdown law takes effect, it will not only decimate abortion access in Louisiana, but it will further embolden State legislatures around the country to do the same.

Additionally, this law is literally identical to the Texas law struck down by the Court just 3 years ago in the Whole Woman's Health case.

Since the Texas case, the facts certainly haven't changed. The precedent certainly hasn't changed. The only thing that has changed is the makeup of the Supreme Court, a court that is now filled with judges who want to strip us of our bodily autonomy.

Laws that restrict reproductive freedom undermine the very nature of equality and disproportionately harm the most vulnerable among us.

Every person, every individual, regardless of income, sexual orientation, or gender identity, deserves equitable access to comprehensive reproductive healthcare, including queer, trans, and nonbinary individuals. As I often say, people don't live in checked boxes; we live in nuance and intersectionality.

Abortion is healthcare. Reproductive justice is economic justice. Reproductive justice is racial justice.

Mr. Speaker, the stakes are high. Our fundamental human rights and liberties are not and should not be up for debate.

□ 1730

I am proud to stand here on the floor today to remind the courts that Roe v. Wade is still the law of the land and that the days of the Hyde amendment are numbered and that we stand with our partners in community, the organizers and resisters who are fighting day in and day out to ensure that every person has the right to self-determination over their reproductive health.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE FOR WOMEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today's Special Order is a call for reproductive justice for women, those who can become pregnant and families everywhere who believe, as I do, that reproductive rights are a human right.

This Special Order hour comes as the Supreme Court, today, considers yet another attack on our right as women and those who can become pregnant to determine what we do with our own bodies. Worse, it comes less than a month after Senate Majority Leader MCCONNELL's thankfully failed attempt to pass, not one, but two, abortion bans.

Never mind the 250-plus bills to reduce prescription drug costs, improve access to the ballot box, and more that would make a real difference in the lives of the American people that he could have taken up; instead, he tried to control women's bodies.

The obsession with telling women, transgender folks, and nonbinary people what to do with their own bodies must end. The obsession with trying to legislate what those who can become pregnant can do and cannot do with their own body must end.

I represent one of the most beautiful, most Black cities in the country, the city of Detroit. The issue of reproductive justice is one that is very much affecting Black women and women of color and transgender people all around the world.

Of all female title X patients, for example, 32 percent are Latinas, 21 percent are Black, and 4 percent are Asian American and Pacific Islander.

For the 2 million transgender people in the United States, this funding makes access to the hormone replacement therapy and other transition-related care that they need very much possible for their health.

How? With over 100 clinics across 17 States offering HRT, Planned Parenthood is one of the largest transition care providers in the country. This money, this funding that is often threatened by anti-abortion rights advocates is actually a critical source of healthcare for these women who already face health disparities.

Indeed, title X providers are one of the few places where women of color can access reproductive and preventive healthcare services. It is really critical in this institution, in this Chamber, that we ensure that those health disparities are not exacerbated by a reduction or revocation of that funding.

When we talk about 20-week abortion bans, the stories illustrating why access to them is so important are as heartbreaking as they are harrowing.

Take Jenni L. from my home State of Michigan as a perfect example. At her 18-week ultrasound, Jenni and her husband were given the devastating news that their unborn son had severe brain malfunction. For weeks after that appointment, she visited multiple specialists and genetic counselors who all gave her unborn son the same prognosis: He was unlikely to survive a full term. So, at 21 weeks, Jenni terminated her pregnancy.

Jenni said: ''Deciding to end my much-wanted pregnancy was difficult and deeply sad, but also deeply personal. At no point during that process did I consider my legislators a part of the conversation. I listened to my doctors, genetic counselors, my family, and my heart.''

Women like Jenni should absolutely have the right to listen to their doctors and their hearts when it comes to the health of themselves, their unborn children, and their bodies.

Had the GOP had their way, Jenni would have spent the remainder of her pregnancy term living in fear that at any moment her son would pass away from this awful prognosis or the fear that she would give birth and watch him suffer.

As a mother of two boys myself, I cannot imagine what Jenni went through or her emotional trauma as she considered or made that very personal choice. If she had to carry her son or not is up to her.

She is just one story of many in which a mother, through no fault of her own, has had to make heartbreaking decisions about her pregnancy.

Sadly, nearly 99 percent of abortions actually do occur before this deadline of 20 weeks into pregnancy, but they decide to ignore that. They decide to make this a political issue, and it is not. It is a human issue, a women's issue.

For Jenni and the countless other mothers like her, this legislative body must keep their hands off of women's bodies. It is so critically important to know, when we talk about this issue, that it is an economic justice issue. It is a racial justice issue. It is interconnected to so much of what we fight for as women in this country, to have ourselves be able to make very important choices, not only about our jobs, with no fear of discrimination, but also about our health, which is so interconnected to so many other social justice issues that we face.

So it is critically important that we really try to push back against this continued agenda that has been politicized and making the issue of choice and the issue of healthcare for women something that they are vilifying and trying to use to a process.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ).

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank my esteemed colleagues, AYANNA PRESSLEY and RASHIDA TLAIB, for hosting this week's Special Order hour on an issue that is so critically important to all people who want healthcare and need equitable access to reproductive healthcare and justice in the United States.

Right now, we are facing a critical juncture in the fight for healthcare and reproductive healthcare in the United States. Louisiana lawmakers designed a law to push abortion out of reach. It compounds the financial barriers of

people struggling to make ends meet that they already face when seeking care, including the decades-old Hyde amendment that has long denied affordable abortion care for low-income people.

When I think about this issue and when any of us think about this issue, we bring our whole selves to the conversation. When I think about the issue of reproductive healthcare, I bring so much of my experience working in hospitality in restaurants.

Working in restaurants is a front line for sexual harassment and sexual assault. Working as a waitress, many of my colleagues were sexually harassed and sexually assaulted.

There were days when many of them did not have access to reproductive healthcare or even prenatal healthcare. One woman I know was pregnant and had no healthcare, and she had to show up at free clinics for hours at a hospital waiting for a new doctor every time.

Another friend of mine that I had worked with was in an abusive relationship, and, as we all know, reporting rape is a very different issue than accessing reproductive healthcare in time.

When we impose things like the Hyde amendment, what we say is that, if you are wealthy and have these conditions, you can have access to reproductive healthcare and an abortion, but, if you are poor, you will not be afforded those same issues. That is what the Hyde amendment is telling the American people and all people who are capable of being pregnant or know a person or are part of a family of someone who is pregnant.

It is incredibly important that we advance and uphold issues of economic and racial justice for all people, regardless of their income and regardless of who they are.

Right now, choice is the law of the land. That law should be extended to all people, and there is no reason—none—that a Democratic majority should uphold the Hyde amendment in the United States. We have to make sure that all people have access to reproductive justice and reproductive healthcare.

Last, but not least, these decisions—oftentimes heart-wrenching—are not decisions to be made between a constituent and a legislator. It is a decision to be made between a person and their doctor.

Nobody's healthcare should be up to a senator or their State representative to determine, no less, when so many of these bodies are not representative and do not contain in them people who can become pregnant.

People do not understand, so many of the people writing these laws do not understand the scope and the breadth that economic and reproductive justice entails; and, to that, we have to make sure that we eliminate the Hyde amendment and allow all people to have access to the reproductive justice and healthcare that they need.

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GARCÍA).

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to participate in this conversation about women's rights and access to healthcare services, especially reproductive healthcare services.

I want to thank Congresswoman TLAIB and Congresswoman PRESSLEY for their leadership on this matter.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of women's access to reproductive healthcare.

The Louisiana law now being argued at the Supreme Court today, in part, is part of an ongoing national effort to effectively ban abortion without formally bringing up Roe v. Wade. Even if the right to abortion technically exists, it won't matter if access to places to get abortion care are eliminated.

Republicans have pushed hundreds of restrictive laws throughout State legislatures. If they truly cared about women, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle would have voted for equal pay and for the Violence Against Women Act, but they didn't.

Instead, in 2020, they are still questioning a woman's constitutional right to safe and legal abortion, which has been the law of the land for over 46 years. They want to turn back the clock and deny women the right to reproductive healthcare, to make choices about their own bodies.

For many in my community, this is a deeply personal matter. I took a strong stance on reproductive rights before the issue was widely discussed and acceptable in my own community, but, for me, it has always been impossible to separate the issues of economic justice and reproductive freedom.

The ability to control if, when, and how to have children is at the core of women's ability to provide a decent standard of living for themselves and their families.

But let me be clear: While abortion access is critical, women of color and other marginalized women also often have difficulty accessing contraception, comprehensive sex education, sexually transmitted infection prevention and care, adequate prenatal and pregnancy care, and so much more. In short, one's socioeconomic and immigration status, ZIP Code, et cetera, should not determine access to reproductive help.

Abortion access is a critical step toward achieving true reproductive justice for the communities I represent. If the Supreme Court decides to strip women of their practical access to abortion services, as they are now considering, they will effectively reverse Roe v. Wade and outright deny women the ability to determine their own health, family, and future.

□ 1745

This is an assault on women, an assault on freedom, and an assault on self-determination. Women alone should have the right to choose what is best for them.

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the great State of California (Mr. LOWENTHAL).

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleagues, Representatives TLAIB and PRESSLEY, for yielding and allowing me to speak.

As we all know, this morning the Supreme Court heard the oral arguments in Medical Services v. Russo, a case that challenges the unconstitutional abortion restrictions in Louisiana. The Louisiana law would require abortion providers to obtain admitting privileges at a hospital within 30 miles or else they must stop providing care.

Let's be clear what this is about. This restrictive law is meant to eliminate access to abortion care. In fact, if this law were allowed to stand, all but one of Louisiana's abortion clinics would be shut down.

This should be a straightforward decision for the Supreme Court. Three years ago, the Court struck down an identical Texas law in Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt.

Americans overwhelmingly support abortion access. Nearly 80 percent of Americans do not want to see Roe v. Wade overturned. Polling consistently shows that there is not a single State in the Union where residents want to outlaw abortion. Not one.

Reproductive rights are central to individual liberties. What we are talking about are deeply personal decisions that should remain up to the woman, not be decided by politicians. These rights enable women to decide if or if not and how they should start to grow their family. This right should be an absolute right and solely up to women to make their own decisions about their health and their future, and we should respect them for making that decision.

Reproductive rights also allow women to control their economic security and make the best choices for themselves and their families. It is not our place—any of us—to decide whether a woman should or should not get an abortion.

Abortion remains one of the safest outpatient medical procedures. However, placing the burden of admitting privileges on abortion providers threatens the safety of these procedures. Nearly every professional medical association has said having admitting procedures will not make women safer.

But let's be honest. We know there is no medical reason for these outrageously restrictive laws. There are only political reasons behind these moves. Admitting privileges, as we know, are often difficult for abortion providers to obtain, solely because of the ideological opposition to abortion.

Therefore, it is imperative that we protect individual liberties and that we protect reproductive rights and reproductive education in order to build healthy communities.

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative PRESSLEY for her incredible leadership on this important

issue across the world and not just here in the United States.

Also, this has been a wonderful experience for all of us new Members to experience a Special Order that has been coordinated and created by the Congressional Progressive Caucus to help many of us be able to give a voice to many folks at home.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. PRESSLEY) for closing remarks.

Ms. PRESSLEY. Again, I thank Representative TLAIB for cohosting the Special Order hour. This is a joint Special Order hour in partnership with the Congressional Progressive Caucus and also the Pro-Choice Caucus. It is exciting that we are the first pro-choice majority Congress in the history of Congress.

As heartened as I am by those who come here to speak, support, to affirm our reproductive rights and freedoms, it is shameful that our reproductive rights are even up for debate. It is 2020. Support for abortion access is at an all-time high. In fact, nearly 80 percent of Americans do not want to see Roe v. Wade overturned. There is not a single State in the Nation where making abortion illegal is popular. But here we find ourselves having to fight back against these insidious efforts to undermine our reproductive rights and freedoms, and we just keep pushing.

Just last month the House passed legislation to move us one step closer to ratifying the ERA. So we will just keep speaking out, organizing, and mobilizing when it comes to equality and justice on all fronts. I am glad to see so many of our colleagues here tonight pushing back against these draconian efforts that want to take us backwards. We won't stand for it—not now, not ever.

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good colleague from Massachusetts for her incredible, much-needed voice here in this Chamber.

As we all know, this Sunday is International Women's Day. So let's celebrate all the women all over the world who stand up for what they believe in, who speak truth to power, and who fight for their communities as activists, voters, candidates, and elected officials.

This International Women's Day I want to uplift an issue that is personal to me and so many of my sisters in service. Violence against women in politics is a global problem. Research shows that women around the world are subjected to physical, sexual, economic, and psychological violence for choosing to participate in politics. When I say around the world, I also mean here in the United States.

As one of the first Muslim women in Congress, my family and I face constant death threats and harassment. But this will not stop me from fighting and being a voice for 13 District Strong. But let's be clear. Harassment, abuse, and assault are not the cost of doing politics.

Women deserve to have their voices heard. They deserve a seat at the table. So this Sunday for International Women's Day let's finally commit to stopping violence against women in politics.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1869. An act to require the disclosure of ownership of high-security space leased to accommodate a Federal agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 55 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, March 5, 2020, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

4006. A letter from the Acting Director, International Cooperation, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. 04-20, pursuant to Sec. 27(f) of the Arms Export Control Act and Executive Order 13637; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4007. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report on data mining activity in the Department of State for calendar year 2019, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 2000ee-3(c)(1); Public Law 110-53, Sec. 804(c)(1); (121 Stat. 363); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4008. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser, Office of Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting agreements concluded pursuant to the Taiwan Relations Act, 22 U.S.C. Sec. 3301, et seq, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4009. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Presidential report to Congress on the Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Australia Concerning Defense Trade Cooperation (Treaty Doc. 110-10), Section 2(8); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4010. A letter from the Attorney Adviser, Office of Chief Counsel, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — System Safety Program and Risk Reduction Program [Docket No.: FRA-2011-0060, Notice No.: 12 and FRA-2009-0038, Notice No.: 8] (RIN: 2130-AC73) received March 2, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4011. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0673; Product Identifier 2019-NM-101-AD; Amendment 39-19832; AD 2020-02-20] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4012. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2020-0098; Product Identifier 2020-NM-011-AD; Amendment 39-19844; AD 2020-03-20] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4013. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0399; Product Identifier 2018-NM-149-AD; Amendment 39-19823; AD 2020-03-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4014. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Textron Aviation Inc. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Cessna Aircraft Company) [Docket No.: FAA-2020-0156; Product Identifier 2019-CE-053-AD; Amendment 39-21029; AD 2020-03-16] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4015. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0596; Project Identifier 2019-NE-22-AD; Amendment 39-21101; AD 2020-04-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4016. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31297; Amdt. No.: 3892] received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4017. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31296; Amdt. No.: 3891] received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4018. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of the Class E Airspace; Bowling Green and Somerset, KY [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0834; Airspace Docket

No.: 19-ASO-22] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4019. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Alpine, WY [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0811; Airspace Docket No.: 17-ANM-36] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4020. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Concord, CA [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0678; Airspace Docket No.: 18-AWP-27] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4021. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Shawnee, OK [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0908; Airspace Docket No.: 19-ASW-14] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4022. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of VOR Federal Airway V-7 in the Vicinity of Sheboygan, WI [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0686; Airspace Docket No.: 18-AGL-21] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4023. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Air Traffic Service (ATS) Routes V-82, V-217, and T-383 in the Vicinity of Baudette, MN [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0729; Airspace Docket No.: 19-AGL-12] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4024. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of VHF Omnidirectional Range (VOR) Federal Airway V-71 and Area Navigation Route T-285 Due to the Decommissioning of the Winner, SD, VOR [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0799; Airspace Docket No.: 19-AGL-13] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4025. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation and Amendment of the Class E Airspace; Mansfield, LA [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0833; Airspace Docket No.: 19-ASW-13] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4026. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of the Class D and Class E Airspace, Establishment of Class E Airspace, and Revocation of Class E Airspace; Louisville, KY [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0109; Airspace Docket No.: 19-ASO-2] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4027. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Neillsville, WI [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0767; Airspace Docket No.: 19-AGL-26] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4028. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31295; Amdt. No.: 3890] received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4029. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31294; Amdt. No.: 3889] received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4030. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0714; Product Identifier 2019-NM-103-AD; Amendment 39-21021; AD 2019-26-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4031. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0864; Product Identifier 2019-NM-140-AD; Amendment 39-19834; AD 2020-02-22] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4032. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2020-0116; Product Identifier 2019-CE-060-AD; Amendment 39-21026; AD 2020-02-18] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4033. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0670; Product Identifier 2019-NM-104-AD; Amendment 39-19830; AD 2020-02-16] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4034. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-9073; Product Identifier 2015-NM-062-AD; Amendment 39-19836; AD 2020-03-11] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4035. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Aviation Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0700; Product Identifier 2019-NM-105-AD; Amendment 39-19833; AD 2020-02-21] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4036. A letter from the United States Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President, transmitting the Office's 2020 Trade Policy Agenda and the 2019 Annual Report, pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2213(c); Public Law 93-618, Sec. 163(c) (as amended by Public Law 100-418, Sec. 1641); (102 Stat. 1271) and 19 U.S.C. 2213(a); Public Law 93-618, Sec. 163(a) (as amended by Public Law 100-418, Sec. 1641); (102 Stat. 1271); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of California):

H.R. 6071. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to modify the Federal share requirement and establish a period of performance requirement for the hazard mitigation grant program, to amend the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 to modify the Federal share requirement of emergency management performance grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. CRIST (for himself and Mr. PALAZZO):

H.R. 6072. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to include the Coast Guard in the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself and Mr. ROSE of New York):

H.R. 6073. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs repays members of the Armed Forces for certain contributions made by such members towards Post-9/11 Educational Assistance; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. LOWEY:

H.R. 6074. A bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned, considered and passed.

By Mrs. NAPOLITANO (for herself, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. VELA, and Mr. VARGAS):

H.R. 6075. A bill to expand and improve access to trauma-informed mental health interventions for newly arriving immigrants at the border, to alleviate the stress of and provide education for border agents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DEFAZIO (for himself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 6076. A bill to provide for increased audits, improved technology infrastructure, and increased staff for the Internal Revenue Service for the purpose of reducing the tax gap, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mrs. HARTZLER:

H.R. 6077. A bill to ensure that women seeking an abortion are notified, before giving informed consent to receive an abortion, of the medical risks associated with the abortion procedure and the major developmental characteristics of the unborn child; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BURCHETT (for himself and Mr. KIM):

H.R. 6078. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to increase transparency and to enhance the use of microloans in rural areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. KIM (for himself and Mr. BURCHETT):

H.R. 6079. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to optimize the operations of the microloan program, lower costs for small business concerns and intermediary participants in the program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. HUDSON, and Mr. BILIRAKIS):

H.R. 6080. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to reduce drug shortages and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HILL of Arkansas (for himself and Mr. LAWSON of Florida):

H.R. 6081. A bill to require the President to report on financial institutions' involvement with officials of the Iranian Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. COX of California (for himself, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. ROY, Mr. MAST, Mr. ROSE of New York, and Mr. PHILLIPS):

H.R. 6082. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to revise the definition of ''Vietnam era'' for purposes of the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. YOHO (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. DUNN, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. BARR, Mr. BUDD, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. CASE, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. NORMAN):

H.R. 6083. A bill to create a nonimmigrant H-2C work visa program for agricultural workers, to make mandatory and permanent requirements relating to use of an electronic employment eligibility verification system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, Ways and Means, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. BONAMICI (for herself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. MCKINLEY, and Ms. JOHNSON of Texas):

H.R. 6084. A bill to provide for a program of hydropower, pumped storage, and marine energy research, development, demonstration, and commercial application, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself and Mr. BOST):

H.R. 6085. A bill to amend title 39, United States Code, to modify procedures for negotiating pay and benefits of supervisory and other managerial personnel of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. HUIZENGA:

H.R. 6086. A bill to hold China, Russia, and other major shareholders of the International Monetary Fund accountable to the principles of the Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. LIPINSKI:

H.R. 6087. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to create a reduction schedule for public service loan forgiveness, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. LYNCH (for himself, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. COOPER):

H.R. 6088. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit the distribution of materially deceptive audio or visual media prior to an election for Federal office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. PANETTA (for himself, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. CROW, and Mr. BROWN of Maryland):

H.R. 6089. A bill to limit the use of funds to be used to reduce the total number of United States Armed Forces deployed to the United States Africa Command area of responsibility; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. RUIZ (for himself, Mr. BUCSHON, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, and Mr. WENSTRUP):

H.R. 6090. A bill to provide for a new building period with respect to the cap on full-time equivalent residents for purposes of payment for graduate medical education costs under the Medicare program for certain hospitals that have established a shortage specialty program; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WITTMAN:

H.R. 6091. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income certain combat zone compensation of civilian employees of the United States; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire (for herself, Mrs. HARTZLER, Ms. BASS, and Mr. BACON):

H. Con. Res. 95. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that State agencies and other providers of foster care services should make every effort to ensure siblings remain together in the foster system; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. DEAN (for herself and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania):

H. Res. 885. A resolution expressing support for the designation of March 4, 2020, as ''National Assistive Technology Awareness Day''; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. GARAMENDI:

H.R. 6071.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 3, and 18 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. CRIST:

H.R. 6072.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BANKS:

H.R. 6073.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress).

By Mrs. LOWEY:

H.R. 6074.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states:

''No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law . . . .''

In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides:

''The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States . . .''

Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.

By Mrs. NAPOLITANO:

H.R. 6075.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, clause 1 to provide for the general Welfare of the United States

By Mr. DEFAZIO:

H.R. 6076.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress)

By Mrs. HARTZLER:

H.R. 6077.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H.R. 6078.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV,

Section 3, Clause 2. The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the

Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

By Mr. KIM:

H.R. 6079.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact the legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. PETERS:

H.R. 6080.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. HILL of Arkansas:

H.R. 6081.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. COX of California:

H.R. 6082.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the US Constitution

By Mr. YOHO:

H.R. 6083.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Ms. BONAMICI:

H.R. 6084.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 6085.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. HUIZENGA:

H.R. 6086.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 9, that no money shall be drawn from the Treasury but in consequence of Appropriations made by Law, and a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be made from time to time.

By Mr. LIPINSKI:

H.R. 6087.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

''The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States . . .''

By Mr. LYNCH:

H.R. 6088.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18.

By Mr. PANETTA:

H.R. 6089.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18.

By Mr. RUIZ:

H.R. 6090.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution, to provide for the general welfare and make all laws necessary and proper to carry out the powers of Congress.

By Mr. WITTMAN:

H.R. 6091.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 6 of the Constitution of the United States

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 77: Mr. ROY.

H.R. 96: Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 141: Mr. BROWN of Maryland.

H.R. 372: Mr. ZELDIN.

H.R. 444: Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. WILD, Ms. MOORE, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 587: Mr. HUIZENGA.

H.R. 873: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 921: Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 945: Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. SIMPSON, and Ms. GABBARD.

H.R. 1002: Mr. BRINDISI.

H.R. 1043: Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Ms. CHENEY, Mr. CORREA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana.

H.R. 1049: Mrs. FLETCHER.

H.R. 1154: Ms. TLAIB.

H.R. 1166: Mr. O'HALLERAN.

H.R. 1209: Mr. TED LIEU of California and Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 1260: Ms. SEWELL of Alabama.

H.R. 1266: Mr. NEGUSE and Mr. PANETTA.

H.R. 1374: Mr. MCCAUL.

H.R. 1400: Mrs. LURIA.

H.R. 1406: Mr. ALLRED.

H.R. 1411: Mr. KEATING.

H.R. 1497: Mr. MOULTON.

H.R. 1516: Ms. GABBARD.

H.R. 1549: Mr. TED LIEU of California.

H.R. 1611: Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. SHERMAN.

H.R. 1629: Mr. HUFFMAN and Mr. ZELDIN.

H.R. 1661: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 1679: Mr. SMUCKER.

H.R. 1730: Mr. SPANO and Mr. ALLRED.

H.R. 1816: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 1857: Mr. JEFFRIES.

H.R. 1869: Mr. KENNEDY and Ms. DEAN.

H.R. 1897: Mr. CROW.

H.R. 1945: Ms. GARCIA of Texas and Mr. HUFFMAN.

H.R. 1948: Mr. MARCHANT.

H.R. 1956: Mr. BUCSHON and Mr. LATTA.

H.R. 2090: Ms. STEFANIK and Mr. BRINDISI.

H.R. 2117: Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. KEATING, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. HORSFORD, and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.

H.R. 2164: Ms. ESCOBAR.

H.R. 2166: Mr. SHERMAN and Mr. LYNCH.

H.R. 2168: Mr. CRENSHAW and Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 2178: Mr. CONNOLLY.

H.R. 2200: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CICILLINE, Mrs. BEATTY, and Mrs. AXNE.

H.R. 2264: Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 2305: Ms. TITUS.

H.R. 2488: Mr. TRONE.

H.R. 2508: Ms. GABBARD.

H.R. 2599: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 2662: Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 2694: Mr. BACON and Mr. GOLDEN.

H.R. 2711: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 2731: Mr. SCHWEIKERT and Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 2777: Ms. GABBARD and Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 2788: Ms. GABBARD.

H.R. 2847: Mr. PERRY and Mr. SHERMAN.

H.R. 2895: Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas.

H.R. 2986: Ms. ESCOBAR.

H.R. 2990: Ms. GABBARD.

H.R. 3019: Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 3068: Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 3071: Mr. WALTZ.

H.R. 3122: Mr. GOLDEN.

H.R. 3182: Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee and Mr. OLSON.

H.R. 3185: Mr. TRONE.

H.R. 3211: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.

H.R. 3219: Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. NEGUSE, Mrs. LURIA, and Mr. LEVIN of Michigan.

H.R. 3244: Ms. STEFANIK.

H.R. 3250: Ms. UNDERWOOD.

H.R. 3369: Mr. COOPER.

H.R. 3414: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.

H.R. 3467: Mr. KIND.

H.R. 3489: Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 3597: Ms. ESCOBAR.

H.R. 3623: Ms. ESCOBAR.

H.R. 3689: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 3742: Mrs. MURPHY of Florida and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.

H.R. 3842: Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. BOST, and Mr. MCKINLEY.

H.R. 3848: Ms. MENG.

H.R. 3929: Ms. GABBARD.

H.R. 3932: Mr. ALLRED.

H.R. 3957: Ms. OMAR.

H.R. 3960: Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 3980: Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 4078: Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 4097: Mr. BERA.

H.R. 4104: Mr. PANETTA, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. DEAN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, and Mr. BURCHETT.

H.R. 4129: Ms. MATSUI and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 4138: Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 4189: Mr. HIMES and Mr. STANTON.

H.R. 4193: Mrs. BUSTOS.

H.R. 4291: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 4439: Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, and Ms. CLARKE of New York.

H.R. 4482: Mr. GOLDEN.

H.R. 4549: Mr. OLSON.

H.R. 4555: Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 4644: Mr. VELA.

H.R. 4674: Mr. NEAL and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

H.R. 4708: Mr. LYNCH, Ms. PORTER, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, and Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 4709: Mr. LYNCH, Ms. PORTER, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, and Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 4928: Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 4932: Mr. KIND.

H.R. 4982: Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 5046: Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. SUOZZI, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.

H.R. 5076: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 5115: Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 5153: Mr. FORTENBERRY.

H.R. 5169: Mr. HILL of Arkansas, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. KING of Iowa, and Mr. BABIN.

H.R. 5234: Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 5262: Mrs. BEATTY.

H.R. 5265: Mr. BACON.

H.R. 5312: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Ms. GABBARD, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, and Mr. BILIRAKIS.

H.R. 5390: Mrs. RODGERS of Washington.

H.R. 5408: Mr. SHERMAN.

H.R. 5451: Mr. JEFFRIES.

H.R. 5516: Ms. STEFANIK and Mr. VARGAS.

H.R. 5523: Ms. STEFANIK.

H.R. 5552: Mr. PALLONE and Mr. KIND.

H.R. 5592: Mr. COOPER.

H.R. 5595: Mrs. LESKO.

H.R. 5602: Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. RUSH, and Ms. LEE of California.

H.R. 5605: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 5610: Mr. YOUNG.

H.R. 5657: Mr. WALTZ.

H.R. 5664: Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. PERRY, and Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 5690: Mr. TRONE.

H.R. 5697: Mr. DEFAZIO.

H.R. 5698: Mr. HILL of Arkansas and Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 5768: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi and Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 5775: Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. MENG, Mrs. LAWRENCE, and Ms. STEVENS.
H.R. 5827: Mr. COLE.
H.R. 5829: Ms. GABBARD.
H.R. 5845: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER and Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 5859: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. MAST, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, and Mr. SHIMKUS.
H.R. 5873: Mr. BACON, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. ROSE of New York, and Mr. AMODEI.
H.R. 5885: Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 5917: Ms. PORTER and Mr. CASE.
H.R. 5954: Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. AMASH, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. UPTON, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. MITCHELL, Ms. STEVENS, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. TLAIB, and Mrs. LAWRENCE.
H.R. 5976: Mr. SWALWELL of California.
H.R. 5984: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI.
H.R. 6006: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 6026: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 6034: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H.R. 6038: Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. SUOZZI, and Ms. JUDY CHU of California.
H.R. 6066: Mr. WALBERG.
H.R. 6070: Mr. LUJÁN.
H.J. Res. 2: Ms. DEGETTE.
H. Con. Res. 89: Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. GABBARD, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Ms. PINGREE.
H. Res. 109: Ms. OMAR.
H. Res. 173: Mr. NEGUSE.
H. Res. 374: Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. GUEST, Mr. KELLER, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. MEUSER, and Mr. STEIL.
H. Res. 458: Mr. SIRES, Mr. KEATING, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. MCCAUL, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. BERA, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. SHERMAN, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. YOHO, and Mr. COSTA.
H. Res. 512: Ms. BASS, Mr. SHERMAN, and Ms. SPANBERGER.
H. Res. 720: Mr. SIRES, Mr. YOHO, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. COSTA.
H. Res. 723: Mr. PERRY, Mr. SHERMAN, and Ms. SPANBERGER.
H. Res. 742: Mr. GARAMENDI.
H. Res. 745: Ms. BASS.
H. Res. 792: Mr. WRIGHT.
H. Res. 797: Ms. DELBENE.
H. Res. 809: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H. Res. 821: Mr. AGUILAR, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. Craig, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. CRIST, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. SOTO, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. CORREA, Ms. FRANKEL, Ms. DEAN, Ms. TLAIB, and Ms. ADAMS.
H. Res. 828: Ms. ESCOBAR.
H. Res. 837: Mrs. LOWEY.
H. Res. 862: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. CRENSHAW, and Mr. COHEN.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MRS. LOWEY

H.R. 6074, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes, does not contain any congressional earmark, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE *116th* CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 166 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH *4*, 2020 *No. 43*

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, our Father, through these days of Lent, give us a continuous awareness of Your presence.

May each lawmaker remember Your promise to never leave or forsake us. Finding power in Your presence, give our Senators the ability to discover solutions to the problems that confront our Nation and world. May they strive to make a positive difference for all Americans, permitting Your light to illumine the way. Lord, provide our legislators with a new vision of faith and a fresh venture of hope as they seek creative ways to help a troubled world.

We pray in Your powerful 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.

IOWA HISTORY MONTH

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. LOEFFLER). The Senator from Iowa is recognized.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I would ask unanimous consent to speak for 1 minute as in morning business.

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

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, this month is Iowa History Month. For Iowa History Month, I will probably give a few 1-minute speeches about the history of Iowa, but today I want to recognize the role Iowa's veterans have played in our history.

For instance, in the Civil War, Iowa sent over 75,000 soldiers to fight for the Union—the most per capita of any State. I have been saying ''the most per capita of any State'' because I thought that was the history, but I have heard other States also say the same thing for their States, so I want to be intellectually honest. But I am still proud of those 75,000 Iowans who fought for the Union.

Iowa has kept that tradition of service, and I often have the pleasure of meeting our veterans. Yesterday, I met an Iowa delegation for the Veterans of Foreign Wars. I participate in the Library of Congress project called the Veterans History Project. Accordingly, I have had the honor of helping preserve 31 interviews with Iowa veterans as part of the Veterans History Project. That has taken place over just the last 2 years, preserving the oral history of these Iowa veterans. So the Iowa Veterans History Project will have their stories for future generations to ensure that the service and the sacrifices of these Iowans are never forgotten.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS BILL

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, last week I described how Congress could quickly secure supplemental funding to combat the coronavirus. The way to secure these urgently needed resources with speed and certainty was to forgo partisan posturing, forgo micromanagement at the leadership level, and let the bipartisan appropriators do their work.

Since then, Senator SHELBY, Senator LEAHY, and their counterparts in the House have worked on bipartisan, bicameral discussions. Thanks to their good work, we are close. The funding legislation appears to be about at the 5-yard line. I hope to complete the legislation and deliver this funding this week. We are close.

In order to finish up, both sides will need to continue doing what has worked thus far and resist the temptation to impose any last-minute ideological demands. In particular, I have heard that the Democratic leadership may be contemplating a last-minute demand that this funding legislation also test drive some untried, untested, and controversial parts of their Medicare for All proposal that relate to the pricing of new drugs and innovations.

So, look, everyone agrees that the potential diagnostics, therapeutics, or vaccines that might come out of this new funding cannot only be available to the ultrawealthy. We all agree on that. Everyone agrees. We already have longstanding, tried-and-true procedures so the government can buy and distribute new medicines in scenarios like this to ensure accessibility. These mechanisms are already in place. There is no need and this is no time to begin experimenting with ideological proposals that could jeopardize research, development, and innovation. Like I said, the accessibility of treatments or vaccines is a priority for everybody, but before new technologies can be accessible, they obviously have to be available.

This is a moment to empower innovators, to incentivize innovators. It is a time to remove hurdles to innovation, not build new hurdles and create new uncertainty through ideological experimentation.

So I hope these rumors do not prove true. I am optimistic we will be able to close out the remaining questions and process this legislation in short order. This moment calls for collaboration

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and for unity. Our bicameral, bipartisan talks have made great headway. It is time to give our public health experts and healthcare professionals the surge of resources they need at this challenging time.

S. 2657

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, in the meantime, the Senate will continue considering an important package of comprehensive energy legislation. For the first time in more than a decade, we are looking at a thorough update to the laws governing innovation, security, and workforce development all across the American energy sector.

As Chairman MURKOWSKI has noted, 12 years is a long time. The demands we face in researching, producing, refining, storing, and protecting our abundant domestic energy have evolved a great deal since 2007, so it is high time for relevant Federal policy to evolve as well. I am grateful the chairman was willing to take on this important task, and I am glad she and Senator MANCHIN led their colleagues on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee through an overwhelmingly bipartisan process to produce this bill.

As I mentioned yesterday, the legislation aggregates 50 individual bills. It contains input from more than 60 Senators. It covers an exhaustive range of energy-related challenges, from power storage and renewable technologies to carbon capture and electrical grid cyber security.

It has earned the support of a similarly broad range of industry, advocacy, and research organizations. In one joint letter, the Bipartisan Policy Center, the American Nuclear Society, the Nature Conservancy, and 36 other signatories endorsed it as ''the culmination of extensive efforts to develop practical legislative solutions.'' That is the American Nuclear Society and the Nature Conservancy—that ought to tell you what you need to know about this bill. This is a bipartisan piece of legislation done right. This is how you take practical steps to build consensus on issues that affect every American in every State.

Around this time last year, you will recall we saw a high-profile example of exactly what not to do. The far-left edge of the House Democratic caucus rolled out a massive scheme to forcibly remake much of our economy and our society according to their radical top-down designs.

We all remember the Green New Deal—categorical bans on the most affordable forms of American energy, a dim future for millions of energy jobs, unprecedented Washington mandates on every subject from building codes to personal transportation. We all remember what happened next: This socialist fantasy did not stay confined to ideological fringe; it quickly grew into a broader rallying cry. When the Senate had the opportunity to vote on this wish list of central planning, only four—just four—of our Democratic colleagues could bring themselves to vote against it. That is quite a remarkable commentary on the state of our politics.

Experts estimated the Green New Deal could have cost our government more than the GDP of the entire world. The Green New Deal could have cost our government more than the GDP of the entire world. Instead, this bipartisan legislation will let us direct responsible and targeted investment in a smart way toward key energy priorities.

The Green New Deal sought to have Washington micromanage everyday life in this country to a degree that the 20th-century Socialists would have drooled over. Instead, this bipartisan legislation will create better policy and regulatory conditions for American workers, American innovators, and American job creators to actually thrive.

Speaking as the senior Senator from Kentucky, I know firsthand that many Americans in the middle of the country suffered badly during the Obama era because Washington bureaucrats decided American energy had to fit their ideological designs. The very last thing we want is to move backward and expand those errors exponentially with radical leftwing experiments that would make the last administration's War on Coal look like child's play.

What Kentuckians and all Americans deserve is for the Federal Government to make prosperity and domestic energy dominance easier—easier—not harder. They deserve investment and support to help the communities that have fueled this country for generations to prosper once again, and that is what this bipartisan bill will actually deliver.

I am proud to support this smart legislation. Clearly, I am not alone, since only three Senators voted against advancing the bill this week. So I would urge all of my colleagues to keep up their support, and let's see this package through to the finish line.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

ADVANCED GEOTHERMAL INNOVATION LEADERSHIP ACT OF 2019—MOTION TO PROCEED—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 2657, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to S. 2657, a bill to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Madam President, today we vote to begin the consideration of S. 2657, which will serve as the vehicle for the American Energy Innovation Act. This is truly bipartisan energy policy. This innovative package will be the first comprehensive policy update in 13 years. It brings together the strong bipartisan work of the Energy Committee over the last year.

I would like to thank my friend and chairman of the committee, LISA MURKOWSKI, Republican from Alaska, for her leadership and partnership with me over the last 14 months to process these bills and form the basis of the energy package we will be turning to today.

Thanks to the members of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee for their contributions to the development of this legislation.

The American Energy Innovation Act draws from 53 bills from Members from both sides of the aisle, and 39 of those were truly a bipartisan effort. And 63 Members of the Senate have either sponsored or cosponsored a piece of this package.

It truly is a bipartisan product and one that I believe will benefit this country greatly. So far, we have had over 150 amendments filed, several of which are bipartisan, and there is no controversial issue that I know of. I am hoping that we can work together to incorporate some of those amendments from both sides of the aisle.

As it stands, the American Energy Innovation Act will advance the abilities of Department of Energy and the National Laboratories to deliver the much needed technology that American workers can then produce and export across the global marketplace. Not only will it further our ability to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from energy, transportation, industry, and buildings, but it will also enhance our cyber and grid security and maintain our competitive edge and role as a global leader.

We talk a lot—all of us do—about global climate, and when you think about global climate, then you think about our responsibility and what we emit into the air. For some reason, most people have been led to believe that power generation—whether it be coal-fired powerplants, natural gas-fired powerplants, or anything that has to do with fossil—is contributing all of the greenhouse gas emissions in the United States. That is just not true.

Let me give you the breakdown. Power generation contributes 27.5 percent of the greenhouse gas emissions.

Power generation is how you get your electricity—if it comes from a coal-fired powerplant, gas, or any other type of fossil.

Transportation is how we come and go back and forth to work and how we receive our goods. Whether it is going to be by car, by train, by plane, or by trucks, 29 percent of the responsibility for greenhouse gases goes to transportation.

The industry is where people work, where they make their living, provide for their family, whether it be in a small factory, a large factory, a small business, or a high-tech business. Industry contributes 22 percent of greenhouse gas emissions.

Commercial and residential, which is the building we are in today, which is the beautiful Capitol, and where we live—just the commercial and residential—are 11.5 percent responsible for greenhouse gases.

So you have to have an ''all in'' policy. One thing doesn't fit, and we don't have a silver bullet to fix everything. What we have done is this. You take all of those—power generation, transportation, industry, commercial and residential—and that represents 90 percent of all the greenhouse gas emissions. We are approaching—and, basically, this piece of legislation approaches—every one of those to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions.

If we all work together and pass this truly bipartisan, far-reaching, all-inclusive bill, it will make a world of difference in how we lead the rest of the world in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. That is what we are trying to do.

We do it through innovation. We don't do it through elimination. Elimination is not practical, responsible, or reasonable. The rest of the world will not follow, and, basically, we have to have baseload fuel. It has to be dependable, reliable, and affordable, but it has to be the cleanest in the world. That is what this bill does.

There is the other 9 percent. You say: Well, that is 90 percent; where is the other 10 percent? That is in agriculture. That is not in our jurisdiction, but they are working very hard in the Agriculture Committee to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and their footprint. Everybody is doing their job.

I believe this package is well balanced, and many of my colleagues' priorities on both sides of the aisle have been met. This bill represents a critical step in the right direction. I encourage—I truly, sincerely encourage—all of my fellow Members, Democrats and Republicans, to vote yes today on the motion to proceed. Your children will thank us, and your grandchildren and generations after them will definitely thank all of us for doing our job today.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, as the number of confirmed cases of coronavirus in the United States continues to grow, Congress is taking swift action this week to provide our health experts, hospitals, healthcare providers, and State and local governments the funding they need. A bipartisan negotiation between appropriators in the House and Senate is very close to producing an emergency funding bill that will provide between $7 and $8 billion to respond to the coronavirus.

This is very close to the amount that I thought was appropriate when I requested it last week—$8.5 billion—and it is more than four or five times what the administration originally requested. I believe that if we had not pushed them, they would have been totally inadequate to the crisis, as they have been in preparation and planning.

The administration requested $2.5 billion, which was half, and only half of that was new funding. The rest came from pulling it out of other things, like Ebola, which is very much needed as well. The bill we put together here in Congress is far more appropriate and will actually address our country's short-term and medium-term needs. This is very, very good news.

I would like to compliment Democrats and Republicans, in the House and the Senate, for making efforts to come together and for being the adults in the room, while President Trump childishly exaggerates, underplays, points fingers of blame, latches on to conspiracy theories, and, most of all, doesn't lead. This is an example of where America needs leadership, and President Trump's lack of leadership is glaringly apparent to Americans.

Crucial legislation provides funding for very specific and timely needs. There will be $350 million for ''hot spots''—areas affected by the outbreak. There will be $500 million to procure pharmaceuticals, masks, protective equipment, and other medical supplies to distribute to States, local governments, and hospitals. There will be $100 million for community health centers and funding for training and beds. We are replenishing the CDC's Infectious Disease Rapid Response Reserve Fund so that it can respond quickly to local areas that experience an outbreak.

In total, there is over $950 million in funding for State and local governments to undertake the many activities they need to respond to the spread of the virus, surveillance for the coronavirus, laboratory testing, contact tracing to identify anyone who may have been infected by a person known to have the virus, infection control at the local level, and more.

This is only one piece of the bill. The rest of the bill will give desperately needed funds to CDC, HHS, USAID, FDA, and others to do vaccine research and development and much more. The funding level in this bill and the specific use very much reflects the needs of the country as healthcare professionals across America work to confront the spread of the virus.

I want to thank our appropriators on the frontlines: Ranking Member LEAHY and Chairman SHELBY in the Senate and Chair LOWEY and Ranking Member GRANGER in the House. While the Trump administration's response has been slow and halting, Congress has taken action. While President Trump is playing fast and loose with facts and blaming everyone not named Donald Trump, Congress is taking responsibility in acting like the adult in the room.

Democrats would like to see this emergency funding package passed through the Senate by the end of the week, and we will work with the majority to make sure that that happens. I urge all of my colleagues, in the interest of time, understanding the urgency of the matter, to help us achieve this goal.

Now, yesterday, Vice President MIKE PENCE and his team from CDC, FDA, and HHS met with the Democratic caucus to answer questions about the administration's response to the coronavirus. We appreciated their willingness to come to our caucus. They stayed. Unlike at some of the previous briefings, they stayed and addressed a lot of our questions. The only problem is they didn't have as many answers as we needed—answers the American people would have expected at this stage of the epidemic.

One of our top priorities at the moment is testing. We need to know who is infected in order to contain the spread of the virus and treat any American infected by the disease. We asked the administration about the availability of testing kits, but they could not answer how soon hospitals, medical labs, and public health centers would receive the tests and if they would have enough of them to do the amount of testing required fast enough. The best way to deal with testing is to let people do it onsite. Let them go to their local doctor, their local CHC, and get the test and get an answer quickly. Unfortunately, the Vice President and his team had no answers to that. It is a real problem. Our questions at the meeting yesterday should give the administration an urgency to figure this out as soon as possible.

I would also plead with President Trump to begin showing some leadership on the coronavirus. So far, the President's main concern has been to tamp down concern about the virus. He gives broad assurances that ''everything is under control.''

When you show up at your doctor's office because you think you might have the coronavirus and there is no test, he doesn't know what to do. He just says: Go home and don't go to work.

That is not ''everything under control,'' Mr. President.

If any member of his administration tells the President something optimistic, he repeats it and usually exaggerates it. The disease will magically disappear when the weather gets warm; a vaccine will be ready soon—all misstatements from President Trump.

In a televised meeting with government health experts and pharmaceutical experts, the President repeatedly failed to comprehend that a vaccine would take over a year to develop and test. This is the President of the United States during a crisis. He doesn't even understand the basic rudiments of what is going on. He suggested blithely that we could just use the influenza vaccine for the coronavirus, and he was quickly corrected by Dr. Fauci, one of our health experts. Twenty-four hours later, the President was claiming that pharma executives would speed up the production of a vaccine as a ''favor'' to him.

President Trump, people are sick. People are dying. This virus is wreaking havoc on the economy, and you look at it as a favor to you? It is not about you, Mr. President; it is about America and the crisis and what our Federal Government is doing to help.

The President saying it was a favor to him, stating such blatant mistruths, was a shocking demonstration of just how little the President listens, how little the President learns, and how little leadership he shows at a time when we desperately need leadership.

During a public health crisis of this magnitude, we need steady and confident leadership from President Trump. So far, it has been totaling lacking—unfortunately for America.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, all postcloture time is expired.

The question occurs on agreeing to the motion to proceed.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SASSE). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 90, nays 4, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 64 Leg.]

YEAS—90

Alexander	Fischer	Perdue
Baldwin	Gardner	Peters
Barrasso	Gillibrand	Portman
Bennet	Graham	Reed
Blumenthal	Grassley	Risch
Blunt	Harris	Roberts
Booker	Hassan	Romney
Boozman	Hawley	Rosen
Braun	Heinrich	Rounds
Brown	Hirono	Rubio
Burr	Hoeven	Sasse
Cantwell	Hyde-Smith	Schumer
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (SC)
Cardin	Johnson	Shaheen
Carper	Kaine	Shelby
Casey	Kennedy	Sinema
Cassidy	King	Smith
Collins	Lankford	Stabenow
Coons	Leahy	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	Loeffler	Tester
Cotton	Manchin	Thune
Cramer	Markey	Tillis
Crapo	McConnell	Toomey
Cruz	McSally	Udall
Daines	Menendez	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Moran	Whitehouse
Enzi	Murkowski	Wicker
Ernst	Murphy	Wyden
Feinstein	Murray	Young

NAYS—4

Lee	Schatz
Paul	Scott (FL)

NOT VOTING—6

Blackburn	Jones	Sanders
Cornyn	Klobuchar	Warren

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill.

ADVANCED GEOTHERMAL INNOVATION LEADERSHIP ACT OF 2019

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2657) to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I have polled the Members of the Energy Committee and now withdraw the committee-reported substitute amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment is withdrawn.

The committee-reported amendment, in the nature of a substitute, was withdrawn.

AMENDMENT NO. 1407

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.)

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I call up substitute amendment No. 1407.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Alaska [Ms. MURKOWSKI] proposes amendment No. 1407.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be waived.

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

(The amendment is printed in the RECORD of March 3, 2020, under ''Text of Amendments.'')

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

AMENDMENT NO. 1419 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1407

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I call up amendment No. 1419.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL], for Ms. ERNST, proposes an amendment numbered 1419 to amendment No. 1407.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be waived.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To establish a grant program for training wind technicians)

At the end of subtitle C of title II, add the following:

SEC. 23____. WIND ENERGY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.

(a) WIND TECHNICIAN TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Title XI of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16411 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1107. WIND TECHNICIAN TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM.

''(a) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In this section, the term 'eligible entity' means a community college or technical school that offers a wind training program.

''(b) GRANT PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall establish a program under which the Secretary shall award grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible entities to purchase large pieces of wind component equipment (such as nacelles, towers, and blades) for use in training wind technician students.

''(c) FUNDING.—Of the amounts made available to the Secretary for administrative expenses to carry out other programs under the authority of the Secretary, the Secretary shall use to carry out this section $2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2025.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–58; 119 Stat. 601) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1106 the following:

''Sec. 1107. Wind technician training grant program.''.

(b) VETERANS IN WIND ENERGY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Title XI of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16411 et seq.) (as amended by subsection (a)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1108. VETERANS IN WIND ENERGY.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a program to prepare veterans for careers in the wind energy industry that shall be modeled off of the Solar Ready Vets pilot program formerly administered by the Department of Energy and the Department of Defense.

''(b) FUNDING.—Of the amounts made available to the Secretary for administrative expenses to carry out other programs under the authority of the Secretary, the Secretary shall use to carry out this section $2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2025.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–58; 119 Stat. 601) (as amended by subsection (a)(2)) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1107 the following:

''Sec. 1108. Veterans in wind energy.''.

(c) STUDY AND REPORT ON WIND TECHNICIAN WORKFORCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall convene a task force comprised of 1 or more representatives of each of the stakeholders described in paragraph (2) that shall—

(A) conduct a study to assess the needs of wind technicians in the workforce;

(B) create a comprehensive list that—

(i) lists each type of wind technician position available in the United States; and

(ii) describes the skill sets required for each type of position listed under clause (i); and

(C) not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, make publicly available and submit to Congress a report that—

(i) describes the results of that study;

(ii) includes the comprehensive list described in subparagraph (B); and

(iii) provides recommendations—

(I) for creating a credentialing program that may be administered by community colleges, technical schools, and other training institutions; and

(II) that reflect best practices for wind technician training programs, as identified by representatives of the wind industry.

(2) STAKEHOLDERS DESCRIBED.—The stakeholders referred to in paragraph (1) are—

(A) the Department of Defense;

(B) the Department of Education;

(C) the Department of Energy;

(D) the Department of Labor;

(E) the Department of Veterans Affairs;

(F) technical schools and community colleges that have wind technician training programs; and

(G) the wind industry.

(3) FUNDING.—Of the amounts made available to the Secretary for administrative expenses to carry out other programs under the authority of the Secretary, the Secretary shall use to carry out this subsection $500,000.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I thank all of those who just voted for the motion to proceed to S. 2657. We have called up my substitute amendment, No. 1407, which now contains the full text of the American Energy Innovation Act.

We are moving through the process, albeit a little slowly here, but we are moving through the process. We now have more than 150 amendments that have been filed to the bill. Senator MANCHIN and I are working together with other Members to sort through potential votes on the bill. We are also working to see which ones might fit into a managers' package of easy, noncontroversial, worked-out proposals. I know everyone thinks that theirs is easy and that it has been worked out, and, of course, it is not controversial, but we have a handful of those proposals and are seeking additional ones.

I would remind Members that amendments require bipartisan cooperation, especially from those beyond the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources' jurisdiction. Those who are on the committee have had an opportunity to go through each and every one of these measures that we have in front of us and that have been incorporated as part of this American Energy Innovation Act. That input has been helpful and very, very positive as we have built these proposals. I know some folks are looking at much of this for the first time if they are not on the committee. They have ideas that are good and worthy, and we want to respect that process and incorporate them as appropriate and enhance this bill.

I want to have votes. The leader has said he wants to have an open amendment process. I want to have a managers' package, but it is entirely possible—we have seen it before—that the opportunity will be spoiled. I would just urge Members to be honest about how ready their proposals really are. Sometimes, they might not be as vetted as you think they might be, and they might need some additional work, but know that, as a committee, we stand ready to work with Members on those proposals to better enhance them.

I have taken the opportunity over the past couple of days to share with colleagues more about what our package includes—the result of this good work that we have done over the past year in working through regular order in our committee. Last night, I talked about title I, which focuses on innovation—the big, key buzzword here, ''innovation''—everything from energy efficiency and renewables to energy storage. We all talk a lot about energy storage—advanced nuclear and carbon capture, utilization, and storage. So there is a good focus on the innovation side of this bill.

This morning, I would like to highlight what is in title II, which is kind of our security title, and I put it in three different buckets. You have mineral security, which is critical to the supply chain. You have cyber security and grid security, which, again, are key to all operations of commerce and our economy. Then you have the economic security that comes with good jobs. The focus on the workforce is here as well.

Out of these three, I begin with mineral security, because we don't always associate these efforts with meeting our energy and our climate goals.

What we focus on within this bill is the development of new, clean technologies, but there is also a very important reality that we have to acknowledge, which is that meeting our energy and our climate goals will require a significant increase in our supply of critical minerals. The world is not producing nearly enough of almost all of them. Think about that. We are pushing and challenging those within our national labs and those within the private sector and are saying: Move us to these cleaner technologies—the world of renewables. Yet we have to build all of these things. Whether it is your smartphone or whether it is a wind turbine, we need to build them, and they require minerals—they require critical minerals.

If we are not producing them, where are we getting them from? More to the point, the United States is not producing nearly enough of almost any of these materials that we are talking about when it comes to how we move to clean energy sources. We are largely absent from the field, as countries—most notably, China—increasingly dominate long-term supply chains that will give them an almost insurmountable competitive advantage.

Consider a few of the numbers here. According to the World Bank, meeting the goals that have been set by the Paris Agreement would increase demand for battery storage minerals, like lithium, cobalt, and nickel, by 1,000 percent. Right now, nearly 70 percent of raw cobalt is coming from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and over 60 percent of the processed cobalt used in batteries is controlled by China. Think about that. The United States has no capacity for battery-grade cobalt. That is the situation we are in right now. There is no capacity for battery-grade cobalt here in this country, and that is before the projected 600-percent increase in demand over the next 30 years.

Despite new development on State and private lands in Nevada and North Carolina, the United States only produces about one percent of the world's raw lithium and contributes about seven percent of the processed materials. Think about it—the cobalt that is so necessary and the lithium that we require for our batteries. The same goes for graphite, whereby 60 percent of mined graphite and 100 percent of the processed material is coming from China. We have some very promising reserves in my State of Alaska for graphite. Again, think about what this means when we are talking about solar panels, advanced batteries, and electric vehicles. What are they made of? It is not chocolate and candy canes here. If we want to compete in the industries of the future, we are going to have to do better. We will have to compete with China, particularly, and right now, we are at a disadvantage.

Last year, an expert from the Foreign Policy Analytics testified about China's domination of mineral markets and supply chains. For electric vehicles, China controls or has influence over 80 percent of the supply of rare earth elements. China also controls or has influence over 70 percent of the supply of graphite and graphene, 59 percent of the supply of lithium, 56 percent of the supply of vanadium, and 36 percent of the supply of cobalt.

Some of this is due to the production and supply chains in China. Some of it is as a result of extensive investments that China has made to acquire mines and mining interests around the world, most notably in places like the Congo. Yet this is the reality that we are facing right now—this ever-increasing reliance on and, therefore, vulnerability for these minerals that are so necessary to the investments that we will make.

It is not just China we are talking about here. Canada is well ahead of us. Just this week, Prime Minister Trudeau released the Canadian Minerals and Metals Plan, with the goal of ''being the leading mining nation,'' in part, because minerals are critical to clean energy technologies.

So while other countries are competing to lead in this space, what are we doing here in this country? How are we doing it?

Now, I want to give the administration credit in this space. They recognize the problem. They are acting on it. The President laid down an Executive order. I just visited with the Secretary of the Interior on their minerals analysis, but, really, the facts in front of us are pretty clear.

USGS tells us this every year: We are still a long, long way from true mineral security. Right now, we import at least 50 percent of our supply of 46 different minerals, including 100 percent of 17 of them.

This is like the Achilles' heel for us because we have effectively surrendered the front end of the supply chain, and then we wonder why we have such a hard time capturing any of the rest of it.

So our mineral subtitle will help put us on the right track. It is not an overnight cure-all; there is none. But it will enable the United States to increase the responsible production and processing of critical minerals. It will help us figure out what we have. It will help us develop alternatives and substitutes for the minerals that we lack, and that is an important part of this because, as much as it is important to have that secure supply here, we need to be pushing ourselves to recycle, to find the alternatives and the substitutes. That is key and folds into the first title, which is all about innovation and the technologies that will help us advance that but keeping and pushing on the R&D in that space.

Then, also, what we do within the bill is increase recycling to reduce the need for new supplies. So you have a focus on mineral security, but how that ties into innovation and how we can reuse, recycle, and develop alternatives is key.

Over time, our mineral subtitle will help America become a leader in growing industries like battery and renewable manufacturing, along with the jobs and the economic growth that they represent.

I think it also helps put the United States in the driver's seat to prevent supply disruptions that could quickly derail our efforts to deploy renewables, energy storage, EVs, and other technologies.

There is one thing our minerals subtitle will not do. It will not weaken laws that protect our lands and waters. Our bill continues to ensure that only responsible development is allowed to proceed.

I have heard some claim just as recently as yesterday that our bill will somehow weaken the environmental review process, but know that that is not accurate. That is simply wrong.

The United States, right now, has one of the slowest permitting processes in the world—in the world. Some years back we were dead last; we were actually tied with Papua New Guinea. We do not have a permitting process that is the envy of anyone. It is entirely fair to encourage agencies to do better, like their counterparts all around the world, by working smarter and more efficiently.

I also want to remind colleagues that we passed this same provision as part of our 2016 energy bill. Minerals were important enough to draw 85 votes back then, in 2016, so I would think that we would regard them as even more important now as our reliance and our vulnerability have only increased.

I want to thank Senator MANCHIN for his support on our efforts on mineral security and for his cosponsorship of the American Mineral Security Act. I was also glad to be able to combine his efforts on a bill that he called Rare Earth Element Advanced Coal Technologies. We have included that bill in our subtitle.

I also want to thank a number of members on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee—Senators BARRASSO, RISCH, DAINES, and MCSALLY—for their help in this very important subtitle.

Another subtitle within title II on security addresses the real and growing threat of cyber attacks. According to the 2019 Worldwide Threat Assessment of the U.S. Intelligence Community, China, Russia, and other foreign adversaries are using cyber operations to target our critical energy infrastructure.

We have already seen the real-world ramifications of cyber attacks on energy infrastructure. In December of 2015, Russian hackers cut off power to nearly a quarter of a million people in Ukraine. Two years later, Russian hackers infiltrated the industrial control system of a Saudi Arabian petrochemical plant and disabled the plant's safety systems. We can't let that happen here.

Our electric grid, which is composed of generation, transmission, and distribution resources, is a uniquely critical asset. Every sector of our economy depends on it. We know what the impact would be if there were a successful hack. It could impact homes, hospitals, banks, gas pumps, traffic lights, cell phone services. The consequences really go without bounds in terms of the devastation that could be wrought, particularly if power can't be restored for any meaningful duration.

So, working with the administration, we have seen some good steps to address this through the establishment of the Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Responses, also known as CESER, at the Department of Energy. I thank them for the leadership there. This office is really pretty busy preparing for and responding to more and increasingly sophisticated cyber threats.

Our innovation package builds on that effort through a bill called the PROTECT Act, which will enhance cyber security defenses of grid assets by providing incentives, grants, and technical assistance for utilities to invest in cutting-edge technologies.

The innovation package will also allow all utilities and power producers, especially those most vulnerable smaller utilities that have fewer resources, to continue investing in new technology that keeps their systems protected against evolving cyber threats.

This is important because we tend to focus on the big systems and what that impact might be, but for many, many, many around the country in our smaller, more rural areas, these are our smaller utilities that don't have the resources to really be as current or as protected as they want to be and as they should be in the event of any kind of cyber threat. So helping assist them is important.

We included language from Senator GARDNER to facilitate State energy security plans and public-private partnerships for grid security. We included Senator CANTWELL's Energy Cybersecurity Act, which puts programs in place for the DOE to effectively partner with industry and other Federal agencies.

Senator CANTWELL has been a real leader—when she was the ranking member on the committee and now—as she continues to focus on this issue, the very important issue of cybersecurity. So she has a good provision included in this bill as well.

The American Energy Innovation Act will help improve our national security in significant ways—again, through mineral security and protecting our electric grid from cyber attacks.

We recognize that these measures play a crucial role in supporting energy innovation and ensuring that its many benefits can be enjoyed by the American people.

There is more that I will take the time to outline at a later point, but I think it is important that, as Members consider what this energy provision allows for, it is pretty expansive. It is pretty expansive, and it is expansive because, again, we haven't seen an energy bill become law in 12 years, so it should be expansive, and it should focus on how we can help facilitate more of the ingenuity and innovation that will come forward from our universities, from our labs, from public-private partnerships, from those who are working every day with great ideas to help, really, transform not only our economy but our environment as well.

So it is more than innovation in the renewable space. It is innovation in the carbon space. It is innovation in the nuclear space. It is innovation when it comes to industrial emissions. It is innovation when it comes to efficiency.

With that innovation comes security, whether it be recognizing that we must do more to ensure that we have stable and secure supply chains through mineral security, through the security that comes with protection of our grids and protection from cyber threats, modernization of our grids, and, again, the security of the good jobs that come with a skilled workforce.

So there is much to talk about in this good measure. Again, I encourage colleagues, we are in an amendment

process. Come to us with your comments, your suggestions, your concerns. Let's work them out, but let's get an energy bill through the Senate, through the House, and signed into law by the President.

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

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

NET NEUTRALITY

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, 2 years ago at this time, we were hearing that the internet, as we know it, was going to disappear. On February 27, 2018, Senate Democrats sent a tweet warning that Americans would be getting the internet one word at a time. Why? Because the Federal Communications Commission had repealed heavyhanded, Obama-era internet regulation. If we didn't immediately undo the FCC's rules change, Democrats warned, the effects on internet access would be catastrophic.

Well, 2 years later, the internet, as we know it, isn't just still with us, it is flourishing. Broadband access has expanded; Americans are enjoying faster internet speeds; and we are implementing 5G internet technology across the Nation, including in more rural places like South Dakota.

It turns out the internet doesn't fall apart without the heavy hand of government. In fact, it thrives. That should be an important lesson for us going forward. Historically speaking, the Federal Government has taken a light-touch approach to internet regulation. The government largely stayed out of the internet's way, and innovation and creativity flourished, delivering nearly everything from Netflix to weather apps, to Uber. But in 2014, the Obama administration decided it wanted the Federal Government to start regulating the internet more heavily, and in 2015, the Obama Federal Communications Commission passed the Open Internet Order, which dramatically expanded the Federal Government's power over the internet in the name of net neutrality.

Now, you might not know it from Democrats' rhetoric, but net neutrality is a concept that enjoys broad support in both parties. I support net neutrality and rules that prevent blocking, throttling, or the paid prioritization of internet traffic. I don't think a major service provider should be able to block a small new startup, and I don't think Netflix should be able to pay to have its search results appear before anyone else's.

What the Obama FCC did in 2015 went far beyond net neutrality. In the name of keeping the internet open to everyone, the Obama FCC asserted broad new government powers over the internet using rules that were designed for telephone monopolies back during the Great Depression. This opened a whole host of new internet regulations, including price regulations.

Unsurprisingly, the FCC's move resulted in a decline in broadband investment as companies saw the possibility of burdensome new regulations headed their way. That was bad news for Americans, especially Americans in rural States like my home State of South Dakota.

Getting broadband to rural communities is already more challenging than installing broadband in cities or suburbs. The possibility of heavier regulations acted as a further disincentive to expanding access.

Fast forward to 2017, and the Federal Communications Commission, under Chairman Pai, voted to repeal the heavyhanded internet regulations passed by the Obama FCC. Democrats, as I already mentioned, responded hysterically, predicting that the internet, as we knew it, would disappear. Providers, they warned, would slow down internet speeds to a crawl and block access to desired content—except, of course, none of that has happened.

Here is what actually has happened. Broadband investment has rebounded. In 2018, private broadband investment rose by $3 billion. Broadband access is expanding. The FCC reports that in 2018, ''broadband providers, both small and large, deployed fiber networks to 5.9 million new homes, the largest number ever recorded.''

Internet speeds have increased.

The Nation is poised for widespread adoption of the next generation of internet, which is 5G. All of this despite light-touch government regulation or, perhaps more accurately, because of light-touch government regulation.

At a time when Democrats are pushing for government takeovers of everything from our healthcare to our energy choices, it is important to remember that a lot of times heavyhanded government involvement causes problems instead of solving them. Of course, there is a place for government regulations, but more government involvement does not automatically mean a better outcome. In fact, a lot of the time it means the opposite.

Giving the Federal Government more power over the internet not only didn't help anything, it actually discouraged the investment needed to ensure that all Americans have access to reliable, high-speed internet service. Lifting the heavy hand of government regulation, on the other hand, encouraged broadband investment, which is resulting in better internet access for more Americans.

If we want the internet to continue to thrive and serve as an engine of economic innovation and advancement, we should ensure that the Federal Government stays away from heavyhanded regulations.

I have spent years calling for a bipartisan net neutrality bill that would address concerns about blocking while codifying a light-touch approach to internet regulation. I am still waiting for a Democratic partner on that legislation.

While the current FCC has established a healthy approach to regulation, a different administration could return and, in the same way they did during the days of the Obama FCC, slow down internet advances like 5G and the expansion of broadband that is happening in rural communities across the country.

I will continue to work for bipartisan net neutrality legislation that ensures that the government will not weigh down the internet with unnecessary and heavyhanded regulations. I hope my Democratic colleagues will join me.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, yesterday the Senate passed my resolution to honor the life of Li Wenliang, the Chinese doctor who heroically tried to warn his fellow citizens and the world about the Wuhan coronavirus late last year. Dr. Li tragically fell victim to that very disease but not before he was victimized by his own government, the Chinese Communist Party. Li was 34 years old when he passed away of coronavirus on February 7. He had a wife, a young child, and another child on the way. His whole life was ahead of him, and now his wife is widowed, his child has no father, and his second child will never know his father.

As Li knew, when you become a doctor, you pledge to care for the sick and the dying—whatever the hardships, whatever the cost, whatever the risks to yourself. So when patients with a severe pneumonia began appearing in Li's hospital late last year, he sounded the alarm to fellow doctors, and the Chinese Communist Party responded with lightning speed—not to contain this epidemic but to intimidate Dr. Li and attack his reputation.

Local Communist goons paid him a visit a few days later, forcing him to retract his statements and apologize for so-called illegal behavior. China's state media piled on, denouncing Li and other whistleblowers as rumormongers who were spreading fear among the Chinese people.

That has been the pattern of the Chinese Communist Party's response to the coronavirus from the very beginning—first coverup and then catastrophe.

When Chinese internet users flooded social media with indignation following Dr. Li's death, their cries were

scrubbed from the internet by the Communist Party's army of censors.

When a Chinese human rights activist called for Chairman Xi to step down, he was detained and then disappeared.

When Wall Street Journal columnist Walter Russell Mead wrote a bracing article about the Chinese Communist Party's failure to contain the coronavirus, the Chinese Communists kicked three of the paper's reporters out of the country.

The Chinese Communist Party's deception has been so thorough that its rare moments of candor, however obviously helpful, have been quickly suppressed and punished.

When the number of reported infections spiked upward due to an improvement in data reporting, the party purged local officials who were likely responsible.

After Chinese scientists gave the world a headstart in developing a vaccine by publishing the disease's genome online, what happened? Were they given awards? Were they celebrated? No. Their lab was shut down the very next day. These scientists deserved awards. They deserved a medal. Instead, they were given a professional death sentence.

The Chinese people have suffered greatly from this coronavirus. They are, in fact, the first and the worst victims of their own Communist government. But now the whole world is suffering with them. Just as the Bubonic plague spread to Europe via traders on the Silk Road, the Wuhan coronavirus is traveling China's new Silk Road. It turns out that the Belt and Road Initiative exports not just China's money and Chinese debt but China's viruses as well as its repression. It threatens not only economies around the world; it threatens peoples around the world.

Right next door to China, Iran is suffering a devastating outbreak of the coronavirus. Birds of a feather flock together, I would have to add. The mullahs in Tehran have emulated the Chinese Communist Party's shameful response to coronavirus, first denying and then downplaying the outbreak until it was no longer possible to ignore the bodies stacking up in clinics, a mysterious sickness spreading through the Cabinet of Iran's Government itself.

Remember the suffering people in these countries when you hear triumphant, self-congratulatory messages coming from Chinese propaganda rags like Global Times and China Daily—or even the World Health Organization, which, I have to say, seems more interested in protecting the feelings of the Chinese Communist Party than protecting the health of people around the world. China's propagandists are reportedly hard at work on a book exonerating Chairman Xi for his negligent response to this virus.

The official line is that the coronavirus is contained and China is back to work, but don't believe it. Do not believe the hype. The Chinese Communist Party lied from the very beginning of this outbreak, and it is lying still. It is responsible for the scale of this virus outbreak around the world. This outbreak didn't happen in spite of the Chinese Communist Party's efforts to contain it; it happened because of the Communist system of government.

Three months later, we still don't know how many people have been infected or killed by coronavirus on the Chinese mainland. All we have are bogus statistics that just so happen to track perfectly—perfectly—with the Communist Party line day after day.

I will cite just one example. Barron's, the financial publication, discovered that the official number of deaths could be predicted perfectly in advance—in advance—in China using a simple mathematical formula. This coronavirus isn't just contagious and deadly; it is good at math as well—if you believe the Chinese Communist Party. But that doesn't just happen in nature. They are obviously cooking their books. It is not hard to see why. China's economy has ground to a halt. The Chinese Communist Party is desperate to restart it and avoid the first contraction in the last 30 years, whatever it may cost in lives of the Chinese people. If China is truly back to work, as the Chinese Communists claim, it is only because it has employed Communist tactics that evoke the worst horrors of Soviet communism, from Stalin's 5-year plans to Leningrad in 1943.

After shutting down almost half the country's factories to stop the spread of coronavirus, the Chinese Communist Party is opening them again, barely 1 month later. Investors around the world beware: That decision is motivated not by confidence but by desperation. It will almost certainly lead to more outbreaks as workers congregate on crowded subways and factory floors, all because the Chinese Communist Party mandarins, living safely behind armed guards and walls in Beijing, decided that hitting their growth target was more important than the peasants' lives.

When I first called for travel restrictions on China back in late January, Dr. Li was still alive and the coronavirus was, thankfully, far from our shores. Tragically, it is now a global disease, and we have to do all we can to arrest its spread.

The most vital thing China can do is still be fully open and transparent about the origins and extent of the coronavirus.

I say to the Chinese Communist Party: Stop hiding behind your fake numbers and politically correct bureaucrats at the World Health Organization. Let truly independent experts into Wuhan to investigate this virus. The United States has offered repeatedly—repeatedly—to send a team and would do so tomorrow if you would just have the humanity to let them in and help save your own people.

Finally, give those people the freedom to speak candidly about the disease that has devastated your nation. Do not stifle the next whistleblower, the next doctor or nurse who speaks up to save the lives not just of their own people but of the people around the world.

Here in America, only time will tell how this virus will run its course. We have many advantages, though, to help us in this fight. We have the world's best doctors, nurses, and healthcare professionals. As important, we live in a republic that protects the liberty of our citizens and gives every American the freedom to speak, to write, to dissent, to sound an alarm—loudly sound an alarm—when we see something that isn't right and we think we can make it right.

Tragically, for himself, for his family, for the world, Dr. Li Wenliang enjoyed no such freedom. Yet he still spoke up to try to save his neighbors and to save the world. For that he was punished, and now he has passed.

May he rest in peace, and may his memories inspire other selfless heroes who will speak truth and hold the Chinese Communist Party to account, no matter the cost.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ROMNEY).

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

BIPARTISAN BACKGROUND CHECKS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, on average, we lose 100 Americans every single day to firearms.

Last week marked 1 year since the House of Representatives passed H.R. 8. It was a bipartisan bill. Both Democrats and Republicans supported it. The bill stood for a very basic proposition, and the proposition is this: Whatever your constitutional rights or God-given rights—if you make that argument—to a firearm might be, we as a society cannot allow people who are convicted felons or who are shown to be mentally unstable to legally buy firearms in this country. We are supposed to have background checks to make sure this doesn't happen. It turns out that more than one out of five firearms are sold in America without there having been background checks on the purchasers.

So H.R. 8, this bipartisan bill, passed the House to close the gaps in our background system. What kind of gaps are we talking about? We have terrible gun violence in the city of Chicago. Some of the critics of Chicago like to say: You have the toughest gun laws and the most gun deaths. Well, they don't tell you the whole story. Many of those guns start off not in Chicago and

not in Illinois but at gun shows in Northwest Indiana, where they are sold sometimes in volume without there being any background checks made on the purchasers.

It has been 1 year of nothing in the U.S. Senate in responding to this national crisis—not one thing. It is within the power of the majority leader, Republican Senator MITCH MCCONNELL, of Kentucky, to at least let us address the issue and debate it.

He has a majority. Nothing is going to pass here without Republican support. We know that. But don't the American people deserve a debate? One man, the Republican majority leader, says no. He styles himself as the Grim Reaper of the Senate. He takes pride in the fact that he has killed hundreds of bills passed by the House that will never, ever see the light of day in the U.S. Senate.

Well, I can tell the Senator from Kentucky that after attending so many funerals, after giving heartbreaking sympathy to the families of those who have lost their children and loved ones, after hearing about so many mass shootings—mass shootings that should shock our conscience—aren't we shocked when people just go to a movie theater in Colorado and are gunned down as they watch a movie? Aren't we shocked when a crowd in Las Vegas just wants to enjoy a country western concert and they are gunned down? Weren't we shocked at a high school in Florida or a first grade classroom in Connecticut when mass shootings take place?

What will it take, America? What will it take for this Senate, what will it take for this majority leader to realize enough is enough?

I believe in Second Amendment rights to bear arms for those who buy them legally, use them and store them responsibly, whether it is for self-defense, sport, or hunting. But none of the people who come to me and argue this issue are arguing for convicted felons and mentally unstable people to buy a firearm. We need them to stand with us and to stand with law enforcement, who are often the victims of these firearms, to make this a safer nation.

There are obvious gaps in the Federal gun laws that make it easy for felons, abusers, and mentally unstable people to get their hands on guns and hurt innocent people. Loopholes in the background check system, like the gun show loophole I mentioned and one I haven't mentioned—the loophole on the internet, where there is no real background check whatsoever—account for massive sales of firearms each year in the United States.

The House-passed Bipartisan Background Checks Act would close these gaps in the background check system. Around 90 percent of Americans support the proposals in this bill—90 percent of them. It is good enough for America, but not good enough for the Senate.

Obviously, the majority leader needs to be persuaded, and 90 percent of America is not enough. It is a commonsense, bipartisan step we should take, consistent with constitutional rights but consistent, as well, with common sense.

I can't explain why the Senate Republicans will not take up a bipartisan, House-passed bill that is so overwhelmingly supported, even by Republicans. There are literally hundreds of bills, which have passed the House of Representatives, gathering dust on the Senate desk, and this is one of them. These bills deal with issues like reducing the cost of prescription drugs, protecting the pensions of working Americans and retired Americans, securing our elections from foreign interference, and, of course, reducing gun violence. They all wait on the desk of the Senator who styles himself the Grim Reaper.

There have been too many excuses for inaction. There is plenty of time, as you can tell, on the Senate floor for us to roll up our sleeves and actually legislate, and when it comes to gun violence, the cost of inaction is devastating—100 Americans a day.

It is time for Senator MCCONNELL to call up H.R. 8, the Bipartisan Background Checks Act, and have this Senate actually debate an issue and actually vote on an issue that can make a real difference in America.

S. 2657

Mr. President, I will commend the majority leader and Senator MURKOWSKI of Alaska for doing something that is out of the ordinary. There is a bill pending before the Senate on the issue of American's energy policy. You see, last year on floor of the U.S. Senate—this deliberative body that has been honored throughout history for the great debates that have taken place here—last year, during the entire calendar year, the Senate considered only 22 amendments in the entire year.

I have served here for a while. I can never remember a time when there was so little activity on the floor of the U.S. Senate.

Well, I want to commend Senator MURKOWSKI. She has started us off this year, I hope, with an indication that things might change.

This Energy bill before us is going to be hotly debated. I am not going to agree with every provision, but that isn't required of it. What is required is to bring a measure forward, debate it, compromise where you can, and come up with the best product you can come up with.

Congress has not passed major energy legislation since the year 2009. Over 10 years have passed. Has the energy picture in America changed in 10 years? Of course. Has the environmental picture changed? We know it has.

President Obama, in 2009, in a stimulus package, included critical tax credits for renewable energy like wind and solar. This week's debate marks an opportunity to tackle a decadelong legislative slump on these issues.

The American Energy Innovation Act seeks to modernize our electrical grid, support research into advanced energy technology, and improve energy efficiency in buildings across America.

Through significant bipartisan effort, my colleagues have constructed a package that starts to address one of America's most pressing issues—energy for our future.

Although the bill contains provisions that support innovation and research at the Department of Energy, I have to say I think we can do more. We need more robust support for basic science research—the kind of research that costs too much and takes too long for private companies to undertake on their own.

Time and again, whether it is new medicine, new medical devices, or new energy policy, the Federal Government has shown the real leadership in basic research.

We are at risk of no longer leading the world in cutting-edge research because our generation is not adequately funding basic science. We are living off the achievements of previous generations. We are not leaving the world of our children and grandchildren better for the research we are doing today—at least not as much as we should. That is why I put forth an amendment to this bill to increase funding for the Department of Energy's Office of Science by 5 percent real growth—that is 5 percent over inflation—each year for the next 5 years.

This amendment will provide more than $43 billion over 5 years for basic research in energy technology and close a funding gap that has stunted some of DOE's most important projects.

Think for a moment about electric vehicles. Commonly now, their range of mileage is 200 to 300 miles. What if we doubled or tripled that number? Would it change the attitude of the public about using electric vehicles and reducing pollution? I think there is no doubt that it would.

This investment in research will pay off. It will strengthen the Energy bill and help move us into the 21st century in a leadership position where the United States should be.

While my amendment addresses one priority to enhance the American Energy Innovation Act, a larger question remains. It is fundamental and basic: How does this bill on energy address the existential threat of climate change? We should ask that about every bill that comes across the floor—certainly a bill talking about the future of energy.

My colleagues have worked to improve energy efficiency and fund innovation. I support both of those efforts. But this bill does not honestly and aggressively deal with climate change.

Unfortunately, facing the global threat of warming will require more than just faith and technology. Climate change impacts every sector of

American life. It is well past time that we deal with solutions that can promise our kids and grandkids a habitable planet.

According to the climatologist in my State of Illinois, as a result of climate change, Illinois faces higher temperatures and more frequent, intense rainfall than at any other time in our State's history. That is over 200 years.

Our farmers have seen it. Last year, increased precipitation between April and June literally crippled our farmers when it came to planting and left them, many times, with fields that were not productive.

We have seen it in the city of Chicago. In January, there were waves as high as 20 feet pummeling the Lake Michigan shoreline of Chicago and flooding our coastal communities.

During the summer, record temperatures in Chicago last year threatened the elderly with heat stroke and kept many kids behind doors. Even the Trump administration has seen it. Despite the President's denial of climate change, people within his administration spoke up.

In November of 2018, the ''Fourth National Climate Assessment'' reported that American economic losses could reach hundreds of billions of dollars by the end of the century as a result of climate change.

For decades, scientists have warned us about this threat, and now we can see it in our lives almost every day.

As the Senate considers energy legislation, we do the American people a great disservice by failing to seriously address climate change. That is why I have been working on an approach that I think has some promise.

Let's look back at history, to the 1930s. The United States faced a different existential crisis called the Great Depression. At that time, Franklin Delano Roosevelt established the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. This was an agency that issued low-interest loans and harnessed investment across the economy. The RFC, as it was known, became a critical lifeline for the U.S. economy, and its catch-all approach to investment spurred us into a recovery.

Though climate change represents a different set of challenges than the Great Depression, the RFC model shows us an example of a broad strategy needed to combat existential threats to our Nation. We need to take immediate action to decrease greenhouse grass emissions and limit human-induced global warming.

According to the EPA, in 2018, the United States emitted more than 5.2 billion tons of carbon dioxide—a 3.2-percent increase over the previous year. We are moving in the wrong direction.

Clearly, this administration's strategy of removing the United States from the Paris climate accord and skirting around climate change is one that is not helping us address this issue successfully and effectively. Tackling this issue requires an immediate reduction in carbon emissions, massive investments in resilience and clean energy technology, and a willingness to take this threat seriously.

Climate change makes the normal disasters in America that much worse. It increases their frequency and their intensity, and it is devastating to the most vulnerable people and businesses in America.

I support efforts like the bill before us—the American Energy Innovation Act—that take small steps toward addressing climate change, but this problem calls for a much larger commitment, not just by the Senate and the House and by the President, but certainly by the American people. We have it within our power, if we have the will, to deal with this challenge.

Research, technology, and a willingness to make a sacrifice for future generations is all it takes. We can put that package together on a bipartisan basis.

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

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

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, the American people are apprehensive about the spread of the coronavirus in the United States and abroad, as we can always remember. Global financial markets are on edge. Both are resilient, but vigorous action, I believe, is needed to calm nerves, stabilize the situation, and get our arms around this crisis. I believe Congress must marshal the resources necessary for an aggressive, comprehensive, and swift response.

I am pleased to report to my colleagues this afternoon that we, with the House and leadership on both sides, have reached a bipartisan, bicameral agreement on an emergency supplemental appropriations package to do just that. The agreement provides a surge in funding at every level, as I have advocated for—local, State, Federal, and international—to meet the growing challenge that we face.

The total amount included in the package is $7.76 billion, a little under $8 billion. We arrived at that figure by going back to the agencies—the NIH, the Centers for Disease Control, and so forth. We asked: What do you need? What do you think you would need if this virus really spreads? We wanted to make sure that they had the tools and the resources and that we would not shortchange the American people in any way.

So the $7.76 billion, we have been told by the people who know, should be sufficient. We hope it is. Nearly 85 percent of this funding will be spent right here in the United States—85 percent. And $2.2 billion is for the Centers for Disease Control, which the Presiding Officer is very familiar with because it is located in Atlanta, GA, including, no less than $950 million—just short of a billion—to help States and local governments prevent and combat the spread of the virus.

Now, $836 million will go to the National Institutes of Health to, among other things, train healthcare workers on the frontlines and to develop diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines related to the virus. And $61 million will support the Food and Drug Administration's role in approving such products for the American people.

Now, $3.1 billion of this package is for the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund, among other things, to supplement the Strategic National Stockpile here; to develop and purchase diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines; to provide resources for community health centers; and to help hospitals and help systems adapt and respond if this crisis grows.

Another $300 million is made available for the purchase of additional diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines, should further need arise—in other words, a contingency.

Finally, to fight the spread of the virus abroad, which we have to do, $1.25 billion is provided to the State Department and USAID to continue their work with our international partners.

We have listened carefully to the agencies and the experts on the frontlines in crafting this package. Vice President PENCE has also been very helpful in this effort, and I appreciate President Trump's eagerness to sign this legislation.

I also take a moment to thank Leaders MCCONNELL and SCHUMER, Vice Chairman LEAHY of the Appropriations Committee, Chairwoman LOWEY, chair of the House Appropriations Committee, and Ranking Member GRANGER for all of us coming together to do the right thing for the American people.

We face this crisis together. We are fighting it together. Ultimately, I believe we will prevail together, but now is the time for action. The House will act first. All indications are they will pass it swiftly—this package. I hope so.

When this package arrives in the Senate, I would urge my colleagues to do the same so we can get help to those who need it and ease some of the anxiety stemming from this outbreak. I think we owe it to the American people to do no less.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. LOEFFLER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, Chairman SHELBY just spoke. He and I

have worked so hard together on the Appropriations Committee on the emergency coronavirus supplemental request. I have always enjoyed working with Chairman SHELBY, and I am pleased we can announce that we have reached a bipartisan, bicameral agreement on an emergency supplemental to address the spread of the novel coronavirus and protect the health and safety of the American people. So I thank my friend Chairman SHELBY, Chairwoman LOWEY of the other body, and Ranking Member GRANGER for their cooperation.

I think one of the things I found during my time on the Appropriations Committee is that we tend to leave our labels at the door. We worked together. We did not see each other as Republicans and Democrats. We looked at each other as Members of the House and the Senate trying to get this done. I urge both the majority leader and the Democratic leader to move as quickly as possible, once the House acts today, to get this agreement to the President's desk.

As I said last weekend, there is no reason why we cannot and should not finish this bill this week and get it down to the President for signing. If we have to work Friday or even Saturday, let's get it done and get it done now.

Now, what the House of Representatives is debating today is vastly different from the $1.25 billion grossly inadequate proposal from the Trump administration that was sent to Congress just 9 days ago. This was so poorly thought out that both Republicans and Democrats said it made no sense.

Where President Trump's proposal would rob Peter to pay Paul by stealing hundreds of millions of dollars from funds meant to contain an ongoing Ebola crisis and take money from programs the American people rely on, like the low-income heating assistance program, LIHEAP, our agreement provides $7.8 billion in new emergency funding to address this crisis without raiding these important programs. We cannot just turn our backs on funding to address the ongoing Ebola crisis.

And millions of Amricans rely on programs like LIHEAP. I would invite any of those from the White House who think we do not need this heating assistance in places like my home state of Vermont, where just a few days ago it was 10 below zero.

Our agreement does not rob Peter to pay Paul. We are not stealing hundreds of millions of dollars from funds meant to contain an ongoing Ebola crisis but simply providing $7.8 billion in new emergency funding to address this crisis without raiding those important programs.

We also include a $500 million authorization to enhance the availability of telehealth services—something that could be so helpful in virtually every one of our States.

We also reject the President's extreme ''America First'' mantra that would include nothing for USAID to help contain the spread of the coronvirus abroad. Let's be realistic. At a time when communicable diseases are only an airplane flight away, that is a recipe for failure. If we can stop this before it gets to our borders, why shouldn't we work with other countries to do that? So, we instead provide $1.25 billion in new resources for the global health response, provide humanitarian assistance, and secure funding for emergency evacuations of U.S. citizens, if needed.

We provide $2.2 billion to support Federal, State, and local public health agencies to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus. The funds will support laboratory testing and monitoring, infection control, and public health preparedness. Again, we are taking this completely out of politics and going to where our best people are who need the resources to address this crisis. I talked about some of the need for help with the Governor of our State, who is a Republican, and we worked very, very closely together. I applaud what he has been doing to prepare for this virus.

Our agreement is going to provide more than $3 billion for research and development of vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics to prevent or treat the effects of coronavirus. We are going to include provisions to ensure that vaccines developed with the support of Federal dollars—our tax dollars—remain affordable to those most in need. The taxpayers pay for it. They should not have to pay for it a second time because a large company wants to make a huge profit. In fact, we provide nearly $1 billion for healthcare preparedness, the procurement of pharmaceuticals and medical supplies and funding to support community health centers, which provide healthcare to so many in our underserved urban areas and rural communities.

We provide $61 million to the Food and Drug Administration to facilitate the development of new therapies and vaccines to combat the coronavirus but also to mitigate the potential medical supply chain interruptions.

Importantly, this agreement includes $7 billion in small business disaster loans. What is happening can really hit the small businesses, which are the backbone of America's economy. We have this money, the small business disaster loans, to help mitigate the economic impact of the spread of the coronavirus in the United States.

When we confront this widening crisis, it is important to remember that we are not doing it as Republicans or Democrats seeking to score political points in addressing this threat. It is not something for the Republican Party or the Democratic Party to deal with. We should deal with it as who we are. We are Americans, and we are U.S. Senators. One hundred of us have to speak to our own conscience. At times of crisis in our Nation's history, the Senate has proven its ability to be the conscience of the Nation and a steady guiding hand. That is what we have to do now.

I am pleased that the House measure does not include legislation related to extending FISA, the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. We have had months to deal with that controversial legislation. It has no place on urgent funding legislation to combat the current health situation.

I am confident we can, once again, put aside partisan squabbles and help to lead our Nation forward. Taking up this agreement as soon as possible is the first step.

I will work with Chairman SHELBY. The two of us will work together to shepherd this bipartisan, bicameral agreement through the Senate and to the President.

I would note—and I will speak further on this later on—that there are an awful lot of members of our staffs, both Republican and Democratic, who have worked and worked and worked late nights, worked weekends, and worked on days off to get us here. I applaud the men and women who have done that.

I see my distinguished colleague on the floor, so I will yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

AMERICA'S TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE ACT

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I come to the floor today to address America's aging roads and bridges.

Our highways are in need of repair all across the country. In some places, we actually need to rebuild new roads. That is why I, along with Senators CARPER, CAPITO, and CARDIN, have introduced America's Infrastructure Act.

This bipartisan legislation is going to make a significant investment in our roads, in our bridges, and in our tunnels. It will fund our highways at historic levels.

These investments are critical, but just as critical is speeding up government's approvals for important road projects.

Last Congress, the Environment and Public Works Committee, which I chair, heard testimony about a highway project in my home State of Wyoming. The project took a decade—a full 10 years—to get the required permits—one after another after another—but then it only took a couple of months to get the project done. It is a project that is going to make our roads safer and more efficient, which was the whole desired effect of this project. It was held up because of 10 years of waiting for Washington permits. A decade to permit, months to build—any American with common sense knows that is absurd. America's Transportation Infrastructure Act cuts through Washington redtape so projects can get done faster, better, cheaper, and smarter. That is key.

We used President Trump's One Federal Decision policy as a model. It is a great plan, a great policy put forward by the President. Under the policy, the President has set a goal for his administration of completing environmental

reviews within 2 years. It is a goal I absolutely applaud. Our legislation will codify key elements of that policy into law.

The bill will streamline duplicative requirements by many different Federal agencies on the same project. The permitting process will be simplified and will occur faster.

Our bill also gives States increased flexibility—something States want. So Federal approvals can get moving and the project construction can get started sooner. It reduces the amount of paperwork needed from States to complete the projects. It is unacceptable that the Federal Government would hold up State projects and put drivers at risk. Washington should never prioritize paperwork, which is what Washington tends to do—prioritize paperwork over people's safety.

America's Transportation Infrastructure Act cuts redtape. It makes safety a top priority.

Our legislation is bipartisan, passing the Environment and Public Works Committee unanimously, 21 to 0.

President Trump called on Congress to pass the bill. He did it during his State of the Union Address last month.

This legislation is a win for the entire country. The time is now to pass America's Transportation Infrastructure Act so we can reduce the punishing and costly regulations and then do the important work of improving highway projects so that they can get built.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 8

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, I am coming to the floor today as we have just passed the 1-year mark since H.R. 8, the Bipartisan Background Checks Act, passed the House of Representatives. This is a piece of legislation supported by 90 percent of the American public. It is hard for anything to enjoy 90 percent support in this country these days.

The data shows us that this is a piece of legislation that, if enacted, would save lives. We have begged and pleaded for this piece of legislation to come before the Senate. I understand that there may not be 60 votes in the Senate to pass the exact piece of legislation supported by the House, but we could engage in a process of amendment, a process of compromise, and that could end up saving lives and getting a piece of legislation passed that is supported, as I mentioned, by 9 out of 10 Americans.

I have some remarks after what I expect will be an objection to my motion from the majority party.

I will ask unanimous consent of my colleagues that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 29, H.R. 8, the Bipartisan Background Checks Act; I further ask that the bill be considered read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, if this unanimous consent were passed without a vote or even debate, that would become law. Passage of this request could infringe on the constitutional right of my constituents and many others across the United States. I believe firmly that would be the case and could even result in criminal charges against law-abiding firearms owners. So I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. MURPHY. I am sorry to hear the objection. It is obviously not surprising. We have been waiting for a year for this body to act on the issue of gun violence. And though there are a range of measures that may actually be controversial, this is not one of them. This is not one of them.

It is really hard to find folks in America who object to the idea that somebody should have to prove that they are not a criminal, that they don't have a history of serious mental illness, before they purchase a firearm.

The fact is, the longer we wait, the more people die. There is no piece of legislation that is going to eliminate every single gun death in this country. In my State of Connecticut, when we passed the universal background checks law, we saw an immediate 40-percent reduction in gun homicides.

In Missouri, when they repealed their universal background checks law, they saw an immediate 25-percent increase.

That is the short-term immediate rate of return—both on the upside and the downside—you get when you take steps to ensure that criminals don't get guns or you take steps to make it easy for criminals to get guns.

Senator BLUMENTHAL is on the floor with me as well, and he will make remarks. I have been unable to persuade my colleagues, based on the data, that we should pass background checks—the data being the broad public support for the measure, the data being about the impact on people's lives that this piece of legislation would have.

I want to make the case that, just from the simple standpoint of humanity, we should care about listening to the American public and passing legislation that will reduce these numbers. This is heartbreaking. Some 39,000 people a year are dying from gunshot wounds, with 3,011 on average a month and 100 a day.

The majority of these are suicides, but the data tells us that by making it harder for people to buy guns who shouldn't have them because of a serious history of mental illness or because of their criminal background, you will have less suicides. Many of these are homicides, and many of these are accidental shootings. All of them are preventable by better policy.

Remember, this happens in the United States and nowhere else in the advanced-income world. It is not because we have more mental illness in the United States. There is no evidence of that. It is not because our kids play more video games in the United States. There is no evidence of that. It is not because we spend less money on law enforcement. There is no evidence of that. It is because this country is awash in illegal and dangerous guns. It is because we have made a choice to make it a lot easier for some to find a way to a lethal firearm to commit an act of violence.

Every single one of the 100 persons who die every day is attached to families and friends and neighbors. The data suggests that for everybody who is killed in a gun homicide, there are 20 other people who experience some kind of life-altering, diagnosable trauma because of it.

I want to tell you a few of these stories today—stories of people who over the last year have been among this statistic—40,000 people who died from gunshot wounds. In March 2019, 1 month after H.R. 8 got to the Senate, Shelby Verderosa was home with her 6-month-old daughter when she was shot and killed in Phoenix, AZ. As a new mom, Shelby ''was doing everything she possibly could to make sure her daughter had the best life,'' said her cousin. One month after H.R. 8 passed the Senate, she was shot and killed when she was home with her 6-month-old daughter.

Lamar Sharp was at a picnic in Kansas City in April—2 months after H.R. 8 got here to the Senate—when he heard gunshots. Instead of running away from the gunshots toward safety, he ran to save his friend's 2-year-old grandson, and he was shot three times. He died 5 days before his 32nd birthday, 2 months after H.R. 8 got to the Senate floor.

In May, 3 months after the background checks bill got to the Senate, three LGBTQ+ young people were shot in Detroit. Alunte Davis, Timothy Blancher, and Paris Cameron were known for being funny. They were known for being wildly charismatic. Police believe their sexual orientation and gender identity were factors in their murders.

A month later, 4 months after H.R. 8 got here to the Senate, Durelle Moxley was killed on Father's Day when a shooting broke out in his neighborhood. Durelle and his wife had three young children. His friends said:

He was really proud to be a father. He was pumped and he was really celebrating Father's Day.

In July, 5 months after H.R. 8 got to the Senate, 5 months after sitting on

MITCH MCCONNELL's desk, awaiting action, Julianna Carr was killed by her brother in a murder-suicide at a housewarming party in Katy, TX. She left behind a husband and two children whom she called her ''greatest loves.''

Jurnee Thompson was 8 years old when she was shot in August, 6 months after the Senate got H.R. 8—6 months of doing nothing on a bill with 90 percent public support. Jurnee was the 14th child to be shot and killed in St. Louis alone last summer. Her dad says losing her was ''one of the biggest fears of my life and now I'm living it as a reality.''

In September, 7 months after H.R. 8 showed up in the Senate and the Senate did nothing with it, Usher Hanns was 17 years old when he was shot and killed. He was a senior at Weaver High School in Connecticut. He was a member of Hartford's Proud Drill, Drum, and Dance Corp. His mom said he was ''a good son. He always made me smile. He's a joyful kid.''

Deirdre Zaccardi was murdered by her husband Joseph in Abington, PA, in October, 8 months after H.R. 8 got to the Senate. He also shot their three children, Alexis, Nathaniel, and Kathryn, before turning the gun on himself. The Abington police chief said their deaths were ''a horrific event no one should ever see.''

Nine months after H.R. 8 got here in November, Gracie Ann Muehlberger was shot by a classmate with a semiautomatic, untraceable ''ghost gun'' in Santa Clarita, CA. Hundreds attended Gracie's memorial service. Her friends described her as an ''independent spirit.''

In December, 10 months after the House passed H.R. 8—10 months of doing nothing with it here in the Senate—Sergeant Chris Brewster was responding to a domestic violence call in Houston. When he got there, he was shot by a suspect fleeing the scene. He was a devoted husband who loved making people laugh. Friends described him as ''wonderfully weird.''

In January, 11 months after H.R. 8 got to the Senate, Gregory Rieves was killed. He had retired after 22 years as a State trooper, a career that he called his dream job. He was killed in Illinois. His friends described him as ''the most gentle, kind-hearted person you could ever know.''

In February of this year, two sisters, Abbaney and Deja Matts, were shot by Abbaney's ex-boyfriend in a dormitory in Commerce, TX. ''I just want people to know they were fun,'' said their mom.

Just last week in Milwaukee, almost exactly a year since H.R. 8 came to the Senate, five people were shot on the campus of Molson Coors. People who went to work on a normal Wednesday and whose families will never get to hug them or tell them goodbye or hear their voices again were shot and killed in a workplace shooting.

Senator BLUMENTHAL and I are not going to give up. We are not going to give up because of what we have been through in Connecticut, having experienced and lived through the aftermath of the horrific shooting in Sandy Hook, but also because of what we see happening every single day in places we represent—murders that happen in Hartford and Bridgeport and New Haven, murders that happen in rural areas of our State, as well—accidental shootings, homicides, suicides. Nowhere else, other than in the United States, does this epidemic of carnage happen at this rate. It happens because we have made a choice. We have made a choice to let the gun industry run Washington, DC, to give them veto power over gun policy that has helped their bottom line, that has made gun company executives rich. But it has resulted in 40,000 people a year dying—100 a day.

I will continue to come to the floor and tell the stories of those who have been lost. I am deeply sorry that when we try to bring up unanimous consent requests to the Senate to have a debate or a vote on H.R. 8, we keep hearing objections.

We don't run the Senate. Democrats are not in charge. We don't get to set the agenda. MITCH MCCONNELL, Senator MCCONNELL, does; Republicans who are part of leadership do. All you have to do is bring this bill to the floor. Let's have a debate on an expanded background checks proposal.

I get that the version of the bill that passed the House might not have 60 votes here, but why don't we try to find common ground? Why don't we sit down and do what the Senate used to do and find compromise that makes the country a better place? The fact that we aren't even trying to find bipartisan agreement on a background checks proposal is absolutely heartbreaking, not just to me or to Senator BLUMENTHAL; it is heartbreaking to the survivors and the family members of the folks who aren't with us any longer. It is an insult to them that we are not even lifting a finger to try to make this country a safer place.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I am honored to join my colleague and friend, Senator MURPHY.

First, let me thank him for his leadership. We have worked together as a team. We have been partners in this effort from the very first days of our elections, and we were together at Sandy Hook on the afternoon of December 14, 2012, when we saw and met many of the families who suffered that absolutely unspeakable loss in an unimaginable tragedy that haunts us both to this day.

Just this morning, as a matter of fact, I was with one of the dads, Mark Barden, who has turned his grief into tremendously positive work in our schools, forming an organization called Sandy Hook Promise, one of the numerous grassroots organizations that has grown in the wake of that tragedy. Of course, Brady existed before Sandy Hook, but afterward, there was Sandy Hook Promise and Newtown Action Alliance. Connecticut Against Gun Violence expanded, Moms Demand Action, Students Demand Action, Everytown for Gun Safety, Gifford—the list reflects the outrage and fear of the American public against this epidemic.

I am here to talk about an epidemic, a public health menace. Of course, we must do something to take effective action and do it promptly against coronavirus, COVID–19, which also reflects a threat to our health and safety. It has already killed Americans. It threatens to spread. There is a need for preparedness and honesty and truthfulness to the American public about the extent of the threat and about the need for action.

Gun violence today in America—just today and every day in America—kills more than 100 people. That number reflects only the fatalities. It is no measure of the people who are injured, sometimes crippled for life, and often emotionally damaged. It fails to reflect the families who suffer those losses and the trauma that affects children who are truly innocent bystanders to the drive-by shootings in downtown Hartford or Bridgeport or New Haven.

Literally, no community in America is immune from this public health epidemic, this menace that afflicts America unlike any other country in the world. Globalization has affected many public health threats, as we are learning about coronavirus. But America is unique in the magnitude of its gun violence epidemic, as my colleague Senator MURPHY has said so well.

The costs are not just in human lives and emotion. Even if you care nothing about the human condition, think about the dollars and cents—the costs, the medical care, and, of course, the talent and energy, the intelligence, the productivity that is lost literally every day in those 100 lives. There is no vaccine. There is no panacea. There is no magic cure for this epidemic.

The bill that brings us here today is just one piece of legislation, one tool that is vitally necessary, but it is only one step. It will not solve all of the problems of gun violence, but we know it will save lives. We know it from our experience in Connecticut. We know this enforcement mechanism will keep guns out of the hands of dangerous people.

It adds no new prohibitions. It imposes no new categories of people who are prohibited from buying guns. Those categories and those prohibitions are already in the Federal law. This background check expansion to all sales—not just federally licensed deals but private sales, sales on the internet—is simply a way to enforce the existing prohibitions, which were supported, by the way, by the NRA when they were passed decades of ago. It simply makes those prohibitions real.

I know, from my experience as a prosecutor over decades and as a State

attorney general, that the best laws on the books are dead letter if they are unenforced. That is really why 98 percent of the American people, the vast majority of gun owners, and even NRA members support this legislation. It is a simple, commonsense way to enforce existing prohibitions that keep guns out of the hands of dangerous people. It is the least we can do for those victims of gun violence whose images and voices and faces are with their families still and many of them with us every day.

We should be very clear—because this measure should not be oversold—that it will not alone solve the problem of gun violence. There are a variety of other measures. I have introduced the emergency risk protection order legislation that would enable law enforcement—local police or State and Federal law enforcement—to take guns away from people who are dangerous to themselves or others. That legislation would require a warrant, and it would enable the warrant to be eventually challenged in a court proceeding. It would provide due process, which would be particularly important in domestic disputes when an estranged intimate partner may have a gun or when there is suicide and self-harm is threatened. This has worked in Florida thousands of times, where it was passed most recently, and in Connecticut. Connecticut was the first in the Nation to adopt an emergency risk protection order, and it has worked.

Along with that law are safe storage measures. There is Ethan's Law, which was named after Ethan Song, who was lost to his wonderful parents, Kristin and Michael Song. Ethan was visiting a friend whose parents failed to store their gun safely, and in that unimaginable tragedy, he was lost.

Of course, there are also other measures, like eliminating sweetheart deals that provide unique and virtually absolute immunity to gun manufacturers. The Sandy Hook surviving families are seeking redress against the manufacturer of the gun that killed their 20 children and 6 great educators. They are overcoming the obstacles imposed by the law that provides that immunity to the gun manufacturers.

Assault weapons bans, ammunition background checks, and high-capacity magazines are a series of measures that we should consider. It is not that every one of them is necessary, but every one of them can help to save lives. Not one of them alone will prevent all of these fatalities.

The least we can do is debate H.R. 8, which has been language on the Senate floor now for a year without its being called for a vote. That is really unconscionable. I know we use that word ''unconscionable'' so frequently that perhaps it has lost its meaning, but if we have a conscience and if we have a belief and a conviction in the democratic process, we should at least give a vote to this measure that is lifesaving, that is supported by almost all of the American people, and that is opposed only by the NRA and a gun lobby that is diminishing in power. In fact, the NRA is crumbling from within because of a financial scandal and on the outside because its extreme, inflexible positions are untenable to an American public that sees the public health epidemic before us as a result of gun violence and says: Enough is enough.

There is a movement that will eventually prevail. Whether it will win in this session—because we have been blocked again from unanimous consent by our Republican colleagues—I don't know. I do know with certainty that it will prevail because these grassroots have grown and have created a movement. The students of Parkland have created a movement. The Sandy Hook Promise, the Newtown Action Alliance, Brady, Giffords, and others have created a movement. Like many movements and social causes in this country—the civil rights movement being the best example—this is fuel and power and is led by young people who are saying with the most passion of all: Enough is enough.

Every one of them and every one of us knows someone—a family member, a coworker, a co-student, a colleague—who has been affected by gun violence. Almost two-thirds of those 100 deaths every day are from suicide, so we know mental health has to be addressed and that we need to invest more in mental health diagnoses and treatments.

Again, mental health diagnoses and treatments alone are not a solution. I have long spearheaded and advocated for mental health parity—more treatment, more insurance coverage—but they alone will not solve the gun violence epidemic in this country.

The fact is that the States that have universal background checks, according to a recent study, have had 52 percent fewer mass shootings than the States that have lacked them. It makes sense. Background check laws mean that 80 percent of the firearms acquired for criminal purposes can be stopped from being sold by unlicensed sellers.

We in Connecticut have one of the strongest universal background checks on the books anywhere in the country. Yet we know guns have, really, no respect for State borders. They cross State borders with impunity. They cause deaths in Connecticut even if they have been manufactured elsewhere or have been sold in the South and have come via the Iron Pipeline to Connecticut or to New York or to New Jersey, which also has strong gun laws. This national public health epidemic demands a national—Federal—solution that protects our Nation.

The Odessa shooting just this past August serves as a tragic reminder of the steep price that inaction exacts. The Odessa shooter failed a background check, but then he turned right around after he failed that background check from a licensed dealer and bought an assault-style rifle in a private sale. That private sale was not covered by a background check, and seven more innocent people are dead as a result.

On December 14, 2012, I promised the parents who lost loved ones at Sandy Hook and other families that I would fight and do everything I could to make sure that no more parents would have to bury their children. I have worked tirelessly, along with others, like my colleague Senator MURPHY and many of us on this side of the aisle, on public health and safety measures that would stop gun violence. I have also worked with Senator GRAHAM on an emergency risk protection order proposal that has shown very serious signs of acceptance on that side of the aisle and even by the White House. So far, inaction has been the result.

Since that day, December 14, 2012, there have been 2,389 mass shootings, not counting the individual lives lost in Hartford or in the suburbs or in the rural areas. It is an equal opportunity public health epidemic. Like any epidemic, no one is immune. Over 2,000 times, families have had to wait, like the parents of Newtown, to see whether that morning's kiss goodbye would be the last. They have had to wait to see whether that last wave at the school door would be the final one. That really is unconscionable in the greatest country in the history of the world.

When I stood here in the months after 2012—in fact, in 2013—when we last voted on a universal background check bill, it was supported by a majority of my colleagues. There were 54 who voted for it, but it was not enough to reach the 60-vote threshold.

From the Galleries, I heard one of those parents shout ''Shame.'' He was right. Shame on my Republican colleagues then, and shame on them now if they defy common sense and the will of the American people by preventing a vote—simply a vote. That is what we are asking for—a vote on H.R. 8. A year has passed since the House voted and approved this bill. Shame on them—my Republican colleagues—if they stand in the way of saving lives. Shame on them if they allow the carnage to continue on our streets, in our neighborhoods, and in our communities, crippling families and tearing apart those communities.

The vicelike grip of the gun lobby is breaking, and there will be bipartisan collaboration. It will be the result of not my persuasion from speeches given on the floor but of the American people at the polls, because the ultimate court is the court of public opinion and because the ultimate voice here is that of the American people.

In the military, there is a saying: ''The enemy has a vote.'' Here, the enemies are the shooters, and the enemies are the opposers of these commonsense measures. We cannot allow them to have a vote. It is the American people who will vote, and they will hold accountable those colleagues who fail to be on the right side of this issue and on the right side of history.

I urge my Republican colleagues to rethink, to revisit, to reconsider their staunch, unyielding, inflexible opposition to even having a vote. To them, I say: Do your job. We are here to vote and save lives.

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

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

BROADBAND ACCESS

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I call the Senate's attention this afternoon to a pair of bills that are critical to the deployment of broadband access across the United States and the worldwide race to 5G, which we, of course, hope to win and will win.

The first of these measures will ensure that telecommunications networks are safe and secure from foreign intrusion. The second bill, which I hope the Senate will take up and pass even today by unanimous consent, would help create highly accurate broadband coverage data that will help expand access to high-speed internet. Both of these measures are Commerce Committee priorities and are the result of extensive negotiations and work on a bipartisan and bicameral basis.

Our economic and national security depend on nationwide access to high-speed internet that is safe and secure. The threat of foreign espionage through our broadband infrastructure is real, and it stems directly from the Chinese tech firms, like Huawei and ZTE.

These companies are pawns of the Chinese Government. As a matter of fact, for all practical purposes, they are wholly owned entities of the Chinese Government, and they are putting on a full-court press to establish their footprint in wireless networks around the world and right here in the United States.

Huawei and ZTE receive massive subsidies each year from the Chinese Government, and it is really beyond dispute that they are doing the bidding of the Chinese Communist Party.

Some of our allies have come to realize this threat and have taken decisive action. I want to commend Australia, New Zealand, and Japan. They have all banned Huawei technologies from their networks.

I am grateful that the Trump administration has shown strong leadership on this issue.

Last year, the Department of Commerce placed Huawei on its Entity List, severely limiting its ability to do business with U.S. companies. That was a bold step, but, unfortunately, some of our networks had already been compromised by Huawei by the time the Commerce Department took action.

So last week, the Senate took a major step toward removing the Chinese threat by passing the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act.

This bill, which some refer to as the ''rip and replace'' bill, would rip out the Huawei equipment and replace it with reliable equipment that will not engage in espionage.

This legislation will lay the foundation to give strong financial incentives to U.S. firms to strip out their Huawei and ZTE technology and replace it with secure alternatives. It will also help small, rural telecom providers transition away from firms that are controlled by Beijing.

That bill is now on the President's desk, awaiting his signature, and it may be that he is going to wait until it can be joined by the Broadband DATA Act, which, again, I say can be passed by this body as early as this evening, when we adjourn.

In December, the Senate unanimously passed the measure, but because the House passed a slightly amended version of the bill yesterday, we need to act again today to get this bill across the finish line and on to the White House.

The Broadband DATA Act addresses the Federal Communication Commission's flawed maps, which the Presiding Officer and I have been so concerned about. Every year, the FCC spends billions of dollars to promote deployment of broadband across the United States. This funding is especially important for America's rural communication, which so often lags behind in broadband development. We have done a lot to close the digital divide, but an estimated 20 million Americans still lack access to broadband.

For years, Members from both parties have noted that the FCC's maps have overstated broadband coverage, thereby understating the problem. For example, for Mississippi, the FCC map claims that we have a 98-percent mobile broadband coverage—something anybody can say from experience is not true. It is far from true. Without accurate maps, the FCC cannot direct support to areas most in need.

The Broadband DATA Act will fix this problem by creating a new database of areas in need of service, requiring providers to submit precise data, establishing specific standards for data collection, and allowing crowd sourcing to encourage public participation in the process.

As a result, the Broadband DATA Act will also help target Federal funds toward those areas most in need of assistance. These steps will pave the way for more Americans across the heartland to exercise and to access high-speed broadband and to enjoy the economic opportunities that come with that.

Coupled with last week's passage of the ''rip and replace'' legislation, Congress has achieved an important victory for our country and national security.

In conclusion, I want to recognize the excellent work of my staff on the Commerce Committee, both the majority and the minority.

I want to thank my friend and ranking member, Senator CANTWELL, as well as Chairman PALLONE and Ranking Member WALDEN of the House of Representatives on the Energy and Commerce Committee, as well as the members of their staff. Their efforts have gotten us to this point, ready for the President to put a signature on these two very important bills.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 2590

Mr. BRAUN. Madam President, the discovery of thousands of fetal remains in Indiana at an abortionist's home last year horrified us all and highlighted a disturbing trend that Indiana has taken the lead in rectifying.

This bill is our chance to fix the problem nationally. I believe all human life deserves a dignified burial, and fetal remains deserve to be treated with respect, not as medical waste. Sadly, irreverence toward fetal remains, like Dr. Klopfer's grotesque collection, in our case, is not an isolated incident. For example, in 2015, a Minnesota hospital threw out the body of a stillborn baby with dirty laundry.

Indiana has led the way. Governor MIKE PENCE signed a law in 2016 protecting the dignity of fetal remains, upheld by the Supreme Court last year in Box v. Planned Parenthood.

This legislation, the Dignity for Aborted Children Act, builds on Indiana's success and provides guidelines for handling fetal remains and penalties for failing to respect the sanctity of human life, and it ensures that crimes like Dr. Klopfer's have consequences.

The bill would require abortion providers to dispose of the remains of unborn children just as any other human remains or to release the remains to the family, should the family wish to receive them. This bill does not tell anyone what to do with their body. It only holds human fetuses to a higher standard of dignity than medical waste.

Last week, this body could not agree to ban abortions after science tells us fetuses are capable of feeling pain. This body could not agree to ensure that babies born alive after botched abortions should receive the same standard of care as a baby born in a hospital.

At the very least, we should be able to agree to treat the remains of unborn children with the reverence befitting a

human life rather than as medical waste.

Given this, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be discharged from further consideration of S. 2590 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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. Is there objection?

The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, reserving the right to object, we have a serious public health crisis on our hands right now, and we expect it to get much worse. Right now, families across this country are actually looking to Congress to put partisanship aside and put their needs first and are counting on us to listen to experts and make decisions that are guided by science, not by ideology.

They need to know that our No. 1 priority and what we should be talking about is public health today.

Instead of discussing this harmful bill that will gut reproductive rights, put unnecessary restrictions on medical providers, and undermine medical research, which is an absolute nonstarter and the absolute last thing we should be doing right now, I think we should be focused on what families actually need us to be focused on, which is the coronavirus outbreak and what it means for them and what we are doing about it.

The news of this virus is spreading throughout the country. The deaths, the illness, and the confusion it has caused in my home State of Washington and elsewhere are beyond alarming. The Trump administration has fallen far short of its responsibilities to Washington State and to communities nationwide.

I am pleased Democrats and Republicans in Congress were able to put partisanship aside to hammer out the robust emergency supplemental funding agreement that was announced earlier today. It is an agreement that goes well beyond President Trump's totally inadequate request in order to actually meet the needs we are hearing about from the officials on the frontlines of this crisis, like reimbursing States and local governments that have shouldered the cost of this response so far or the need to support research so we can develop new treatments and diagnostic tests and vaccines and the need to make sure those are available to everyone.

This agreement helps us prepare for what is next by providing funding to shore up our store of medical supplies, support medical community health centers in underserved areas, and bolster global health and public health preparedness programs.

I am working to make sure we get that bill signed into law as soon as possible, and I will continue to follow it closely because experts have already made it very clear this is not going to be over soon.

While the funding is a great first step, we need to make sure it is not the last one. It is very critical that we continue listening to our health experts, providing needed resources, and preparing for what is next, including what this will mean for families' day-to-day lives and for people who can't take a day off work without losing a paycheck or don't have affordable childcare if a school closes or don't have health insurance or are experiencing homelessness.

I hope my Republican colleagues will think long and hard about what their priorities are in the midst of this and choose to refocus their energy on working with us to address the urgent issues of the day instead of distracting us from serious work and wasting time we don't have.

I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. BRAUN. Madam President, I think if we continue to make the argument with women's healthcare that it is mutually exclusive to consider that, and you define what we are talking about here—banning abortions where there is pain-felt capability or not trying to preserve the life of a baby born through a botched abortion—adding this as well: not treating the fetal remains with the dignity that they deserve—I think it is increasingly difficult to make the argument that we constantly hear about women's healthcare. They are not mutually exclusive. This is something that shouldn't be put into the category that it would impact any of that by putting this into effect.

I yield floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 3259

Mr. LEE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 3259 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration. I further ask 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. Is there objection?

The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Madam President, reserving the right to object, I am disappointed that my colleague would try to codify a policy that has been proven to cause extensive harm to the most vulnerable women and families around the world.

In the past 3 years, we have seen the global impact of this policy. Health clinics have closed, access to care has decreased, and lives are needlessly put at risk. When women in developing countries and other parts of the world don't have access to family planning and information they need for women's reproductive health, abortions actually increase rather than decrease. Research shows that by decreasing access to information about modern contraceptive options, abortion rates increase. This policy doesn't stop abortions; it only limits the resources that are available that prevent women from having unwanted pregnancies.

My Republican colleagues can call it whatever they want—the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance policy, the Mexico City Policy—I call it dangerous and deadly. In fact, instead of protecting life, the global gag rule erects new barriers to critical health services, including reproductive health services, for people and communities who already have limited access to affordable, high quality healthcare.

Across U.S. global health assistance, we are seeing a breakdown in systems of health care provisions which disproportionately impacts the most vulnerable, hard-to-reach populations. In Uganda, mobile health teams that go into communities and provide sometimes the only health care available are being cut.

ABBEF, the International Planned Parenthood Federation member in Burkina Faso, was forced in 2017 to prematurely end its U.S.-supported pilot initiative to distribute contraceptives in secondary schools where there is a huge family planning need.

Marie Stopes International, MSI, received 17% of its donor income from USAID at the time the global gag rule was reinstated. These funds were exclusively used for voluntary contraception services and the loss of funding has impacted work with poor and marginalized communities most in need of accessing services.

Marie Stopes Ethiopia, with expertise in reaching remote communities, ended its U.S.-funded program providing vasectomies and tubal ligations to rural populations. No other organization has the technical skills and expertise to provide the same quality of service and choice.

Clearly this policy decreases care, increases abortions, and risks the lives of women around the world. And this is not about abortion, this is about controlling a woman's body and limiting her choices.

If we are actually going to get serious about improving women's health, we should be working to end the global gag rule.

Given the negative impact this policy has already had on so many women and families around the world, codifying it would just exacerbate those issues, so I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Madam President, it is disappointing that when we take a look at something that is controversial like abortion and we peel it back a layer further, we make it noncontroversial

by making the discussion about something that most Americans—the overwhelming majority of Americans—agree about, which is, regardless of how you feel about abortion, you don't necessarily want your government taking your taxpayer dollars and the taxpayer dollars of a whole lot of people who have very strong feelings against abortion and using those to fund organizations that either perform abortions or that engage in promoting or lobbying or counseling or referring in order to encourage abortions. The overwhelming majority of Americans don't want that regardless of how they feel about life.

This shouldn't be a controversial issue. It is a non sequitur. It is a straw man argument to suggest that this somehow limits anyone's options. It doesn't. In fact, it expands options of individuals by saying: We are not going to take your money at the point of a gun, which is what governments do at the end of the day when they take money, in order to spend it on something that—depending on how you phrase the question and which pollster you are talking to, it is either a sizable majority or a bare majority of Americans who find that morally problematic. But an overwhelming majority of Americans say that, no matter what, you shouldn't be taking all taxpayer money and then using that to fund abortion or abortion-related advocacy.

Last week, the Senate had a chance to adopt some measures that would protect the dignity of human life—not just unborn human life but also born human life, including babies who had been born alive following a failed abortion attempt. Unfortunately, due to a minority of this body, we lost the opportunity to enact those reforms.

Those colleagues opposed to these measures did so largely on the claims that they were, as they put them, anti-woman or anti-healthcare. They claim somehow that these measures interfered with what should be considered personal—the personal nature of healthcare between women and their doctors.

I could not agree more that healthcare is personal. It is, after all, about healing, preserving, and prolonging the life of a human being, the life of a person. In the case of a pregnant woman, it is about two persons, sometimes three. If it is a woman who is pregnant with a single baby, it is two persons with two beating hearts, two distinct sets of DNA, and two unique and eternally valuable, unrepeatable souls—two persons with equal dignity and worth. We ought to value both of them and provide opportunity and care and rights and protection to both.

In the spirit of our founding, we ought to affirm through our laws and through our taxpayer dollars the truth that every member of our society—every woman, every man, every unborn child—is entitled to the right to life and to the full protection of that right under the laws of the United States. Our healthcare ought to heal, preserve, and protect those lives. Unfortunately, many of our laws themselves permit and subsidize exactly the opposite of life in our country and even, tragically, abroad.

Congress allows and helps fund the most radical abortion policy in the Western world, enabling procedures that impose barbaric violence upon women and unborn children and ending the lives of hundreds of thousands of innocent babies in our Nation every single year. It allows our foreign aid money to go to organizations that fund and promote abortions overseas, taking the lives of thousands of innocent babies across the globe—especially, by the way, baby girls.

In some of these countries, abortions happen in much higher numbers to female babies precisely because they are female. Abortion is, in many cases, the knife's edge of sexism—the exact tool they use to denigrate women's equal dignity and value and worth and right to breathe.

In some of these countries, women don't even want the abortions. In some cases, these organizations force their own so-called enlightened values on them, pressuring these women to take their own children's lives whether or not they really want to. This form of cultural and imperialism is not pro-woman, it is not pro-child, and it is certainly not pro-healthcare. It is pro-sexism and pro-violence. And we must end it. Today, we can, through the passage of the Protecting Life in Foreign Assistance Act. This bill would permanently stop the use of our foreign aid money for funding or promoting abortions overseas.

We ought to uphold the equal dignity of women, whether born or unborn, in America and across the world, and we should treat their bodies with reverence and dignity and respect, the respect they deserve, not because any government decided to confer that respect upon them but because they exist. Today, we can choose that, too, through Senator BRAUN's bill, the Dignity for Aborted Children Act. That measure, as Senator BRAUN has explained, will ensure that aborted children's bodies are not treated simply as medical waste to be crudely disposed of and that they should instead receive a proper burial or cremation, just as we accord to all other human beings.

We have to support and value women and babies everywhere. In our laws and for our lives, we ought to uphold the dignity of each and every human person, regardless of race, sex, appearance, abilities, or age. The measures before us today—those I have outlined and those that have been proposed by Senator BRAUN—do just that, and we should support them for the very same reasons that we should pass them. They shouldn't be objectionable.

It is tragic that they have drawn an objection today. It is tragic that any American, much less any Member of the Senate, which calls itself the world's greatest deliberative legislative body, would object to these measures. After all, it is difficult to fathom how someone wouldn't want to protect babies. It is difficult to fathom why someone wouldn't be in favor of something at least protecting the conscience rights of U.S. taxpayers who don't want to see their hard-earned taxpayer dollars going to fund an operation, a procedure that they know is designed to end a human life—a human life that in many cases is deliberately ended because of the sex of the person whose life is being taken. This is tragic, it is unacceptable, and it shouldn't happen—not here, not on this soil, not on our watch.

We are not going to give up. The fact that we have endured these setbacks today, the fact that these well-conceived, non-objectionable pieces of legislation have drawn an objection today, doesn't mean this issue is going to go away. It doesn't mean these proposals are going to go away.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, I want to talk to the Senate for a few minutes about refrigerators and air conditioners. Thank the Lord for both of them. They make our lives so much better, especially in the Presiding Officer's home State of Mississippi and, certainly, in my home State of Louisiana.

Refrigerators and air conditioners and the like are able to keep people and things cold by using coolants or refrigerants, I think some people call them. I am going to call them coolants. Basically, I will not go into the chemistry and/or the physics, but when a coolant in liquid form is converted to a gas, it is called phase conversion. It absorbs heat. That is why you will hear people, including but not limited to repair women and repair men, talking about coolant for an air conditioner or coolant for a refrigerator. It is that coolant that keeps us and our food cool.

Years ago, we used to use a coolant called Freon. You probably have heard that term. It is seldom used today. There are some small occasions when it is used, but for the most part, we have decided Freon is not a good coolant, not because it doesn't work but because it is very, very harmful to our environment. So a number of years ago, people the world over, including the U.S. Government, said: OK, we are not going to use Freon anymore. We are going to use another coolant, which we generally refer to as hydrofluorocarbons. If you hear me use the expression HFC or the acronym HFC, that is what I mean.

So we went along and, instead of using Freon, we started using HFCs, hydrofluorocarbons. Then we discovered—and by ''we'' I mean that most of the scientists throughout the world came to realize that

hydrofluorocarbons or HFCs are not very good for the environment either. The people who made this decision, many of whom were American scientists, decided we need to develop a third type of coolant other than Freon and other than HFCs to run our air conditioners and run our refrigerators and protect our environment at the same time.

A few years ago, most of the countries throughout the world made this decision. The representatives of these countries got together and said: OK, you remember we decided to stop using Freon, and now we have been using these HFCs. Yet we have discovered these HFCs are also harmful, so we are going to agree—all of these countries said—to develop a third type of coolant that is not as harmful to our environment.

That is the direction in which the world is headed. Within 5, 10, 15 years, not only will Freon be eliminated, but so will hydrofluorocarbons because the rest of the world is going to be using a third type of coolant, which has been developed and is being developed as we speak.

There is just one problem. The United States has not agreed with those other countries. That is OK. That is our right to do it our way. But that presents yet another problem because in 5 or 10 or 15 years, we are going to look up, and we are going to be the odd person out. The rest of the world is going to be using this new technology, and we are still going to be using hydrofluorocarbons. We are going to be isolated, and it is going to cost our business community a lot of business, and it is going to hurt us.

I and Senator TOM CARPER—a fine American and a good man—have a bill. It is called the American Innovation and Manufacturing Act—the Senator and I call it the AIM Act—and we have a lot of support. At last count, we had 32 cosponsors—half Republican, half Democrat—and that number is rising as we speak. That is a third of the U.S. Senate. You can't get a third of the U.S. Senate to agree on much of anything except that they like ice cream, but for this august body, having 32 cosponsors is a big deal.

Let me also say that we have a lot of support from the business community. For example—and I will not read all of the groups that are supporting it—the Air Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute is supporting this bill. It is in charge of our refrigerators and air conditioners, and it is saying: Yes, we want to do this. The environmental community supports this bill. It is rare that we get both the environmental community and the business community on the same page, but mainly through Senator CARPER's intellect and charm, we have been able to do that.

As you know, we are in the process of considering an energy bill, and that energy bill is really an amalgamation of a lot of other bills that deal with energy that are going to be put together in one bill, ably handled by Senator MURKOWSKI. Senator CARPER and I want to take our bill—the AIM Act, the American Innovation and Manufacturing Act, which is supported overwhelmingly by the business community and by the environmental community—and add it to Senator MURKOWSKI's bill as an amendment, and that amendment has already been submitted. We have a lot of support for the amendment. The last time I looked, we had 28 cosponsors to the amendment, and once again, the business community and the environmental community are supporting it.

The Presiding Officer is probably thinking, OK, KENNEDY. What is the problem? This is interesting, but what is the problem here?

How can I put this? The problem is the way we operate. One person in the Senate can stop the entire Senate from ever voting on something, as we all know, and I am not going to go into the details. In some cases, that is not necessarily a bad thing. Our Founders intended the Senate to move carefully and slowly, but it is a bad thing, in my judgment, when it is used routinely to keep the Senate from having an up-or-down vote on something that is important to the American people.

I mean, the logical approach would be, OK, you don't agree with the amendment. That is why God made rollcall votes. Let's vote. You can vote yea or you can vote nay or you can jump the rail, but everybody gets to weigh in. That is why I was sent up here. My people sent me up here to debate and decide. They didn't send me up here to participate and delay in stultification. So that is my message today: Let my people vote.

Once again, I understand there are rare occasions on which a Senator feels so strongly about something that he or she can and should exercise his or her right to prevent the whole body from considering something, but it has become a routine political weapon. That is one of the reasons, in my judgment, that we don't get more done in the Senate.

I am not criticizing anybody. I am part of this body. If I am criticizing this body, I am criticizing myself. But doing nothing is hard because you never know when you are finished. We can do a lot more in this body, and I think we all understand that, and I think we can all agree with that. I think one of the reasons the Senate polls right up there with skim milk among the American people is that we don't get more done, and one of the reasons we don't get more done is that we are not allowed to vote.

Once again, I am not telling anybody how to vote, for our votes are sacred, but you can vote yea on my ideas and Senator CARPER's ideas, or you can vote nay, or you can not vote at all—you can jump the rail—but please let us vote.

I am not criticizing anybody. I am really not. I know we are together a lot, as the Presiding Officer knows, and we all know each other, and I can honestly say I like and respect every one of my colleagues in this body. I truly do. I may not agree with them, but I like and respect them, so my criticism is not personal. Yet our process here is a problem, which is my plea today to my colleagues: Please don't object to this amendment. Please. It doesn't mean you have to vote for it—you can vote against it—but please let the entire body have a vote because that is what democracy is supposed to be all about.

I yield the floor to my friend Senator CARPER.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, I commend the Senator from Louisiana for his leadership and for his courage in not just helping to develop this proposal that we have offered in a legislative forum but in trying to make sure that it gets the debate it needs and the vote it needs on this floor.

For a couple of centuries, Members of the Senate would introduce legislation, and that legislation would be debated. Democrats and Republicans would have the opportunity to offer amendments to that legislation and to get votes on that legislation and on their amendments. We would hammer out a compromise in the Senate and eventually with the House and with whoever was President.

The Presiding Officer may remember an old movie called ''The Way We Were.'' That is the way we were, and we need desperately to get back to the way we were when we were the world's greatest deliberative body. A good way to get started on that path is by supporting the legislation that my friend from Louisiana and I have coauthored with the support of a broad coalition of Senators and with the support of the business community and the environmental community as well.

Our amendment, as Senator KENNEDY has described today, is identical to legislation called the American Innovation and Manufacturing Act. I am not a really big one for acronyms, but the acronym that the Senator has used is AIM, the AIM Act. It is currently supported by a bipartisan group of 32 Senators—16 Republicans and 16 Democrats. I would describe this as Noah's Ark, whereby, for every Republican, we add a Democrat and on and on and on. Even today, we are continuing to add sponsors and cosponsors to our bill and to this amendment.

This amendment, like the standalone bill, would save consumers money; it would create jobs; it would support economic growth; and it would help us to address the climate crisis. This amendment would authorize the EPA to implement a phase-down of the production and consumption of something called hydrofluorocarbons, known as HFCs, over the next 15 years. HFCs are used as coolants in refrigerators and air conditioners. They are

substances that help to make sure our air conditioners work and our freezers work and our refrigerators work, among other things, and that our chillers work.

Unfortunately, what came before the HFCs was bad for our ozone and our planet, and it created a big hole in the ozone layer of our planet. We figured out that it was not good. It turned out to be the refrigerants that we were using that were causing it. Scientists came along and said: Let's replace them. Let's get rid of those CFCs and replace them with something that doesn't give us a hole in the ozone layer.

Guess what. HFCs work. They do. They do a really good job at that. That is the good news. The bad news is these hydrofluorocarbons are 1,000 times worse than carbon dioxide as a greenhouse gas—1,000 times worse. So they are good on the one hand and are bad on the other hand.

So the scientists go to work again. Scientists in this country and businesses in this country go to work and ask: What can we do about this? They have come up with a replacement to replace the HFCs—1,000 times worse as a greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide.

We also have the opportunity, in using American technology, to put Americans to work in selling these products not just in America but around the world. American companies have invested literally billions of dollars to produce and sell the next-generation technology to replace HFCs. Our amendment protects those investments.

Again, the amendment is good for consumers, and I will explain why. The amendment drives the deployment of more efficient air-conditioning and refrigeration products and equipment. It reduces energy and upkeep costs as well. How much? What is it worth in terms of saving money for consumers? Apparently, the EPA has calculated it through its own economic analysis, and it has come up with a number that says that over the next 15 years, our legislation would save consumers $3.7 billion—not millions but billions of dollars.

Our amendment is good for American jobs. The chamber of commerce expects our legislation to result in the creation of 150,000 additional direct and indirect jobs in this country in the years to come—150,000 additional, good-paying jobs. Our amendment is good for our economy.

Our legislation is expected to improve the trade imbalance in chemicals and equipment by $12.5 billion, which is something we need to do, and it is expected to increase manufacturing output close to $39 billion over the next 7 years.

Oh, by the way—P.S.—our amendment is good for the planet we live on and the people who inhabit it. We will end up joining the rest of the world to phase out HFCs, which will help to avoid an increase of up to a half a degree Celsius in our climate, in our temperature on this planet.

All of these are win-wins. They are all win-wins. They are the reason that our legislation has such broad support from stakeholders. Our legislation is supported by an unlikely coalition. As Senator KENNEDY said, it is not every day that you find the lamb and the lion lying down together in their finding a common cause. Yet, in this case, there is a whole host of environmental groups, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers, and other business groups, a lot of Democrats, a lot of Republicans, and maybe one or two Independents. I mean, it is a great coalition, and it is one that I am proud of in my having worked with Senator KENNEDY to create. We do all of this with the broad support of this unlikely coalition.

Our legislation doesn't preempt the roles of States. With that said, I know that some of our colleagues have called for adding to this amendment new preemption authorities that would prevent States from addressing HFCs. My response to them is that there are reasons this is not an issue to be addressed at this time.

And as we have seen with TSCA and the California waiver for vehicle standards, this administration doesn't seem keen on following the law, and there is no guarantee that if we require EPA to phase out HFCs that the Trump EPA will do so in a timely manner or in a legally defensible way.

Allowing the States to act helps hold the Federal Government accountable. However, once a strong Federal program is in place, States will not need to act and will spend their resources elsewhere. We have seen this happen before with programs similar to the one this amendment would create.

I would like to add that many of my colleagues in this Chamber have stated that they support innovation to help achieve our climate and clean energy goals.

The Federal Government has many tools to drive innovation—many tools to drive innovation—Federal funding, Federal procurement, and also regulation.

There is a reason we have broad support from the business community. Businesses know that regulation will further drive innovation and U.S. investments. Without the regulations that would be created if this amendment were adopted, the United States will continue to lose global leadership in the production of HFC alternative technologies.

And let me just add a P.S. I know some people think climate change is a hoax; it is not real. My wife and some of her colleagues from the DuPont Company that she worked with for years traveled to Antarctica earlier this year. They spent a couple weeks down there, an incredible trip, learned a lot, and they came back and I said: How warm was it down there? She said it was in the thirties—rarely below, not above.

She came back about 5, 6 weeks ago. In the weeks since then, the record-high temperature in Antarctica, South Pole, hit 63 degrees. That record lasted for about a week, and it was replaced by a new record, 65. That lasted for about another week or two. That was broken by another record. I think it was 67 or 68 degrees—like that.

A piece of Antarctica about the size of the District of Columbia fell off into the ocean. Something is happening here. Something is happening here, and I think what it is, is getting to be pretty clear.

Here is the good news. The good news is we can address that concern, that problem, which is not a hoax, and we can do so in ways that create tens of thousands of jobs, billions of dollars in exports, all kinds of economic opportunity, innovation, and technology that we would celebrate, and we should celebrate.

We need to support this amendment. I just want to again thank my colleague for his leadership, for allowing me to be his wingman in this effort, and I look forward to garnering the support of a broad coalition of our colleagues. It is the right thing do. Let's do it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

ABORTION

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I come to the floor tonight to briefly discuss a message from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Chief Justice John Roberts.

As you know, Chief Justice Roberts recently sat in the very chair, Madam President, in which you are sitting right now as he ably oversaw the impeachment trial.

In a very rare admonition, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court this afternoon released a statement in response to statements made by the minority leader of the U.S. Senate, CHUCK SCHUMER.

The Senator, speaking outside the Court, across the street from this building, was at a protest while arguments were being heard inside the Court, and the comments made by Senator SCHUMER certainly appeared to threaten members of the Supreme Court.

The video clip shows Senator SCHUMER saying this. He said:

I want to tell you, Gorsuch. I want to tell you, Kavanaugh.

These are members of the Supreme Court, confirmed by the Senate. He said:

I want to tell you. . . . You have released the whirlwind, and you will pay the price.

''You will pay the price.''

Well, it can't be a political price because Justices serve for life. Either they die in office or they can resign, step down. There is no political price to be paid.

To me, this sounds like he is talking about a physical price, violence.

Now, SCHUMER told abortion rights advocates who were outside the Court these very things:

I [will] tell you, Gorsuch. I [will] tell you, Kavanaugh. You have released a whirlwind, and you will pay the price.

He goes on to say:

You won't know what hit you. . . .

You, members of the Supreme Court. He, the minority leader of the U.S. Senate, saying:

You won't know what hit you if you go forward with these awful decisions.

I believe these statements are outrageous; they are uncalled for; they are out of bounds; and on their face, they appear to invite violence against members of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Let me just read to you what the Chief Justice said today in his release. Chief Justice Roberts responded:

This morning, Sen. Schumer spoke at a rally in front of the Supreme Court while a case was being argued inside.

He goes on to say:

Sen. Schumer referred to two Members of the Court by name and said he wanted to tell them that ''you have released the whirlwind! And you will pay the price! You won't know what hit you if you go forward with these awful decisions.''

The Chief Justice continued:

Justices know that criticism comes with the territory, but threatening statements of this sort from the highest levels of government are not only inappropriate, they are dangerous.

He concludes by saying:

All Members of the Court will continue to do their job, without fear or favor, from whatever quarter.

That is the statement of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court referring to the actions by the minority leader, the Senator from New York, CHUCK SCHUMER.

We cannot tolerate political violence or threats of harassment. We as a body, as a community, as a country should be looking to elevate our debates rather than lower them, which is what, in my opinion, the minority leader did today.

I hope the minority leader will think twice about comments like these in the future.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BRAUN). The majority leader.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of Executive Calendar Nos. 572 and 586; that the nominations be confirmed; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Lt. Gen. Thomas A. Bussiere

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Lt. Gen. Jacqueline D. Van Ovost

[NEW REPORTS]

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate 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.

DIGNITY IN AGING ACT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, last night we passed by unanimous consent legislation to revise and extend for 5 more years the key programs that Congress established under the Older Americans Act of 1965. I cosponsored the final version of this measure, which passed our Chamber as a Senate amendment to the Dignity in Aging Act, H.R. 4334.

I want to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to Senator COLLINS for leading the bicameral negotiations that made this bipartisan compromise possible. I expect that the other Chamber will soon accept the changes we made to their version of this legislation, so that Congress can send the final version to the President's desk in fairly short order.

For over five decades, the Older Americans Act has made resources available to the Aging Network and States for services to the elderly and disabled. An example is the nutrition services program authorized under title III, which makes resources available for home-delivered meals, enabling the homebound to remain independent. This statute also helps older Americans live independently by supporting community-based services, making information about care options available to family caregivers, and supporting the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program.

As I continue my 99 county meetings across the State of Iowa each year, I welcome the feedback and ideas I get from local residents to help make our communities safer and stronger for older Americans. I also want to take this opportunity to commend the members of the Elder Justice Coalition, as well as groups such as the Iowa Association of Area Agencies on Aging, for their efforts in this area. These organizations and their members deserve recognition for their continued work on behalf of the Nation's older Americans and their contributions to this year's Older Americans Act extension.

In a decade, all of our Nation's baby boomers will have reached the age of 65 or older, and this demographic shift creates new challenges for our communities. With this in mind, I am currently working with my colleagues on other bipartisan initiatives to improve the quality of life for older Iowans, including legislation that would extend the Elder Justice Act. As the former chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I wrote the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act to curb elder abuse and beef up tools and resources within local communities to help prevent financial fraud and exploitation of older citizens. For those Iowans who enjoy working and need to continue working to pay the bills, I have also championed legislation to strengthen age-related workplace discrimination laws.

Mr. President, as noted by the former head of the Iowa Association of Area Agencies on Aging, ''The Older Americans Act provides the foundation that allows Iowa to continue to be a great place to for Iowans to call home.'' I want to again thank my colleagues for working with me in a bipartisan way on this legislation to improve the lives of older Americans in Iowa and across the United States.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

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

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

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

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 20–09 concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Poland for defense articles and services estimated to cost $100 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

CHARLES W. HOOPER,
Lieutenant General, USA, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 20–09

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Poland.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* $75 million.
Other $25 million.
Total $100 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:
Major Defense Equipment (MDE):
One hundred eighty (180) Javelin Missiles.
Seventy-nine (79) Javelin Command Launch Units (CLU).

Non-MDE: Also included are Basic Skill Trainers (BST), Missile Simulation Rounds (MSR), Battery Coolant Units (BCU), tool kits, modified 2-level maintenance parts, training, U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance, transportation and other related elements of logistics support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (PL–B–UDN).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

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

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

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: March 4, 2020.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Poland—Javelin Missile and Command Launch Unit

The Government of Poland has requested to buy one hundred eighty (180) Javelin missiles and seventy-nine (79) Javelin Command Launch Units (CLUs). Also included are Basic Skill Trainers (BST), Missile Simulation Rounds (MSR), Battery Coolant Units (BCU), tool kits, modified 2–level maintenance parts, training, U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance, transportation and other related elements of logistics support. The total estimated program cost is $100 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by improving the security of a NATO ally and partner nation which is an important force for peace, political stability, and economic progress in Eastern Europe.

This proposed sale of the Javelin system will help Poland build its long-term defense capacity to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity in order to meet its national defense requirements. Poland will have no difficulty absorbing this system into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractors will be Raytheon/Lockheed Martin Javelin Joint Venture, Orlando, Florida and Tucson, Arizona. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale. However, the purchaser typically requests offsets. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor(s).

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

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 20–09

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

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Javelin Weapon System is a medium-range, man-portable, shoulder-launched, fire-and-forget, anti-tank system for infantry, scouts, and combat engineers. It may also be mounted on a variety of platforms including vehicles, aircraft, and watercraft. The system weighs 49.5 pounds and has a maximum range in excess of 2,500 meters. The system is highly lethal against tanks and other systems with conventional and reactive armors. The system possesses a secondary capability against bunkers.

2. The Javelin Weapon System is comprised of two major tactical components, which are a reusable Command Launch Unit (CLU) and a round contained in a disposable launch tube assembly. The CLU incorporates an integrated day-night sight that provides a target engagement capability in adverse weather and countermeasure environments. The CLU may also be used in a stand-alone mode for battlefield surveillance and target detection. The CLU's thermal sight is a Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) sensor.

3. The Javelin's key technical feature is the use of fire-and-forget technology which allows the gunner to fire and immediately relocate or take cover. The missile is autonomously guided to the target which allows the gunner the ability to reload and engage another target after firing a missile. The missile has a tandem warhead that is effective against armor threats.

4. The Javelin Missile System hardware and the documentation are UNCLASSIFIED. The missile software which resides in the CLU is CLASSIFIED.

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

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

7. All defense articles and services listed on this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of Poland.

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

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AREA AGENCIES OF AGING,
January 31, 2020.

DEAR CHAIRMEN ALEXANDER AND COLLINS, RANKING MEMBERS MURRAY AND CASEY, CHAIRMAN SCOTT AND RANKING MEMBER FOXX: On behalf of the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a), which represents the country's 622 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and is an advocacy voice for the more than 250 OAA Title VI Native American aging programs, we write today in strong support of the recently introduced bipartisan, bicameral legislation to update and reauthorize the Older Americans Act (OAA) through 2024.

The Supporting Older Americans Act of 2020, an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 4334, co-sponsored by Senators Collins and Casey, represents the diligent work of all of your Committee Members and staff to secure broad and bipartisan support to responsibly update a landmark Act that supports millions of older adults and caregivers in communities across the nation.

As you well know, the OAA is the cornerstone of the nation's non-Medicaid home and community-based services (HCBS) system, providing older adults with much-needed supports, including in-home care, congregate and home-delivered meals, adult day care, information and referral assistance, case management, transportation, legal services and caregiver support/respite.

n4a appreciates your recognition of what is already working in the Act, including its unique delivery structure and intentional emphasis on local flexibility.

We especially commend the bicameral and bipartisan work to include the following provisions in the amendment to H.R. 4334, as they are among the most important provisions in the bill and reflect many of n4a's policy recommendations, which we shared with Congress in March 2019.

We very much appreciate the annual increases in the authorized funding levels. A lack of adequate funding is the number one barrier our members face in meeting the needs of older adults and caregivers, and with the rapidly increasing numbers of older adults in every community, the bill's recommendations to increase core programs by seven percent in year one and six percent in subsequent years is an excellent starting point for appropriators to heed. Additionally, we are pleased that the bill the returns to a five-year authorization period, which provides greater stability and allows the Aging Network to focus on achieving the Act's goals, rather than divert time to advocacy to renew a law that works so well.

Part of any reauthorization is ensuring that the law remains clear in its direction, even as other systems or laws change over time. Section 118 is an excellent example of this, whereby the bill makes clear that Area Agencies on Aging can engage in emerging opportunities to serve greater numbers of older adults through non-OAA funding streams. Examples include contracts with health care payers to provide meals or transportation to clients; establishing private-pay programs to enable AAAs to provide services to those who can afford to purchase OAA-like services when OAA resources are limited or unavailable; or similar mechanisms that serve the goals of the Act while operating outside of it. The bill also makes clear the role of the Assistant Secretary on Aging to continue encouraging and training the Aging Network on these matters of business acumen, innovation and changing models of health care and social services.

We also commend the Title VI Native American aging program provisions. By allowing the Administration on Aging to create demonstrations around a broader array of Supportive Services than most Title VI aging programs can currently provide and includes increased funding to do so—the bill will help tribes build capacity and better meet the needs of the elders they serve.

By including a robust new research and demonstration authority for the Administration on Aging (AoA) in Title IV, we appreciate your work to create a research and evaluation center in Sec. 127 focused on promoting and coordinating research and evaluation activities to enhance performance, develop new models and produce data-driven assessments of the value of the OAA programs. While we are disappointed that these activities lack a specific funding authorization, we are pleased that lawmakers acknowledge the importance of these activities and the need to create a dedicated entity focused on them.

While a smaller measure, eliminating a 10 percent cap on serving grandparents and other older relative caregivers under the Act's Title III E National Family Caregiver Support Program is also important to n4a members. Eliminating this arbitrary cap reflects the growing realities of the opioid epidemic and the need for sufficient state and local flexibility to serve these older caregivers who face uniquely challenging caregiving burdens.

The research base revealing the negative health outcomes from social isolation and loneliness continues to grow and increasingly documents the risks to the health and well-being of older adults. n4a appreciates the bill's thoughtful addition of language in multiple places in the Act to recognize the challenge we face, as well as the fact that many core OAA programs already address social isolation and promote social engagement.

n4a requested a minor change to ensure that Area Agencies on Aging have access to a state's cost-sharing policy or guidance. Section 212 of the bill also accomplishes this.

We will not detail the many other provisions in the bill—most of which we support or take no position on—but will again reiterate our thanks that this final product reflects our members' concerns and realities. Congress was diligent in soliciting and considering the recommendations of a broad array of constituencies and organizations during this reauthorization process.

Thank you for your leadership in crafting an OAA update that ensures that the Act's innovative, efficient programs enabling older Americans to live at home and in their communities for as long as possible continues to be a lifeline in communities across the country.

We urge the Senate and House to act swiftly to approve the Supporting Older Americans Act of 2020, H.R. 4334, and send it to President Trump for his signature. The stability that a finalized and current OAA reauthorization provides is critical to ensuring that the millions of older adults and caregivers served by the OAA can continue to live with dignity and independence in their homes and communities for as long as possible. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or n4a's policy staff at 202.872.0888.

Sincerely,

SANDY MARKWOOD,
Chief Executive Officer.

MEALS ON WHEELS AMERICA,
January 30, 2019.

DEAR CHAIRMEN ALEXANDER AND COLLINS AND RANKING MEMBERS MURRAY AND CASEY: On behalf of Meals on Wheels America, the nationwide network of community-based senior nutrition programs and the individuals they serve, we write to endorse the ''Supporting Older Americans Act of 2020.'' This legislation would amend H.R. 4334, the Dignity in Aging Act that passed by voice vote in the House last fall, and reauthorize the Older Americans Act (OAA) for five years. We commend you for your leadership and hard work to reach this bipartisan, bicameral agreement and urge unanimous passage as soon as possible.

Since 1965, the OAA has been the primary piece of federal legislation focused on establishing, coordinating and strengthening home- and community-based social and nutrition services for adults 60 and older and their families. OAA services like Meals on Wheels, transportation, caregiver assistance, senior employment and training and elder rights protection are just some of the vital functions the OAA provides to more than 11 million seniors annually.

As you and many of your colleagues know firsthand, OAA services and supports—including the three nutrition programs authorized under Title III of the Act—help keep our nation's most vulnerable, isolated and food insecure seniors healthier and in their own homes and communities longer. This, in turn, delays and/or prevents altogether the need for more expensive institutional care often paid for through Medicare or Medicaid. OAA programs are not only extremely cost-effective, but they are also longstanding examples of public-private partnerships that save taxpayer dollars at the local, state and federal levels in terms of reduced healthcare expenditures.

We strongly support the authorized appropriations increases contained in this legislation. With nearly half of our Meals on Wheels programs having a documented waiting list for nutrition services, the 6% increase in authorization of funding levels through Fiscal Year 2024 for OAA programs will significantly improve the senior nutrition network's ability to close these service gaps.

We further appreciate recognition of the significant impact of OAA nutrition services and supports and the steps taken to strengthen them through provisions in this final compromise reauthorization bill. Provisions that advance research and data, including capturing the unmet need and scope of waiting lists for congregate and home-delivered meals, and increase focus on culturally appropriate and medically-tailored meals, malnutrition, and the negative health consequences of social isolation are key priorities of our organization, among many others.

Accordingly, we urge the Senate to swiftly pass the ''Supporting Older Americans Act of 2020'' to help better meet the inherent changes in our country's aging population and serve more of those in need. Meals on Wheels America and the nationwide network of senior nutrition programs have appreciated contributing feedback and policy recommendations throughout this reauthorization process and look forward to continuing to work with you to build upon the ongoing successes of the OAA.

Thank you again for your leadership, public service and support for our nation's older adults.

Sincerely,

ELLIE HOLLANDER,
President and CEO.

AARP,
February 4, 2020.

DEAR CHAIRMEN ALEXANDER AND SCOTT AND RANKING MEMBERS MURRAY AND FOXX: On behalf of our nearly 38 million members and all older Americans nationwide, I am writing to express AARP's support for the Supporting Older Americans Act of 2020, a bipartisan amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 4334 that would reauthorize the Older Americans Act (OAA). We are pleased that this amendment maintains critical service and information roles of OAA programs, and promotes greater responsiveness to the needs of older Americans. We appreciate your leadership in developing this bipartisan, bicameral agreement and look forward to a prompt reauthorization of OAA.

Giving Americans the support they need to live at home with independence and dignity has always been a bedrock goal of OAA, and it has been remarkably successful. The Supporting Older Americans Act builds on this success by further enhancing OAA programs and services. This amendment addresses AARP's OAA reauthorization priorities, including further strengthening the National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP), extending the bipartisan Recognize, Assist, Include, Support, and Engage (RAISE) Family Caregivers Act (P.L. 115–119), and increasing funding levels for OAA programs.

The Supporting Older Americans Act enhances support for caregivers by encouraging the use of caregiver assessments under NFCSP. Assessing the caregiving situation can lead to targeting services more effectively by linking the caregiver to the services most beneficial to them. Better targeting of support services can also help maintain the health and well-being of the caregiver, sustain their ability to provide care, produce better outcomes for their loved ones, and prevent or delay nursing home placement. The provision to extend RAISE will provide the RAISE Family Caregiving Advisory Council with more time to identify meaningful solutions for supporting the 41 million family caregivers nationwide who provide a staggering $470 billion annually in unpaid care to their loved ones. And importantly, at a time when the older population is projected to grow significantly, the increased funding levels provided in the amendment would assist more older Americans and caregivers, thus helping more older adults remain at home and in better health, avoiding costlier services.

We commend the committees for their bipartisan and bicameral work, and urge prompt reauthorization of the Older Americans Act to ensure that our loved ones can continue to turn to these vital services for their health and economic security as they age. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or have your staff contact Nicole Burda on our Government Affairs team.

Sincerely,

MEGAN O'REILLY,
Vice President, Federal Health & Family, Government Affairs.

FEBRUARY 7, 2020.

DEAR LEADERS MCCONNELL AND SCHUMER, SPEAKER PELOSI, LEADER MCCARTHY, CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER, RANKING MEMBER MURRAY, CHAIRMAN SCOTT AND RANKING MEMBER FOXX: On behalf of the undersigned 128 national organizations with a vested interest in the well-being of America's older adults and caregivers, we write to you today in support of the Supporting Older Americans Act of 2020 (H.R. 4334) to reauthorize the Older Americans Act (OAA).

We recognize and appreciate the diligent bipartisan and bicameral efforts to reauthorize the Older Americans Act, which expired on September 30, 2019. Achieving a reauthorization of this critical Act that reaffirms and protects its mission will ensure the sustainability of vital OAA programs, as well as the health, dignity, and independence of the older Americans and their caregivers who depend on them.

The OAA is essential to developing, coordinating, and delivering home and community-based services that help older adults remain in their homes and communities as they age. Many individuals served by OAA-funded programs would otherwise be at significant risk of hunger, isolation, abuse, and losing their ability to choose where they want to age. OAA-supported programs are provided to

more than 11 million seniors and their caregivers annually, and include, but are not limited to, home-delivered and congregate nutrition services, in-home supportive services, multipurpose senior centers, transportation, caregiver support, disease prevention and health promotion, community service employment, the long-term care ombudsman program, and services to prevent the abuse, neglect, and exploitation of older adults.

By keeping seniors healthy and in their communities for more than 50 years, OAA programs have also delayed or prevented the need for more expensive institutional care for many older adults, which is often paid for through Medicare or Medicaid. OAA services can effectively save taxpayer, state, and federal dollars and promote efficiencies within the health care system.

The Supporting Older Americans Act of 2020 builds upon both the House-passed Dignity in Aging Act (H.R. 4334) and the Senate-introduced Modernization of the Older Americans Act Amendments (S. 3057) to incorporate a number of important priorities articulated by stakeholder organizations. Most importantly, the bicameral compromise calls for necessary investments in the OAA by increasing funding authorizations over the next five years—a top priority of the undersigned organizations and the most critical need of the Aging Network authorized by the OAA.

Other priorities within the bill address research and demonstrations, Native American services, local planning and development, supports for those living with dementia and social isolation, legal services, nutrition, in-home supportive services, disease prevention and health promotion, multigenerational collaboration, and family caregiver supports. We appreciate that the Supporting Older Americans Act of 2020 preserves the numerous ways in which this Act works so well at the federal, state, and local level, on behalf of the older adults and caregivers for whom it is a lifeline to dignity, independence, health, safety, and economic security.

Thank you for your commitment to this important issue. The undersigned organizations represent a diverse set of stakeholders, and we stand ready to build upon existing momentum to swiftly advance the compromise bill through Congress and to the President's desk.

Sincerely,

AARP; Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy, a component of the APTA; Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics; ADvancing States; Aging Life Care Association; AHEPA Management Company; Alliance for Aging Research; Alliance to End Hunger; Allies for Independence; ALS Association; Alzheimer's Alliance Michigan State University; Alzheimer's Association; Alzheimer's Foundation of America; Alzheimer's Impact Movement; Alzheimer's Los Angeles; Alzheimer's New Jersey; Alzheimer's Tennessee; American Association For Geriatric Psychiatry; American Association of Service Coordinators; American Association on Health and Disability; American Council of the Blind.

American Geriatrics Society; American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association; American Network of Community Options & Resources (ANCOR); American Occupational Therapy Association; American Physical Therapy Association; American Public Health Association; American Therapeutic Recreation Association; Argentum; Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs; Baylor Scott & White Health; Better Medicare Alliance; Blinded Veterans Association (BVA); Brain Injury Association of America; Caregiver Action Network; Caregiver Voices United; Caring Across Generations; CaringKind; Center for Medicare Advocacy; Center for Public Representation; Center to Advance Palliative Care; Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation.

College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists (CPNP); CommunicationFIRST; Community Catalyst; Congregation of Our Lady of the Good Shepherd, U.S. Provinces; Corporation for Supportive Housing; Daughters of Penelope; Dementia Alliance International; Easterseals; Family Voices; Florida Agencies Serving the Blind; Feeding America; Food Research & Action Center; Generations United; Guide Dogs for the Blind; Health Benefits ABCs; Home Instead Senior Care; Home Modification Occupational Therapy Alliance-HMOTA; International Association for Indigenous Aging; Justice in Aging; Lakeshore Foundation; LEAD Coalition (Leaders Engaged on Alzheimer's Disease).

LeadingAge; Livpact Inc.; Local Initiatives Support Corporation; Lutheran Services in America; MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger; Meals on Wheels America; Medicare Rights Center; National Able Network; National Adult Day Services Association (NADSA); National Adult Protective Services Association; National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd; National Affordable Housing Trust; National Alliance for Caregiving; National Asian Pacific Center on Aging (NAPCA); National Assn. of RSVP Directors; National Association for Home Care & Hospice; National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a); National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD); National Association of Counties (NACo); National Association of Development Organizations (NADO); National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP).

National Association of Regional Councils; National Association of Senior Legal Hotlines; National Association of Social Workers (NASW); National Association of State Head Injury Administrators; National Association of State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs (NASOP); National Community Action Partnership; National Community Reinvestment Coalition (NCRC); National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care; National Council on Aging; National Council on Independent Living; National Housing Trust; National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty; National Respite Coalition; NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice; Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies; Ohio Council for Cognitive Health; PHI; Planetree International; Prevent Blindness; Program in Occupational Therapy, Washington University School of Medicine; Region 10 LEAP; RESULTS; Retirement Housing Foundation.

Rossetti Enterprises Inc.; Sanford/Good Samaritan Society; Silvernest; Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future; The Arc of the United States; The Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration; The Carroll Center for the Blind; The Episcopal Church; The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society; The Gerontological Society of America; The Jewish Federations of North America; Trust for America's Health (TFAH); United Church of Christ Justice and Witness Ministries; United Spinal Association; UsAgainstAlzheimer's; Village to Village Network; VisionServe Alliance; WISER; Volunteers of America; Women's Institute for a Secure Retirement (WISER).

SUPPORTING OLDER AMERICANS ACT OF 2020

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, last night the Senate unanimously passed my legislation, the Supporting Older Americans Act of 2020. I developed this important legislation with Senator BOB CASEY, who serves as the ranking member of the Senate Aging Committee, which I chair, to reauthorize and strengthen the landmark Older Americans Act. A bipartisan group of 24 Senators cosponsored this reauthorization, and 128 national organizations endorsed it. I rise today to commend this bipartisan achievement that will ensure that vital services for our seniors continue and are strengthened.

Since 1965, the Older Americans Act has helped to ensure that millions of seniors receive the support they need to age independently and with dignity. Administered by the Administration for Community Living, the Older Americans Act authorizes an array of services through a network of 56 State units on aging and more than 600 area agencies on aging, serving more than 10 million Americans throughout the Nation each year. OAA programs provide nutritious food, transportation, assistance to caregivers, and in-home services for older adults. These investments foster a sense of community for older adults and save taxpayers money by reducing hospitalizations and the need for long-term residential care.

As our population ages, demand for Older Americans Act services has grown. Our legislation extends OAA programs for 5 years and provides increased investments to meet growing demands. For example, one hallmark OAA program is Meals on Wheels. Last year, this home-delivered nutrition program provided seniors with 358 million meals. In many States, however, the need is soaring. In Maine, there is a waitlist of 400 to 1,500 people, depending on the time of the year and the location in our State. That is why it is so important that this bill helps to ensure that more seniors in need of nutritious food can be served through important programs such as Meals on Wheels.

At $11 a day, a meal is far cheaper than the $2,400 average cost of a hospital stay. Using Older Americans Act dollars, the Southern Maine Agency on Aging conducted a pilot study that provided seniors discharged from the hospital with 4 weeks' worth of food. The results were astounding—hospital readmissions were reduced by 38 percent—a 387-percent return on investment. On a national scale, the savings would be an astronomical $51 billion annually.

Our legislation also includes several provisions to combat social isolation, which can have devastating health effects, particularly on older adults who are already vulnerable.

As the executive director of the Eastern Maine Area Agency on Aging, Dyan Walsh, said, The Older Americans Act is a great victory for the aging services network and those we serve. There are many important provisions in the bill, not the least of which is the focus on research to study the negative consequences of social isolation and loneliness which impacts so many rural older adults. We look to the future with a renewed focus to integrate innovative

strategies that will advance our mission to support communities and those who are the most vulnerable.

The Older Americans Act is a shining example of a Federal policy that works. Every $1 invested into the Older Americans Act generates $3 by helping seniors stay at home through low-cost, community-based services. I thank the dozens of stakeholders we have worked with over the past several months to reauthorize and strengthen OAA, including the Leadership Council of Aging Organizations, AARP, the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging, the National Alliance for Caregiving, Meals on Wheels America, the National Association of Counties, and the Alzheimer's Association. I ask unanimous consent to have these letters of support printed in the RECORD at the end of my remarks.

I urge my colleagues in the House to support this important reauthorization so that we can swiftly send it to the President's desk to get signed into law.

GAME CHANGERS STUDY

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I recently had the honor of being welcomed by Game Changers, an organization based in Louisville, KY, devoted to guiding our youth toward productive and meaningful lives, for a panel discussion on the impact of violence in our community. The executive director of Game Changers is Christopher 2X, who I have known for many years and watched change the lives of so many Kentuckians through his advocacy, leadership, and community building efforts. In December of 2019, just a few months ago, Christopher showed me the findings of Game Changers's study on the impact of youth violence recently released by his organization. Subsequently, I asked him to organize an event in West Louisville with a panel of community leaders and parents to discuss the report and how violent crime affects the lives of Louisville youth.

At the event, we not only discussed the findings, but also heard from Louisvillians whose real-life stories are contained in the pages of those reports. Kentucky Education Commissioner, Dr. Wayne D. Lewis, educated us on the burden that violence has on children. However, the only way to grasp the true tragedy of violent crime is to hear from those impacted. I met with Deshante Edwards, who not only lost her son, Donte, but now sees her 6-year-old grandson subsequently lose focus in school. I listened as Krista and Navada Gwynn told me that, as a result of the murder of their son, Christian, their 17- and 11-year old children are too petrified to go outside. Only personal stories such as these truly demonstrate the extreme toll taken on children exposed to violence.

That is why I feel compelled to share Game Changers's findings on violence and its impact on our youth with my colleagues. Tragically, children are exposed to violence in every corner of our Nation. I ask unanimous consent that this report be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD with the hope that every Member of Congress will read it and work with me to create safer communities for our children.

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

VIOLENCE IMPACT ON CHILDREN LEARNING

The Christopher 2X Game Changers Target Education—Crush Violence

SHINING A LIGHT ON HOW GUN VIOLENCE IMPACTS KIDS

Kentucky Education Commissioner Dr. Wayne D. Lewis

''Children who grow up in violent neighborhoods seldom realize their way of life is not typical. Their lives may include regularly hearing gunshots through the night and sometimes during the day, losing friends, family, and neighbors to gun violence, and continually being fearful of becoming the victim of violent crime.

No parent wants that kind of life for their children, but that is what life looks like for children living in violent neighborhoods across the U.S., including children in some Louisville neighborhoods. The trauma they suffer is unlike anything children growing up in upper middle class or affluent neighborhoods could imagine. And the impact of that trauma, while often unrecognized, is significant; often impacting their ability to reach their learning potential at school.

Recognizing and responding to the trauma of students who experience violence has to be part of how we educate them. There is no way to reasonably expect students who have experienced such trauma to leave their fears, anxieties, and pain at home when they come to school. Instead, it is incumbent upon schools to help connect students with community resources as appropriate, and to do our absolute best to be sensitive to and accommodate students' social and emotional needs as we work to meet their academic needs in schools.''

Jenny Benner, Senior Director-Child Development Center, Chestnut Street Family YMCA

''As an early childhood educator, it has become more common to see children who have been affected in some way by violence. Many of the children we serve are too young to verbalize their trauma or stress. Because of this, we have to ensure early childhood educators have the training and support needed to help these children build resilience. We focus heavily on a child's social-emotional development and the first step is to make sure they feel safe and loved.

Once in a safe environment, they will open up to learn skills necessary to be successful in school and life. It is also important to teach problem-solving and how to resolve conflicts appropriately, using words. I believe this skill is lacking in some children and they are most likely to continue cycles of violence because that is all they know. This report shines a light on how important education is, even as early as infancy, and my hope is that this will start a dialogue about how we as a community can come together to serve children to our best ability!''

Jefferson Family Court Judge Derwin Webb

''When I was 15 years old, one of my good friends was accidentally shot and killed by a friend. A few years later, that same shooter was accidentally shot and killed by someone else. Today, we have kids killing kids—at random times—intentionally. Louisville, we are better than this. Guns have no names, bullets have no names, but our children do. So, I am asking you to please, please stop the violence. I started YOUNG Men's Academy at Whitney Young Elementary, a mentorship program, to try to help, and I applaud this report and all efforts to bring attention to the needs of kids exposed to violence, and to help them reach their potential.''

Dr. J. David Richardson, Chief of Surgery, University of Louisville Hospital

''Having been involved in the care of the injured for over 40 years, I applaud the current focus on the downstream effects of gun violence in our community. As trauma surgeons, our team focuses on the ''victim'' or injured. We analyze their care and outcomes through our quality review process, but we have few, if any, mechanisms for examining the effects on families, neighbors, or others in the community who are impacted by this violence. I have been particularly concerned about the children who bear witness to these acts, even if they are not directly or physically injured. How can a growing, evolving, learning, adapting brain develop as we would desire in an atmosphere of uncertainty and fear? I have heard countless stories of the deleterious effects of these acts of violence and their negative impact on the culture and well-being of our neighborhoods. While it is cliche to state ''our children are our future'', it is nonetheless true. The children who are exposed to gun violence in Louisville deserve better.''

Troy Pitcock, retired LMPD Major 2nd Division

''Gun violence has a horrifying impact on our youth. Witnessing it directly or the remnants of violence at police crime scenes are situations too many of our youth are exposed to, many times at such early ages. These situations have life lasting implications on children, at times creating a perception such violence is acceptable. A lack of parental support can enhance the believe to our youth that such actions are acceptable or even the proper method to deal with conflict.''

CHRISTOPHER 2X

Imagine you're a mom at home watching a video with your kids and their playmates on a Saturday afternoon when all a sudden your home is being riddled with bullets from a high-caliber weapon.

Bullets through the walls, furniture, shattering the oven door, while you scramble to get the little ones on the floor, covered with your body, and under a bed, to keep them safe.

No imagination is needed. This happened to my daughter Heaven, a child development specialist, who was with six children, ages 1–7, when her home was hit with gunfire from an AK–47 in the middle of the afternoon last Dec. 1. Two neighboring apartments in the new Shepherd Square complex just east of downtown also were hit.

While thankfully no one was physically hurt, the trauma from exposure to such a violent act can interrupt a child's normal development and ability to learn in school.

My daughter's experience and a spike in gun violence last summer—with teens shooting automatic weapons out of stolen cars, kids as young as 13 charged with murder—made me want to shine a light on the impact of gun violence on children and their learning.

As a peace and justice advocate for nearly 20 years, I know my daughter's experience is not unique. In all parts of our city, citizens report hearing gunfire to police every day and gunshots have been heard outside my daughter's apartment multiple times since the day her home was splattered with bullets.

In the first nine months of this year, 65 of the 73 murders in Louisville Metro were from

gunfire, and family and friends—including many young children—struggle with the losses. In all, 276 people were shot from January-September, more than 30 people a month.

Children suffer if they get hit by bullet, witness a shooting, lose someone close or live on edge because the crack of gunshots is as common as the chirping of a songbird. They often can't focus or learn in school. Some can't sleep and have nightmares. Some withdraw, others act out or retaliate and resort to violence themselves.

In sharing their stories on the following pages—some redemptive, some tragic—we can all have a better understanding of what this sick culture of gun violence is doing to our children and their ability to learn. We can all do a better job recognizing children who are suffering and providing help they need to succeed in school and reach their potential.

There are many people—teachers, police officers, counselors, therapists, physicians, nurses, others—doing amazing work to help victims and their families. But much more is needed. Here is my call to action as a start:

Parents/adults with children under your care: Talk to your child's teacher or school counselor if your child has been exposed to violence so they can be supportive and helpful. Don't assume your child is ok. Seek services for your child through the school or others such as their doctor if your family needs help.

Teachers: Know the symptoms of trauma in a child, which vary based on age and the individual child but include acting out, aggressive verbal or physical behavior, or withdrawal and not doing their work. Use school resources to link the child to professional evaluation and help.

Principals/administrators: Support teacher training at your schools, and make sure children in need receive evaluations and follow up treatment if needed.

I am deeply grateful to survivors of gun violence and others for sharing their stories. May God bless the victims, survivors and the angels in their lives who support them.

DEVIN SESAY AND FAMILY

Before June 13, he was excited about his upcoming freshman year at Atherton High School. He was also relieved because his big brother, Devin Sesay, a rising Atherton senior, would teach him the ropes at his new school.

The brothers would walk to the bus stop together every morning. On the first day, they would be sporting new shoes that Devin, a smart dresser, would find online.

Everything changed on June 13 for the boy, 14, and his close extended family whose members first came to the United States 27 years ago to escape war-torn Liberia in West Africa.

On June 13, Devin was shot and died on Roselane Street in Smoketown, three doors down from the family's home. He was 17. Family members said Devin had been walking home late at night from playing basketball in nearby Shelby Park when shots were fired from a passing car.

Devin's family—his grandfather, mother and four brothers, his aunt and cousins—are dealing with devastating shock, grief and anger over his murder, while also coping with other major life adjustments.

A few weeks after Devin's murder, his mother, grandfather and brothers moved to a brick ranch house and new school district 13 miles away in southern Jefferson County.

''I was afraid for the boys,'' said their mother, Maima Karneh, 41, a certified nurse assistant who works nights at the Home of the Innocents, not far from Smoketown.

Her boys and other children often hung out at their home, inside playing video games, outside on the porch or nearby throwing a football or shooting hoops.

She liked having them around the house where they'd lived for 10 years, she said, because it meant they weren't on the street. She enforced stern rules, checked on her boys often by phone and Devin had never been in any trouble, she said.

Ten days after Devin's murder, another shooting solidified her decision to move. On June 23, Tyrese Garvin, 20, was shot almost directly across the street from where her son was killed. Garvin had been visiting his newborn twins at University Hospital. He died five days later in the same hospital where his twins were being treated. Three juveniles including a 14-year-old were charged with his murder.

''There was no way we were going to stay,'' Karneh said.

She and Devin knew Garvin, who was a senior when Devin was a freshman at Atherton and Garvin attended Devin's memorial service, a few days before he was murdered.

In their new home, Devin's portrait hangs in the living room near the front door and his brother at times stares at it. ''It reminds me of how many good days we had,'' he said. ''I was supposed to go to Atherton with him this year. He was supposed to show me the bus stops and everything and it just kills me.'' Instead his brother is gone, he's is a new neighborhood and attending Moore High School, and he said it doesn't feel right.

The school alerted his mother to concerns about him focusing and his grief and he and family members are receiving counseling. Two other younger brothers, 11 and 13, are attending Moore Middle School and said they are doing their best to live up to Devin's memory.

Devin's four brothers—the oldest is 21—and a 10-year-old cousin were at home when Devin was killed and some of them heard the shots.

Karneh's 14-year-old son called her at work to report hearing gunfire and that Devin was not home. When Devin did not respond to her texts, ''I knew it was him,'' she said.

Her sister, Sietta Karneh, said the family wants to keep Devin's memory alive. He was an outgoing, athletic, fun teenager with a slew of friends who have taken his death hard, posting remembrances on social media, his aunt said. She and her sister have raised their kids as one family. ''I also lost a son,'' she said about Devin. ''I can't get over how close to home he was when they took his life . . . . I can't get over this nightmare.''

*Deadliest Month of 2019: June—15 homicides, the highest number of murders in any month in the past five years and more than twice the seven homicides in June 2018.

A FAMILY HUNKERS DOWN

Near 22nd and Oak streets in West Louisville, a 12-year-old boy and his 13-year-old sister decided to stay inside during the summer because they were afraid they'd get shot if they ventured outdoors.

Their parents don't want their names revealed. ''We are so close to it. We're a stone's throw away from it in either direction,'' their father said about the gun violence.

Their mother, who remembers a safe environment when she was growing up in the neighborhood, said they hear gunshots two or three times a month at least, usually at night. She said they stay inside, and don't go near the windows.

''You hear it so much you get used to it. You hope the gunshots don't affect your family.'' When news reports spotlight a deadly shooting in areas where she has family ''you think my brother lives down there. I hope it wasn't him. You tend to tense up when you hear things like that.''

Their children are keenly aware, too. They know about gunshot deaths not far from their home during the summer, and a video on social media of teens with guns touting an ''east vs west'' rivalry with random gun violence.

''It's messed up,'' the boy said.

He said he began staying inside their house in early July after he was outside with friends in the early evening and a car pulled up on their street with a gun pointing out the window. He ran to his backyard and said after that, ''I decided on my own not to go out.''

His sister said she thinks ''the world's just getting violent.'' She didn't go outside ''because the west and the east was doing a shootout.'' She said she learned about it through a video on Facebook.

Their parents said they don't call police because they don't think there is much the police can do, although they wish there were more routine police patrols visible on their streets. Police respond to gunfire, but without adequate information they are unable to make an arrest, their father said.

''You don't want to keep your kids locked in,'' their mother said. ''You are scared for their safety, too. You don't know what to do.''

Citizen reports of hearing gunshots over 18 months, from Jan. 1, 2018–June 2019, totaled 4,558, from every Louisville Metro police district.

Homicides by police district Jan.–Sept. 2019: 1st District—12; 2nd District—25; 3rd District—11; 4th District—13; 5th District—3; 6th District—5; 7th District—2; 8th District—2; Total: 73.

DIONTAE ''TAY'' REED

At 18, Diontae ''Tay'' Reed seems happy, with a playful sense of humor and a lot to be proud of—good grades, a diploma from Ballard High School, a future full of possibilities including college.

He's come a long way from age 13 when he was shot in the back, underwent surgery and spent 11 days in the hospital. His homes have been shot up four different times, and he knows more people who have been shot or killed than he can count on both hands.

''I knew about the violence in my neighborhood at a young age,'' he said. ''I have trust issues. I don't trust people easily so wherever I go I'm always looking.''

Now he's the first person in his family to have graduated from high school, months after he and his family—his mother and a younger sister—were evicted from their home in the Portland neighborhood. He is staying with a friend's family while his mother and sister are living apart with relatives. He takes the bus from the apartment where he is living in the Portland neighborhood to Mall St. Matthews and back for his part-time job at a shoe store.

Diontae wonders if he's ready for college, and he's deeply worried about how he would pay for tuition, but he is exploring options as he also dreams of having a driver's license and a car someday.

He credits his mother, who ''was always on me'' for keeping him on the right track, off the streets and focused on school. He also credits Ballard High School teachers and a special tutor for helping him achieve. ''I always made teachers laugh,'' he said with a smile, and ''they became friends to me.'' He can tick off the names of several he admired.

He attended Shawnee Academy his freshman year but pursued a transfer to Ballard with the help of his mother. ''I felt like if I had stayed at that school I wouldn't have learned anything,'' because teachers spent so much time trying to control the classroom, he said.

His cousin had been doing well at Ballard, had a tutor, and he thought that formula would also work for him, and it did.

''I'm seeing I'm getting good grades,'' he said. ''I do not want to go home and be on the streets and do something that could get me killed.''

His two older brothers, 23 and 22, chose a ''way different path.'' When he was shot four years ago, he was running away from a fight his brothers got into with another group of boys. When asked why he thought his homes had been shot up in the past, he responded, ''my brothers.'' While he's close to them, ''I could never ask them what they're doing.''

While in the hospital, recovering from surgery and a collapsed lung, he was angry but told relatives and friends who visited him that he didn't want any more violence, no retaliation. He said he would have liked to have seen whoever shot him go to jail but no arrests were made.

He participated in the Christopher 2X ''Hood2Hood'' antiviolence campaign, preaching non-violence door-to-door and in neighborhoods and remains active in anti-violence and community service programs.

''The violence going on now is terrible, crazy,'' he said. ''People don't even want to go outside because of what is going on.''

73—Number of homicides in Louisville in the first nine months of 2019, an increase of nearly 20 percent compared to the first nine months of 2018 when 61 murders were committed.

72.6%—53, of the 73 homicide victims in the first nine months of 2019 were black compared to 63% for the same time period in 2018.

32%—of the victims, 25 killed, were under age 25, with eight victims 11–17 years old. One victim was under age 11.

Homicides: 2014: 55; 2015: 80; 2016: 118; 2017: 102; 2018: 80.

89% of the 73 murder victims, 65 people, in the first nine months of 2019 were killed by gunfire, the highest percentage of homicides by gunfire for a comparable time period in the past five years.

TRIBUTE TO ALGENE SAJERY

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I rise to thank Algene Sajery, a senior member of my foreign policy legislative staff, for her incredible service to the State of Maryland, our country, and by virtue of her foreign policy and national security legislative achievements, to the international community. I am incredibly grateful for all that we have accomplished during her tenure.

Algene has served as my senior foreign policy and national security advisor since 2012 and concurrently as democratic policy director for the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations from 2015 through 2018. Over the years, Algene has served as my lead staff author and/or negotiator of several landmark national security and foreign policy laws, including the Global Magnitsky Human Rights and Accountability Act, P.L. 114–328; the Foreign Aid Transparency and Accountability Act, P.L. 114–191; the African Growth and Opportunity Act and Millennium Challenge Act Modernization Act, AGOA and MCA Modernization Act, P.L. 115–167; the Global Food Security Act, P.L. 114–195; and the Electrify Africa Act, P.L. 114–121. These accomplishments demonstrate the wide-ranging policy areas over which Algene has extensive knowledge. Her ability to leverage her knowledge to help negotiate and advance such policies into law and her passion for doing so are what set Algene apart from most others in this highly competitive field.

But Algene's accomplishments do not end with advancing landmark human rights, transparency, foreign assistance, and international development legislation. Algene has also worked tirelessly at my direction on several bills related to human rights in conflict zones, including the Syrian War Crimes Accountability Act and the Elie Wiesel Genocide and Atrocities Prevention Act P.L. 115–441. Algene's efforts have helped cement my legacy in these arenas and as Special Representative for Anti-Semitism, Racism, Intolerance for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe—OSCE—Parliamentary Assembly, to help propel my work to create a world where the promise of ''never again'' in response to genocide will one day bear truth.

Our work together has transcended several Presidential administrations. We have observed Executive overstep with regard to war powers on numerous occasions. We have opened our eyes to the use of U.S. manufactured weapons to commit war crimes and repress human rights around the world. In response, Algene and I also developed my signature arms sales oversight legislation, the Enhancing Human Rights Protections in Arms Sales Act of 2019, and numerous bills, resolutions, and amendments on authorization of use of military force, conflict prevention, peace and reconciliation, and community resiliency policies.

Algene's successful legislative record is testament not only to her expertise on foreign policy and national security issues but also to her keen negotiating skills, ability to work across the aisle, and incomparable political acumen. But Algene's service on my legislative staff has gone far and beyond helping me draft and advance legislation. One of the most striking qualities of Algene's character and, in my opinion, one of the most noteworthy accomplishments as a part of her distinct legacy on my team, is her dedication to helping others around her.

Algene is one of only a handful of women of color working on foreign policy and national security issues and the first African-American woman to serve in a leadership position on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Over the years, she has served as a mentor to women of color at various stages in their careers, offering advice, support, and guidance. Algene has always made time to support those around her because she understands the challenges of launching and navigating a career in foreign policy and national security, and she genuinely wants to propel others towards similarly successful career paths.

Algene is a highly effective legislative negotiator, strategist, coalition builder, and a true trailblazer. Her knowledge and expertise are unparalleled, but her passion, creativity, and tenacity truly are what have made her an asset to my team and a voice that I will greatly miss in my office.

It has been an honor working with Algene over the years, and I wish her nothing but happiness and success as she transitions her career off Capitol Hill.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO SCOTT BENNETT

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the career of Scott Bennett, who is retiring as director of the Arkansas Department of Transportation after nearly 32 years of service and dedication to the State.

Scott assumed his current post as director in 2011; however, he has been an asset to ARDOT since his summers as an engineering intern. Scott's hard work, passion, and knowledge allowed him to build a celebrated career that has greatly benefited the State and its citizens. He received a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Arkansas in 1989 and became a full-time employee of the Planning and Research Division. He also earned a master's degree in civil engineering in 1994 while working for ARDOT.

During the past 9 years, his effective and influential leadership has been indisputable. Scott led ARDOT's efforts to implement significant highway rehabilitation efforts, including the 2011 Interstate Rehabilitation Program and the 2012 Connecting Arkansas Program, both of which were approved by voters.

Scott is an active leader in the transportation and engineering communities in the State and at the national level. He was appointed to the Arkansas Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors in 2015, where he currently serves as president. In 2017, Scott was elected secretary-treasurer of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, after previously serving as a member of the board of directors. Scott has served on other various organizations to support the transportation industry and improve roadways for all Americans.

Scott has earned many accolades over the course of his career. The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials presented him with the Thomas H. MacDonald Memorial Award, which recognizes top engineers in the transportation profession. In 2005, he received the University of Arkansas Young Engineer Alumni of the Year Award, and in 2019 he was honored with the University of Arkansas College of Engineering's Distinguished Alumni Award. In 2010, Scott was inducted into the Arkansas Academy of Civil Engineering.

I applaud Scott for his accomplished career with the Arkansas Department

of Transportation. He has displayed his commitment to improving the quality of life for Arkansans, and he leaves behind a legacy that will continue to be felt across the State. I appreciate his friendship and am grateful for his years of devoted service to the Natural State.●

REMEMBERING HAROLD HOWARD ''SONNY'' HOWELL II

● Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a proud West Virginian, a dedicated public servant, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and a dear friend to all who had the pleasure of knowing him. It is a privilege to recognize the life and legacy of Mayor Harold Howard ''Sonny'' Howell II for his many years of dedicated service to the city of Madison, Boone County, and to our entire home State.

Gayle and I are heartbroken to learn of the passing of our dear friend Sonny. My uncle, the late A. James Manchin, and Sonny were the closest of friends. I first met Sonny in the 1970s and he remained an absolute unconditional, lifelong friend. I have met many unique people throughout the years, but nobody compared to Sonny. He was a true example of what it means to be a public servant, having served in the U.S. Army, as justice of the peace, Boone County Circuit clerk, and for many years as mayor of Madison.

Born and raised in Madison, Sonny was a member of the Madison United Methodist Church for more than 80 years. He was a 1956 graduate of Scott High School, and he attended West Virginia Wesleyan College, Morris Harvey College, and West Virginia State College. He was a member of the Masonic O'Dell Lodge, Beni Kedem Shrine, Royal Order of the Jesters, Madison Rotary Club, Paul Harris Fellow for Rotary International, Member of the Municipal League, and a recipient of the 35th Star from my uncle A. James Manchin. He and his wife Onia have been the owners of Howell Rental, a family business started by Sonny's father in 1940.

There is a lot to be said of someone who bravely serves our Nation, then returns home to continue giving back to the community that made them who they are. When visitors come to West Virginia, I jump at the chance to tell them we have fought in more wars, shed more blood, and lost more lives for the cause of freedom than most any State. We have always done the heavy lifting and never complained. We have mined the coal and forged the steel that built the guns, ships, and factories that have protected and continue to protect our country to this day. I am so deeply proud of what West Virginians have accomplished and what they will continue to accomplish to protect the freedoms we hold dear. That is Sonny's legacy, and his courage, loyalty, and humility will never be forgotten.

Put simply, Sonny represented the very best of West Virginia, which is saying quite a lot. In the Mountain State, if you are hungry, you will be fed. If you are lost, someone will not only give you directions but will offer to drive you to your destination. That is just who we are, and that is who Sonny was. We have lost a shining star in Boone County, but his impact, vision, and his passion for this special community will last forever. It was an honor to have known him and to call him my friend. He never met a stranger and always had time to share a story.

What is most important is that Sonny lived a full life, surrounded by dear friends and family. It is my hope that his loved ones are able to find peace, strength, and support in one another. I extend my condolences to his wife of 59 years, Onia, his son Kip, his daughter-in-law Deanna, his grandchildren Harry and Meredith, sister-in-law Marilyn, brother-in-law Mike, and a host of nieces and nephews, who lovingly referred to him as Uncle Son. Again, I extend to you my most sincere condolences for our loss of this wonderful person. The unwavering love Sonny had for his family, friends, community, and our home State will live on forever in the hearts of all who knew him.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13288 OF MARCH 6, 2003, WITH RESPECT TO THE ACTIONS AND POLICIES OF CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE AND OTHER PERSONS TO UNDERMINE ZIMBABWE'S DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES OR INSTITUTIONS—PM 49

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 before 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 13288 of March 6, 2003, with respect to the actions and policies of certain members of the Government of Zimbabwe and other persons to undermine Zimbabwe's democratic processes or institutions is to continue in effect beyond March 6, 2020.

In the wake of the resignation of former President Robert Mugabe in November 2017, Zimbabwe's national elections in July 2018, and President Mugabe's subsequent death in September 2019, Zimbabwe has had ample opportunity to implement reforms that could set the country on a constructive path, stabilize the southern African region, and open the door to greater cooperation with the United States. Unfortunately, President Emmerson Mnangagwa's administration has yet to signal credible political will to implement such reforms. Indeed, the Zimbabwean government has arguably accelerated its persecution of critics and economic mismanagement in the past year, during which security forces have conducted extrajudicial killings, rapes, and alleged abductions of numerous dissidents.

These actions and policies by certain members of the Government of Zimbabwe and other persons to undermine Zimbabwe's democratic processes or institutions continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13288 with respect to Zimbabwe.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *March 4, 2020.*

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4508. An act to expand the number of scholarships available to Pakistani Women under the Merit and Needs-Based Scholarship Program.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 1822. An act to require the Federal Communications Commission to issue rules relating to the collection of data with respect to the availability of broadband services, and for other purposes.

At 5:03 p.m., a message from House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 6074. An act making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 4508. An act to expand the number of scholarships available to Pakistani women under the Merit and Needs-Based Scholarship Program; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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–4176. A communication from the Board Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's Fiscal Year 2019 Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) and Privacy Management Report; to the Committees on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Appropriations; Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; and Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–4177. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Penoxsulam; Pesticide Tolerance'' (FRL No. 10004–86–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 2, 2020; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–4178. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Chrysodeixis includens Nucleopolyhedrovirus isolate #460; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 10003–94–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 2, 2020; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–4179. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Trifloxystrobin; Pesticide Tolerance'' (FRL No. 10004–08–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 2, 2020; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–4180. A communication from the Regulatory Officer, Foreign Agricultural Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Market Access Program'' (RIN0551–AA97) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2020; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–4181. A communication from the Regulatory Officer, Foreign Agricultural Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Foreign Market Development Program'' (RIN0551–AA96) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2020; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–4182. A communication from the Regulatory Officer, Foreign Agricultural Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Technical Assistance for Specialty Crops Program'' (RIN0551–AA98) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2020; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–4183. A communication from the Regulatory Officer, Foreign Agricultural Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Emerging Markets Programs'' (RIN0551–AA95) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2020; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–4184. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Plan Approval; Michigan; Second Limited Maintenance Plans for 1997 Ozone NAAQS'' (FRL No. 10006–00–Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 2, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–4185. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Solvent Extraction for Vegetable Oil Production Residual Risk and Technology Review'' (FRL No. 10006–06–OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 2, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–4186. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to emergency funding to support critical response and preparedness activities for the coronavirus (COVID–19); to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–4187. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23–218, ''Go-Go Official Music of the District of Columbia Designation Act of 2020''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–4188. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report of the National Security Education Program (NSEP) for fiscal year 2019; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

EC–4189. A communication from the Report to the Nation Delegation Director, Boy Scouts of America, transmitting, pursuant to law, the organization's 2019 annual report; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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. WICKER (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 3385. A bill to strengthen the use of patient-experience data within the benefit-risk framework for approval of new drugs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. HAWLEY, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 3386. A bill to require the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States to consider whether a foreign person that is a party to a transaction undergoing review by the Committee is connected to a foreign country that has installed information and communications technology designed, developed, manufactured, or supplied by persons owned or controlled by, or subject to the jurisdiction or direction of, a foreign adversary, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. HASSAN:

S. 3387. A bill to increase funding for the Capitol Investment Grant program of the Federal Transit Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. LOEFFLER (for herself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. ERNST, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 3388. A bill to ensure that women seeking an abortion are informed of the medical risks associated with the abortion procedure and the major developmental characteristics of the unborn child, before giving their informed consent to receive an abortion; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 3389. A bill to provide the National Credit Union Administration Board flexibility to increase Federal credit union loan maturities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 3390. A bill to provide for a new building period with respect to the cap on full-time equivalent residents for purposes of payment for graduate medical education costs under the Medicare program for certain hospitals that have established a shortage specialty program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HARRIS, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 3391. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to carry out an active transportation investment program to make grants to eligible applicants to build safe and connected options for bicycles and walkers within and between communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 3392. A bill to expand and improve access to trauma-informed mental health interventions for newly arriving immigrants at the border, to alleviate the stress of and provide education for border agents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 3393. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for concurrent receipt of veterans' disability compensation and retired pay for disability retirees with fewer than 20 years of service and a combat-related disability, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GARDNER, Ms. HARRIS, Mrs. LOEFFLER, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BRAUN, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. Res. 527. A resolution recognizing the longstanding partnership between the United States and Australia to share critical firefighting resources during times of crisis; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. STABENOW:

S. Res. 528. A resolution recognizing the importance of the blueberry industry to the United States and designating July 2020 as ''National Blueberry Month''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. COONS):

S. Res. 529. A resolution designating February 29, 2020, as ''Rare Disease Day''; considered and agreed to.

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

S. Res. 530. A resolution designating March 4, 2020, as ''National Assistive Technology Awareness Day''; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 178

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 178, a bill to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China.

S. 719

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 719, a bill to reform the use of solitary confinement and other forms of restrictive housing in the Bureau of Prisons, and for other purposes.

S. 785

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 785, a bill to improve mental health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 879

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 879, a bill to provide a process for granting lawful permanent resident status to aliens from certain countries who meet specified eligibility requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 1003

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1003, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration and the Under Secretary for Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 1081

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. 1081, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide permanent, dedicated funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 1399

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1399, a bill to amend title VIII of the Public Health Services Act to revise and extend nursing workforce development programs.

S. 1942

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1942, a bill to amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to create a presumption that a disability or death of a Federal employee in fire protection activities caused by any of certain diseases is the result of the performance of the duty of the employee, and for other purposes.

S. 2043

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2043, a bill to provide incentives for hate crime reporting, provide grants for State-run hate crime hotlines, and establish alternative sentencing for individuals convicted under the Matthew Shephard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act.

S. 2054

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2054, a bill to posthumously award the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to Glen Doherty, Tyrone Woods, J. Christopher Stevens, and Sean Smith, in recognition of their contributions to the Nation.

S. 2158

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2158, a bill to improve certain programs of the Department of Health and Human Services with respect to heritable disorders.

S. 2417

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2417, a bill to provide for payment of proceeds from savings bonds to a State with title to such bonds pursuant to the judgment of a court.

S. 2482

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2482, a bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds to carry out the final rule of the Department of Homeland Security entitled ''Inadmissibility on Public Charge Grounds''.

S. 2496

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2496, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the Medicare and disability insurance benefits waiting periods for disabled individuals.

S. 3073

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3073, a bill to require online marketplaces to disclose certain verified information regarding sellers of children's products to inform consumers.

S. 3144

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3144, a bill to establish a competitive grant program to support out-of-school-time youth workforce readiness programs, providing employability skills development, career exploration, employment readiness training, mentoring, work-based learning, and workforce opportunities for eligible youth.

S. 3167

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) were added as cosponsors of S. 3167, a bill to prohibit discrimination based on an individual's texture or style of hair.

S. 3176

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. 3176, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act of 2014 to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriations of funds to Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 3244

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3244, a bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to improve the detection, prevention, and treatment of mental health issues among public safety officers, and for other purposes.

S. 3249

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3249, a bill to amend the FAST Act to modify a provision relating to the Motorcyclist Advisory Council.

S. 3372

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3372, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for treatment of certain respiratory protective devices as covered countermeasures for purposes of targeted liability protections for pandemic and epidemic products and security countermeasures, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 511

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S.

Res. 511, a resolution supporting the role of the United States in helping save the lives of children and protecting the health of people in developing countries with vaccines and immunization through GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance.

S. RES. 525

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 525, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States should continue to support the people of Nicaragua in their peaceful efforts to promote the restoration of democracy and the defense of human rights, and use the tools under United States law to increase political and economic pressure on the government of Daniel Ortega.

AMENDMENT NO. 1328

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1328 intended to be proposed to S. 2657, a bill to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1337

At the request of Ms. HARRIS, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1337 intended to be proposed to S. 2657, a bill to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1369

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1369 intended to be proposed to S. 2657, a bill to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1370

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1370 intended to be proposed to S. 2657, a bill to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1382

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1382 intended to be proposed to S. 2657, a bill to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1398

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1398 intended to be proposed to S. 2657, a bill to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1399

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1399 intended to be proposed to S. 2657, a bill to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1404

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1404 intended to be proposed to S. 2657, a bill to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1417

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1417 intended to be proposed to S. 2657, a bill to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1440

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1440 intended to be proposed to S. 2657, a bill to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1441

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1441 intended to be proposed to S. 2657, a bill to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1455

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1455 intended to be proposed to S. 2657, a bill to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1458

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1458 intended to be proposed to S. 2657, a bill to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1479

At the request of Mr. ROMNEY, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1479 intended to be proposed to S. 2657, a bill to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 527—RECOGNIZING THE LONGSTANDING PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND AUSTRALIA TO SHARE CRITICAL FIREFIGHTING RESOURCES DURING TIMES OF CRISIS

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GARDNER, Ms. HARRIS, Mrs. LOEFFLER, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BRAUN, and Ms. ROSEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 527

Whereas Australia and the United States have long held a unique relationship, marked by close diplomatic, security, and economic cooperation;

Whereas Australia and the United States celebrated 100 years of mateship on July 4, 2018, marking the 100-year anniversary of the Battle of Hamel, which helped turn the tide of World War I;

Whereas the United States and Australia are entering the seventieth anniversary of the Australia, New Zealand, United States Security Treaty (ANZUS Treaty), the 1951 collective security non-binding agreement between Australia and New Zealand and, separately, Australia and the United States, to cooperate on military matters;

Whereas the United States and Australia have shared firefighting resources, including specialist firefighters, for over 15 years;

Whereas the United States and Australia are experiencing some of the hottest and driest weather conditions on record, exacerbating the threat of wildfires and contributing to longer wildfire seasons in both nations;

Whereas over 100 Australian firefighters traveled to the United States in August 2018, to assist with efforts to contain wildfires that threatened communities in California, Oregon, and Washington;

Whereas over 300 American firefighters have been mobilized to Australia since December 2019 to help combat and contain devastating bushfires that have burned over 30,000,000 acres of land; and

Whereas multiple United States agencies, including the Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Fish and Wildlife Services, have provided American firefighters to help combat Australia's bushfires: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the value of the longstanding partnership between the United States and Australia to share critical firefighting resources during times of crisis;

(2) recognizes the efforts and bravery of Australian firefighters who have not only risked their lives to fight wildfires in their own country but also helped contain several dangerous wildfires in North America;

(3) recognizes the efforts and bravery of American firefighters who have not only risked their lives to fight wildfires in their own country but have also provided their services to combat the bushfires currently ravaging the Australian continent;

(4) honors the ultimate sacrifice of the three American firefighters who lost their lives assisting in fighting Australia's bushfires in the crash of the Large Air Tanker in the Snowy Monaro area of Australia on January 23, 2020, and extends deepest condolences to their families, friends, and colleagues;

(5) expresses full support for the people of Australia as they focus on recovery and rebuilding affected areas and communities;

(6) supports continued partnership between the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation and United States Federal agencies to share research, technology, and best practices related to wildfire mitigation and suppression; and

(7) supports continued cooperation and greater collaboration between Australia and the United States to mitigate the underlying factors driving extended and more intense wildfire years in both countries.

SENATE RESOLUTION 528—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BLUEBERRY INDUSTRY TO THE UNITED STATES AND DESIGNATING JULY 2020 AS ''NATIONAL BLUEBERRY MONTH''

Ms. STABENOW submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 528

Whereas the blueberry is a fruit native to North America that was first used fresh and dried in food and medicines by Native Americans, who introduced blueberries to early colonists, which led to new uses and forms of blueberries, including frozen, establishing traditions still observed in 2020;

Whereas the pioneering work conducted in New Jersey in the early 1900s by Elizabeth White and Dr. Frederick Coville, a botanist at the Department of Agriculture, to domesticate wild lowbush blueberries resulted in the development of the hybrid for cultivated highbush blueberries;

Whereas, because of those early efforts, highbush blueberries are large, sweet, juicy berries that can be commercially produced and shipped, allowing the highbush blueberry industry to become an important agricultural industry in the United States;

Whereas highbush blueberries—

(1) have a harvested area estimated at more than 97,000 acres; and

(2) are produced in 48 States by more than 14,000 growers and their families;

Whereas highbush blueberry production in the United States has continually increased, with particular growth during the first 2 decades of the 21st century, reaching a harvest of 551,100,000 pounds in 2018;

Whereas blueberries are—

(1) low in fat; and

(2) a source of fiber, vitamins, and minerals;

Whereas blueberries are being studied to examine the role that the berries may play in promoting good health in areas such as cardiovascular health, brain health, exercise, insulin response, and gut health; and

Whereas highbush blueberries are harvested in the United States from April through early September, with the peak of the harvest occurring in July: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates July 2020 as ''National Blueberry Month'';

(2) recognizes the contributions of blueberry growers in the United States and their families; and

(3) recognizes that purchasing blueberries grown in the United States supports farmers, jobs, and the economy of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 529—DESIGNATING FEBRUARY 29, 2020, AS ''RARE DISEASE DAY''

Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. COONS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 529

Whereas a rare disease or disorder is a disease or disorder that affects a small number of patients;

Whereas, in the United States, a rare disease or disorder typically affects fewer than 200,000 individuals;

Whereas, as of the date of the adoption of this resolution, more than 7,000 rare diseases or disorders affect approximately 30,000,000 individuals in the United States and their families;

Whereas children with rare diseases or disorders account for a significant portion of the population affected by rare diseases or disorders in the United States;

Whereas many rare diseases and disorders are serious and life-threatening and lack effective treatments;

Whereas, as a result of the enactment of the Orphan Drug Act (Public Law 97–414; 96 Stat. 2049), important advances have been made in the research and treatment of rare diseases and disorders;

Whereas the Food and Drug Administration has made strides in gathering patient perspectives to inform the drug review process as part of the Patient-Focused Drug Development program, an initiative that was reaffirmed under the FDA Reauthorization Act of 2017 (Public Law 115–52; 131 Stat. 1005);

Whereas, although the Food and Drug Administration has approved more than 840 orphan indications for drugs and biological products for the treatment of rare diseases and disorders, millions of individuals in the United States have a rare disease or disorder for which there is no approved treatment;

Whereas limited treatment options and difficulty obtaining reimbursement for life-altering and lifesaving treatments can be challenging for individuals with rare diseases or disorders and their families;

Whereas rare diseases and disorders include acrodermatitis enteropathica, medulloblastoma, Hartnup disease, mast cell activation syndrome, Usher syndrome, osteosarcoma, Kabuki syndrome, Fanconi anemia, Neurofibromatosis, NGLY1 deficiency, Chandler's syndrome, tularemia, and Joubert syndrome;

Whereas individuals with rare diseases or disorders can experience difficulty in obtaining accurate diagnoses and finding physicians or treatment centers with expertise in their rare disease or disorder;

Whereas the 115th Congress passed a 10-year extension of the Children's Health Insurance Program under title XXI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397aa et seq.), ensuring health insurance coverage for many children with rare diseases or disorders;

Whereas the Food and Drug Administration and the National Institutes of Health support research on the treatment of rare diseases and disorders;

Whereas 2020 marks the 37th anniversary of the enactment of the Orphan Drug Act (Public Law 97–414; 96 Stat. 2049);

Whereas Rare Disease Day is observed each year on the last day of February;

Whereas, in 2020, Rare Disease Day falls on the rarest of days, February 29;

Whereas Rare Disease Day is a global event that was first observed in the United States on February 28, 2009, and was observed in more than 100 countries in 2019; and

Whereas Rare Disease Day is expected to be observed globally for years to come, providing hope and information for rare disease and disorder patients around the world: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates February 29, 2020, as ''Rare Disease Day''; and

(2) recognizes the importance of, with respect to rare diseases and disorders—

(A) improving awareness;

(B) encouraging accurate and early diagnosis; and

(C) supporting national and global efforts to develop effective treatments, diagnostics, and cures.

SENATE RESOLUTION 530—DESIGNATING MARCH 4, 2020, AS ''NATIONAL ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY AWARENESS DAY''

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

S. RES. 530

Whereas assistive technology is any item, piece of equipment, or product system that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities and older adults;

Whereas the term ''assistive technology service'' means any service that directly assists an individual with a disability or an older adult in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device;

Whereas, in 2018, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that 1 in 4 individuals in the United States, or almost 61,000,000 individuals, has a disability;

Whereas, in 2017, the Department of Education reported that there were more than 7,000,000 children with disabilities;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that, among adults 65 years of age and older, 2 in 5 have a disability;

Whereas assistive technology allows individuals with disabilities and older adults to be included in their communities and in inclusive classrooms and workplaces;

Whereas assistive technology devices and services are necessities, not luxury items, for millions of individuals with disabilities and older adults, without which they would be unable to live in their communities, access education, or obtain, retain, and advance gainful, competitive, integrated employment;

Whereas the availability of assistive technology in the workplace promotes economic self-sufficiency, enhances work participation, and is critical to the employment of individuals with disabilities and older adults; and

Whereas State assistive technology programs support a continuum of services that include—

(1) the exchange, repair, recycling, and other reutilization of assistive technology devices;

(2) device loan programs that provide short-term loans of assistive technology devices to individuals, employers, public agencies, and others;

(3) the demonstration of devices to inform decision making; and

(4) State financing to help individuals purchase or obtain assistive technology through a variety of initiatives, such as financial loan programs, leasing programs, and other financing alternatives, that give individuals affordable, flexible options to purchase or

obtain assistive technology: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates March 4, 2020, as ''National Assistive Technology Awareness Day''; and

(2) commends—

(A) assistive technology specialists and program coordinators for their hard work and dedication to serving individuals with disabilities who are in need of finding the proper assistive technology to meet their individual needs; and

(B) professional organizations and researchers dedicated to facilitating the access and acquisition of assistive technology for individuals with disabilities and older adults in need of assistive technology devices.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1480. Mrs. FISCHER (for herself, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. GARDNER, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1481. Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Ms. ERNST) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1482. Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Ms. ERNST) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1483. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1484. Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1485. Mr. LEE (for himself and Mr. ROMNEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1486. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1487. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1488. Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. UDALL, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1489. Mr. UDALL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1490. Mr. BARRASSO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1491. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1492. Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mrs . GILLIBRAND, Ms. HARRIS, and Mr. MARKEY)) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1493. Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. CRAPO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1494. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1495. Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. LANKFORD, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. HOEVEN, and Mr. TOOMEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1496. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1497. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1498. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1499. Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1500. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1501. Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. BRAUN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1502. Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. YOUNG) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1503. Mr. BRAUN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1504. Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COONS, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. YOUNG, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. ERNST, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. COTTON, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. JONES, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. HEINRICH, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BURR, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. KING) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1505. Mr. RUBIO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1506. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6074, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1507. Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1508. Mr. HAWLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1509. Ms. MCSALLY (for herself and Mr. LEAHY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1510. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. CORNYN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 893, to require the President to develop a strategy to ensure the security of next generation mobile telecommunications systems and infrastructure in the United States and to assist allies and strategic partners in maximizing the security of next generation mobile telecommunications systems, infrastructure, and software, and for other purposes.

SA 1511. Mr. ROMNEY (for himself, Ms. WARREN, and Ms. SINEMA) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1512. Mr. HOEVEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1513. Mr. HOEVEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1480. Mrs. FISCHER (for herself, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. GARDNER, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE IV—INTERNET OF THINGS

SEC. 4001. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Developing Innovation and Growing the Internet of Things Act'' or the ''DIGIT Act''.

SEC. 4002. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the Internet of Things refers to the growing number of connected and interconnected devices;

(2) estimates indicate that more than 125,000,000,000 devices will be connected to the internet by 2030;

(3) the Internet of Things has the potential to generate trillions of dollars in new economic activity around the world in the transportation, energy, agriculture, manufacturing, and health care sectors and in other sectors that are critical to the growth of the gross domestic product of the United States;

(4) businesses across the United States can develop new services and products, improve

the efficiency of operations and logistics, cut costs, improve worker and public safety, and pass savings on to consumers by utilizing the Internet of Things and related innovations;

(5) the Internet of Things will—

(A) be vital in furthering innovation and the development of emerging technologies; and

(B) play a key role in developing artificial intelligence and advanced computing capabilities;

(6) the United States leads the world in the development of technologies that support the internet, the United States technology sector is well-positioned to lead in the development of technologies for the Internet of Things, and the appropriate prioritization of a national strategy with respect to the Internet of Things would strengthen that position;

(7) the Federal Government can implement this technology to better deliver services to the public; and

(8) the Senate unanimously passed Senate Resolution 110, 114th Congress, agreed to March 24, 2015, calling for a national strategy for the development of the Internet of Things.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that policies governing the Internet of Things should—

(1) promote solutions with respect to the Internet of Things that are secure, scalable, interoperable, industry-driven, and standards-based; and

(2) maximize the development and deployment of the Internet of Things to benefit all stakeholders, including businesses, governments, and consumers.

SEC. 4003. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) COMMISSION.—The term ''Commission'' means the Federal Communications Commission.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Commerce.

(3) STEERING COMMITTEE.—The term ''steering committee'' means the steering committee established under section 4004(e)(1).

(4) WORKING GROUP.—The term ''working group'' means the working group convened under section 4004(a).

SEC. 4004. FEDERAL WORKING GROUP.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall convene a working group of Federal stakeholders for the purpose of providing recommendations and a report to Congress relating to the aspects of the Internet of Things described in subsection (b).

(b) DUTIES.—The working group shall—

(1) identify any Federal regulations, statutes, grant practices, budgetary or jurisdictional challenges, and other sector-specific policies that are inhibiting, or could inhibit, the development or deployment of the Internet of Things;

(2) consider policies or programs that encourage and improve coordination among Federal agencies that have responsibilities that are relevant to the objectives of this title;

(3) consider any findings or recommendations made by the steering committee and, where appropriate, act to implement those recommendations;

(4) examine—

(A) how Federal agencies can benefit from utilizing the Internet of Things;

(B) the use of Internet of Things technology by Federal agencies as of the date on which the working group performs the examination;

(C) the preparedness and ability of Federal agencies to adopt Internet of Things technology as of the date on which the working group performs the examination and in the future; and

(D) any additional security measures that Federal agencies may need to take to—

(i) safely and securely use the Internet of Things, including measures that ensure the security of critical infrastructure; and

(ii) enhance the resiliency of Federal systems against cyber threats to the Internet of Things; and

(5) in carrying out the examinations required under clauses (i) and (ii) of paragraph (4)(D), ensure to the maximum extent possible the coordination of the current and future activities of the Federal Government relating to security with respect to the Internet of Things.

(c) AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES.—In convening the working group under subsection (a), the Secretary shall have discretion to appoint representatives from Federal agencies and departments as appropriate and shall specifically consider seeking representation from—

(1) the Department of Commerce, including—

(A) the National Telecommunications and Information Administration;

(B) the National Institute of Standards and Technology; and

(C) the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;

(2) the Department of Transportation;

(3) the Department of Homeland Security;

(4) the Office of Management and Budget;

(5) the National Science Foundation;

(6) the Commission;

(7) the Federal Trade Commission;

(8) the Office of Science and Technology Policy;

(9) the Department; and

(10) the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

(d) NONGOVERNMENTAL STAKEHOLDERS.—The working group shall consult with nongovernmental stakeholders with expertise relating to the Internet of Things, including—

(1) the steering committee;

(2) information and communications technology manufacturers, suppliers, service providers, and vendors;

(3) subject matter experts representing industrial sectors other than the technology sector that can benefit from the Internet of Things, including the transportation, energy, agriculture, and health care sectors;

(4) small, medium, and large businesses;

(5) think tanks and academia;

(6) nonprofit organizations and consumer groups;

(7) security experts;

(8) rural stakeholders; and

(9) other stakeholders with relevant expertise, as determined by the Secretary.

(e) STEERING COMMITTEE.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within the Department of Commerce a steering committee to advise the working group.

(2) DUTIES.—The steering committee shall advise the working group with respect to—

(A) the identification of any Federal regulations, statutes, grant practices, programs, budgetary or jurisdictional challenges, and other sector-specific policies that are inhibiting, or could inhibit, the development of the Internet of Things;

(B) situations in which the use of the Internet of Things is likely to deliver significant and scalable economic and societal benefits to the United States, including benefits from or to—

(i) smart traffic and transit technologies;

(ii) augmented logistics and supply chains;

(iii) sustainable infrastructure;

(iv) precision agriculture;

(v) environmental monitoring;

(vi) public safety; and

(vii) health care;

(C) whether adequate spectrum is available to support the growing Internet of Things and what legal or regulatory barriers may exist to providing any spectrum needed in the future;

(D) policies, programs, or multi-stakeholder activities that—

(i) promote or are related to the privacy of individuals who use or are affected by the Internet of Things;

(ii) may enhance the security of the Internet of Things, including the security of critical infrastructure;

(iii) may protect users of the Internet of Things; and

(iv) may encourage coordination among Federal agencies with jurisdiction over the Internet of Things;

(E) the opportunities and challenges associated with the use of Internet of Things technology by small businesses; and

(F) any international proceeding, international negotiation, or other international matter affecting the Internet of Things to which the United States is or should be a party.

(3) MEMBERSHIP.—The Secretary shall appoint to the steering committee members representing a wide range of stakeholders outside of the Federal Government with expertise relating to the Internet of Things, including—

(A) information and communications technology manufacturers, suppliers, service providers, and vendors;

(B) subject matter experts representing industrial sectors other than the technology sector that can benefit from the Internet of Things, including the transportation, energy, agriculture, and health care sectors;

(C) small, medium, and large businesses;

(D) think tanks and academia;

(E) nonprofit organizations and consumer groups;

(F) security experts;

(G) rural stakeholders; and

(H) other stakeholders with relevant expertise, as determined by the Secretary.

(4) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the steering committee shall submit to the working group a report that includes any findings or recommendations of the steering committee.

(5) INDEPENDENT ADVICE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The steering committee shall set the agenda of the steering committee in carrying out the duties of the steering committee under paragraph (2).

(B) SUGGESTIONS.—The working group may suggest topics or items for the steering committee to study, and the steering committee shall take those suggestions into consideration in carrying out the duties of the steering committee.

(C) REPORT.—The steering committee shall ensure that the report submitted under paragraph (4) is the result of the independent judgment of the steering committee.

(6) NO COMPENSATION FOR MEMBERS.—A member of the steering committee shall serve without compensation.

(7) TERMINATION.—The steering committee shall terminate on the date on which the working group submits the report under subsection (f).

(f) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the working group shall submit to Congress a report that includes—

(A) the findings and recommendations of the working group with respect to the duties of the working group under subsection (b);

(B) the report submitted by the steering committee under subsection (e)(4), as the report was received by the working group;

(C) recommendations for action or reasons for inaction, as applicable, with respect to

each recommendation made by the steering committee in the report submitted under subsection (e)(4); and

(D) an accounting of any progress made by Federal agencies to implement recommendations made by the working group or the steering committee.

(2) COPY OF REPORT.—The working group shall submit a copy of the report described in paragraph (1) to—

(A) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives; and

(C) any other committee of Congress, upon request to the working group.

SEC. 4005. ASSESSING SPECTRUM NEEDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commission, in consultation with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, shall issue a notice of inquiry seeking public comment on the current, as of the date of enactment of this Act, and future spectrum needs to enable better connectivity relating to the Internet of Things.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—In issuing the notice of inquiry under subsection (a), the Commission shall seek comments that consider and evaluate—

(1) whether adequate spectrum is available, or is planned for allocation, for commercial wireless services that could support the growing Internet of Things;

(2) if adequate spectrum is not available for the purposes described in paragraph (1), how to ensure that adequate spectrum is available for increased demand with respect to the Internet of Things;

(3) what regulatory barriers may exist to providing any needed spectrum that would support uses relating to the Internet of Things; and

(4) what the role of unlicensed and licensed spectrum is and will be in the growth of the Internet of Things.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report summarizing the comments submitted in response to the notice of inquiry issued under subsection (a).

SA 1481. Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Ms. ERNST) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE IV—AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986

SEC. 4001. LIMIT CREDIT FOR NEW QUALIFIED PLUG-IN ELECTRIC DRIVE MOTOR VEHICLES TO VEHICLES COSTING LESS THAN $45,000.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 30D(d)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (E), by striking ''and'' at the end,

(2) in subparagraph (F)(ii), by striking the period at the end and inserting '', and'', and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(G) for which the manufacturer's suggested retail price is less than $45,000.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to vehicles sold during any calendar quarter beginning after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 1482. Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Ms. ERNST) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE IV—AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986

SEC. 4001. ELIMINATION OF PERSONAL CREDIT BASED ON ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 30D of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by inserting ''and (3)'' after ''paragraph (1)'', and

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

''(3) ELIMINATION OF PERSONAL CREDIT BASED ON ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of paragraph (2), in the case of any new qualified plug-in electric drive motor vehicle which is placed in service by a taxpayer during any taxable year, if the adjusted gross income of such taxpayer for such taxable year exceeds the threshold amount, the amount of the credit otherwise allowable under subsection (a) for such taxable year shall be reduced to zero.

''(B) THRESHOLD AMOUNT.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'threshold amount' means—

''(i) in the case of any taxpayer filing a joint return for the taxable year, $326,600, and

''(ii) in the case of any taxpayer not filing a joint return for the taxable year, $163,300.

''(C) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any taxable year beginning after 2020, each of the dollar amounts in subparagraph (B) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

''(I) such dollar amount, multiplied by

''(II) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins by substituting 'calendar year 2019' for 'calendar year 2016' in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

''(ii) ROUNDING.—If any increase determined under clause (i) is not a multiple of $100, such increase shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of $100.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2019.

SA 1483. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 1808 and insert the following:

SEC. 1808. NO ARPA–E FUNDS.

Funds appropriated to the Department shall not be made available to carry out section 5012 of the America COMPETES Act (42 U.S.C. 16538).

SA 1484. Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, insert the following:

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 4001. SULFUR HEXAFLUORIDE RESEARCH.

The Secretary shall carry out research to find alternatives for the use of sulfur hexafluoride in power generation and transmission equipment, including circuit breakers, switchgear, and gas insulated lines.

SA 1485. Mr. LEE (for himself and Mr. ROMNEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 4001. LIMITATION ON THE EXTENSION OR ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL MONUMENTS IN THE STATE OF UTAH.

Section 320301(d) of title 54, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking ''WYOMING'' and inserting ''THE STATE OF WYOMING OR UTAH''; and

(2) by striking ''Wyoming'' and inserting ''the State of Wyoming or Utah''.

SA 1486. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title II, add the following:

Subtitle D—Miscellaneous

SEC. 24 _____. MINERAL ENTRY AUTHORIZED.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Federal land described in subsection (b) shall be open to location, entry, and patent under the mining laws.

(b) FEDERAL LAND DESCRIBED.—The Federal land referred to in subsections (a) and (c) is the area of land depicted as ''Mineral Withdrawal'' on the map prepared by the Bureau of Land Management entitled ''Grand Canyon Centennial Protection Act'' and dated February 26, 2019.

(c) LIMITATION ON WITHDRAWAL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Federal land described in subsection (b) may not be withdrawn from location, entry, and patent under the mining laws except by Act of Congress.

(2) APPLICATION OF CERTAIN LAW.—The authority of the Secretary of the Interior under sections 202(e)(3) and 204 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1712(e)(3), 1714) shall not apply to the Federal land described in subsection (b).

SA 1487. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 4001. PROTECTION, MANAGEMENT, AND CONTROL OF WILD FREE-ROAMING HORSES AND BURROS.

Section 3 of Public Law 92–195 (16 U.S.C. 1333) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking the subsection designation and all that follows through ''The Secretary'' in the first sentence of paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(b) INVENTORY; OVERPOPULATION; RESEARCH STUDY.—

''(1) INVENTORY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary'';

(B) in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) (as so designated)—

(i) in the third sentence, by striking ''In making such determinations the Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(C) CONSULTATION.—In making a determination under subparagraph (B), the Secretary''; and

(ii) in the second sentence, by striking ''The purpose of such inventory shall be to: make'' and inserting the following:

''(B) DETERMINATIONS.—The purpose of the inventory under subparagraph (A) shall be to make'';

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting a period;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''; and'' at the end and inserting a period;

(iii) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (C) as clauses (i) through (iii), respectively, and indenting the clauses appropriately; and

(iv) by striking the paragraph designation and all that follows through ''management levels. Such action shall be taken, in'' and inserting the following:

''(2) OVERPOPULATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—On a determination by the Secretary in accordance with subparagraph (B) that an overpopulation of wild free-roaming horses or burros exists on a given area of public land, and that action is necessary to remove excess horses or burros, the Secretary shall immediately remove excess horses or burros from the public land range as the Secretary determines to be necessary to achieve appropriate management levels of wild free-roaming horses or burros.

''(B) BASIS OF DETERMINATIONS.—The Secretary shall make a determination under subparagraph (A) on the basis of—

''(i)(I) the current inventory of land within the jurisdiction of the Secretary;

''(II) information contained in any relevant land use planning completed pursuant to section 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1712);

''(III) relevant information contained in court ordered environmental impact statements (as defined in section 3 of the Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978 (43 U.S.C. 1902)); and

''(IV) such additional information as becomes available to the Secretary from time to time, including any information developed in the research study under paragraph (3); or

''(ii) in the absence of information described in clause (i), all information otherwise available to the Secretary.

''(C) APPLICABILITY OF NEPA.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—During any period with respect to which the Secretary determines under subparagraph (A) that an overpopulation of wild free-roaming horses or burros exists, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) shall not apply to—

''(I) the use of any vehicle, including an all-terrain vehicle or helicopter, that the Secretary determines to be necessary to capture excess wild free-roaming horses or burros; or

''(II) the sterilization by a licensed professional of any male or female wild free-roaming horse or burro.

''(ii) RESUMPTION.—The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) shall apply to the activities described in subclauses (I) and (II) of clause (i) beginning on the date on which the Secretary determines that the appropriate management level of wild free-roaming horses or burros has been attained with respect to an applicable area of public land.

''(D) ORDER AND PRIORITY.—An action under subparagraph (A) shall be carried out in''; and

(D) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in the third sentence, by striking ''Such study'' and inserting the following:

''(C) DEADLINE.—The study under this paragraph'';

(ii) in the second sentence, by striking ''The terms and outline of such research study'' and inserting the following:

''(B) RESEARCH DESIGN PANEL.—The terms and outline of the study under this paragraph''; and

(iii) by striking ''(3) For the purpose'' and inserting the following:

''(3) RESEARCH STUDY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose''; and

(2) in subsection (d)—

(A) in each of paragraphs (2) and (3), by striking ''or'' at the end; and

(B) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(1) on passage of title pursuant to subsection (c), subject to the limitation described in that subsection;''.

SA 1488. Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. UDALL, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 426, strike line 7 and all that follows through page 432, line 6, and insert the following:

(e) PERMITTING.—

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

(A) critical minerals are fundamental to the economy, competitiveness, and security of the United States; and

(B) to the maximum extent practicable, the critical mineral needs of the United States should be satisfied by minerals responsibly produced and recycled in the United States.

(2) REVIEW AND REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary (acting through the Director of the Bureau of Land Management) and the Secretary of Agriculture (acting through the Chief of the Forest Service) (referred to in this subsection as the ''Secretaries'') shall submit to Congress a report that—

(A) identifies additional measures (including regulatory and legislative proposals, as appropriate) that would increase the timeliness of permitting activities for the exploration and development of domestic critical minerals;

(B) identifies options (including cost recovery paid by permit applicants) for ensuring adequate staffing and training of Federal entities and personnel responsible for the consideration of applications, operating plans, leases, licenses, permits, and other use authorizations for critical mineral-related activities on Federal land; and

(C) quantifies the amount of time typically required (including range derived from minimum and maximum durations, mean, median, variance, and other statistical measures or representations) to complete each step (including those aspects outside the control of the executive branch, such as judicial review, applicant decisions, or State and local government involvement) associated with the development and processing of applications, operating plans, leases, licenses, permits, and other use authorizations for critical mineral-related activities on Federal land, which shall serve as a baseline for purposes of paragraph (3)(B).

(3) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Beginning with the first budget submission by the President under section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretaries shall submit to Congress a report that—

(A) summarizes the implementation of recommendations, measures, and options identified in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (2);

(B) describes progress made by the executive branch, as compared to the baseline established under paragraph (2)(C), on expediting the permitting of activities that will increase exploration for, and development of, domestic critical minerals; and

(C) compares the United States to other countries in terms of permitting efficiency and any other criteria relevant to the globally competitive critical minerals industry.

SA 1489. Mr. UDALL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. STUDY ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF NEW PLASTIC PRODUCTION FACILITIES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED FACILITY.—The term ''covered facility'' means—

(A) an industrial facility that transforms natural gas liquids into ethylene and propylene for later conversion into plastic polymers;

(B) a plastic polymerization or polymer production facility; and

(C) an industrial facility that repolymerizes plastic polymers into chemical feedstocks for use in new products or as fuel.

(2) COVERED PRODUCTS.—The term ''covered plastic'' means—

(A) ethylene;

(B) propylene;

(C) polyethylene in any form (including pellets, resin, nurdle, powder, and flakes);

(D) polypropylene in any form (including pellets, resin, nurdle, powder, and flakes);

(E) polyvinyl chloride in any form (including pellets, resin, nurdle, powder, and flakes); or

(F) other plastic polymer raw materials in any form (including pellets, resin, nurdle, powder, and flakes).

(3) ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE.—The term ''environmental justice'' means the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all individuals, regardless of race, color, national origin, educational level, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies to ensure that—

(A) communities of color, indigenous communities, and low-income communities have access to public information and opportunities for meaningful public participation with respect to human health and environmental planning, regulations, and enforcement;

(B) no community of color, indigenous community, or low-income community is exposed to a disproportionate burden of the negative human health and environmental

impacts of pollution or other environmental hazards; and

(C) the 17 principles described in the document entitled ''The Principles of Environmental Justice'', written and adopted at the First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit held on October 24 through 27, 1991, in Washington, DC, are upheld.

(b) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall offer to enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences and the National Institutes of Health to conduct a study of—

(A) the existing and planned expansion of the industry of the producers of covered products, including the entire supply chain, end uses, disposal fate, and lifecycle impacts of covered products;

(B) the environmental justice and pollution impacts of covered facilities and the products of covered facilities;

(C) the existing standard technologies and practices of covered facilities with respect to the discharge and emission of pollutants into the environment; and

(D) the best available technologies and practices that reduce or eliminate the environmental justice and pollution impacts of covered facilities and the products of covered facilities.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The study under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) consider—

(i) the direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts of the industries of covered facilities to date; and

(ii) the impacts of the planned expansion of those industries, including local, regional, national, and international air, water, waste, climate change, public health, and environmental justice impacts of those industries; and

(B) recommend technologies, standards, and practices to remediate or eliminate the local, regional, national, and international air, water, waste, climate change, public health, and environmental justice impacts of covered facilities and the industries of covered facilities.

(3) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report describing the results of the study under paragraph (1).

SA 1490. Mr. BARRASSO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE IV—ENERGY SECURITY COOPERATION

SEC. 4001. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Energy Security Cooperation with Allied Partners in Europe Act of 2020''.

SEC. 4002. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to reduce the dependency of allies and partners of the United States on Russian energy resources, especially natural gas, in order for those countries to achieve lasting and dependable energy security;

(2) to condemn the Government of the Russian Federation for, and to deter that government from, using its energy resources as a geopolitical weapon to coerce, intimidate, and influence other countries;

(3) to improve energy security in Europe by increasing access to diverse, reliable, and affordable energy;

(4) to promote energy security in Europe by working with the European Union and other allies of the United States to develop liberalized energy markets that provide diversified energy sources, suppliers, and routes;

(5) to continue to strongly oppose the Nord Stream 2 pipeline based on its detrimental effects on the energy security of the European Union and the economy of Ukraine and other countries in Central Europe through which natural gas is transported; and

(6) to support countries that are allies or partners of the United States by expediting the export of energy resources from the United States.

SEC. 4003. NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION.

The President should direct the United States Permanent Representative on the Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (in this title referred to as ''NATO'') to use the voice and influence of the United States to encourage NATO member countries to work together to achieve energy security for those countries and countries in Europe and Eurasia that are partners of NATO.

SEC. 4004. TRANSATLANTIC ENERGY STRATEGY.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the United States and other NATO member countries should explore ways to ensure that NATO member countries diversify their energy supplies and routes in order to enhance their energy security, including through the development of a transatlantic energy strategy.

(b) TRANSATLANTIC ENERGY STRATEGY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development and the Secretary of Energy, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a transatlantic energy strategy for the United States—

(A) to enhance the energy security of NATO member countries and countries that are partners of NATO; and

(B) to increase exports of energy, energy technologies, and energy development services from the United States to such countries.

(2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 4005. EXPEDITED APPROVAL OF EXPORTATION OF NATURAL GAS TO UNITED STATES ALLIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3(c) of the Natural Gas Act (15 U.S.C. 717b(c)) is amended—

(1) by inserting ''(1)'' before ''For purposes'';

(2) by striking ''nation with which there is in effect a free trade agreement requiring national treatment for trade in natural gas'' and inserting ''foreign country described in paragraph (2)''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) A foreign country described in this paragraph is—

''(A) a nation with which there is in effect a free trade agreement requiring national treatment for trade in natural gas;

''(B) a member country of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization;

''(C) subject to paragraph (3), Japan; and

''(D) any other foreign country if the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, determines that exportation of natural gas to that foreign country would promote the national security interests of the United States.

''(3) The exportation of natural gas to Japan shall be deemed to be consistent with the public interest pursuant to paragraph (1), and applications for such exportation shall be granted without modification or delay under that paragraph, during only such period as the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security, signed at Washington January 19, 1960, and entered into force June 23, 1960 (11 UST 1632; TIAS 4509), between the United States and Japan, remains in effect.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to applications for the authorization to export natural gas under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (15 U.S.C. 717b) that are pending on, or filed on or after, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 1491. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 2304(b)(4), strike ''or 2306''.

Strike section 2306.

SA 1492. Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HARRIS, and Mr. MARKEY)) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title I, add the following:

SEC. 15___. POST-SHUTDOWN DECOMMISSIONING ACTIVITIES REPORTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 10 of title I of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 113. POST-SHUTDOWN DECOMMISSIONING ACTIVITIES REPORTS.

''a. DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) AFFECTED STATE.—The term 'affected State' means—

''(A) the host State of a covered facility; and

''(B) each State located within 50 miles of a covered facility.

''(2) COMMISSION.—The term 'Commission' means the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

''(3) COVERED FACILITY.—The term 'covered facility' means a facility of a licensee for which a PSDAR is required.

''(4) HOST STATE.—The term 'host State' means the State in which a covered facility is located.

''(5) LICENSE; LICENSEE.—The terms 'license' and 'licensee' have the meanings given those terms in section 50.2 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations).

''(6) PSDAR.—The term 'PSDAR' means a post-shutdown decommissioning activities report submitted to the Commission and affected States under section 50.82(a)(4)(i) of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations).

''(7) TRANSFEREE.—The term 'transferee' means an entity to which a licensee proposes to transfer a license for a covered facility.

''(8) TRIBAL GOVERNMENT.—The term 'Tribal government' means the governing body of an Indian tribe (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)).

''b. CONSULTATION REQUIRED.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including regulations), a licensee may not submit

to the Commission a proposed PSDAR, or transfer to another entity the license, for a covered facility until the licensee and the transferee, if applicable, conduct consultation regarding the development of the proposed PSDAR or the proposed license transfer, as applicable, with—

''(1) each affected State; and

''(2) each unit of State government or Tribal government that—

''(A) is located in an affected State; and

''(B) has jurisdiction over land located within 50 miles of the covered facility.

''c. SUBMISSION TO COMMISSION; ADDITIONAL CONSULTATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—After carrying out the consultation required under subsection b. with respect to a proposed PSDAR or transfer of a license for a covered facility, the licensee shall—

''(A) submit to the Commission, as applicable—

''(i) the proposed PSDAR; or

''(ii) an application for transfer of a license; and

''(B) subject to paragraph (3), make the proposed PSDAR or application for transfer of a license, as applicable, available to the public.

''(2) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—On receipt of a proposed PSDAR or notice of a proposed license transfer under paragraph (1)(A), the Commission shall, subject to paragraph (3), make the proposed PSDAR or application for transfer of a license, as applicable, available to the public.

''(3) EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION.—In making a proposed PSDAR or application for transfer of a license, as applicable, available to the public under paragraph (1)(B) or (2), the Commission or the licensee, as applicable, may redact such information as the Commission or the licensee, as applicable, determines to be necessary to protect—

''(A) trade secrets and commercial or financial information under section 552(b)(4) of title 5, United States Code; or

''(B) national security.

''d. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.—For a period of not less than 90 days beginning on the date on which a licensee submits a proposed PSDAR to the Commission under subsection c. (1)(A) or the date on which the Commission dockets an application for transfer of a license under section 2.101 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations), as applicable, the Commission shall solicit in the host State public comments regarding the proposed PSDAR or notice of proposed license transfer, including through—

''(1) the solicitation of written comments; and

''(2) the conduct of not fewer than 2 public meetings.

''e. SUPPORT, CONDITIONAL SUPPORT, OR NONSUPPORT BY HOST STATE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of receipt of a proposed PSDAR or the date on which the Commission dockets an application for transfer of a license under section 2.101 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations), as applicable, for a covered facility, the Commission shall notify the host State of the opportunity to file with the Commission, by the date that is 60 days after the date on which the host State receives the notification—

''(A) a statement of support for the proposed PSDAR or license transfer;

''(B) a statement of conditional support for the proposed PSDAR or license transfer, together with specific recommendations for changes that could lead the host State to support the proposed PSDAR or license transfer; or

''(C) a statement of nonsupport for the proposed PSDAR or license transfer.

''(2) STATEMENT OF SUPPORT OR NONSUPPORT; FAILURE TO SUBMIT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If the host State files with the Commission a statement of support under paragraph (1)(A) or a statement of nonsupport under paragraph (1)(C), or fails to file a statement with the Commission by the deadline specified in paragraph (1), the Commission shall issue a determination regarding whether the proposed PSDAR is adequate or inadequate or a determination regarding whether to provide consent for the proposed license transfer, as applicable—

''(i) based on the considerations described in subparagraph (B); and

''(ii) after taking into consideration—

''(I) any written comments submitted by the host State, other affected States, and local communities with respect to the proposed PSDAR or license transfer; and

''(II) any input from the public under subsection d.

''(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—The Commission shall consider a proposed PSDAR or license transfer to be adequate under subparagraph (A) if the Commission determines that—

''(i) the proposed PSDAR or license transfer provides for—

''(I) the overall protection of human health and the environment; and

''(II) adequate protection to the health and safety of the public and the common defense and security;

''(ii) the licensee (and, if applicable, the transferee) has a substantial likelihood of implementing the proposed PSDAR or license transfer within the timeframe described in the proposed PSDAR or license transfer application;

''(iii) the proposed PSDAR or license transfer is in accordance with applicable law (including regulations); and

''(iv) the licensee (and, if applicable, the transferee) has demonstrated that the licensee has, or will have, the funds required to fully implement the proposed PSDAR or license transfer within the timeframe described in the proposed PSDAR or license transfer application, based on—

''(I) a comprehensive radiological site assessment and characterization; and

''(II) a nonradiological site assessment and characterization conducted by the host State.

''(C) DETERMINATION OF ADEQUACY.—Subject to paragraph (4), if the Commission determines that a proposed PSDAR or license transfer is adequate under subparagraphs (A) and (B), the Commission shall issue a decision document approving the PSDAR or license transfer.

''(D) DETERMINATION OF INADEQUACY.—If the Commission determines that a proposed PSDAR or license transfer is inadequate under subparagraphs (A) and (B)—

''(i) the Commission shall issue a decision document rejecting the proposed PSDAR or license transfer, including a description of the reasons for the decision, by the applicable deadline under paragraph (4); and

''(ii) not later than 2 years after the date of cessation of operations at the applicable covered facility, the licensee shall develop and submit to the Commission a new proposed PSDAR or license transfer in accordance with this section.

''(3) CONDITIONAL SUPPORT BY HOST STATE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which the host State files with the Commission a statement of conditional support of a proposed PSDAR or license transfer under paragraph (1)(B), the Commission shall determine whether the proposed PSDAR or license transfer is permissible under applicable law (including regulations).

''(B) CHANGES.—Notwithstanding the adequate protection of public health and safety or the common defense and security, for each change recommended by the host State under paragraph (1)(B), the Commission shall—

''(i) provide for the inclusion of the change into the final PSDAR or license transfer, unless the Commission determines the change to be inappropriate for inclusion, based on clear and convincing evidence that—

''(I) the change violates applicable law; or

''(II) the total costs of the change substantially outweigh the safety, economic, or environmental benefits of the change to the host State; and

''(ii) if applicable, provide the rationale for each determination of inappropriateness under clause (i).

''(C) DECISION DOCUMENT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (4), based on the determinations made under subparagraphs (A) and (B), the Commission shall issue a decision document relating to a proposed PSDAR or license transfer that, as applicable—

''(I) approves the proposed PSDAR or license transfer with any changes recommended by the host State that are not determined to be inappropriate under subparagraph (B); or

''(II) rejects the proposed PSDAR or license transfer.

''(ii) APPLICABLE LAW.—A decision document issued under clause (i) or subparagraph (C) or (D)(i) of paragraph (2) shall be considered to be a final order entered in a proceeding under section 189 a.

''(D) TREATMENT ON APPROVAL.—On approval by the Commission of a proposed PSDAR or license transfer under subparagraph (C)(i)(I) or paragraph (2)(C)—

''(i) the PSDAR or approval of the license transfer by the Commission shall be final; and

''(ii) the licensee may begin implementation of the PSDAR.

''(E) REJECTION.—If the Commission rejects a proposed PSDAR or license transfer under subparagraph (C)(i)(II), not later than 2 years after the date of cessation of operations at the applicable covered facility, the licensee shall develop and submit to the Commission a new proposed PSDAR or license transfer in accordance with this section.

''(4) DEADLINE FOR DECISION DOCUMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C), the Commission shall issue a decision document relating to a proposed PSDAR or license transfer under subparagraph (C) or (D)(i) of paragraph (2) or paragraph (3)(C)(i) by not later than 1 year after the date on which the proposed PSDAR or an application for transfer of a license, as applicable, is submitted to the Commission under subsection c. (1)(A).

''(B) PROPOSED INTERMEDIATE LICENSE TRANSFERS.—

''(i) DEFINITION OF PROPOSED INTERMEDIATE LICENSE TRANSFER.—In this subparagraph, the term 'proposed intermediate license transfer' means a proposed transfer of license—

''(I) for a covered facility on behalf of which a proposed PSDAR has been submitted by the licensee to the Commission under subsection c. (1)(A)(i); and

''(II) the notice of which is submitted to the Commission under subsection c. (1)(A)(ii) before the applicable deadline under subparagraph (A) for the issuance by the Commission of a decision document relating to the proposed PSDAR described in subclause (I).

''(ii) DEADLINE.—Subject to subparagraph (C), in any case in which a licensee submits to the Commission a notice of a proposed intermediate license transfer of a covered facility, the Commission shall issue a decision

document relating to the proposed PSDAR of the covered facility by not later than 1 year after the date of receipt of the application for transfer of a license.

''(C) EXTENSION.—If there are unforeseen circumstances, including unexpected technical issues, site-specific characteristics, or other external factors that could affect the ability of the Commission to issue a decision document by a deadline specified in subparagraph (A) or (B)(ii), the Commission may extend the applicable deadline for a reasonable period of time, as determined by the Commission.

''f. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) ACTION BY TRANSFEREES.—On transfer of a license for a covered facility by a licensee to a transferee in accordance with this section, the transferee shall conduct consultation in accordance with subsection b. with respect to each proposed PSDAR developed by the transferee for the covered facility.

''(2) STATE ENVIRONMENTAL LAW COMPLIANCE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Commission shall not approve a proposed PSDAR or license transfer under this section unless the proposed PSDAR or license transfer for a covered facility includes a requirement that the licensee and the transferee, if applicable, shall comply with applicable State law relating to air, water, or soil quality or radiological standards with respect to the implementation of the proposed PSDAR or license transfer in any case in which the applicable State law is more restrictive than an applicable Federal law.

''g. APPLICATION TO EXISTING DECOMMISSIONING ACTIVITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall notify—

''(A) each licensee or transferee, if applicable, of the opportunity to develop and submit to the Commission for approval a revised PSDAR for any covered facility of the licensee for which, as of the date of enactment of this section—

''(i) decontamination and dismantlement activities described in the PSDAR have not commenced at the covered facility; or

''(ii) decontamination and dismantlement activities described in the PSDAR have been commenced at the covered facility for a period of less than 5 years; and

''(B) each affected State with respect to a covered facility described in subparagraph (A) of the opportunity to consult with a licensee or transferee described in that subparagraph in accordance with subsection b.

''(2) PROCESS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4), if a licensee or transferee described in paragraph (1)(A) elects to submit to the Commission a revised PSDAR under that paragraph, the process for consideration and approval of the revised PSDAR shall be carried out in accordance with—

''(i) the process for consideration and approval of a proposed PSDAR for a covered facility under subsections b., c., d., and f.; and

''(ii) the process for support, conditional support, or nonsupport by the host State under subsection e.

''(B) NONSELECTION.—If a licensee or transferee described in paragraph (1)(A) elects not to revise an original PSDAR under that paragraph, the host State may file a statement of support, conditional support, or nonsupport for the original PSDAR in accordance with the process for support, conditional support, or nonsupport by a host State under subsection e.

''(3) DECISION DOCUMENT.—A decision document for a revised PSDAR submitted under paragraph (1)(A), or for an original PSDAR in any case in which the licensee or transferee elects not to revise the original PSDAR, shall be issued in accordance with subparagraph (C) or (D)(I) of subsection e. (2) or subsection e. (3)(C), as applicable, except that the Commission shall issue the decision document by the date that is 1 year after the date on which the applicable decontamination and dismantlement activities commence at the applicable covered facility.

''(4) REVISION AFTER DETERMINATION OF INADEQUACY.—If the Commission rejects a revised PSDAR submitted by a licensee or transferee under paragraph (1)(A) in accordance with subsection e. (2)(D) or subsection e. (3)(E), the licensee or transferee shall develop and submit to the Commission a new revised PSDAR in accordance with this subsection by not later than 2 years after the date of the rejection.''.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Atomic Energy Act of 1954 is amended—

(A) in section 103 (42 U.S.C. 2133)—

(i) in subsection d., in the second sentence, by striking ''any any'' and inserting ''any''; and

(ii) by redesignating subsection f. as subsection e.; and

(B) in section 111 (42 U.S.C. 2141), by striking the section designation and all that follows through ''The Nuclear'' in subsection a. and inserting the following:

''SEC. 111. LICENSING BY NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION OF DISTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN MATERIALS BY DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.

''a. The Nuclear''.

(2) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (68 Stat. 919; 126 Stat. 2216) is amended by striking the items relating to chapter 10 of title I and inserting the following:

''CHAPTER 10. ATOMIC ENERGY LICENSES

''Sec. 101. License required.
''Sec. 102. Utilization and production facilities for industrial or commercial purposes.
''Sec. 103. Commercial licenses.
''Sec. 104. Medical therapy and research and development.
''Sec. 105. Antitrust provisions.
''Sec. 106. Classes of facilities.
''Sec. 107. Operators' licenses.
''Sec. 108. War or national emergency.
''Sec. 109. Component and other parts of facilities.
''Sec. 110. Exclusions.
''Sec. 111. Licensing by Nuclear Regulatory Commission of distribution of certain materials by Department of Energy.
''Sec. 112. Domestic medical isotope production.
''Sec. 113. Post-shutdown decommissioning activities reports.''.

(c) ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARDS.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

(A) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ''Administrator'' means the Administrator of the Economic Development Administration.

(B) COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The term ''community advisory board'' means a local community committee or other advisory organization established for the purpose of fostering communication and information exchange between—

(I) a licensee planning for, and involved in, the decommissioning of a nuclear facility owned or operated by the licensee; and

(II) members of a community that the decommissioning referred to in subclause (I) may affect.

(ii) INCLUSIONS.—The term ''community advisory board'' includes an organization described in clause (i) that is—

(I) sponsored by a licensee; or

(II) required under applicable State law (including regulations).

(C) LICENSEE.—The term ''licensee'' means a person licensed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission under chapter 10 of title I of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.).

(2) AUTHORIZATION OF ASSISTANCE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Administrator shall establish a program under which the Administrator shall provide to community advisory boards economic adjustment assistance grants under section 209 of the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3149) or any other economic adjustment assistance program of the Administrator.

(3) ELIGIBILITY.—A community advisory board shall be eligible to receive a grant under this subsection if, as determined by the Administrator, the community advisory board—

(A) is composed of an organized group of individuals (including local community leaders and elected officials, State representatives, and staff of the applicable licensee) interested in safe decommissioning practices and spent nuclear fuel management at a nuclear facility that is—

(i)(I) undergoing decommissioning; or

(II) projected to undergo decommissioning not later than 3 years after the date on which an application is submitted under subparagraph (C); and

(ii) located in the area in which the individuals reside or are employed;

(B) has in effect a governing charter to establish the roles and responsibilities of members; and

(C) submits to the Administrator an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Administrator may require.

(4) USE OF FUNDS.—A grant provided under this subsection—

(A) may be used for the administrative costs of the recipient community advisory board, including the costs of—

(i) staffing; and

(ii) hiring any expert or other professional to assist the community advisory board in navigating the decommissioning process to ensure that the understanding and relevant capabilities of the community advisory board are equivalent to those of industry stakeholders, including the applicable licensee; but

(B) shall not be used for any economic development activity.

(5) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out this subsection $5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025.

SA 1493. Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. CRAPO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SMALL REFINERY EXEMPTIONS.

Section 211(o)(9) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7545(o)(9)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)(ii)(II), by inserting ''grant or'' after ''the Administrator shall''; and

(2) in subparagraph (B)(i), by inserting ''for a new exemption or'' after ''the Administrator''.

SA 1494. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE IV—REPEAL OF ENERGY TAX EXPENDITURES

SEC. 4001. SHORT TITLE; ETC.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the ''Energy Tax Expenditure Repeal Act of 2020''.

(b) AMENDMENT OF 1986 CODE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

SEC. 4002. REPEAL OF CREDIT FOR NONBUSINESS ENERGY PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart A of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 25C (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections of such subpart).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1016(a) is amended by striking paragraph (33).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 4003. REPEAL OF CREDIT FOR RESIDENTIAL ENERGY EFFICIENT PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart A of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 25D (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such subpart).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 23(c)(1) is amended by striking ''and section 25D''.

(2) Section 25(e)(1)(C) is amended by striking ''sections 23 and 25D'' and inserting ''section 23''.

(3) Section 1016(a) is amended by striking paragraph (34).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2020.

SEC. 4004. REPEAL OF ALTERNATIVE MOTOR VEHICLE CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart B of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 30B (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such subpart).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 38(b) is amended by striking paragraph (24).

(2) Section 1016(a) is amended by striking paragraph (35).

(3) Section 6501(m) is amended by striking ''30B(h)(9),''.

(4) Section 301(3)(B) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13211(3)(B)) is amended—

(A) in clause (i), by inserting '', as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Energy Tax Expenditure Repeal Act of 2020'' after ''section 30B(b)(3) of title 26'',

(B) in clause (ii), by inserting '', as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of that Act'' after ''section 30B(c)(3) of that title'', and

(C) in clause (iii), by inserting '', as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of that Act'' after ''section 30B(d)(3) of that title''.

(5) Section 508(a)(2) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13258(a)(2)) is amended by inserting '', as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Energy Tax Expenditure Repeal Act of 2020'' after ''section 30B(d)(3) of title 26''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property purchased after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 4005. REPEAL OF ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLE REFUELING PROPERTY CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart B of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 30C (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such subpart).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 38(b) is amended by striking paragraph (25).

(2) Section 55(c)(3) is amended by striking ''sections 30C(d)(2) and 38(c)'' and inserting ''section 38(c)''.

(3) Section 1016(a) is amended by striking paragraph (36).

(4) Section 6501(m) is amended by striking ''30C(e)(5),''.

(5) Section 244(b) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17052(b)) is amended by striking paragraph (6).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 4006. REPEAL OF CREDIT FOR NEW QUALIFIED PLUG-IN ELECTRIC DRIVE MOTOR VEHICLES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart B of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 30D (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such subpart).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 38(b) is amended by striking paragraph (30).

(2) Section 1016(a) is amended by striking paragraph (37).

(3) Section 6501(m) is amended by striking ''30D(e)(4),''.

(4) Section 166(b)(5)(A)(ii) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by inserting '', as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Energy Tax Expenditure Repeal Act of 2020'' after ''section 30D(d)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to vehicles acquired after December 31, 2020.

SEC. 4007. REPEAL OF ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 43 (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such subpart).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 38(b) is amended by striking paragraph (6).

(2) Section 45K(b) is amended by striking paragraph (5).

(3) Section 196(c) is amended by striking paragraph (5).

(4) Section 6501(m) is amended by striking ''43,''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts paid or incurred in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2020.

SEC. 4008. REPEAL OF CREDIT FOR ELECTRICITY PRODUCED FROM CERTAIN RENEWABLE RESOURCES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 45 (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such subpart).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 38 is amended—

(A) in subsection (b), by striking paragraph (8), and

(B) in subsection (c)(4)(B), by striking clauses (iv) and (v).

(2) Section 45K(g)(2) is amended by striking subparagraph (E).

(3) Section 55(c)(1) is amended by striking ''45(e)(11)(C),''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2020.

SEC. 4009. REPEAL OF CREDIT FOR PRODUCING OIL AND GAS FROM MARGINAL WELLS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 45I (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such subpart).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 38(b) is amended by striking paragraph (19).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2020.

SEC. 4010. REPEAL OF CREDIT FOR PRODUCTION FROM ADVANCED NUCLEAR POWER FACILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 45J (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such subpart).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 38(b) is amended by striking paragraph (21).

(2) Section 501(c)(12) is amended by striking subparagraph (I).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to electricity produced and sold after December 31, 2020.

SEC. 4011. REPEAL OF NEW ENERGY EFFICIENT HOME CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 45L (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such subpart).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 38(b) is amended by striking paragraph (23).

(2) Section 196(c) is amended—

(A) by inserting ''and'' at the end of paragraph (12),

(B) by striking paragraph (13), and

(C) by redesignating paragraph (14) as paragraph (13).

(3) Section 1016(a) is amended by striking paragraph (32).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to homes acquired after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 4012. REPEAL OF CREDIT FOR CARBON OXIDE SEQUESTRATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 45Q (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such subpart).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 38(b) is amended by striking paragraph (29).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2020.

SEC. 4013. REPEAL OF ENERGY CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart E of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 48 (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such subpart).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 38(c)(4)(B) is amended by striking clause (x).

(2) Section 45K(b)(3)(A)(i)(III) is amended by inserting '', as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Energy Tax Expenditure Repeal Act of 2020'' after ''section 48(a)(4)(C)''.

(3) Section 168(e)(3)(B)(vi)(I) is amended by inserting '', as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Energy Tax Expenditure Repeal Act of 2020'' after ''section 48(a)(3)''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2020.

SEC. 4014. REPEAL OF QUALIFYING ADVANCED COAL PROJECT CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart E of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 48A (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such subpart).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 411 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15971) is amended by striking subsection (d).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2020.

SEC. 4015. REPEAL OF QUALIFYING GASIFICATION PROJECT CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart E of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 48B (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such subpart).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2020.

SEC. 4016. REPEAL OF QUALIFYING ADVANCED ENERGY PROJECT CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart E of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 48C (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such subpart).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2020.

SEC. 4017. REPEAL OF EXCLUSION OF ENERGY CONSERVATION SUBSIDIES PROVIDED BY PUBLIC UTILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part III of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 136 (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such part).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts received after December 31, 2020.

SEC. 4018. EXPENSING OF GEOLOGICAL AND GEOPHYSICAL EXPENDITURES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part VI of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after section 176 the following new section:

"SEC. 177. GEOLOGICAL AND GEOPHYSICAL EXPENDITURES.

''(a) TREATMENT AS EXPENSES.—A taxpayer may elect to treat any geological and geophysical expenses paid or incurred in connection with the exploration for, or development of, oil or gas within the United States (as defined in section 638) which are paid or incurred by the taxpayer during the taxable year as expenses which are not chargeable to capital account. The expenditures so treated shall be allowed as a deduction.

''(b) ELECTION.—An election under subsection (a) shall be made at such time and in such manner as the Secretary prescribes by regulations.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 167 is amended by striking subsection (h).

(2) Section 263A(c)(3) is amended by striking ''167(h),''.

(3) The table of sections for part VI of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 176 the following new item:

''Sec. 177. Geological and geophysical expenditures.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts paid or incurred after December 31, 2020.

SEC. 4019. PERMANENT EXPENSING OF COSTS RELATED TO SPECIFIED ENERGY PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 168(k) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(11) PERMANENT EXPENSING OF COSTS RELATED TO SPECIFIED ENERGY PROPERTY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any specified energy property—

''(i) paragraphs (2)(A)(iii) and (8) shall not apply, and

''(ii) the applicable percentage shall be 100 percent.

''(B) SPECIFIED ENERGY PROPERTY.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'specified energy property' means any qualified property which is described in—

''(i) clause (vi) of subparagraph (B) of subsection (e)(3),

''(ii) clauses (iii) and (iv) of subparagraph (C) of such subsection,

''(iii) clause (iii) or (iv) of subparagraph (D) of such subsection, or

''(iv) clauses (iii) through (vi) of subparagraph (E) of such subsection.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 168(k)(6)(A) is amended by inserting ''or paragraph (11)'' after ''this paragraph''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2020.

SEC. 4020. PERMANENT EXPENSING OF COSTS RELATED TO CERTAIN ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (11) of section 168(k), as added by section 4019 of this Act, is amended—

(1) in the heading, by inserting ''AND CERTAIN ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITIES'' after ''SPECIFIED ENERGY PROPERTY'', and

(2) in subparagraph (A), by inserting ''or any atmospheric pollution control facility (as described in section 169(d)(5))'' after ''specified energy property''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2020.

SEC. 4021. REPEAL OF DEDUCTION FOR ENERGY EFFICIENT COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part VI of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 179D (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such part).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—

(1) Section 263(a)(1) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (I), by adding ''or'' at the end,

(B) by striking subparagraph (J), and

(C) by redesignating subparagraph (K) as subparagraph (J).

(2) Section 312(k)(3)(B) is amended by striking '', 179D'' each place it appears.

(3) Section 1016(a) is amended by striking paragraph (31).

(4) Section 1245(a) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (2)(C), by striking ''179,'', and

(B) in paragraph (3)(C), by striking ''179,''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 4022. REPEAL OF PERCENTAGE DEPLETION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part I of subchapter I of chapter 1 is amended by striking sections 613 and 613A (and by striking the items relating to such sections in the table of sections for such part).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 45H(d) is amended by inserting '', as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Energy Tax Expenditure Repeal Act of 2020'' after ''section 613A(d)(3)''.

(2) Section 57(a)(1) is amended by striking the second sentence.

(3) Section 263(i)(2)(A) is amended by striking ''(determined without regard to section 613)''.

(4) Section 291(a) is amended by striking paragraph (2).

(5) Section 381(c) is amended by striking paragraph (18).

(6) Section 465(c)(1)(E) is amended by inserting '', as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Energy Tax Expenditure Repeal Act of 2020'' after ''section 613(e)(2)''.

(7) Section 611(a) is amended by striking the second sentence.

(8) Section 614(d) is amended by striking ''includes only'' and all that follows and inserting ''includes only an interest burdened by the costs of production.''.

(9) Section 631(c) is amended by striking the second sentence.

(10) Section 636(a) is amended by striking ''(for purposes of section 613)''.

(11) Section 705(a) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by adding ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (C),

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''; and'' at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting a period, and

(C) by striking paragraph (3).

(12) Section 901(e)(1)(A) is amended by striking ''(or, if smaller'' and all that follows through ''under section 613)''.

(13) Section 993(c)(2)(C) is amended by inserting ''(as each such section was in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Energy Tax Expenditure Repeal Act of 2020)'' after ''section 613 or 613A''.

(14) Section 1202(e)(3)(D) is amended by inserting ''(as each such section was in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Energy Tax Expenditure Repeal Act of 2020)'' after ''section 613 or 613A''.

(15) Section 1367(a)(2) is amended by adding ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (C), by striking '', and'' at the end of subparagraph (D) and inserting a period, and by striking subparagraph (E).

(16) Section 1446(c) is amended by striking paragraph (2) and by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (2).

(17) Section 4612(a)(7) is amended by inserting ''(as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Energy Tax Expenditure Repeal Act of 2020)'' after ''section 613''.

(18) Section 4940(c)(3)(B) is amended—

(A) by striking clause (ii), and

(B) by striking all that precedes ''The deduction provided'' and inserting the following:

''(B) MODIFICATIONS.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the deduction provided''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2020.

SEC. 4023. REPEAL OF CREDIT FOR ALCOHOL FUEL, BIODIESEL, AND ALTERNATIVE FUEL MIXTURES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter B of chapter 65 of subtitle F is amended by striking section 6426 (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such subchapter).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 40(c) is amended by striking '', section 6426,''.

(2) Section 40A is amended—

(A) in subsection (c), by striking ''6426 or'', and

(B) in subsection (f)(4)(B), by striking ''and section 6426(c)''.

(3) Section 4101(a)(1) is amended by inserting ''(as each such section was in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Energy Tax Expenditure Repeal Act of 2020)'' after ''section 6426(b)(4)(A)''.

(4) Section 4104(a)(2) is amended by striking '', 6426,''.

(5) Section 6427 is amended—

(A) by striking subsection (e), and

(B) in subsection (i), by striking paragraph (3).

(6) Section 9503(b)(1) is amended by striking ''taxes received under sections 4041 and

4081 shall be determined without reduction for credits under section 6426 and''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to fuel sold or used after December 31, 2020.

SEC. 4024. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO MULTIPLE SECTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) AT-RISK RULES.—Section 49(a)(1)(C) is amended by striking ''means'' and all that follows through the period and inserting ''means the portion of the basis of any qualified rehabilitated building attributable to qualified rehabilitation expenditures.''.

(2) PROGRESS EXPENDITURES FOR INVESTMENT CREDIT PROPERTY.—Section 50(a)(2) is amended by striking subparagraph (E).

(3) APPLICABLE SECTION 38 CREDITS.—Section 59A(b)(4) is amended by striking ''properly allocable'' and all that follows through the period and inserting ''properly allocable to the low-income housing credit determined under section 42(a).''.

(4) AMOUNT OF INVESTMENT CREDIT.—Section 46 is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''and'' at the end,

(B) by striking paragraphs (2) through (5), and

(C) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (2).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2020.

SA 1495. Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. LANKFORD, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. HOEVEN, and Mr. TOOMEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike sections 1701 through 1705 and insert the following:

SEC. 1701. OBJECTIVES.

The objectives of this subtitle are—

(1) to establish a consistent and consolidated authority for the vehicle technology program at the Department;

(2) to develop United States technologies and practices that improve the fuel efficiency and emissions of all vehicles produced in the United States;

(3) to support domestic research, development, engineering, demonstration, and commercial application and manufacturing of advanced vehicles, engines, and components;

(4) to enable vehicles to move larger volumes of goods and more passengers with less energy and emissions;

(5) to develop cost-effective advanced technologies for wide-scale utilization throughout the passenger, commercial, government, and transit vehicle sectors;

(6) to allow for greater consumer choice of vehicle technologies and fuels;

(7) shorten technology development and integration cycles in the vehicle industry;

(8) to ensure a proper balance and diversity of Federal investment in vehicle technologies; and

(9) to strengthen partnerships between Federal and State governmental agencies and the private and academic sectors.

SEC. 1702. COORDINATION AND NONDUPLICATION.

The Secretary shall ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that the activities authorized by this subtitle do not duplicate those of other programs within the Department or other relevant research agencies.

SEC. 1703. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for research, development, engineering, demonstration, and commercial application of vehicles and related technologies in the United States, including activities authorized under this subtitle—

(1) for fiscal year 2021, $313,567,000;

(2) for fiscal year 2022, $326,109,000;

(3) for fiscal year 2023, $339,154,000;

(4) for fiscal year 2024, $352,720,000; and

(5) for fiscal year 2025, $366,829,000.

SEC. 1704. REPORTING.

(a) TECHNOLOGIES DEVELOPED.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act and annually thereafter through 2025, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report regarding the technologies developed as a result of the activities authorized by this subtitle, with a particular emphasis on whether the technologies were successfully adopted for commercial applications, and if so, whether products relying on those technologies are manufactured in the United States.

(b) ADDITIONAL MATTERS.—At the end of each fiscal year through 2025, the Secretary shall submit to the relevant Congressional committees of jurisdiction an annual report describing activities undertaken in the previous year under this subtitle, active industry participants, the status of public-private partnerships, progress of the program in meeting goals and timelines, and a strategic plan for funding of activities across agencies.

SEC. 1705. VEHICLE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

(a) PROGRAM.—

(1) ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary shall conduct a program of basic and applied research, development, engineering, demonstration, and commercial application activities on materials, technologies, and processes with the potential to substantially reduce emissions of the passenger and commercial vehicles of the United States, including activities in the areas of—

(A) electrification of vehicle systems;

(B) batteries, ultracapacitors, and other energy storage devices;

(C) power electronics;

(D) vehicle, component, and subsystem manufacturing technologies and processes;

(E) engine efficiency and combustion optimization;

(F) waste heat recovery;

(G) transmission and drivetrains;

(H) hydrogen vehicle technologies, including fuel cells and internal combustion engines, and hydrogen infrastructure, including hydrogen energy storage to enable renewables and provide hydrogen for fuel and power;

(I) natural gas vehicle technologies;

(J) aerodynamics, rolling resistance (including tires and wheel assemblies), and accessory power loads of vehicles and associated equipment;

(K) vehicle weight reduction, including lightweighting materials and the development of manufacturing processes to fabricate, assemble, and use dissimilar materials;

(L) friction and wear reduction;

(M) engine and component durability;

(N) innovative propulsion systems;

(O) advanced boosting systems;

(P) hydraulic hybrid technologies;

(Q) engine compatibility with and optimization for a variety of transportation fuels including natural gas and other liquid and gaseous fuels;

(R) predictive engineering, modeling, and simulation of vehicle and transportation systems;

(S) refueling and charging infrastructure for alternative fueled and electric or plug-in electric hybrid vehicles, including the unique challenges facing rural areas;

(T) gaseous fuels storage systems and system integration and optimization;

(U) sensing, communications, and actuation technologies for vehicle, electrical grid, and infrastructure;

(V) efficient use, substitution, and recycling of potentially critical materials in vehicles, including rare earth elements and precious metals, at risk of supply disruption;

(W) aftertreatment technologies;

(X) thermal management of battery systems;

(Y) retrofitting advanced vehicle technologies to existing vehicles;

(Z) development of common standards, specifications, and architectures for both transportation and stationary battery applications;

(AA) advanced internal combustion engines;

(BB) mild hybrid;

(CC) engine down speeding;

(DD) vehicle-to-vehicle, vehicle-to-pedestrian, and vehicle-to-infrastructure technologies; and

(EE) other research areas as determined by the Secretary.

(2) TRANSFORMATIONAL TECHNOLOGY.—The Secretary shall ensure that the Department continues to support research, development, engineering, demonstration, and commercial application activities and maintains competency in mid- to long-term transformational vehicle technologies with potential to achieve reductions in emissions, including activities in the areas of—

(A) hydrogen vehicle technologies, including fuel cells, hydrogen storage, infrastructure, and activities in hydrogen technology validation and safety codes and standards;

(B) multiple battery chemistries and novel energy storage devices, including nonchemical batteries and electromechanical storage technologies such as hydraulics, flywheels, and compressed air storage;

(C) communication and connectivity among vehicles, infrastructure, and the electrical grid; and

(D) other innovative technologies research and development, as determined by the Secretary.

(3) INDUSTRY PARTICIPATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—To the maximum extent practicable, activities under this subtitle shall be carried out in partnership or collaboration with automotive manufacturers, heavy commercial, vocational, and transit vehicle manufacturers, qualified plug-in electric vehicle manufacturers, compressed natural gas vehicle manufacturers, vehicle and engine equipment and component manufacturers, manufacturing equipment manufacturers, advanced vehicle service providers, fuel producers and energy suppliers, electric utilities, universities, National Laboratories, and independent research laboratories.

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out this subtitle, the Secretary shall—

(i) determine whether a wide range of companies that manufacture or assemble vehicles or components in the United States are represented in ongoing public-private partnership activities, including firms that have not traditionally participated in federally sponsored research and development activities, and where possible, partner with such firms that conduct significant and relevant research and development activities in the United States;

(ii) leverage the capabilities and resources of, and formalize partnerships with, industry-led stakeholder organizations, nonprofit organizations, industry consortia, and trade

associations with expertise in the research and development of, and education and outreach activities in, advanced automotive and commercial vehicle technologies;

(iii) develop more effective processes for transferring research findings and technologies to industry;

(iv) support public-private partnerships, dedicated to overcoming barriers in commercial application of transformational vehicle technologies, that use such industry-led technology development facilities of entities with demonstrated expertise in successfully designing and engineering pre-commercial generations of such transformational technology; and

(v) promote efforts to ensure that technology research, development, engineering, and commercial application activities funded under this subtitle are carried out in the United States.

(4) INTERAGENCY AND INTRAAGENCY COORDINATION.—To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall coordinate research, development, demonstration, and commercial application activities among—

(A) relevant programs within the Department, including—

(i) the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy;

(ii) the Office of Science;

(iii) the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability;

(iv) the Office of Fossil Energy;

(v) the Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy; and

(vi) other offices as determined by the Secretary; and

(B) relevant technology research and development programs within other Federal agencies, as determined by the Secretary.

(5) FEDERAL DEMONSTRATION OF TECHNOLOGIES.—The Secretary shall make information available to procurement programs of Federal agencies regarding the potential to demonstrate technologies resulting from activities funded through programs under this subtitle.

(6) INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall seek opportunities to leverage resources and support initiatives of State and local governments in developing and promoting advanced vehicle technologies, manufacturing, and infrastructure.

(7) CRITERIA.—In awarding grants under the program under this subsection, the Secretary shall give priority to those technologies (either individually or as part of a system) that—

(A) provide the greatest aggregate fuel savings based on the reasonable projected sales volumes of the technology; and

(B) provide the greatest increase in United States employment.

(8) SECONDARY USE APPLICATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a research, development, and demonstration program that—

(i) builds on any work carried out under section 915 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16195);

(ii) identifies possible uses of a vehicle battery after the useful life of the battery in a vehicle has been exhausted;

(iii) conducts long-term testing to verify performance and degradation predictions and lifetime valuations for secondary uses;

(iv) evaluates innovative approaches to recycling materials from plug-in electric drive vehicles and the batteries used in plug-in electric drive vehicles;

(v)(I) assesses the potential for markets for uses described in clause (ii) to develop; and

(II) identifies any barriers to the development of those markets; and

(vi) identifies the potential uses of a vehicle battery—

(I) with the most promise for market development; and

(II) for which market development would be aided by a demonstration project.

(B) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress an initial report on the findings of the program described in subparagraph (A), including recommendations for stationary energy storage and other potential applications for batteries used in plug-in electric drive vehicles.

(C) SECONDARY USE DEMONSTRATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Based on the results of the program described in subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall develop guidelines for projects that demonstrate the secondary uses and innovative recycling of vehicle batteries.

(ii) PUBLICATION OF GUIDELINES.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall—

(I) publish the guidelines described in clause (i); and

(II) solicit applications for funding for demonstration projects.

(iii) PILOT DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—Not later than 21 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall select proposals for grant funding under this subsection, based on an assessment of which proposals are mostly likely to contribute to the development of a secondary market for batteries.

(b) MANUFACTURING.—The Secretary shall carry out a research, development, engineering, demonstration, and commercial application program of advanced vehicle manufacturing technologies and practices, including innovative processes—

(1) to increase the production rate and decrease the cost of advanced battery and fuel cell manufacturing;

(2) to vary the capability of individual manufacturing facilities to accommodate different battery chemistries and configurations;

(3) to reduce waste streams, emissions, and energy intensity of vehicle, engine, advanced battery, and component manufacturing processes;

(4) to recycle and remanufacture used batteries and other vehicle components for reuse in vehicles or stationary applications;

(5) to develop manufacturing processes to effectively fabricate, assemble, and produce cost-effective lightweight materials such as advanced aluminum and other metal alloys, polymeric composites, and carbon fiber for use in vehicles;

(6) to produce lightweight high pressure storage systems for gaseous fuels;

(7) to design and manufacture purpose-built hydrogen fuel cell vehicles and components;

(8) to improve the calendar life and cycle life of advanced batteries; and

(9) to produce permanent magnets for advanced vehicles.

SA 1496. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

After section 2, insert the following:

SEC. 3. NONAPPLICABILITY OF DAVIS-BACON ACT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the requirements of subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Davis-Bacon Act''), shall not apply to any contract or subcontract supported, in whole or in part, by funds provided under this Act or under the amendments made by this Act.

(b) PREVENTING OTHER PREVAILING WAGE REQUIREMENTS.—This Act shall be applied without regard to subsection (g) of section 1004 and paragraph (4) of section 1204(b) of this Act, and such subsection and paragraph are deemed null, void, and of no effect.

SA 1497. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title I, add the following:

SEC. 14____. SALE OF COAL-FIRED ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITIES BY THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Before the Tennessee Valley Authority retires a coal-fired electric generating facility, the Tennessee Valley Authority shall—

(1) offer the facility for sale; and

(2) sell the facility to the highest bidder, subject to the condition that the purchaser shall agree to continue to operate the facility for electric generation for not less than 10 years beginning on the date of the sale.

(b) REVERTER.—On the violation by a purchaser of the condition described in subsection (a)(2), the applicable facility shall revert to the Tennessee Valley Authority.

SA 1498. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. MODEL GUIDANCE FOR COMBINED HEAT AND POWER SYSTEMS AND WASTE HEAT TO POWER SYSTEMS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADDITIONAL SERVICES.—The term ''additional services'' means the provision of supplementary power, backup or standby power, maintenance power, or interruptible power to an electric consumer by an electric utility.

(2) WASTE HEAT TO POWER SYSTEM.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''waste heat to power system'' means a system that generates electricity through the recovery of waste energy.

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term ''waste heat to power system'' does not include a system that generates electricity through the recovery of a heat resource from a process the primary purpose of which is the generation of electricity using a fossil fuel.

(3) OTHER TERMS.—

(A) PURPA.—The terms ''electric consumer'', ''electric utility'', ''interconnection service'', and ''State regulatory authority'' have the meanings given those terms in the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.), within the meaning of title I of that Act (16 U.S.C. 2611 et seq.).

(B) EPCA.—The terms ''combined heat and power system'' and ''waste energy'' have the meanings given those terms in section 371 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6341).

(b) REVIEW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and other appropriate entities, shall review existing rules and procedures relating to interconnection service and additional services throughout the United States for electric generation with nameplate capacity up to 20 megawatts to identify barriers to the deployment of combined heat and power systems and waste heat to power systems.

(2) INCLUSION.—The review under this subsection shall include a review of existing rules and procedures relating to—

(A) determining and assigning costs of interconnection service and additional services; and

(B) ensuring adequate cost recovery by an electric utility for interconnection service and additional services.

(c) MODEL GUIDANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and other appropriate entities, shall issue model guidance for interconnection service and additional services for use by State regulatory authorities to reduce the barriers identified under subsection (b)(1).

(2) CURRENT BEST PRACTICES.—The model guidance issued under this subsection shall reflect, to the maximum extent practicable, current best practices to encourage the deployment of combined heat and power systems and waste heat to power systems while ensuring the safety and reliability of the interconnected units and the distribution and transmission networks to which the units connect, including—

(A) relevant current standards developed by the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers; and

(B) model codes and rules adopted by—

(i) States; or

(ii) associations of State regulatory agencies.

(3) FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION.—In establishing the model guidance under this subsection, the Secretary shall take into consideration—

(A) the appropriateness of using standards or procedures for interconnection service that vary based on unit size, fuel type, or other relevant characteristics;

(B) the appropriateness of establishing fast-track procedures for interconnection service;

(C) the value of consistency with Federal interconnection rules established by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission as of the date of enactment of this Act;

(D) the best practices used to model outage assumptions and contingencies to determine fees or rates for additional services;

(E) the appropriate duration, magnitude, or usage of demand charge ratchets;

(F) potential alternative arrangements with respect to the procurement of additional services, including—

(i) contracts tailored to individual electric consumers for additional services;

(ii) procurement of additional services by an electric utility from a competitive market; and

(iii) waivers of fees or rates for additional services for small electric consumers; and

(G) outcomes such as increased electric reliability, fuel diversification, enhanced power quality, and reduced electric losses that may result from increased use of combined heat and power systems and waste heat to power systems.

SA 1499. Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. ENHANCED ENERGY EFFICIENCY UNDERWRITING CRITERIA.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) ADMINISTRATION.—The term ''Administration'' means the Federal Housing Administration.

(2) COVERED LOAN.—The term ''covered loan'' means a loan secured by a home that is insured by the Administration under title II of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1707 et seq.).

(3) HOMEOWNER.—The term ''homeowner'' means the mortgagor under a covered loan.

(4) MORTGAGEE.—The term ''mortgagee'' means an original lender under a covered loan or the holder of a covered loan at the time at which that mortgage transaction is consummated.

(5) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(b) ENHANCED ENERGY EFFICIENCY UNDERWRITING CRITERIA.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall, in consultation with the advisory group established under subsection (e)(3), develop and issue guidelines for the Administration to implement enhanced loan eligibility requirements, for use when testing the ability of a loan applicant to repay a covered loan, that account for the expected energy cost savings for a loan applicant at a subject property, in the manner set forth in paragraphs (2) and (3).

(2) REQUIREMENTS TO ACCOUNT FOR ENERGY COST SAVINGS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The enhanced loan eligibility requirements under paragraph (1) shall require that, for all covered loans for which an energy efficiency report is voluntarily provided to the mortgagee by the homeowner, the Administration and the mortgagee shall take into consideration the estimated energy cost savings expected for the owner of the subject property in determining whether the loan applicant has sufficient income to service the mortgage debt plus other regular expenses.

(B) USE AS OFFSET.—To the extent that the Administration uses a test such as a debt-to-income test that includes certain regular expenses, such as hazard insurance and property taxes—

(i) the expected energy cost savings shall be included as an offset to these expenses; and

(ii) the Administration may not use the offset described in clause (i) to qualify a loan applicant for insurance under title II of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1707 et seq.) with respect to a loan that would not otherwise meet the requirements for such insurance.

(C) TYPES OF ENERGY COSTS.—Energy costs to be assessed under this paragraph shall include the cost of electricity, natural gas, oil, and any other fuel regularly used to supply energy to the subject property.

(3) DETERMINATION OF ESTIMATED ENERGY COST SAVINGS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The guidelines to be issued under paragraph (1) shall include instructions for the Administration to calculate estimated energy cost savings using—

(i) the energy efficiency report;

(ii) an estimate of baseline average energy costs; and

(iii) additional sources of information as determined by the Secretary.

(B) REPORT REQUIREMENTS.—For the purposes of subparagraph (A), an energy efficiency report shall—

(i) estimate the expected energy cost savings specific to the subject property, based on specific information about the property;

(ii) be prepared in accordance with the guidelines to be issued under paragraph (1); and

(iii) be prepared—

(I) in accordance with the Residential Energy Service Network's Home Energy Rating System (commonly known as ''HERS'') by an individual certified by the Residential Energy Service Network, unless the Secretary finds that the use of HERS does not further the purposes of this section;

(II) in accordance with the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation energy rating system by an individual certified by the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation as an authorized Energy Rater; or

(III) by other methods approved by the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy and the advisory group established under subsection (e)(3), for use under this section, which shall include a third-party quality assurance procedure.

(4) USE BY APPRAISER.—If an energy efficiency report is used under paragraph (2), the energy efficiency report shall be provided to the appraiser to estimate the energy efficiency of the subject property and for potential adjustments for energy efficiency.

(5) PRICING OF LOANS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administration may price covered loans originated under the enhanced loan eligibility requirements required under this subsection in accordance with the estimated risk of the loans.

(B) IMPOSITION OF CERTAIN MATERIAL COSTS, IMPEDIMENTS, OR PENALTIES.—In the absence of a publicly disclosed analysis that demonstrates significant additional default risk or prepayment risk associated with the loans, the Administration shall not impose material costs, impediments, or penalties on covered loans merely because the loan uses an energy efficiency report or the enhanced loan eligibility requirements required under this subsection.

(6) LIMITATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administration may price covered loans originated under the enhanced loan eligibility requirements required under this subsection in accordance with the estimated risk of those loans.

(B) PROHIBITED ACTIONS.—The Administration shall not—

(i) modify existing underwriting criteria or adopt new underwriting criteria that intentionally negate or reduce the impact of the requirements or resulting benefits that are set forth or otherwise derived from the enhanced loan eligibility requirements required under this subsection; or

(ii) impose greater buy back requirements, credit overlays, or insurance requirements, including private mortgage insurance, on covered loans merely because the loan uses an energy efficiency report or the enhanced loan eligibility requirements required under this subsection.

(7) APPLICABILITY AND IMPLEMENTATION DATE.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and before December 31, 2023, the enhanced loan eligibility requirements required under this subsection shall be implemented by the Administration to—

(A) apply to any covered loan for the sale, or refinancing of any loan for the sale, of any home;

(B) be available on any residential real property (including individual units of condominiums and cooperatives) that qualifies for a covered loan; and

(C) provide prospective mortgagees with sufficient guidance and applicable tools to implement the required underwriting methods.

(c) ENHANCED ENERGY EFFICIENCY UNDERWRITING VALUATION GUIDELINES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall—

(A) in consultation with the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council and the advisory group established under subsection (e)(3), develop and issue guidelines for the Administration to determine the maximum permitted loan amount based on the value of the property for all covered loans made on properties with an energy efficiency report that meets the requirements of subsection (b)(3)(B); and

(B) in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, issue guidelines for the Administration to determine the estimated energy savings under subsection (b) for properties with an energy efficiency report.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The enhanced energy efficiency underwriting valuation guidelines required under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) a requirement that if an energy efficiency report that meets the requirements of subsection (b)(3)(B) is voluntarily provided to the mortgagee, such report shall be used by the mortgagee or the Administration to determine the estimated energy savings of the subject property; and

(B) a requirement that the estimated energy savings of the subject property be added to the appraised value of the subject property by a mortgagee or the Administration for the purpose of determining the loan-to-value ratio of the subject property, unless the appraisal includes the value of the overall energy efficiency of the subject property, using methods to be established under the guidelines issued under paragraph (1).

(3) DETERMINATION OF ESTIMATED ENERGY SAVINGS.—

(A) AMOUNT OF ENERGY SAVINGS.—The amount of estimated energy savings shall be determined by calculating the difference between the estimated energy costs for the average comparable houses, as determined in guidelines to be issued under paragraph (1), and the estimated energy costs for the subject property based upon the energy efficiency report.

(B) DURATION OF ENERGY SAVINGS.—The duration of the estimated energy savings shall be based upon the estimated life of the applicable equipment, consistent with the rating system used to produce the energy efficiency report.

(C) PRESENT VALUE OF ENERGY SAVINGS.—The present value of the future savings shall be discounted using the average interest rate on conventional 30-year mortgages, in the manner directed by guidelines issued under paragraph (1).

(4) ENSURING CONSIDERATION OF ENERGY EFFICIENT FEATURES.—Section 1110 of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3339) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking ''; and'' at the end;

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

''(4) that State certified and licensed appraisers have timely access, whenever practicable, to information from the property owner and the lender that may be relevant in developing an opinion of value regarding the energy-saving improvements or features of a property, such as—

''(A) labels or ratings of buildings;

''(B) installed appliances, measures, systems or technologies;

''(C) blueprints;

''(D) construction costs;

''(E) financial or other incentives regarding energy-efficient components and systems installed in a property;

''(F) utility bills;

''(G) energy consumption and benchmarking data; and

''(H) third-party verifications or representations of energy and water efficiency performance of a property, observing all financial privacy requirements adhered to by certified and licensed appraisers, including section 501 of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (15 U.S.C. 6801).

Unless a property owner consents to a lender, an appraiser, in carrying out the requirements of paragraph (4), shall not have access to the commercial or financial information of the owner that is privileged or confidential.''.

(5) TRANSACTIONS REQUIRING STATE CERTIFIED APPRAISERS.—Section 1113 of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3342) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting before the semicolon the following: '', or any real property on which the appraiser makes adjustments using an energy efficiency report''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting after before the period at the end the following: '', or an appraisal on which the appraiser makes adjustments using an energy efficiency report''.

(6) PROTECTIONS.—

(A) AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE LIMITATIONS.—The guidelines to be issued under paragraph (1) shall include such limitations and conditions as determined by the Secretary to be necessary to protect against meaningful under or over valuation of energy cost savings or duplicative counting of energy efficiency features or energy cost savings in the valuation of any subject property that is used to determine a loan amount.

(B) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY.—At the end of the 7-year period following the implementation of enhanced eligibility and underwriting valuation requirements under this subsection, the Secretary may modify or apply additional exceptions to the approach described in paragraph (2), where the Secretary finds that the unadjusted appraisal will reflect an accurate market value of the efficiency of the subject property or that a modified approach will better reflect an accurate market value.

(7) APPLICABILITY AND IMPLEMENTATION DATE.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and before December 31, 2023, the Administration shall implement the guidelines required under this subsection, which shall—

(A) apply to any covered loan for the sale, or refinancing of any loan for the sale, of any home; and

(B) be available on any residential real property, including individual units of condominiums and cooperatives, that qualifies for a covered loan.

(d) MONITORING.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the enhanced eligibility and underwriting valuation requirements are implemented under this subsection, and every year thereafter, the Administration shall issue and make available to the public a report that—

(1) enumerates the number of covered loans of the Administration for which there was an energy efficiency report, and that used energy efficiency appraisal guidelines and enhanced loan eligibility requirements;

(2) includes the default rates and rates of foreclosures for each category of loans; and

(3) describes the risk premium, if any, that the Administration has priced into covered loans for which there was an energy efficiency report.

(e) RULEMAKING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall prescribe regulations to carry out this section, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy and the advisory group established in paragraph (3), which may contain such classifications, differentiations, or other provisions, and may provide for such proper implementation and appropriate treatment of different types of transactions, as the Secretary determines are necessary or proper to effectuate the purposes of this section, to prevent circumvention or evasion thereof, or to facilitate compliance therewith.

(2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize the Secretary to require any homeowner or other party to provide energy efficiency reports, energy efficiency labels, or other disclosures to the Administration or to a mortgagee.

(3) ADVISORY GROUP.—To assist in carrying out this section, the Secretary shall establish an advisory group, consisting of individuals representing the interests of—

(A) mortgage lenders;

(B) appraisers;

(C) energy raters and residential energy consumption experts;

(D) energy efficiency organizations;

(E) real estate agents;

(F) home builders and remodelers;

(G) consumer advocates;

(H) State energy officials; and

(I) others as determined by the Secretary.

(f) ADDITIONAL STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall reconvene the advisory group established under subsection (e)(3), in addition to water and locational efficiency experts, to advise the Secretary on the implementation of the enhanced energy efficiency underwriting criteria established under subsections (b) and (c).

(2) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The advisory group established in subsection (e)(3) shall provide recommendations to the Secretary on any revisions or additions to the enhanced energy efficiency underwriting criteria deemed necessary by the group, which may include alternate methods to better account for home energy costs and additional factors to account for substantial and regular costs of homeownership such as location-based transportation costs and water costs. The Secretary shall forward any legislative recommendations from the advisory group to Congress for its consideration.

SA 1500. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. SMALL BUSINESS ENERGY EFFICIENCY.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) According to the Small Business Administration, small businesses account for 99.7 percent of United States employer firms and employ approximately half of all private-sector employees in the United States.

(2) A 2012 report from the National Federation of Independent Businesses found that energy costs are—

(A) the third most serious problem for small business owners; and

(B) one of the top 3 business expenses in 35 percent of small businesses;

(3) Investments in energy efficiency enhance energy savings and improve the competitiveness, profitability, production, product quality, and environmental sustainability of United States businesses and manufacturers;

(4) According to the Department of Energy, small buildings—

(A) are predominantly occupied by small business entities;

(B) consume 44 percent of the overall energy use in buildings in the United States; and

(C) present an estimated potential energy savings equal to 1,070,000,000,000,000 Btu of energy savings or $30,000,000,000 in cost savings per year.

(5) Market barriers exist to the widespread adoption of energy efficiency technologies and practices among small businesses, including a lack of—

(A) expertise about energy and the opportunities to reduce costs through energy efficiency measures;

(B) internal capacity to develop and implement energy efficiency projects; and

(C) capital or access to incentives and affordable financing for energy retrofits.

(6) Addressing the barriers described in paragraph (5) is in the interest of the United States.

(7) The United States would benefit from a concerted and focused effort to advance the adoption of energy efficiency technologies and practices among small businesses, which will facilitate greater economic growth in this sector.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the terms ''Administration'' and ''Administrator'' mean the Small Business Administration and the Administrator thereof;

(2) the term ''covered lender'' means—

(A) a development company (as defined in section 103 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 662)) that is eligible to participate in the program established under title V of such Act (15 U.S.C. 695 et seq.); and

(B) a lender under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a));

(3) the term ''energy efficiency'' means a decrease in consumption of energy (including electricity and thermal energy) that produces significant energy savings and is achieved without reducing the quality of energy services through—

(A) a measure or program that targets customer behavior;

(B) appliances, equipment, or energy systems;

(C) fixtures; or

(D) other devices;

(4) the term ''energy efficiency improvement'' means any project or activity the primary purpose of which is increasing energy efficiency;

(5) the term ''energy savings'' means a reduction in net energy costs (including electricity and thermal energy), fuel costs, water costs, other utility costs, or related net operating costs from or as compared to an established baseline of those costs;

(6) the term ''on-bill financing'' means a financial product that is serviced by, or in partnership with, a utility company for energy efficiency improvements in a building, and repaid by the building owner or tenant on his or her monthly utility bill; and

(7) the term ''small business concern'' has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632).

(c) CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT COMPANY AND LOAN UNDERWRITING REFORM.—

(1) INCREASED LOAN AMOUNTS UNDER THE 504/CDC PROGRAM.—Section 502(2) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 696(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(C) LOANS FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY SAVINGS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Administration may make loans under this section to a borrower in an amount greater than the maximum amount under subparagraph (A)(i) if the loan proceeds are directed toward a project that results in energy savings for a small business concern as a result of the installation or implementation of energy efficiency improvements.

''(ii) AMOUNT.—The Administration may increase the maximum amount under subparagraph (A)(i) for a small business concern by not more than the amount equal to the anticipated increased income or resources due to energy savings from the project.''.

(2) GUIDANCE FOR LOAN UNDERWRITING.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall issue guidance requiring covered lenders to incorporate energy efficiency considerations and life-cycle cost savings into the underwriting process for loans provided under title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695 et seq.) and section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)).

(3) EXISTING FEDERAL PROGRAMS.—Nothing in this subsection or the amendments made by this subsection shall be construed to restrict or otherwise affect efforts of the Federal Government in existence on the day before the date of enactment of this Act that would expand financing opportunities for small business concerns.

(d) WORKING GROUP AND UTILITY-LENDER FINANCING INCENTIVE PILOT PROGRAM.—

(1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(A) Small businesses account for more than 90 percent of utility commercial customers and nearly half of all commercial electricity usage.

(B) According to the National Small Business Association, small businesses, particularly those with fewer than 35 employees in the manufacturing sector, pay 35 percent more per unit for their electricity than comparable larger firms.

(C) Utility-administered energy efficiency programs, including on-bill financing—

(i) reduce or eliminate the first costs for energy efficiency improvements;

(ii) leverage existing billing relationships between consumers and utilities;

(iii) can be tied to a property so that energy savings are transferred to multiple owners or tenants;

(iv) incur low default rates ranging from 0 to 3 percent; and

(v) have been implemented in 23 States.

(D) Utilities have encountered challenges to the widespread adoption of on-bill financing programs among small businesses, including—

(i) modification of utility billing systems in order to provide on-bill financing options to customers;

(ii) desire among utilities to act as a financial institution;

(iii) insufficient human resources to navigate or comply with Federal and State regulatory reporting requirements involved with the implementation of on-bill financing programs; and

(iv) risk of non-payment and challenges associated with non-payment penalties for customers.

(E) Because of the challenges for utilities described in subparagraph (D), participation rates for on-bill financing programs among small businesses are generally low.

(F) Federal agency action can encourage on-bill financing programs and maximize their impact on the small business sector.

(2) REQUIREMENT.—The Administrator shall carry out efforts to advance the availability and utilization of utility-based financing programs for energy efficiency improvements among small business entities.

(3) CREATION OF A STAKEHOLDER WORKING GROUP.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the efforts under paragraph (2), and not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall convene a working group (in this paragraph referred to as the ''Group'') to address barriers that limit energy efficiency improvements among small business concerns.

(B) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Group is to provide guidance on how to—

(i) address the market barriers for small business concerns described in subsection (a)(5) and the challenges to utilities listed in paragraph (1)(D) that limit widespread adoption of on-bill financing programs;

(ii) develop Federal incentives or other mechanisms that encourage utility-based financing programs that target small business concerns; and

(iii) encourage coordination between lenders and utilities regarding existing incentive programs for small business concerns and potential sources of energy efficiency financing.

(C) MEMBERSHIP.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Group shall be composed of representatives of all groups determined by the Administrator to have a material interest in the development and implementation of on-bill financing programs that target small business concerns.

(ii) CRITERIA.—The Administrator shall select members of the Group—

(I) from among representatives that apply as a result of a public announcement from the Administrator; and

(II) based on qualifications and balance of interests represented by the selected individuals.

(D) DUTIES.—The Group shall provide recommendations to the Administrator for actions that should be taken to carry out the efforts under paragraph (2).

(E) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall prepare and submit to Congress a publicly available report based on the recommendations of the Group under subparagraph (D).

(F) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this subsection, but not more than $2,000,000 in any 1 fiscal year.

(4) PILOT PROGRAM.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Based on the findings in the report submitted under paragraph (3)(E) and not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall establish a pilot program to encourage the availability and utilization of on-bill financing for small business concerns.

(B) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—Any individual entity or group of entities may submit to the Administrator proposals for demonstration projects to be carried out under the pilot program established under subparagraph (A), including—

(i) State and local agencies;

(ii) electric and gas utilities;

(iii) electric cooperatives;

(iv) municipal utilities; or

(v) covered lenders.

(C) APPLICATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity described in subparagraph (B) that desires to participate in the pilot program established under subparagraph (A) shall submit to the

Administrator an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Administrator may require.

(ii) CRITERIA.—The Administrator shall evaluate an application submitted under clause (i) on the basis of merit using criteria identified by the Administrator, including—

(I) demonstrated support from lenders that offer financing to small business concerns in the State or region;

(II) demonstrated support from utilities, electric cooperatives, or municipal utilities in the State or region; and

(III) availability of existing financing programs for small business concerns and utility incentive programs in the State or region.

(D) BEST PRACTICES.—In carrying out the pilot program established under subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall establish best practices for the establishment and maintenance of relationships between lenders and utility companies to expand access to financing for energy efficiency measures.

(E) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the pilot program is established under subparagraph (A), and each year thereafter for 4 years, the Administrator shall submit to Congress a report on the efficacy of the pilot program in establishing connections between utility companies that offer energy efficiency incentives to small business concerns and lenders that offer financing to small business concerns.

(F) TERMINATION.—The pilot program established under subparagraph (A) shall terminate on the date that is 5 years after the date on which the Administrator establishes the pilot program.

(G) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this subsection, but not more than $5,000,000 in any 1 fiscal year.

(5) COORDINATION WITH STATE PROGRAMS.—In establishing and implementing this subsection, the Administrator shall, to the maximum extent practicable, preserve the integrity and incorporate best practices of State on-bill financing programs in existence on the day before the date of enactment of this Act.

(e) MENTORING AND BEST PRACTICE PROGRAMS.—

(1) ENERGY MANAGEMENT MENTORING PROGRAM.—Section 8 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637) is amended by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

''(c) ENERGY EFFICIENCY MANAGEMENT AND FINANCING IN SCORE PROGRAM.—

''(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term 'SCORE program' means the Service Corps of Retired Executives authorized under subsection (b)(1)(B).

''(2) VOLUNTEERS.—Under the SCORE program, the Administrator shall recruit volunteers with expertise in energy management, to be known as 'energy coaches', who shall work on-site directly with small business concerns to provide assistance relating to energy efficiency and energy management for a specified period of time.

''(3) CLEARINGHOUSES OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY INCENTIVES AND FINANCING RESOURCES.—The Administrator shall—

''(A) compile clearinghouses of grant, rebate, and financing programs, with an emphasis on programs that use utility on-bill financing and recovery and other energy efficiency incentives, offered by States, quasi-State entities, local governments, and utility companies; and

''(B) train energy coaches described in paragraph (2) to match small business concerns with the programs described in subparagraph (A) and provide advice in applying for assistance from those programs.''.

(2) SMALL BUSINESS ENERGY BEST PRACTICES PROGRAM.—The Administrator shall require each regional office of the Administration to—

(A) compile comprehensive clearinghouses of energy efficiency resources for small business concerns; and

(B) disseminate those clearinghouses, in the applicable geographic region, to—

(i) mentors and coaches of the Service Corps of Retired Executives authorized under section 8(b)(1)(B) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(b)(1)(B));

(ii) small business concerns; and

(iii) covered lenders.

(3) LOAN PERFORMANCE DATA TO ENCOURAGE ENERGY EFFICIENCY OPPORTUNITIES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to Congress a report on establishing a framework for standardizing and aggregating for securitization and data collection loan performance information that may be used by lenders to increase or expand energy efficiency financing opportunities from small business concerns.

(f) ENERGY EFFICIENCY AWARDS.—

(1) ENERGY EFFICIENCY LEADERSHIP AWARD.—The Administrator shall establish an award entitled the ''Small Business Award for Energy Efficiency Leadership'', which shall be awarded annually to a small business concern that makes extraordinary efforts or significant investments in energy efficiency.

(2) CROSS-ENDORSEMENT OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AWARDS.—The Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall establish a small business-focused version of existing recognition programs at the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency, to identify, acknowledge, and better encourage energy efficiency among small business concerns.

SA 1501. Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. BRAUN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title I, add the following:

SEC. 14_____. WASTE GAS UTILIZATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle F of title IX of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16291 et seq.) (as amended by section 1405(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 969B. WASTE GAS UTILIZATION.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a program of research, development, and demonstration for waste gas utilization.

''(b) COMPONENTS.—In carrying out the program under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

''(1) identify and evaluate new uses for light hydrocarbons, such as methane, ethane, propane, butane, pentane, and hexane, produced during oil and shale gas production, including the production of chemicals or transportation fuels;

''(2) develop advanced gas conversion technologies that—

''(A) are modular and compact; and

''(B) may leverage advanced manufacturing technologies;

''(3) support demonstration activities at operating oil and gas facilities to test the performance and cost-effectiveness of new gas conversion technologies; and

''(4) assess and monitor potential changes in lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions that may result from the use of technologies developed under the program.''.

(b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–58; 119 Stat. 600) (as amended by section 1405(b)) is amended by adding at the end of the items relating to subtitle F of title IX the following:

''Sec. 969B. Waste gas utilization.''.

SA 1502. Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. YOUNG) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 274, strike line 23 and all that follows through page 275, line 8, and insert the following:

''(2) HYDROGEN CONVERSION PROGRAM.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall establish a demonstration program for the purpose of partnering with private institutions to accelerate the commercial deployment of technology to convert solids with high carbon content, including coal or petroleum coke, to hydrogen and hydrogen products.

''(3) COST SHARING.—Activities under paragraphs (1) and (2) shall be subject to the cost-sharing requirements of section 988.

''(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section (other than subsection (b)(2))—

''(A) $29,000,000 for fiscal year 2021;

''(B) $30,250,000 for fiscal year 2022;

''(C) $31,562,500 for fiscal year 2023;

''(D) $32,940,625 for fiscal year 2024; and

''(E) $34,387,656 for fiscal year 2025.

''(2) HYDROGEN CONVERSION PROGRAM.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out subsection (b)(2)—

''(A) $105,400,000 for fiscal year 2021;

''(B) $50,650,000 for fiscal year 2022; and

''(C) $55,125,000 for fiscal year 2023.''.

SA 1503. Mr. BRAUN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 4001. BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT LAND ACQUISITION DATA.

The Secretary of the Interior (acting through the Director of the Bureau of Land Management) shall—

(1) collect centralized data on land acquired for administration by the Bureau of Land Management using amounts from the Land and Water Conservation Fund established under section 200302 of title 54, United States Code, including data on—

(A) the method used for the acquisition; and

(B) the type of interest acquired;

(2) not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, submit to Congress a report describing the information collected under paragraph (1); and

(3) develop guidance to ensure that land acquisition data collected under paragraph (1) is entered correctly and properly coded in

the data system of the Bureau of Land Management.

SA 1504. Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COONS, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. YOUNG, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. ERNST, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. COTTON, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. JONES, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. HEINRICH, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BURR, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. KING) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. AMERICAN INNOVATION AND MANUFACTURING.

(a) FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.—

(1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(A) industries in the United States that use and produce fluorocarbons—

(i) contribute more than $158,000,000,000 annually in goods and services to the economy of the United States; and

(ii) provide employment to more than 700,000 individuals, with an industry-wide payroll of more than $32,000,000,000;

(B) the support and promotion of the technological leadership of the United States in fluorocarbon production and related products, equipment, and other uses provided by this section is expected—

(i) to create approximately 33,000 new manufacturing jobs in the United States; and

(ii) to add approximately $12,500,000,000 per year to the economy of the United States;

(C) supporting and promoting the technological leadership of the United States in fluorocarbon production and related products, equipment, and other uses also creates a significant new export advantage for manufacturers of fluorinated compounds and related products and equipment in the United States;

(D) the new markets for fluorinated products and equipment created by this section are expected to increase the share of the United States of the global fluorocarbon product and equipment market by 25 percent (to 9 percent from 7.2 percent); and

(E) this section incentivizes the investment of approximately $5,000,000,000 in the United States through fiscal year 2025 to exploit the new markets for fluorinated products and equipment created by this section.

(2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Administrator should provide for a safe hydrofluorocarbon transition by ensuring that heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration practitioners are positioned to comply with safe servicing, repair, disposal, or installation procedures.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ''Administrator'' means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(2) ALLOWANCE.—The term ''allowance'' means a limited authorization for the production or consumption of a regulated substance established under subsection (e).

(3) CONSUMPTION.—The term ''consumption'', with respect to a regulated substance, means a quantity equal to the difference between—

(A) a quantity equal to the sum of—

(i) the quantity of that regulated substance produced in the United States; and

(ii) the quantity of the regulated substance imported into the United States; and

(B) the quantity of the regulated substance exported from the United States.

(4) CONSUMPTION BASELINE.—The term ''consumption baseline'' means the baseline established for the consumption of regulated substances under subsection (e)(1)(C).

(5) EXCHANGE VALUE.—The term ''exchange value'' means the value assigned to a regulated substance in accordance with subsections (c) and (e), as applicable.

(6) IMPORT.—The term ''import'' means to land on, bring into, or introduce into, or attempt to land on, bring into, or introduce into, any place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, regardless of whether that landing, bringing, or introduction constitutes an importation within the meaning of the customs laws of the United States.

(7) PRODUCE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''produce'' means the manufacture of a regulated substance from a raw material or feedstock chemical (but not including the destruction of a regulated substance by a technology approved by the Administrator).

(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term ''produce'' does not include—

(i) the manufacture of a regulated substance that is used and entirely consumed (except for trace quantities) in the manufacture of another chemical; or

(ii) the reuse or recycling of a regulated substance.

(8) PRODUCTION BASELINE.—The term ''production baseline'' means the baseline established for the production of regulated substances under subsection (e)(1)(B).

(9) RECLAIM.—The term ''reclaim'' means—

(A) the reprocessing of a recovered regulated substance to at least the purity described in standard 700–2016 of the Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (or an appropriate successor standard adopted by the Administrator); and

(B) the verification of the purity of that regulated substance using, at a minimum, the analytical methodology described in the standard referred to in subparagraph (A).

(10) RECOVER.—The term ''recover'' means the process by which a regulated substance is—

(A) removed, in any condition, from equipment; and

(B) stored in an external container, with or without testing or processing the regulated substance.

(11) REGULATED SUBSTANCE.—The term ''regulated substance'' means—

(A) a substance listed in the table contained in subsection (c)(1); and

(B) a substance included as a regulated substance by the Administrator under subsection (c)(3).

(c) LISTING OF REGULATED SUBSTANCES.—

(1) LIST OF REGULATED SUBSTANCES.—Each of the following substances, and any isomers of such a substance, shall be a regulated substance:

Chemical Name	Common Name	Exchange Value
CHF_2CHF_2	HFC–134	1100
CH_2FCF_3	HFC–134a	1430
CH_2FCHF_2	HFC–143	353
$CHF_2CH_2CF_3$	HFC–245fa	1030
$CF_3CH_2CF_2CH_3$	HFC–365mfc	794
CF_3CHFCF_3	HFC–227ea	3220
$CH_2FCF_2CF_3$	HFC–236cb	1340
CHF_2CHFCF_3	HFC–236ea	1370
$CF_3CH_2CF_3$	HFC–236fa	9810
$CH_2FCF_2CHF_2$	HFC–245ca	693
$CF_3CHFCHFCF_2CF_3$	HFC–43–10mee	1640
CH_2F_2	HFC–32	675
CHF_2CF_3	HFC–125	3500
CH_3CF_3	HFC–143a	4470
CH_3F	HFC–41	92

Chemical Name	Common Name	Exchange Value
CH_2FCH_2F	HFC–152	53
CH_3CHF_2	HFC–152a	124
CHF_3	HFC–23	14800.

(2) REVIEW.—The Administrator may—

(A) review the exchange values listed in the table contained in paragraph (1) on a periodic basis; and

(B) subject to notice and opportunity for public comment, adjust the exchange values solely on the basis of—

(i) publicly available, peer-reviewed scientific data; and

(ii) other information consistent with widely used or commonly accepted existing exchange values.

(3) OTHER REGULATED SUBSTANCES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to notice and opportunity for public comment, the Administrator may designate a substance not included in the table contained in paragraph (1) as a regulated substance if—

(i) the substance—

(I) is a chemical substance that is a saturated hydrofluorocarbon; and

(II) has an exchange value, as determined by the Administrator in accordance with the basis described in paragraph (2)(B), of greater than 53; and

(ii) the designation of the substance as a regulated substance would be consistent with the purposes of this section.

(B) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this paragraph authorizes the Administrator to designate as a regulated substance a blend of substances that includes a saturated hydrofluorocarbon for purposes of phasing down production or consumption of regulated substances under subsection (e), even if the saturated hydrofluorocarbon is, or may be, designated as a regulated substance.

(d) MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) PRODUCTION, IMPORT, AND EXPORT LEVEL REPORTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—On a periodic basis, to be determined by the Administrator, but not less frequently than annually, each person who, within the applicable reporting period, produces, imports, exports, destroys, transforms, uses as a process agent, or reclaims a regulated substance shall submit to the Administrator a report that describes, as applicable, the quantity of the regulated substance that the person—

(i) produced, imported, and exported;

(ii) reclaimed;

(iii) destroyed by a technology approved by the Administrator;

(iv) used and entirely consumed (except for trace quantities) in the manufacture of another chemical; or

(v) used as a process agent.

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—

(i) SIGNED AND ATTESTED.—The report under subparagraph (A) shall be signed and attested by a responsible officer (within the meaning of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.)).

(ii) NO FURTHER REPORTS REQUIRED.—A report under subparagraph (A) shall not be required from a person if the person—

(I) permanently ceases production, importation, exportation, destruction, transformation, use as a process agent, or reclamation of all regulated substances; and

(II) notifies the Administrator in writing that the requirement under subclause (I) has been met.

(iii) BASELINE PERIOD.—Each report under subparagraph (A) shall include, as applicable, the information described in that subparagraph for the baseline period of calendar years 2011 through 2013.

(2) COORDINATION.—The Administrator may allow any person subject to the requirements of paragraph (1)(A) to combine and include the information required to be reported under that paragraph with any other related information that the person is required to report to the Administrator.

(e) PHASE-DOWN OF PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF REGULATED SUBSTANCES.—

(1) BASELINES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (D), the Administrator shall establish for the phase-down of regulated substances—

(i) a production baseline for the production of all regulated substances in the United States, as described in subpagraph (B)); and

(ii) a consumption baseline for the consumption of all regulated substances in the United States, as described in subparagraph (C).

(B) PRODUCTION BASELINE DESCRIBED.—The production baseline referred to in subparagraph (A)(i) is the quantity equal to the sum of—

(i) the average annual quantity of all regulated substances produced in the United States during the period—

(I) beginning on January 1, 2011; and

(II) ending on December 31, 2013; and

(ii) the quantity equal to the sum of—

(I) 15 percent of the production level of hydrochlorofluorocarbons in calendar year 1989; and

(II) 0.42 percent of the production level of chlorofluorocarbons in calendar year 1989.

(C) CONSUMPTION BASELINE DESCRIBED.—The consumption baseline referred to in subparagraph (A)(ii) is the quantity equal to the sum of—

(i) the average annual quantity of all regulated substances consumed in the United States during the period—

(I) beginning on January 1, 2011; and

(II) ending on December 31, 2013; and

(ii) the quantity equal to the sum of—

(I) 15 percent of the consumption level of hydrochlorofluorocarbons in calendar year 1989; and

(II) 0.42 percent of the consumption level of chlorofluorocarbons in calendar year 1989.

(D) EXCHANGE VALUES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subparagraphs (B) and (C), the Administrator shall use the following exchange values for hydrochlorofluorocarbons and chlorofluorocarbons:

Table 2

Chemical Name	Common Name	Exchange Value
$CHFC1_2$	HCFC–21	151
CHF_2C1	HCFC–22	1810
$C_2HF_3C1_2$	HCFC–123	77
C_2HF_4C1	HCFC–124	609
CH_3CFC1_2	HCFC–141b	725
CH_3CF_2C1	HCFC–142b	2310
$CF_3CF_2CHC1_2$	HCFC–225ca	122
CF_2C1CF_2CHC1F	HCFC–225cb	595

Table 3

Chemical Name	Common Name	Exchange Value
$CFC1_3$	CFC–11	4750
CF_2C1_2	CFC–12	10900

Table 3		
Chemical Name	Common Name	Exchange Value
$C_2F_3Cl_3$	CFC–113	6130
$C_2F_4Cl_2$	CFC–114	10000
C_2F_5Cl	CFC–115	7370

(ii) REVIEW.—The Administrator may—

(I) review the exchange values listed in the tables contained in paragraph (1) on a periodic basis; and

(II) subject to notice and opportunity for public comment, adjust the exchange values solely on the basis of—

(aa) publicly available, peer-reviewed scientific data; and

(bb) other information consistent with widely used or commonly accepted existing exchange values.

(2) PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION PHASE-DOWN.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—During the period beginning on January 1 of each year listed in the table contained in subparagraph (C) and ending on December 31 of the year before the next year listed on that table, except as otherwise permitted under this section, no person shall—

(i) produce a quantity of a regulated substance without a corresponding quantity of production allowances, except as provided in paragraph (5); or

(ii) consume a quantity of a regulated substance without a corresponding quantity of consumption allowances.

(B) COMPLIANCE.—For each year listed on the table contained in subparagraph (C), the Administrator shall ensure that the annual quantity of all regulated substances produced or consumed in the United States does not exceed the product obtained by multiplying—

(i) the production baseline or consumption baseline, as applicable; and

(ii) the applicable percentage listed on the table contained in subparagraph (C).

(C) RELATION TO BASELINE.—On January 1 of each year listed in the following table, the Administrator shall apply the applicable percentage, as described in subparagraph (A):

Date	Percentage of Production Baseline	Percentage of Consumption Baseline
2020–2023	90 percent	90 percent
2024–2028	60 percent	60 percent
2029–2033	30 percent	30 percent
2034–2035	20 percent	20 percent
2036 and thereafter	15 percent	15 percent

(D) ALLOWANCES.—

(i) QUANTITY.—Not later than October 1 of each calendar year, the Administrator shall use the quantity calculated under subparagraph (B) to determine the quantity of allowances for the production and consumption of regulated substances that may be used for the following calendar year.

(ii) NATURE OF ALLOWANCES.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—An allowance allocated under this section—

(aa) does not constitute a property right; and

(bb) is a limited authorization for the production or consumption of a regulated substance under this section.

(II) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this section or in any other provision of law limits the authority of the United States to terminate or limit an authorization described in subclause (I)(bb).

(3) REGULATIONS REGARDING PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF REGULATED SUBSTANCES.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall issue a final rule—

(A) phasing down the production of regulated substances in the United States through an allowance allocation and trading program in accordance with this section; and

(B) phasing down the consumption of regulated substances in the United States through an allowance allocation and trading program in accordance with the schedule under paragraph (2)(C) (subject to the same exceptions and other requirements as are applicable to the phase-down of production of regulated substances under this section).

(4) EXCEPTIONS.—

(A) FEEDSTOCKS AND PROCESS AGENTS.—Except for the reporting requirements described in subsection (d)(1), this section does not apply to—

(i) a regulated substance that is used and entirely consumed (except for trace quantities) in the manufacture of another chemical; or

(ii) a regulated substance that is used and not entirely consumed in the manufacture of another chemical, if the remaining amounts of the regulated substance are subsequently destroyed.

(B) ESSENTIAL USES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Not earlier than January 1, 2034, the Administrator may, after notice and opportunity for public comment, authorize the production or consumption of a regulated substance for a period of not more than 5 years in a quantity in excess of the quantities authorized under paragraph (2)(A) for the exclusive use of the regulated substance in an application with respect to which the Administrator determines that—

(I) no substitute will be available during the applicable period for that application, considering technological achievability, commercial demands, safety, and other relevant factors; and

(II) the total supply of the regulated substance authorized under paragraph (2)(A), including any quantities of a regulated substance available from reclaiming, prior production, or prior import, is insufficient to accommodate the application.

(ii) LIMITATION.—No person receiving an authorization under clause (i) may, on an annual basis, produce or consume a quantity of a regulated substance that is greater than 10 percent of the quantity that the person produced or consumed to contribute to the production baseline or the consumption baseline, as applicable.

(iii) REVIEW.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—For each application for which the Administrator has authorized the production or consumption, as applicable, of a regulated substance under clause (i), the Administrator shall review the availability of substitutes, including any quantities of the regulated substance available from reclaiming or prior production, not less frequently than once every 5 years, considering technological achievability, commercial demands, safety, and other relevant factors.

(II) EXTENSION.—If the Administrator determines, subject to notice and opportunity for public comment, that no substitute will be available for an application for which the Administrator granted a waiver under clause (i) during a subsequent period, the Administrator may authorize the production or consumption, as applicable, of any regulated substance used in the application for not more than an additional 5 years in a quantity in excess of the quantity authorized under paragraph (2)(A) for exclusive use in the application.

(5) DOMESTIC MANUFACTURING.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2)(A)(i), the Administrator may authorize a person to produce a regulated substance in excess of the number of production allowances held by that person, subject to the conditions that—

(A) the authorization is—

(i) for a renewable period of not more than 5 years; and

(ii) subject to notice and opportunity for public comment; and

(B) the production—

(i) is at a facility located in the United States;

(ii) is solely for export to, and use in, a foreign country that is not subject to the prohibition in subsection (j)(1); and

(iii) would not violate paragraph (2)(B).

(f) ACCELERATED SCHEDULE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (4), the Administrator may, in response to a petition submitted to the Administrator in accordance with paragraph (3) and after notice and opportunity for public comment, promulgate regulations that establish a schedule for phasing down the production or consumption of regulated substances that is more stringent than the production and consumption levels of regulated substances required under subsection (e)(2)(C) if, based on the availability of substitutes for regulated substances, the Administrator determines that a more-stringent schedule is practicable, taking into account technological

achievability, commercial demands, safety, and other relevant factors, including the quantities of regulated substances available from reclaiming, prior production, or prior import.

(2) REQUIREMENT.—In making a determination on whether to implement a more-stringent phase-down schedule under paragraph (1), the Administrator shall—

(A) consider—

(i) the remaining phase-down period for regulated substances under subsection (e), if applicable; and

(ii) relevant, publicly available, peer-reviewed scientific data;

(B) apply uniformly any regulations promulgated pursuant to paragraph (1) to the allocation of production and consumption allowances for regulated substances, in accordance with subsection (e)(3); and

(C) adjust the production and consumption allowances accordingly.

(3) PETITION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A person may petition the Administrator to promulgate regulations for an accelerated schedule for the phase-down of production or consumption of regulated substances under paragraph (1).

(B) REQUIREMENT.—A petition submitted under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) be made at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Administrator shall require; and

(ii) include a showing by the petitioner that there are data to support the petition.

(C) TIMELINES.—

(i) PETITIONS.—The Administrator shall grant or deny the petition under subparagraph (A) by not later than 270 days after the date on which the Administrator receives the petition.

(ii) REGULATIONS.—If the Administrator grants a petition under subparagraph (A), the final regulations with respect to the petition shall be promulgated by not later than 1 year after the date on which the Administrator grants the petition.

(D) DENIAL.—If the Administrator denies a petition under subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall publish a description of the reason for the denial.

(E) INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION.—If the Administrator determines that the data included under subparagraph (B)(ii) in a petition are not sufficient to make a determination under this paragraph, the Administrator shall use any authority available to the Administrator to acquire the necessary data.

(4) APPLICABILITY.—The Administrator may not promulgate under paragraph (1) a regulation for the production or consumption of regulated substances that is more stringent than the production or consumption levels required under subsection (e)(2)(C) that takes effect before January 1, 2024.

(g) EXCHANGE AUTHORITY.—

(1) TRANSFERS.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall promulgate a final regulation that governs the transfer of allowances for the production of regulated substances under subsection (e)(3)(A) that uses—

(A) the applicable exchange values described in the table contained in subsection (c)(1); or

(B) the exchange value described in the rule designating the substance as a regulated substance under subsection (c)(3).

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The final rule promulgated pursuant to paragraph (1)(A) shall—

(A) ensure that the transfers under this subsection will result in greater total reductions in the production of regulated substances in each year than would occur during the year in the absence of the transfers;

(B) permit 2 or more persons to transfer production allowances if the transferor of the allowances will be subject, under the final rule, to an enforceable and quantifiable reduction in annual production that—

(i) exceeds the reduction otherwise applicable to the transferor under this section;

(ii) exceeds the quantity of production represented by the production allowances transferred to the transferee; and

(iii) would not have occurred in the absence of the transaction; and

(C) provide for the trading of consumption allowances in the same manner as is applicable under this subsection to the trading of production allowances.

(h) MANAGEMENT OF REGULATED SUBSTANCES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of maximizing reclaiming and minimizing the release of a regulated substance from equipment and ensuring the safety of technicians and consumers, the Administrator shall promulgate regulations to control, where appropriate, any practice, process, or activity regarding the servicing, repair, disposal, or installation of equipment (including requiring, where appropriate, that any such servicing, repair, disposal, or installation be performed by a trained technician meeting minimum standards, as determined by the Administrator) that involves—

(A) a regulated substance;

(B) a substitute for a regulated substance;

(C) the reclaiming of a regulated substance used as a refrigerant; or

(D) the reclaiming of a substitute for a regulated substance used as a refrigerant.

(2) RECLAIMING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out this section, the Administrator shall consider the use of authority available to the Administrator under this section to increase opportunities for the reclaiming of regulated substances used as refrigerants.

(B) RECOVERY.—A regulated substance used as a refrigerant that is recovered shall be reclaimed before the regulated substance is sold or transferred to a new owner, except where the recovered regulated substance is sold or transferred to a new owner solely for the purposes of being reclaimed or destroyed.

(3) COORDINATION.—In promulgating regulations to carry out this subsection, the Administrator may coordinate those regulations with any other regulations promulgated by the Administrator that involve—

(A) the same or a similar practice, process, or activity regarding the servicing, repair, disposal, or installation of equipment; or

(B) reclaiming.

(i) TECHNOLOGY TRANSITIONS.—

(1) AUTHORITY.—Subject to the provisions of this subsection, the Administrator may by rule restrict, fully, partially, or on a graduated schedule, the use of a regulated substance in the sector or subsector in which the regulated substance is used.

(2) NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING.—

(A) CONSIDERATION REQUIRED.—Before proposing a rule for the use of a regulated substance for a sector or subsector under paragraph (1), the Administrator shall consider negotiating with stakeholders in the sector or subsector subject to the potential rule in accordance with the negotiated rulemaking procedure provided for under subchapter III of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Negotiated Rulemaking Act of 1990'').

(B) NEGOTIATED RULEMAKINGS.—If the Administrator negotiates a rulemaking with stakeholders using the procedure described in subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall, to the extent practicable, give priority to completing that rulemaking over completing rulemakings that were not negotiated using that procedure.

(C) NO NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING.—If the Administrator does not negotiate a rulemaking with stakeholders using the procedure described in subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall, before commencement of the rulemaking process for a rule under paragraph (1), publish an explanation of the decision of the Administrator to not use that procedure.

(3) TRANSITION.—

(A) PROPOSALS.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall publish in the Federal Register a proposal of 1 or more dates after which the use of a regulated substance in a sector or subsector shall be restricted.

(B) FINAL RULES.—Not later than 18 months after the date on which the Administrator publishes a proposed rule under subparagraph (A) in the Federal Register, the Administrator shall issue a final rule for that proposed rule.

(4) PETITIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A person may petition the Administrator to issue a rule under paragraph (1) for the restriction on use of a regulated substance in a sector or subsector, which may include a request that the Administrator negotiate with stakeholders in accordance with paragraph (2)(A).

(B) RESPONSE.—The Administrator shall grant or deny a petition under subparagraph (A) not later than 180 days after the date of receipt of the petition.

(C) REQUIREMENTS.—

(i) EXPLANATION.—If the Administrator denies a petition under subparagraph (B), the Administrator shall publish in the Federal Register an explanation of the denial.

(ii) FINAL RULE.—If the Administrator grants a petition under subparagraph (B), the Administrator shall issue a final rule not later than 2 years after the date on which the Administrator grants the petition.

(iii) PUBLICATION OF PETITIONS.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Administrator receives a petition under subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall publish in the Federal Register that petition in full.

(5) CRITERIA.—In issuing a rule under paragraph (1), the Administrator shall consider the need—

(A) to promote and support domestic economic development;

(B) to maximize protections for human health and the environment;

(C) to minimize costs for the production, use, and reclaiming of regulated substances;

(D) to maximize flexibility for the recovery, reclaiming, and reuse of regulated substances;

(E) to ensure consumer safety;

(F) for the availability of substitutes, taking into account technological achievability, commercial demands, safety, and other relevant factors, including lead times for equipment conversion; and

(G) to minimize any additional costs to consumers.

(6) EVALUATION.—In carrying out this subsection, the Administrator shall evaluate substitutes for regulated substances in a sector or subsector, taking into account technological achievability, commercial demands, safety, and other relevant factors.

(j) INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), no person subject to the requirements of this section shall trade or transfer a production allowance or, after January 1, 2033, export a regulated substance to a person in a foreign country that, as determined by the Administrator, has not enacted or otherwise established within a reasonable timeframe after the date of enactment of this Act the same or similar requirements or otherwise undertaken commitments regarding the production and consumption of regulated substances as are contained in this section.

(2) TRANSFERS.—Pursuant to paragraph (1), a person in the United States may engage in a trade or transfer of a production allowance—

(A) to a person in a foreign country if, at the time of the transfer, the Administrator revises the number of allowances for production under subsection (e)(2), as applicable, for the United States such that the aggregate national production of the regulated substance to be traded under the revised production limits is equal to the least of—

(i) the maximum production level permitted for the applicable regulated substance in the year of the transfer under this section, less the production allowances transferred;

(ii) the maximum production level permitted for the applicable regulated substances in the transfer year under applicable law, less the production allowances transferred; and

(iii) the average of the actual national production level of the applicable regulated substances for the 3-year period ending on the date of the transfer, less the production allowances transferred; or

(B) from a person in a foreign country if, at the time of the trade or transfer, the Administrator finds that the foreign country has revised the domestic production limits of the regulated substance in the same manner as provided with respect to transfers by a person in United States under this subsection.

(3) EFFECT OF TRANSFERS ON PRODUCTION LIMITS.—The Administrator may—

(A) reduce the production limits established under subsection (e)(2)(B) as required as a prerequisite to a transfer described in paragraph (2)(A); or

(B) increase the production limits established under subsection (e)(2)(B) to reflect production allowances acquired under a trade or transfer described in paragraph (2)(B).

(4) REGULATIONS.—The Administrator shall—

(A) not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, promulgate a final rule to carry out this subsection; and

(B) not less frequently than annually, review and, if necessary, revise the final rule promulgated pursuant to subparagraph (A).

(k) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAW.—

(1) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(A) RULEMAKINGS.—The Administrator may promulgate such regulations as are necessary to carry out the functions of the Administrator under this section.

(B) DELEGATION.—The Administrator may delegate to any officer or employee of the Environmental Protection Agency such of the powers and duties of the Administrator under this section as the Administrator determines to be appropriate.

(C) CLEAN AIR ACT.—Sections 113, 114, 304, and 307 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7413, 7414, 7604, 7607) shall apply to this section and any regulations promulgated by the Administrator pursuant to this section as though this section were expressly included in each of those sections, as applicable, and the requirements of this section were part of that Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.).

(2) AUTHORITY.—On issuance of a final rule under subsection (e)(3) for the production and consumption of regulated substances, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Administrator shall have no authority to regulate the production or consumption of regulated substances under section 614(b) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7671m(b)).

SA 1505. Mr. RUBIO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. SBIR AND STTR PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.

(a) ACCELERATING SBIR AND STTR AWARD TIMELINES AT THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.—Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) is amended—

(1) in subsection (g)(8)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (C), by adding ''and'' at the end; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) with respect to the SBIR program of the Department of Energy, the average and median amount of time that the Department of Energy takes to review and make a final decision on proposals submitted under the program;'';

(2) in subsection (o)(9)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (C), by adding ''and'' at the end; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) with respect to the STTR program of the Department of Energy, the average and median amount of time that the Department of Energy takes to review and make a final decision on proposals submitted under the program;'';

(3) in subsection (hh), by adding at the end the following:

''(3) REQUIREMENT TO ACCELERATE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY SBIR AND STTR AWARDS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Department of Energy shall establish a program to reduce the time for awards under the SBIR and STTR programs of the Department of Energy by—

''(A) developing simplified and standardized procedures and model contracts or awards throughout the Department of Energy for Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III SBIR awards;

''(B) for Phase I SBIR and STTR awards, reducing the amount of time between solicitation closure and award;

''(C) for Phase II SBIR and STTR awards, reducing the amount of time between the end of a Phase I award and the start of the Phase II award;

''(D) for Phase II SBIR and STTR awards that skip Phase I, reducing the amount of time between solicitation closure and award;

''(E) for sequential Phase II SBIR and STTR awards, reducing the amount of time between Phase II awards; and

''(F) reducing the award times described in subparagraphs (B), (C), (D), and (E) to be as close to 90 days as possible.''; and

(4) in subsection (ii), by adding at the end the following:

''(3) ADDITIONAL COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives, with respect to the SBIR and STTR programs Department of Energy—

''(A) not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph, a report that—

''(i) provides the average and median amount of time that the Department takes to review and make a final decision on proposals submitted under each program; and

''(ii) compares that average and median amount of time with that of the previous 5 fiscal years; and

''(B) not later than March 31, 2024, a report that—

''(i) includes the information described in subparagraph (A);

''(ii) assesses where the Department of Energy needs improvement with respect to the proposal review and award times under each program;

''(iii) identifies best practices for shortening the proposal review and award times under each program; and

''(iv) analyzes the efficacy of the program established under subsection (hh)(3).''.

(b) IMPROVEMENTS TO COMMERCIALIZATION SELECTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) is amended—

(A) in subsection (g)—

(i) in paragraph (11), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(ii) in paragraph (12), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(13) with respect to peer review carried out under the SBIR program of the Department of Energy, to the extent practicable, include in the peer review—

''(A) the likelihood of commercialization in addition to scientific and technical merit and feasibility; and

''(B) not less than 1 reviewer with commercialization expertise who is capable of assessing the likelihood of commercialization.'';

(B) in subsection (o)—

(i) in paragraph (15), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(ii) in paragraph (16), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(17) with respect to peer review carried out under the STTR program of the Department of Energy, to the extent practicable, include in the peer review—

''(A) the likelihood of commercialization in addition to scientific and technical merit and feasibility; and

''(B) not less than 1 reviewer with commercialization expertise who is capable of assessing the likelihood of commercialization.'';

(C) in subsection (cc)—

(i) by striking ''During fiscal years 2012 through 2022, the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Defense, and the Department of Education'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—During fiscal years 2020 through 2025, the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Defense, the Department of Education, and the Department of Energy''; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) LIMITATION.—The total value of awards provided by a Federal agency described in paragraph (1) under this subsection in a fiscal year shall be not more than 10 percent of the total funds allocated to the SBIR and STTR programs of the Federal agency during that fiscal year.

''(3) EXTENSION.—During fiscal years 2024 and 2025, each Federal agency described in paragraph (1) may continue phase flexibility as described in this subsection only if the reports required under subsection (tt)(1)(B) have been submitted to the appropriate committees.'';

(D) in subsection (hh)(2)(A)(i), by inserting ''application process and requirements'' after ''simplified and standardized''; and

(E) by adding at the end the following:

''(vv) TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION OFFICIAL IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.—The Department of Energy shall designate a Technology Commercialization Official in the Department of Energy, who shall—

''(1) have sufficient commercialization experience;

''(2) provide assistance to SBIR and STTR program awardees in commercializing and transitioning technologies;

''(3) identify SBIR and STTR program technologies with sufficient technology and commercialization readiness to advance to Phase III awards or other non-SBIR or STTR program contracts;

''(4) coordinate with the Technology Commercialization Officials of other Federal agencies to identify additional markets and commercialization pathways for promising SBIR and STTR program technologies;

''(5) submit to the Administration an annual report on the number of technologies from the SBIR or STTR program that have advanced commercialization activities, including information required in the commercialization impact assessment under subsection (xx) and how those activities may relate to support of the diversification of the United States supply chain;

''(6) submit to the Administration an annual report on actions taken by the Federal agency, and the results of those actions, to simplify, standardize, and expedite the application process and requirements, procedures, and contracts as required under subsection (hh) and described in subsection (xx)(E); and

''(7) carry out such other duties as the Department of Energy determines necessary.''.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives summarizing the metrics relating to and an evaluation of the authority provided under section 9(hh) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(hh)) to the Department of Energy, as amended by subsection (a), which shall include the size and location of the small business concerns, as defined in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632), receiving awards under the SBIR or STTR program, as defined in section 9(e) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(e)), of the Department of Energy.

SA 1506. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6074, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. RESCISSIONS.

(a) EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all amounts made available for fiscal year 2020 for the East-West Center under title I of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2020 (division G of Public Law 116–94), the Inter-American Foundation under title III of such Act, and educational and cultural exchange programs under title I of such Act that remain unobligated as of the date of the enactment of this Act are rescinded.

(b) PROPORTIONAL RESCISSIONS OF OTHER UNOBLIGATED DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided under paragraph (2), after rescinding the amounts required under subsection (a), the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall rescind, on a proportional basis, such amounts as may be necessary to fully offset (in conjunction with the rescissions under subsection (a)) the amounts appropriated by this Act from the unobligated amounts appropriated for fiscal year 2020 for—

(A) the Economic Support Fund under chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2346 et seq.); and

(B) the United States Agency for International Development.

(2) EXCLUSIONS.—In making the rescissions required under paragraph (1), the Director shall not rescind any amounts appropriated for—

(A) global health programs under title III of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2020 (division G of Public Law 116–94); or

(B) assistance to Israel.

SA 1507. Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title II, add the following:

SEC. 21_____. LOAN GUARANTEES FOR PROJECTS THAT INCREASE THE DOMESTIC SUPPLY OF CRITICAL MINERALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1703(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16513(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(11) Projects that increase the domestic supply of critical minerals (as designated by the Secretary of the Interior under section 2101(c) of the American Energy Innovation Act of 2020), including through mining, processing, recycling, and the fabrication of mineral alternatives.''.

(b) PROHIBITION ON USE OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS.—Amounts appropriated to the Department before the date of enactment of this Act shall not be made available for the cost of loan guarantees made under paragraph (11) of section 1703(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16513(b)).

SA 1508. Mr. HAWLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 362, strike lines 14 through 16 and insert the following:

(EE) biofuel vehicle technologies, including ethanol and biodiesel combustion systems, and biofuel infrastructure, including the use of agricultural feedstocks to provide fuel and power; and

(FF) other research areas as determined by the Secretary.

SA 1509. Ms. MCSALLY (for herself and Mr. LEAHY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 4001. FIREWOOD BANKS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COOPERATING PARTY.—The term ''cooperating party'' means a State, local, or Tribal government, a private company, a nonprofit organization, and a cooperative.

(2) FIREWOOD BANK.—The term ''firewood bank'' means a site—

(A) at which firewood is collected, processed, or stored; and

(B) that is used by a cooperating party to distribute firewood to low-income or disabled individuals for personal use.

(3) SECRETARIES.—The term ''Secretaries'' means the Secretary, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Agriculture.

(4) SECRETARY CONCERNED.—The term ''Secretary concerned'' means—

(A) the Secretary of the Interior, in the case of Federal land administered by the Secretary of the Interior, including trust land (as defined in section 3765 of title 38, United States Code); and

(B) the Secretary of Agriculture, in the case of Federal land administered by the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service.

(b) PROMOTION OF FIREWOOD BANKS.—The Secretaries shall promote the use of firewood banks by carrying out this section.

(c) FIREWOOD BANKS WITHIN COMMUNITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary and the Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this subsection as the ''Secretaries'') may establish a program to acquire a parcel of land or an interest in a parcel of land within 1 or more communities to be used as a local firewood bank.

(2) ACQUISITIONS.—The land referred to in paragraph (1) may be acquired through a fee-simple purchase, an easement, or a donation.

(3) PARCEL REQUIREMENTS.—A parcel of land acquired under paragraph (1)—

(A) shall be in a community in which at least 20 percent of the residents primarily heat their homes with a wood-burning stove;

(B) shall be not less than ½ acre and not more than 6 acres in size;

(C) shall be able to store not fewer than 100 cords of firewood;

(D) may have equipment on site to process logs into firewood; and

(E) may be subject to any other requirements that the Secretaries, in consultation with cooperating parties under paragraph (4), determine to be necessary for the efficient, effective, and safe administration of the firewood bank.

(4) COOPERATING PARTIES.—The Secretaries may authorize or consult with cooperating parties—

(A) to maintain the parcel of land acquired under paragraph (1); and

(B) to operate the firewood bank.

(5) USE OF LAND.—The Secretaries, or the cooperating parties, as applicable, shall use a parcel of land acquired under paragraph (1) exclusively as a firewood bank.

(d) FIREWOOD BANKS ON FEDERAL LAND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary concerned may authorize 1 or more firewood banks to be established and operated on Federal land, including trust land (as defined in section 3765 of title 38, United States Code).

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—A firewood bank described in paragraph (1)—

(A) may only be established if the firewood bank—

(i) will be located within 50 miles of a community in which at least 20 percent of the residents primarily heat their homes with a wood-burning stove;

(ii) will occupy an area not less than ½ acre and not more than 6 acres in size; and

(iii) will be able to store not fewer than 20 cords of firewood; and

(B) may have privately or publicly owned equipment on site to process logs into firewood.

(3) COOPERATING PARTIES.—The Secretary concerned may authorize or consult with cooperating parties—

(A) to maintain the Federal land on which the firewood bank is established under this subsection; and

(B) to operate the firewood bank.

(4) USE OF FEDERAL LAND.—The Secretary concerned, or a cooperating party, as applicable, shall use the land on which a firewood bank is established under this subsection exclusively as a firewood bank.

(e) SECURE SUPPLIES OF FIREWOOD FOR FIREWOOD BANKS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary concerned shall—

(A) designate trees for cutting and removal on Federal land by marking; and

(B) make those trees available to firewood banks, consistent with this subsection.

(2) DESIGNATION.—The Secretary concerned shall designate trees under paragraph (1)(A)—

(A) in an area located within 50 miles of each firewood bank established under subsection (d); and

(B) in other areas that the Secretary concerned determines to be appropriate.

(3) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretaries concerned shall designate trees under paragraph (1)(A) in a sufficient quantity to provide at least 100 cords of firewood continuously.

(4) NO FEE REQUIRED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Any Federal employee or party designated by a firewood bank may cut, remove, and transport to a firewood bank a tree designated under paragraph (1)(A) without incurring any fee.

(B) LIMITATIONS.—

(i) PERMITS.—The Secretary concerned may require a permit for the cutting and removal of a tree designated under paragraph (1)(A).

(ii) NO SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE TO RESOURCES.—A Federal employee or party designated by a firewood bank shall not be permitted to significantly damage any resource while cutting or removing a tree designated under paragraph (1)(A).

(5) CLOSED ENTRY.—The Secretary concerned may close to entry an area with trees designated under paragraph (1)(A), or make that entry subject to such conditions as the Secretary concerned determines are necessary—

(A) for periods of not longer than 60 consecutive calendar days; and

(B) for not longer than 150 calendar days during any 1 calendar year.

(f) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 5 years thereafter, the Secretaries shall prepare a report describing the implementation of this section.

(2) CONSULTATION.—The Secretaries may prepare the report described in paragraph (1) in consultation with cooperating parties.

(3) CONTENTS.—The Secretaries shall include in the report described in paragraph (1)—

(A) an assessment of whether, and to what extent, the program under this section—

(i) is providing assistance to low-income and disabled individuals;

(ii) is using cooperating parties to establish, operate, and maintain firewood banks; and

(iii) is supplying firewood from trees designated under subsection (e)(1)(A);

(B) lists describing—

(i) the acquisitions made under subsection (c) and the locations at which the acquisitions were made;

(ii) the locations of firewood banks established under subsection (d)(1);

(iii) the cooperating parties that are assisting in operating firewood banks established under subsection (d)(1); and

(iv) the units of Federal land on which the Secretary concerned has designated trees under subsection (e)(1); and

(C) recommendations to Congress on ways to improve the administration, efficacy, and effectiveness of the program under this section.

(4) SUBMISSION.—On completion of each report described in paragraph (1), the Secretaries shall submit the report to—

(A) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives; and

(D) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

SA 1510. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. CORNYN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 893, to require the President to develop a strategy to ensure the security of next generation mobile telecommunications systems and infrastructure in the United States and to assist allies and strategic partners in maximizing the security of next generation mobile telecommunications systems, infrastructure, and software, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Secure 5G and Beyond Act of 2020''.

SEC. 2. APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.

In this Act, the term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(1) the Select Committee on Intelligence, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(2) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 3. STRATEGY TO ENSURE SECURITY OF NEXT GENERATION WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS AND INFRASTRUCTURE.

(a) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President, in consultation with the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, the Secretary of Commerce, the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of National Intelligence, the Attorney General, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Energy, and the Secretary of Defense, and consistent with the protection of national security information, shall develop and submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a strategy—

(1) to ensure the security of 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure within the United States;

(2) to provide technical assistance to mutual defense treaty allies of the United States, strategic partners of the United States, and other countries, when in the security and strategic interests of the United States, to maximize the security of 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure inside their countries; and

(3) to protect the competitiveness of United States companies, privacy of United States consumers, and integrity and impartiality of standards-setting bodies and processes related to 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure.

(b) DESIGNATION.—The strategy developed under subsection (a) shall be known as the ''National Strategy to Secure 5G and Next Generation Wireless Communications'' (referred to in this Act as the ''Strategy'').

(c) ELEMENTS.—The Strategy shall represent a whole-of-government approach and shall include the following:

(1) A description of efforts to facilitate domestic 5th and future generations wireless communications rollout.

(2) A description of efforts to assess the risks to and identify core security principles of 5th and future generations wireless communications infrastructure.

(3) A description of efforts to address risks to the national security of the United States during development and deployment of 5th and future generations wireless communications infrastructure worldwide.

(4) A description of efforts to promote responsible global development and deployment of 5th and future generations wireless communications, including through robust international engagement, leadership in the development of international standards, and incentivizing market competitiveness of secure 5th and future generation wireless communications infrastructure options.

(d) PUBLIC CONSULTATION.—In developing the Strategy, the President shall consult with relevant groups that represent consumers or the public interest, private sector communications providers, and communications infrastructure and systems equipment developers.

SEC. 4. STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall develop and submit to the appropriate committees of Congress an implementation plan for the Strategy (referred to in this Act as the ''Implementation Plan''), which shall include, at a minimum, the following:

(1) A description of United States national and economic security interests pertaining to the deployment of 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure.

(2) An identification and assessment of potential security threats and vulnerabilities to the infrastructure, equipment, systems, software, and virtualized networks that support 5th and future generations wireless communications systems, infrastructure, and enabling technologies, which shall, as practicable, include a comprehensive evaluation of the full range of threats to, and unique security challenges posed by, 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure, as well as steps that public and private sector entities can take to mitigate those threats.

(3) An identification and assessment of the global competitiveness and vulnerabilities of United States manufacturers and suppliers of 5th and future generations wireless communications equipment.

(4) An evaluation of available domestic suppliers of 5th and future generations wireless communications equipment and other suppliers in countries that are mutual defense allies or strategic partners of the United States and a strategy to assess their ability to produce and supply 5th generation and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure.

(5) Identification of where security gaps exist in the United States domestic or mutual defense treaty allies and strategic partners communications equipment supply chain for 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure.

(6) Identification of incentives and policy options to help close or narrow any security gaps identified under paragraph (5) in, and ensure the economic viability of, the United

States domestic industrial base, including research and development in critical technologies and workforce development in 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure.

(7) Identification of incentives and policy options for leveraging the communications equipment suppliers from mutual defense treaty allies, strategic partners, and other countries to ensure that private industry in the United States has adequate sources for secure, effective, and reliable 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure equipment.

(8) A plan for diplomatic engagement with mutual defense treaty allies, strategic partners, and other countries to share security risk information and findings pertaining to 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure equipment and cooperation on mitigating those risks.

(9) A plan for engagement with private sector communications infrastructure and systems equipment developers and critical infrastructure owners and operators who have a critical dependency on communications infrastructure to share information and findings on 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure equipment standards to secure platforms.

(10) A plan for engagement with private sector communications infrastructure and systems equipment developers to encourage the maximum participation possible on standards-setting bodies related to such systems and infrastructure equipment standards by public and private sector entities from the United States.

(11) A plan for diplomatic engagement with mutual defense treaty allies, strategic partners, and other countries to share information and findings on 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure equipment standards to promote maximum interoperability, competitiveness, openness, and secure platforms.

(12) A plan for diplomatic engagement with mutual defense treaty allies, strategic partners, and other countries to share information and findings on 5th and future generations wireless communications infrastructure and systems equipment concerning the standards-setting bodies related to such systems and infrastructure equipment to promote maximum transparency, openness, impartiality, integrity, and neutrality.

(13) A plan for joint testing environments with mutual defense treaty allies, strategic partners, and other countries to ensure a trusted marketplace for 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure equipment.

(14) A plan for research and development by the Federal Government, in close partnership with trusted supplier entities, mutual defense treaty allies, strategic partners, and other countries to reach and maintain United States leadership in 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure security, including the development of an ongoing capability to identify security vulnerabilities in 5th and future generations wireless communications systems.

(15) Options for identifying and helping to mitigate the security risks of 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure that have security flaws or vulnerabilities, or are utilizing equipment sourced from countries of concern, and that have already been put in place within the systems and infrastructure of mutual defense treaty allies, strategic partners, and other countries, when in the security interests of the United States.

(16) A description of the roles and responsibilities of the appropriate executive branch agencies and interagency mechanisms to coordinate implementation of the Strategy, as provided in section 5(d).

(17) An identification of the key diplomatic, development, intelligence, military, and economic resources necessary to implement the Strategy, including specific budgetary requests.

(18) As necessary, a description of such legislative or administrative action needed to carry out the Strategy.

SEC. 5. LIMITATIONS AND BRIEFINGS.

(a) LIMITATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Strategy and the Implementation Plan shall not include a recommendation or a proposal to nationalize 5th or future generations wireless communications systems or infrastructure.

(2) FEDERAL AGENCY AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit any authority or ability of any Federal agency.

(b) PUBLIC COMMENT.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall seek public comment regarding the development and implementation of the Implementation Plan.

(c) BRIEFING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 21 days after the date on which the Implementation Plan is completed, the President shall direct appropriate representatives from the departments and agencies involved in the formulation of the Strategy to provide the appropriate committees of Congress a briefing on the implementation of the Strategy.

(2) UNCLASSIFIED SETTING.—The briefing under paragraph (1) shall be held in an unclassified setting to the maximum extent possible.

(d) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, in conjunction, shall—

(A) implement the Strategy;

(B) keep congressional committees apprised of progress on implementation; and

(C) not implement any proposal or recommendation involving non-Federal spectrum administered by the Federal Communications Commission unless the implementation of such proposal or recommendation is first approved by the Commission.

(2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to affect the authority or jurisdiction of the Federal Communications Commission or confer upon the President or any other executive branch agency the power to direct the actions of the Commission, whether directly or indirectly.

(e) FORM.—The Strategy and Implementation Plan shall be submitted to the appropriate committees of Congress in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

SA 1511. Mr. ROMNEY (for himself, Ms. WARREN, and Ms. SINEMA) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE IV—NAVAJO UTAH WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT

SEC. 4001. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Navajo Utah Water Rights Settlement Act of 2020''.

SEC. 4002. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this title are—

(1) to achieve a fair, equitable, and final settlement of all claims to water rights in the State of Utah for—

(A) the Navajo Nation; and

(B) the United States, for the benefit of the Nation;

(2) to authorize, ratify, and confirm the Agreement entered into by the Nation and the State, to the extent that the Agreement is consistent with this title;

(3) to authorize and direct the Secretary—

(A) to execute the Agreement; and

(B) to take any actions necessary to carry out the agreement in accordance with this title; and

(4) to authorize funds necessary for the implementation of the Agreement and this title.

SEC. 4003. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) AGREEMENT.—The term ''agreement'' means—

(A) the document entitled ''Navajo Utah Water Rights Settlement Agreement'' dated December 14, 2015, and the exhibits attached thereto; and

(B) any amendment or exhibit to the document or exhibits referenced in subparagraph (A) to make the document or exhibits consistent with this title.

(2) ALLOTMENT.—The term ''allotment'' means a parcel of land—

(A) granted out of the public domain that is—

(i) located within the exterior boundaries of the Reservation; or

(ii) Bureau of Indian Affairs parcel number 792 634511 in San Juan County, Utah, consisting of 160 acres located in Township 41S, Range 20E, sections 11, 12, and 14, originally set aside by the United States for the benefit of an individual identified in the allotting document as a Navajo Indian; and

(B) held in trust by the United States—

(i) for the benefit of an individual, individuals, or an Indian Tribe other than the Navajo Nation; or

(ii) in part for the benefit of the Navajo Nation as of the enforceability date.

(3) ALLOTTEE.—The term ''allottee'' means an individual or Indian Tribe with a beneficial interest in an allotment held in trust by the United States.

(4) ENFORCEABILITY DATE.—The term ''enforceability date'' means the date on which the Secretary publishes in the Federal Register the statement of findings described in section 4008(a).

(5) GENERAL STREAM ADJUDICATION.—The term ''general stream adjudication'' means the adjudication pending, as of the date of enactment, in the Seventh Judicial District in and for Grand County, State of Utah, commonly known as the ''Southeastern Colorado River General Adjudication'', Civil No. 810704477, conducted pursuant to State law.

(6) INJURY TO WATER RIGHTS.—The term ''injury to water rights'' means an interference with, diminution of, or deprivation of water rights under Federal or State law, excluding injuries to water quality.

(7) MEMBER.—The term ''member'' means any person who is a duly enrolled member of the Navajo Nation.

(8) NAVAJO NATION OR NATION.—The term ''Navajo Nation'' or ''Nation'' means a body politic and federally recognized Indian nation, as published on the list established under section 104(a) of the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 5131(a)), also known variously as the ''Navajo Nation'', the ''Navajo Nation of Arizona, New Mexico, & Utah'', and the ''Navajo Nation of Indians'' and other similar names, and includes all bands of Navajo Indians and chapters of the Navajo Nation and all divisions, agencies, officers, and agents thereof.

(9) NAVAJO WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.—The term ''Navajo water development projects'' means projects for domestic

municipal water supply, including distribution infrastructure, and agricultural water conservation, to be constructed, in whole or in part, using monies from the Navajo Water Development Projects Account.

(10) NAVAJO WATER RIGHTS.—The term ''Navajo water rights'' means the Nation's water rights in Utah described in the agreement and this title.

(11) OM&R.—The term ''OM&R'' means operation, maintenance, and replacement.

(12) PARTIES.—The term ''parties'' means the Navajo Nation, the State, and the United States.

(13) RESERVATION.—The term ''Reservation'' means, for purposes of the agreement and this title, the Reservation of the Navajo Nation in Utah as in existence on the date of enactment of this Act and depicted on the map attached to the agreement as Exhibit A, including any parcel of land granted out of the public domain and held in trust by the United States entirely for the benefit of the Navajo Nation as of the enforceability date.

(14) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior or a duly authorized representative thereof.

(15) STATE.—The term ''State'' means the State of Utah and all officers, agents, departments, and political subdivisions thereof.

(16) UNITED STATES.—The term ''United States'' means the United States of America and all departments, agencies, bureaus, officers, and agents thereof.

(17) UNITED STATES ACTING IN ITS TRUST CAPACITY.—The term ''United States acting in its trust capacity'' means the United States acting for the benefit of the Navajo Nation or for the benefit of allottees.

SEC. 4004. RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENT.

(a) APPROVAL BY CONGRESS.—Except to the extent that any provision of the agreement conflicts with this title, Congress approves, ratifies, and confirms the agreement (including any amendments to the agreement that are executed to make the agreement consistent with this title).

(b) EXECUTION BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary is authorized and directed to promptly execute the agreement to the extent that the agreement does not conflict with this title, including—

(1) any exhibits to the agreement requiring the signature of the Secretary; and

(2) any amendments to the agreement necessary to make the agreement consistent with this title.

(c) ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In implementing the agreement and this title, the Secretary shall comply with all applicable provisions of—

(A) the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.);

(B) the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.); and

(C) all other applicable environmental laws and regulations.

(2) EXECUTION OF THE AGREEMENT.—Execution of the agreement by the Secretary as provided for in this title shall not constitute a major Federal action under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

SEC. 4005. NAVAJO WATER RIGHTS.

(a) CONFIRMATION OF NAVAJO WATER RIGHTS.—

(1) QUANTIFICATION.—The Navajo Nation shall have the right to use water from water sources located within Utah and adjacent to or encompassed within the boundaries of the Reservation resulting in depletions not to exceed 81,500 acre-feet annually as described in the agreement and as confirmed in the decree entered by the general stream adjudication court.

(2) SATISFACTION OF ALLOTTEE RIGHTS.—Depletions resulting from the use of water on an allotment shall be accounted for as a depletion by the Navajo Nation for purposes of depletion accounting under the agreement, including recognition of—

(A) any water use existing on an allotment as of the date of enactment of this Act and as subsequently reflected in the hydrographic survey report referenced in section 4007(b);

(B) reasonable domestic and stock water uses put into use on an allotment; and

(C) any allotment water rights that may be decreed in the general stream adjudication or other appropriate forum.

(3) SATISFACTION OF ON-RESERVATION STATE LAW-BASED WATER RIGHTS.—Depletions resulting from the use of water on the Reservation pursuant to State law-based water rights existing as of the date of enactment of this Act shall be accounted for as depletions by the Navajo Nation for purposes of depletion accounting under the agreement.

(4) IN GENERAL.—The Navajo water rights are ratified, confirmed, and declared to be valid.

(5) USE.—Any use of the Navajo water rights shall be subject to the terms and conditions of the agreement and this title.

(6) CONFLICT.—In the event of a conflict between the agreement and this title, the provisions of this title shall control.

(b) TRUST STATUS OF NAVAJO WATER RIGHTS.—The Navajo water rights—

(1) shall be held in trust by the United States for the use and benefit of the Nation in accordance with the agreement and this title; and

(2) shall not be subject to forfeiture or abandonment.

(c) AUTHORITY OF THE NATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Nation shall have the authority to allocate, distribute, and lease the Navajo water rights for any use on the Reservation in accordance with the agreement, this title, and applicable Tribal and Federal law.

(2) OFF-RESERVATION USE.—The Nation may allocate, distribute, and lease the Navajo water rights for off-Reservation use in accordance with the agreement, subject to the approval of the Secretary.

(3) ALLOTTEE WATER RIGHTS.—The Nation shall not object in the general stream adjudication or other applicable forum to the quantification of reasonable domestic and stock water uses on an allotment, and shall administer any water use on the Reservation in accordance with applicable Federal law, including recognition of—

(A) any water use existing on an allotment as of the date of enactment of this Act and as subsequently reflected in the hydrographic survey report referenced in section 4007(b);

(B) reasonable domestic and stock water uses on an allotment; and

(C) any allotment water rights decreed in the general stream adjudication or other appropriate forum.

(d) EFFECT.—Except as otherwise expressly provided in this section, nothing in this title—

(1) authorizes any action by the Nation against the United States under Federal, State, Tribal, or local law; or

(2) alters or affects the status of any action brought pursuant to section 1491(a) of title 28, United States Code.

SEC. 4006. NAVAJO TRUST ACCOUNTS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a trust fund, to be known as the ''Navajo Utah Settlement Trust Fund'' (referred to in this title as the ''Trust Fund''), to be managed, invested, and distributed by the Secretary and to remain available until expended, consisting of the amounts deposited in the Trust Fund under subsection (c), together with any interest earned on those amounts, for the purpose of carrying out this title.

(b) ACCOUNTS.—The Secretary shall establish in the Trust Fund the following Accounts:

(1) The Navajo Water Development Projects Account.

(2) The Navajo OM&R Account.

(c) DEPOSITS.—The Secretary shall deposit in the Trust Fund Accounts—

(1) in the Navajo Water Development Projects Account, the amounts made available pursuant to section 4007(a)(1); and

(2) in the Navajo OM&R Account, the amount made available pursuant to section 4007(a)(2).

(d) MANAGEMENT AND INTEREST.—

(1) MANAGEMENT.—Upon receipt and deposit of the funds into the Trust Fund Accounts, the Secretary shall manage, invest, and distribute all amounts in the Trust Fund in a manner that is consistent with the investment authority of the Secretary under—

(A) the first section of the Act of June 24, 1938 (25 U.S.C. 162a);

(B) the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.); and

(C) this section.

(2) INVESTMENT EARNINGS.—In addition to the deposits under subsection (c), any investment earnings, including interest, credited to amounts held in the Trust Fund are authorized to be appropriated to be used in accordance with the uses described in subsection (h).

(e) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.—Amounts appropriated to, and deposited in, the Trust Fund, including any investment earnings, shall be made available to the Nation by the Secretary beginning on the enforceability date and subject to the uses and restrictions set forth in this section.

(f) WITHDRAWALS.—

(1) WITHDRAWALS UNDER THE AMERICAN INDIAN TRUST FUND MANAGEMENT REFORM ACT OF 1994.—The Nation may withdraw any portion of the funds in the Trust Fund on approval by the Secretary of a tribal management plan submitted by the Nation in accordance with the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.).

(A) REQUIREMENTS.—In addition to the requirements under the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), the Tribal management plan under this paragraph shall require that the Nation shall spend all amounts withdrawn from the Trust Fund and any investment earnings accrued through the investments under the Tribal management plan in accordance with this title.

(B) ENFORCEMENT.—The Secretary may carry out such judicial and administrative actions as the Secretary determines to be necessary to enforce the Tribal management plan to ensure that amounts withdrawn by the Nation from the Trust Fund under this paragraph are used in accordance with this title.

(2) WITHDRAWALS UNDER EXPENDITURE PLAN.—The Nation may submit to the Secretary a request to withdraw funds from the Trust Fund pursuant to an approved expenditure plan.

(A) REQUIREMENTS.—To be eligible to withdraw funds under an expenditure plan under this paragraph, the Nation shall submit to the Secretary for approval an expenditure plan for any portion of the Trust Fund that the Nation elects to withdraw pursuant to this paragraph, subject to the condition that the funds shall be used for the purposes described in this title.

(B) INCLUSIONS.—An expenditure plan under this paragraph shall include a description of the manner and purpose for which the amounts proposed to be withdrawn from the Trust Fund will be used by the Nation, in accordance with subsections (c) and (h).

(C) APPROVAL.—On receipt of an expenditure plan under this paragraph, the Secretary shall approve the plan, if the Secretary determines that the plan—

(i) is reasonable;

(ii) is consistent with, and will be used for, the purposes of this title; and

(iii) contains a schedule which described that tasks will be completed within 18 months of receipt of withdrawn amounts.

(D) ENFORCEMENT.—The Secretary may carry out such judicial and administrative actions as the Secretary determines to be necessary to enforce an expenditure plan to ensure that amounts disbursed under this paragraph are used in accordance with this title.

(g) EFFECT OF TITLE.—Nothing in this title gives the Nation the right to judicial review of a determination of the Secretary regarding whether to approve a Tribal management plan or an expenditure plan except under subchapter II of chapter 5, and chapter 7, of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Administrative Procedure Act'').

(h) USES.—Amounts from the Trust Fund shall be used by the Nation for the following purposes:

(1) The Navajo Water Development Projects Account shall be used to plan, design, and construct the Navajo water development projects and for the conduct of related activities, including to comply with Federal environmental laws.

(2) The Navajo OM&R Account shall be used for the operation, maintenance, and replacement of the Navajo water development projects.

(i) LIABILITY.—The Secretary and the Secretary of the Treasury shall not be liable for the expenditure or investment of any amounts withdrawn from the Trust Fund by the Nation under subsection (f).

(j) NO PER CAPITA DISTRIBUTIONS.—No portion of the Trust Fund shall be distributed on a per capita basis to any member of the Nation.

(k) EXPENDITURE REPORTS.—The Navajo Nation shall submit to the Secretary annually an expenditure report describing accomplishments and amounts spent from use of withdrawals under a Tribal management plan or an expenditure plan as described in this title.

SEC. 4007. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary—

(1) for deposit in the Navajo Water Development Projects Account of the Trust Fund established under section 4006(b)(1), $198,300,000, which funds shall be retained until expended, withdrawn, or reverted to the general fund of the Treasury; and

(2) for deposit in the Navajo OM&R Account of the Trust Fund established under section 4006(b)(2), $11,100,000, which funds shall be retained until expended, withdrawn, or reverted to the general fund of the Treasury.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION COSTS.—There is authorized to be appropriated non-trust funds in the amount of $1,000,000 to assist the United States with costs associated with the implementation of the title, including the preparation of a hydrographic survey of historic and existing water uses on the Reservation and on allotments.

(c) STATE COST SHARE.—The State shall contribute $8,000,000 payable to the Secretary for deposit into the Navajo Water Development Projects Account of the Trust Fund established under section 4006(b)(1) in installments in each of the 3 years following the execution of the agreement by the Secretary as provided for in subsection (b) of section 4004.

(d) FLUCTUATION IN COSTS.—The amount authorized to be appropriated under subsection (a) shall be increased or decreased, as appropriate, by such amounts as may be justified by reason of ordinary fluctuations in costs occurring after the date of enactment of this Act as indicated by the Bureau of Reclamation Construction Cost Index—Composite Trend.

(1) REPETITION.—The adjustment process under this subsection shall be repeated for each subsequent amount appropriated until the amount authorized, as adjusted, has been appropriated.

(2) PERIOD OF INDEXING.—The period of indexing adjustment for any increment of funding shall end on the date on which funds are deposited into the Trust Fund.

SEC. 4008. CONDITIONS PRECEDENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The waivers and release contained in section 4009 shall become effective as of the date the Secretary causes to be published in the Federal Register a statement of findings that—

(1) to the extent that the agreement conflicts with the Act, the agreement has been revised to conform with this title;

(2) the agreement, so revised, including waivers and releases of claims set forth in section 4009, has been executed by the parties, including the United States;

(3) Congress has fully appropriated, or the Secretary has provided from other authorized sources, all funds authorized under subsection (a) of section 4007;

(4) the State has enacted any necessary legislation and provided the funding required under the agreement and subsection (c) of section 4007; and

(5) the court has entered a final or interlocutory decree that—

(A) confirms the Navajo water rights consistent with the agreement and this title; and

(B) with respect to the Navajo water rights, is final and nonappealable.

(b) EXPIRATION DATE.—If all the conditions precedent described in subsection (a) have not been fulfilled to allow the Secretary's statement of findings to be published in the Federal Register by October 31, 2030—

(1) the agreement and this title, including waivers and releases of claims described in those documents, shall no longer be effective;

(2) any funds that have been appropriated pursuant to section 4007 but not expended, including any investment earnings on funds that have been appropriated pursuant to such section, shall immediately revert to the general fund of the Treasury; and

(3) any funds contributed by the State pursuant to subsection (c) of section 4007 but not expended shall be returned immediately to the State.

(c) EXTENSION.—The expiration date set forth in subsection (b) may be extended if the Navajo Nation, the State, and the United States (acting through the Secretary) agree that an extension is reasonably necessary.

SEC. 4009. WAIVERS AND RELEASES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) WAIVER AND RELEASE OF CLAIMS BY THE NATION AND THE UNITED STATES ACTING IN ITS CAPACITY AS TRUSTEE FOR THE NATION.—Subject to the retention of rights set forth in subsection (c), in return for confirmation of the Navajo water rights and other benefits set forth in the agreement and this title, the Nation, on behalf of itself and the members of the Nation (other than members in their capacity as allottees), and the United States, acting as trustee for the Nation and members of the Nation (other than members in their capacity as allottees), are authorized and directed to execute a waiver and release of—

(A) all claims for water rights within Utah based on any and all legal theories that the Navajo Nation or the United States acting in its trust capacity for the Nation, asserted, or could have asserted, at any time in any proceeding, including to the general stream adjudication, up to and including the enforceability date, except to the extent that such rights are recognized in the agreement and this title; and

(B) all claims for damages, losses, or injuries to water rights or claims of interference with, diversion, or taking of water rights (including claims for injury to lands resulting from such damages, losses, injuries, interference with, diversion, or taking of water rights) within Utah against the State, or any person, entity, corporation, or municipality, that accrued at any time up to and including the enforceability date.

(b) CLAIMS BY THE NAVAJO NATION AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.—The Navajo Nation, on behalf of itself (including in its capacity as allottee) and its members (other than members in their capacity as allottees), shall execute a waiver and release of—

(1) all claims the Navajo Nation may have against the United States relating in any manner to claims for water rights in, or water of, Utah that the United States acting in its trust capacity for the Nation asserted, or could have asserted, in any proceeding, including the general stream adjudication;

(2) all claims the Navajo Nation may have against the United States relating in any manner to damages, losses, or injuries to water, water rights, land, or other resources due to loss of water or water rights (including damages, losses, or injuries to hunting, fishing, gathering, or cultural rights due to loss of water or water rights; claims relating to interference with, diversion, or taking of water; or claims relating to failure to protect, acquire, replace, or develop water or water rights) within Utah that first accrued at any time up to and including the enforceability date;

(3) all claims the Nation may have against the United States relating in any manner to the litigation of claims relating to the Nation's water rights in proceedings in Utah; and

(4) all claims the Nation may have against the United States relating in any manner to the negotiation, execution, or adoption of the agreement or this title.

(c) RESERVATION OF RIGHTS AND RETENTION OF CLAIMS BY THE NAVAJO NATION AND THE UNITED STATES.—Notwithstanding the waivers and releases authorized in this title, the Navajo Nation, and the United States acting in its trust capacity for the Nation, retain—

(1) all claims for injuries to and the enforcement of the agreement and the final or interlocutory decree entered in the general stream adjudication, through such legal and equitable remedies as may be available in the decree court or the Federal District Court for the District of Utah;

(2) all rights to use and protect water rights acquired after the enforceability date;

(3) all claims relating to activities affecting the quality of water, including any claims under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq. (including claims for damages to natural resources)), the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.), and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.), the regulations implementing those Acts, and the common law;

(4) all claims for water rights, and claims for injury to water rights, in states other than the State of Utah;

(5) all claims, including environmental claims, under any laws (including regulations and common law) relating to human health, safety, or the environment; and

(6) all rights, remedies, privileges, immunities, and powers not specifically waived and released pursuant to the agreement and this title.

(d) EFFECT.—Nothing in the agreement or this title—

(1) affects the ability of the United States acting in its sovereign capacity to take actions authorized by law, including any laws relating to health, safety, or the environment, including the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.), the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.), the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.), the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.), and the regulations implementing those laws;

(2) affects the ability of the United States to take actions in its capacity as trustee for any other Indian Tribe or allottee;

(3) confers jurisdiction on any State court to—

(A) interpret Federal law regarding health, safety, or the environment or determine the duties of the United States or other parties pursuant to such Federal law; and

(B) conduct judicial review of Federal agency action; or

(4) modifies, conflicts with, preempts, or otherwise affects—

(A) the Boulder Canyon Project Act (43 U.S.C. 617 et seq.);

(B) the Boulder Canyon Project Adjustment Act (43 U.S.C. 618 et seq.);

(C) the Act of April 11, 1956 (commonly known as the ''Colorado River Storage Project Act'') (43 U.S.C. 620 et seq.);

(D) the Colorado River Basin Project Act (43 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.);

(E) the Treaty between the United States of America and Mexico respecting utilization of waters of the Colorado and Tijuana Rivers and of the Rio Grande, signed at Washington February 3, 1944 (59 Stat. 1219);

(F) the Colorado River Compact of 1922, as approved by the Presidential Proclamation of June 25, 1929 (46 Stat. 3000); and

(G) the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact as consented to by the Act of April 6, 1949 (63 Stat. 31, chapter 48).

(e) TOLLING OF CLAIMS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each applicable period of limitation and time-based equitable defense relating to a claim waived by the Navajo Nation described in this section shall be tolled for the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and ending on the enforceability date.

(2) EFFECT OF SUBSECTION.—Nothing in this subsection revives any claim or tolls any period of limitation or time-based equitable defense that expired before the date of enactment of this Act.

(3) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this section precludes the tolling of any period of limitations or any time-based equitable defense under any other applicable law.

SEC. 4010. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

(a) PRECEDENT.—Nothing in this title establishes any standard for the quantification or litigation of Federal reserved water rights or any other Indian water claims of any other Indian Tribe in any other judicial or administrative proceeding.

(b) OTHER INDIAN TRIBES.—Nothing in the agreement or this title shall be construed in any way to quantify or otherwise adversely affect the water rights, claims, or entitlements to water of any Indian Tribe, band, or community, other than the Navajo Nation.

SEC. 4011. RELATION TO ALLOTTEES.

(a) NO EFFECT ON CLAIMS OF ALLOTTEES.—Nothing in this title or the agreement shall affect the rights or claims of allottees, or the United States, acting in its capacity as trustee for or on behalf of allottees, for water rights or damages related to lands allotted by the United States to allottees, except as provided in section 4005(a)(2).

(b) RELATIONSHIP OF DECREE TO ALLOTTEES.—Allottees, or the United States, acting in its capacity as trustee for allottees, are not bound by any decree entered in the general stream adjudication confirming the Navajo water rights and shall not be precluded from making claims to water rights in the general stream adjudication. Allottees, or the United States, acting in its capacity as trustee for allottees, may make claims and such claims may be adjudicated as individual water rights in the general stream adjudication.

SEC. 4012. ANTIDEFICIENCY.

The United States shall not be liable for any failure to carry out any obligation or activity authorized by this title (including any obligation or activity under the agreement) if adequate appropriations are not provided expressly by Congress to carry out the purposes of this title.

SA 1512. Mr. HOEVEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title II, add the following:

Subtitle D—Miscellaneous

SEC. 24____. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the Bureau of Land Management (referred to in this section as the ''Director''), shall establish a pilot program in 1 State with at least 2,000 oil and gas drilling spacing units (as defined under State law), in which—

(1) 25 percent or less of the minerals are owned or held in trust by the Federal Government; and

(2) there is no surface land owned or held in trust by the Federal Government.

(b) ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out the pilot program, the Director shall identify and implement ways to streamline the review and approval of Applications for Permits to Drill for oil and gas drilling spacing units of the State in order to achieve a processing time for those oil and gas drilling spacing units similar to that of spacing units that require an Application for Permit to Drill and are not part of the pilot program in the same State.

(c) FUNDING.—Beginning in fiscal year 2021, and for a period of 3 years thereafter, to carry out the pilot program efficiently, the Director may fund up to 10 full-time equivalents at appropriate field offices.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall submit to Congress a report on the results of the pilot program.

(e) WAIVER.—The Secretary of the Interior may waive the requirement for an Application for Permit to Drill if the Director determines that the mineral interest of the United States in the spacing units in land covered by this section is adequately protected, if otherwise in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and lease terms.

SA 1513. Mr. HOEVEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1407 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in subtitle B of title I, insert the following:

SEC. 12____. BIOMASS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT MODIFICATIONS.

(a) TRIBAL BIOMASS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.—Section 3 of the Tribal Forest Protection Act of 2004 (25 U.S.C. 3115b note; Public Law 108–278) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''fiscal years 2017 through 2021'' and inserting ''fiscal years 2019 through 2023''; and

(2) in subsection (f), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''2019'' and inserting ''2021''.

(b) ALASKA NATIVE BIOMASS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.—Section 202(c) of the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act Amendments of 2017 (25 U.S.C. 3115b note; Public Law 115–325) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking ''fiscal years 2017 through 2021'' and inserting ''fiscal years 2019 through 2023''; and

(2) in paragraph (7), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''2019'' and inserting ''2021''.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, I have 14 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

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

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Indian Affairs is authorized to meet during the session

of the Senate on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the following nominations: John Peter Cronan, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, Thomas T. Cullen, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia, and Jennifer P. Togliatti, to be United States District Judge for the District of Nevada.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at 2 p.m., to conduct a closed roundtable.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SEAPOWER

The Subcommittee on Seapower of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION AND SPACE

The Subcommittee on Aviation and Space of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS

The Subcommittee on National Parks of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at 2 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

The Subcommittee on Water and Power of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at 10:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CRIME AND TERRORISM

The Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism of the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at 2 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SECURE 5G AND BEYOND ACT OF 2019

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 395, S. 893.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 893) to require the President to develop a strategy to ensure the security of next generation mobile telecommunications systems and infrastructure in the United States and to assist allies and strategic partners in maximizing the security of next generation mobile telecommunications systems, infrastructure, and software, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to proceeding to the measure?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Secure 5G and Beyond Act of 2019''.

SEC. 2. STRATEGY TO ENSURE SECURITY OF NEXT GENERATION WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS AND INFRASTRUCTURE.

(a) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(1) the Select Committee on Intelligence, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(2) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(b) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President, in consultation with the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of National Intelligence, the Attorney General, and the Secretary of Defense, shall develop and submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a strategy—

(1) to ensure the security of 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure within the United States;

(2) to provide technical assistance to mutual defense treaty allies of the United States, strategic partners of the United States, and other countries, when in the security interests of the United States, to maximize the security of 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure inside their countries; and

(3) to protect the competitiveness of United States companies, privacy of United States consumers, and integrity and impartiality of standards-setting bodies related to 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure.

(c) DESIGNATION.—The strategy developed under subsection (b) shall be known as the ''Secure Next Generation Wireless Communications Strategy'' (referred to in this section as the ''Strategy'').

(d) ELEMENTS.—The Strategy shall represent a whole-of-government approach and shall include the following:

(1) A description of United States national and economic security interests pertaining to the deployment of 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure.

(2) An identification and assessment of potential security threats and vulnerabilities to the infrastructure, equipment, systems, software, and virtually defined networks that support 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure. The assessment shall include a comprehensive evaluation of the full range of threats to, and unique security challenges posed by, 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure, as well as steps that public and private sector entities can take to mitigate those threats.

(3) An identification and assessment of the global competitiveness and vulnerabilities of United States manufacturers and suppliers of 5th and future generations wireless communications equipment.

(4) A list of available domestic suppliers of 5th and future generations wireless communications equipment and other suppliers in countries that are mutual defense allies or strategic partners of the United States and a strategy to assess their ability to produce and supply 5th generation and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure.

(5) Identification of trusted supplier entities from both inside and outside the United States that are capable of producing and supplying to private industry infrastructure and systems equipment supporting 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure.

(6) Identification of where security gaps exist in the United States domestic or mutual defense treaty allies and strategic partners communications equipment supply chain for 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure.

(7) Identification of incentives and policy options to help close or narrow any security gaps identified under paragraph (6) in, and ensure the economic viability of, the United States domestic industrial base, including research and development in critical technologies and workforce development in 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure.

(8) Identification of incentives and policy options for leveraging the communications equipment suppliers from mutual defense treaty allies, strategic partners, and other countries to ensure that private industry in the United States has adequate sources for secure, effective, and reliable 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure equipment.

(9) A strategy for diplomatic engagement with mutual defense treaty allies, strategic partners, and other countries to share security risk information and findings pertaining to 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure equipment and cooperation on mitigating those risks.

(10) A strategy for engagement with private sector communications infrastructure and systems equipment developers to share information and findings on 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure equipment standards to secure platforms.

(11) A strategy for engagement with private sector communications infrastructure and systems equipment developers to encourage the maximum participation possible on standards-setting bodies related to such systems and infrastructure equipment standards by public and private sector entities from the United States.

(12) A strategy for diplomatic engagement with mutual defense treaty allies, strategic partners, and other countries to share information and findings on 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure equipment standards to promote maximum interoperability, competitiveness, openness, and secure platforms.

(13) A strategy for diplomatic engagement with mutual defense treaty allies, strategic partners, and other countries to share information and findings on 5th and future generations wireless communications infrastructure and systems equipment concerning the standards-setting bodies related to such systems and infrastructure equipment to promote maximum transparency, openness, impartiality, integrity, and neutrality.

(14) A strategy for joint testing environments with mutual defense treaty allies, strategic partners, and other countries to ensure a trusted marketplace for 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure equipment.

(15) A strategy for research and development by the Federal Government, in close partnership with trusted supplier entities, mutual defense treaty allies, strategic partners, and other countries to reach and maintain United States leadership in 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure security, including the development of an ongoing monitoring capability of 5th and future generations wireless communications systems to identify security vulnerabilities.

(16) Options for identifying and helping to mitigate the security risks of 5th and future generations wireless communications systems and infrastructure that have security flaws or vulnerabilities, or are utilizing equipment sourced from countries of concern, and that have already been put in place within the systems and infrastructure of mutual defense treaty allies, strategic partners, and other countries, when in the security interests of the United States.

(17) Development of a plan that includes a description of the roles and responsibilities of the appropriate executive branch agencies and interagency mechanisms for the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to act as the executive agent to coordinate implementation of the Strategy, as provided in subsection (g).

(18) An identification of the key diplomatic, development, intelligence, military, and economic resources necessary to implement the Strategy, including specific budgetary requests.

(19) A description of such legislative or administrative action as may be necessary to carry out the Strategy.

(e) LIMITATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Strategy shall not include a recommendation or a proposal to nationalize 5th or future generations wireless communications systems or infrastructure.

(2) FEDERAL AGENCY AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the authority or ability of a Federal agency to—

(A) conduct cybersecurity incident, threat, or asset response and recovery activities;

(B) obtain or execute warrants or other investigative or intelligence tools; or

(C) provide assistance to a private entity upon request of the entity.

(f) BRIEFING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 14 days after the date on which the Strategy is completed, the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, and any other Federal officials designated by the President, shall provide to the appropriate committees of Congress a briefing on the implementation of the Strategy.

(2) UNCLASSIFIED SETTING.—The briefing under paragraph (1) shall be held in an unclassified setting to the maximum extent possible.

(g) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information shall—

(1) act as the executive agent to coordinate implementation of the Strategy; and

(2) keep congressional committees apprised of progress on implementation.

(h) FORM.—The Strategy shall be submitted to the appropriate committees of Congress in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendment be withdrawn; that the Cornyn substitute amendment at the desk be agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was withdrawn.

The amendment (No. 1510) was agreed to.

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.)

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under ''Text of Amendments.'')

The bill (S. 893), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

RARE DISEASE DAY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 529, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 529) designating February 29, 2020, as ''Rare Disease Day''.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the measure.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 529) was agreed to.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

NATIONAL ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY AWARENESS DAY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 530, which was submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 530) designating March 4, 2020, as ''National Assistive Technology Awareness Day''.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I further ask that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The resolution (S. Res. 530) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2020

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. Thursday, March 5; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; finally, that following leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of S. 2657.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 11:15 a.m. tomorrow, the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 6074 and the only amendment in order be the Paul amendment No. 1506; further, that 20 minutes of debate prior to noon be under the control of Senator PAUL or his designee; further, that the Senate vote in relation to the Paul amendment at noon tomorrow and, upon disposition of the Paul amendment, the time until 1:45 p.m. tomorrow be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees; that the bill, as amended, if amended, be read a third time, and the Senate vote on passage of the bill, as amended, if amended, with a 60-affirmative vote threshold required for passage; finally, that the last 10 minutes of debate be under the control of Senators LEAHY and SHELBY.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, March 5, 2020, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate March 4, 2020:

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. THOMAS A. BUSSIERE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. JACQUELINE D. VAN OVOST

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING 50 YEARS OF BATES HOUSE OF TURKEY IN GREENVILLE, ALABAMA

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mrs. ROBY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Bates House of Turkey in the City of Greenville, Alabama.

On March 1, 1970, the late W.C. ''Bill'' Bates, Jr. and wife, Teresa Carlton Bates, opened the doors of legendary Bates House of Turkey in Greenville, Alabama for the first time. As the second generation of Bates Turkey Farm, they became a driving force behind not only the farm's success, but also in the success of the iconic restaurant.

Following the completion of Interstate 65, the entrepreneurial visionaries, Bill and Teresa Bates, decided to buy property and build the restaurant in Greenville, making the conscious decision to serve only turkey dishes made from free-range birds grown on their farm. In addition to Bates House of Turkey being one of the most unique restaurants in Alabama, it has also become one of the most popular spots for commuters to stop and grab a bite to eat while traveling through Butler County along I–65.

Now, over 50 years later, Bates House of Turkey is still a family-owned restaurant where locals and non-locals alike gather for dishes such as their famous hickory smoked turkey sandwich or their old-fashioned roast turkey dinner. The Bates children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren have been successful in continuing the family legacy and keeping the restaurant alive and thriving.

As the staff and loyal patrons gather to celebrate this wonderful achievement, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the Bates family for their profoundly positive contributions to the Greenville community and surrounding area.

WELCOME KATHERINE MILLER KESSLER

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I am happy to congratulate Hannah and Adam Kessler of Birmingham, Michigan, on the birth of their new baby girl, Katherine Miller Kessler. Katherine Miller Kessler was born on December 19, 2019, at Henry Ford Hospital in West Bloomfield, Michigan. Katherine weighed nine pounds and .05 ounces and measured 19 inches long.

I would also like to congratulate Katherine's big sister, Emerson Roslyn Kessler, and her grandparents, John and Andrea Kessler of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, Lorie Kessler of West Bloomfield, Michigan, and Sally Hirst and Doug Miller of Rochester, New York. Congratulations to the entire family as they welcome their newest addition of pure pride and joy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, regrettably, I was unable to attend the vote series for March 3, 2020. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call No. 81, H. Res. 387, Condemning continued violence against civilians by armed groups in the Central African Republic and supporting efforts to achieve a lasting political solution to the conflict, and Yea on Roll Call No. 82, H.R. 4508, Malala Yousafzai Scholarship Act.

RECOGNIZING JAY VOGT

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Jay Vogt for his appointment to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP).

A South Dakota native, Mr. Vogt has been a passionate servant for the preservation historical places across the state of South Dakota and the entire nation.

Mr. Vogt served as Director of the South Dakota State Historical Society and State Historic Preservation Officer. In the past, he served as the president of the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO) and represented NCSHPO on the ACHP for several years. After a decade of service, Mr. Vogt was appointed Deputy Director of the South Dakota State Historical Society in 1999, where he spearheaded the preservation of historic Deadwood.

Mr. Vogt has directed the State Historical Society since 2003 and oversees the management of the five programs—archaeology, archives, museum, historic preservation, research and publishing—and the administrative and development units.

I commend Mr. Vogt for his outstanding record of service, dedication, and hard work. I extend my deepest congratulations to Jay Vogt for his contributions to South Dakota and our nation's historical places. I look forward to working with Mr. Vogt's as he advises both the president and Congress on historical preservation efforts across our nation.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 181 IN BREA, CALIFORNIA

HON. GILBERT RAY CISNEROS, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. CISNEROS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the centennial of one of the finest institutions in the 39th Congressional District. On Monday night, January 5, 1920, a cold wind blew out of the San Gabriel Mountains, through the Brea-Olinda Oil Field, the goat and sheep pastures, and into orange groves that surrounded the tiny hamlet of Brea. With little more than a thousand residents, Brea could hardly host a U.S. Post Office, but it held a small group of proud, determined men. They were American veterans of the Great War, and only 10 months after the founding of the national parent organization, with the ink still wet on national charter, they founded American Legion Post 181 in Brea, California.

The founders of Brea Post 181 were men like Ted Craig who returned home to Brea in 1919 and helped secure the charter and property for the new Post only a few months after returning from ''Over There.'' Many had seen things, carried traumas off the battlefield and certainly bore emotional and physical scars of the first fully industrialized conflict. But their commitment to the Legion gave them a new mission, a common purpose and a way to channel the evils of war into a peace and prosperity that was good. The first line of the Legion's mission statement pledges every member to re-dedicate themselves to ''uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States.'' But it requires more. Built into the very fiber of the Legion's national mission is a commitment to programs that build better communities and a better country in five areas: From honoring America's war dead and supporting the rehabilitation of our nations wounded warriors, to supporting a strong national defense, the patriotic education of younger generations and, most broadly, to build support for American ideals and values. And Brea Post 181 has been an exemplary participant in all five areas from its beginning with a city-wide Armistice Day Celebration on November 11, 1920, just ten months and five days after the Post's founding. Carnivals, dances, bingo nights and parades have been an important part of the Post's connection to the community. But the Post's work has also included scholarship funding, the Boy's Nation Program, voter registration, and a long-standing collaboration with the city's patriotic celebrations, especially the annual 4th of July Country Fair. And our Brea Legion Post has always been there in times of crisis. In 1933, Brea Legionnaires reacted heroically to the major earthquake that so heavily impacted Long Beach. The Post hosted displaced families, took care of the injured victims, and even stepped in to direct and coordinate recovery

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

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

resources. World War II may have been 181's finest hour. With the founding generation being too old for direct military service, men like Eugene Streed—a proud Marine who had fought Bolshevism in Vladvostock in 1918–1919—led war drives, supervised civil defense activities and put on remembrances and memorials. In Streed's case, this included handcrafting more than 1000 white crosses to identify veterans' graves. He was also the co-founder of Brea's Memory Garden, where American flags with the names of Brea's lost soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines are displayed on Memorial Day.

Brea is not such a small town as it was in Eugene Streed's day. One hundred years later, its population, at well over forty thousand, is 40 times the size of a rural village that gave birth to Brea Post 181. Yet, for all the city's growth and for all that the Post has done to underwrite that growth, our local Brea Legion has not always prospered in the same way. Indeed, I would be remiss if I failed to point out the struggles. The demographic shift from the mid-twentieth century, when service was almost universal for physically qualified men, to today's all-volunteer force has dramatically changed the recruiting and financing picture of the Legion. Local membership had declined so precipitously that by 2014, the Post had to sell a property it owned to avoid insolvency. It might have collapsed, and the story might have ended before this centennial celebration. But the warrior spirit has always been fierce among the veterans of Brea, and Post 181 has evolved to thrive in its new demographic environment. The membership has made smart business decisions and even smarter partnership arrangements with other veterans and civic groups like Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5384 and St. Angela Merici Church. The Post has come through its crisis. It is more intergenerational than ever before with former Brea Mayor Carrey Nelson—a retired Navy Master Chief who served in both the Second World and Korean Wars—still an active contributing member alongside current Brea Mayor Pro Tem and Brea Post 181 Commander Steven Vargas, who is also a Chief Petty Officer in the Naval Reserves. I hope that other Legion Posts are beginning to thrive and reinvent themselves to meet a rapidly changing country that, however different, still needs a strong American Legion. As a member of the neighboring Legion Post 277 in Placentia, as the son of a Vietnam combat veteran and grandson of two World War II combat veterans, but most of all, as a member of the House Armed Services and Veterans Affairs Committees, I congratulate and commend the Legionaries of Brea Post 181 and wish them another century of excellence.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DENVER RIGGLEMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. RIGGLEMAN. Madam Speaker, I was unable to attend votes on March 2, 2020. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 79, and YEA on Roll Call No. 80.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANAN AMERI AS SHE IS NAMED THE 2020 ARAB AMERICAN OF THE YEAR

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Anan Ameri as she is named the 2020 Arab American of the Year by ACCESS. Dr. Ameri's lifetime of community service and activism is worthy of commendation, and we are proud to recognize her achievements today.

Anan Ameri is a pillar of Washtenaw County. For over forty years, she has dedicated her career to advocating for social justice and equity, upholding immigrant rights, and preserving Arab American stories. Dr. Ameri, an author, educator, and activist, is especially known in our community as the founding director for the Arab American National Museum. Thanks to her steadfast leadership and revolutionary vision, she secured the museum's Smithsonian affiliation, making it the only Arab American organization in the prestigious network. In addition, Dr. Ameri is the national president of the Palestine Aid Society of America and was inducted to Michigan's Hall of Fame for her extraordinary efforts in 2016.

Today, we celebrate Anan Ameri for her lifetime of service to her community. Born in Damascus, Syria and raised in Amman, Jordan, Dr. Ameri understands the daily trials and tribulations immigrants experience. As such, she has advocated for their voices and continues to fight to ensure their rights are upheld. Beyond her career in activism, she also has served as a mentor to young women. She has nurtured women to pursue their dreams, strive for excellence, and embrace their heritage. Dr. Ameri truly embodies the hopes and dreams of immigrants coming to America and has made a difference in our Michigan community. Her years of service have impacted the lives of many, and her continued dedication provides a lasting example for what we should all endeavor to accomplish—to effect change, be compassionate community members, and do all we can to make a difference in the world.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Anan Ameri. Her decades of selfless service make her a deserving recipient of the Arab American of the Year Award. I am grateful for her lasting impact and wish her continued success in the years ahead.

JUDGE MARVA CRENSHAW—BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate one of Florida's most distinguished jurists—and one of the highest integrity. Judge Marva L. Crenshaw was born in 1951 in DeFuniak Springs, Florida, one of seven children. A child of faith, naturally reflective in her calm demeanor, she would epitomize a commitment to justice and the judicial temperament that would distinguish her service on the bench. She is married to Norman Campbell and together they raised their two daughters, Kalinda and Kamaria.

Growing up in the segregated south, Judge Crenshaw attended segregated schools during her formative years. She excelled in language arts and became inspired by the impact of the rule of law, an appreciation she acquired spending time with her grandfather as he attended his affairs in her small town's courthouse. She earned her bachelor's degree with honors in 1973 from Tuskegee Institute, where she pledged as a Delta Sigma Theta and also became active in voter rights. She then achieved her childhood dream by earning her law degree from the University of Florida in 1975.

Judge Crenshaw began her dedication to public service as a prosecutor with the State Attorney's Office under Richard Gerstein in Miami-Dade County, Florida. She was hired by Janet Reno, who would later become the U.S. Attorney General. She served in that capacity until arriving to the Tampa Bay community in 1978 to join Bay Area Legal Services. She put her skills and legal acumen to work for families who often faced financial barriers to the courthouse and the legal system. She provided important legal services to disadvantaged neighbors across Tampa Bay and was named the organization's Deputy Director a decade later.

In 1989, Governor Bob Martinez appointed her to the Hillsborough County Court. In 2000, Governor Jeb Bush appointed her as the first African American woman to serve on the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Court. There she was assigned to civil, family, criminal and juvenile divisions—furthering her lifelong dream to serve the public and her community. In 2009, Governor Charlie Crist appointed her to the Second District Court of Appeal, where she presided until retirement in 2018.

Judge Crenshaw broke barriers and charted a course for others who are committed to equal justice to follow. She set the highest of standards in her courtroom and in service to our community to ensure fairness. While retirement marks the end of one chapter in her life, she continues to explore other opportunities to impact people's lives through service.

Judge Crenshaw has been extensively involved in bar activities and was recognized as recently as 2019 with both the Hillsborough County Bar Association's Robert W. Patton Outstanding Jurist Award and the Hillsborough Association of Women Lawyers' Trailblazer Award.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Tampa Bay community, I am humbled to honor Judge Marva L. Crenshaw during this Black History Month for her many years of selfless service and leadership, and for being a trailblazer and a shining light for justice for all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. COLIN Z. ALLRED

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. ALLRED. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House Chamber. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 81, and YEA on Roll Call No. 82.

IN HONOR OF SPRING GARDEN WINNING THE AHSAA CLASS 1A BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Spring Garden girls basketball team for winning the Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA) Class 1A basketball championship.

The Panthers defeated St. Luke's 53 to 45 in the championship game on February 27th. Spring Garden has won three titles over the last five years.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the students and faculty of Spring Garden High School, the coaches, the players and all the Panther fans on this exciting achievement. Go Panthers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. GOMEZ. Madam Speaker, I am not recorded on roll call vote No. 79. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

I am not recorded on roll call vote No. 80. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

I am not recorded on roll call vote No. 81. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

I am not recorded on roll call vote No. 82. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

RECOGNIZING BONNIE HESTER FOR HER WORK IN THE PEORIA COMMUNITY FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bonnie Hester for her work in the Peoria community and to honor her as a part of Black History Month. Bonnie spent 35 years in the public sector and was most recently a Program Assistant for the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program.

Bonnie Hester earned a certificate in Labor History from the University of Illinois and a Clerical Certificate from the Vocational School of Southern Illinois. Bonnie worked for the Peoria City/County Health Department for 25 years. Bonnie served on the Health Care Committee for Peoria County employees and was President of local AFSCME Union Chapter No. 3665 for 14 years. She represented District 1 on the Peoria County Board for eight years and served as the board's precinct committee person.

Now retired, Bonnie serves on the Executive Board for the West Central Labor Council representing AFSCME retirees and volunteers for the American Red Cross Disaster Services, the Heart of Illinois United Way, and the Make-A-Wish Foundation. She also serves on the school board for Peoria Christ Lutheran School, and is a long-time member of Christ Lutheran Church, where she teaches Sunday School. Bonnie and her husband, Jerry, have been married for 39 years and have three children and six grandchildren. I commend Bonnie on her service to the Peoria community.

It is because of community leaders such as Bonnie Hester that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally recognize Bonnie Hester for her great work in the Peoria community and honor her as a part of Black History Month.

SUPPORT FOR THE SOCIAL SECURITY 2100 ACT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, let me commend my colleague and friend Congressman JOHN LARSON, the chair of the Ways and Means Social Security Subcommittee, for his leadership and his legislation the Social Security 2100 Act. He is a tireless advocate for upholding our promise to our seniors, with respect to their retirement and their economic wellbeing.

Perhaps the ultimate legislative expression of our nation's shared values is our Social Security program. In 1935, our federal government made a promise to American workers that if they worked hard all of their lives, they would not fall into poverty when they retire. Social Security is foundational to tens of millions' Americans economic security as they retire. It provides a stable and secure source of income for our nation's seniors and their families. We continue to keep that promise today, as Social Security lifts out of poverty 22 million seniors nationwide and 130,000 in Connecticut.

In fact, according to the Economic Policy Institute, quote, ''Social Security remains by far the most important source of income for most seniors. It constitutes most of the income of seniors in the bottom half of the income distribution.''

Yet, a cliff is coming. Social Security no longer stretches as far as it once did. Even with their Social Security benefits, more than 5 percent of Connecticut's seniors are living in poverty. And, if we do nothing, in less than 15 years, Social Security benefits will be cut by nearly 25 percent.

When Social Security does not keep up with the cost of living, or modern economic challenges, seniors are robbed of their dignity and independence. They suffer when we do not uphold our promise. That is why we need to protect and enhance Social Security and to ensure it is able to help those who need it. That is why we need the Social Security 2100 Act.

It was introduced by my dear friend Congressman JOHN LARSON. I am an original cosponsor. The bill expands benefits, strengthens the Social Security trust fund, and cuts taxes for seniors. The bill and House Democrats' leadership is critical at a time when Americans are struggling with stagnant incomes and a lack of good-paying jobs.

In total, this bill would boost benefits for 62 million people. And, it will put the program on sound financial footing for the next 75 years.

It does so with several smart steps, including by having millionaires and billionaires pay the same tax rate as everyone else. For many Americans, this is commonsense. What is nonsensical, however, is that Republicans passed a $1.5 trillion tax giveaway for the wealthy and well-connected. 83 percent of the benefits go to the top 1 percent.

Instead of a giveaway to the rich, it is time for an investment in working people and seniors. That is what we are trying to do with the Social Security 2100 Act.

Experts have pointed to its economic benefits, for both individuals and the nation. For example, former Council of Economic Advisors Chair Jason Furman and former Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers, have said this legislation would positively impact economic growth.

As President Franklin Delano Roosevelt said of Social Security in 1934, quote, ''This seeking for a greater measure of welfare and happiness does not indicate a change of values. It is rather a return to values lost in the course of our economic development and expansion.''

Values lost, an apt description for our economy today. Costs skyrocketing. Wages stalling. Savings stagnating. And, seniors suffering. But, with this legislation, we can be returning to values lost, to upholding our promise, to ensuring economic security.

All Americans must keep up the fight to protect and expand social safety net programs like Social Security, The 60 million Americans receiving Social Security and countless more who will receive it are counting on us, and we will deliver.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DENVER RIGGLEMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. RIGGLEMAN. Madam Speaker, I was unable to attend votes on March 3, 2020. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 81, and YEA on Roll Call No. 82.

FEMA DISASTER PREPAREDNESS IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the ''FEMA Disaster Preparedness Improvement Act,'' with support from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and the California State Association of Counties. I want to thank my colleague Congressman MIKE THOMPSON (D–CA) for his support as the original cosponsor.

This legislation would increase FEMA support for disaster preparedness and emergency response to reflect the needs of communities across the country. As states like California face increasingly severe and frequent natural disasters due to man-made climate change and global public health emergencies, Congress and the federal government must step up.

The people most impacted by disasters and emergencies are often the most vulnerable members of our society: the elderly, the economically disadvantaged, and those with disabilities. All Americans deserve nothing less than the full-throated support of their federal government as they prepare for natural disasters and deal with public health emergencies, and that is exactly what my legislation would ensure.

As a member of California's Congressional delegation, I have seen firsthand the devastation that disasters can have on communities. In 2017 and 2018, our state experienced the most destructive fires recorded in California history. The federal government must be a real partner for states as they prepare for these disasters and seek to make our communities more resilient. My district is also one of the most flood-prone in the entire nation, and Travis Air Force Base housed the first American evacuees from the coronavirus outbreak in East Asia.

That is why the ''FEMA Disaster Preparedness Improvement Act'' would increase the federal cost share under the Hazard Mitigation and Emergency Management Performance Grant Programs to 85 percent, from 75 percent and 50 percent respectively. FEMA's Emergency Performance Grant Program helps state and local officials manage public emergencies including health crises, such as the recent coronavirus outbreak.

My bill would also exempt environmental reviews under federal or state law from the 36-month deadline to complete hazard mitigation projects and make designated ''special flood hazard areas'' under the National Flood Insurance Program automatically eligible for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grants. Lastly, the bill would direct the Government Accountability Office to report to Congress on the challenges faced by states in utilizing FEMA's Public Assistance Program Alternative Procedures.

Damaged caused by natural disasters in the United States has risen in recent years, with an average of 15 disasters with a cost of over a billion dollars between 2016 and 2018, more than double the average of the previous three decades. Congress must respond to this troubling trend and better support vulnerable communities across the country as they prepare and increase resilience to natural disasters and other public emergencies.

Madam Speaker, I urge all Members to cosponsor the ''FEMA Disaster Preparedness Improvement Act.'' As a senior member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I plan to make this critical legislation a major priority.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN NIEDERMAN

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and career of John Niederman. Since 1985, John has poured his heart and soul into the outstanding work conducted by Pathfinder Services.

Though born in New York, Indiana is proud to claim John as one of our own. A graduate of Fort Wayne's own University of Saint Francis, he has spent over three decades working in Huntington with Pathfinder Services to help those who need it most.

John embodies the purest form of Hoosier hospitality in his work, helping countless others on their way to realizing greater economic, physical and developmental independence. He has been active is creating an environment that values inclusion and fairness, giving those whom he encounters the best chance possible to succeed and Jive out the American Dream.

As John prepares to step down from a position he has loved and excelled at, I have no doubt that he will continue to be a leader in his community and a shining example to those who seek him out. Huntington County, and all of Indiana, are blessed to continue to count John and his family as their own.

JUDGE PERRY LITTLE—BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a jurist who has served our Tampa neighbors for decades—and continues his dedication to this day. Through his work spanning more than 40 years and as the second African American appointed to the bench in Hillsborough County, which is the longest tenure for an African American judge in the county's history, Judge Perry A. Little has helped shape our community forever. Judge Little is husband to Sonjia Latson Little and father of three: Matthew (Nandie), Marissa and Josie. He is also the proud grandfather of four girls, Reigan, Ivy, Gabrielle and Eden, and a member of Beulah Baptist Church.

Judge Little was born and educated in Georgia. He received his undergraduate degree from Morehouse College and his law degree from Emory University. After completing law school, he took a position at a legal clinic where he could have a larger community impact over a federal position he was offered in Washington, D.C.

At a time when windows and doors were just beginning to open for African Americans in the legal profession, Judge Little was appointed to the bench in Hillsborough County in 1977 by Governor Rubin Askew, where he presided for more than 12 years. He was the second African American in the county's history to be appointed, standing on the shoulders of Judge George Edgecomb, who only served three years as a county judge due to illness, but set the highest of standards for his colleagues to follow. The 1970s were a transformative time for communities as desegregation orders blanketed the nation while raising the profile of diversity at all levels of government. With the vital role our courts play in our democracy, economy and daily lives, a more diverse judiciary brings greater confidence in our justice system and is an important step toward a more just and equal America. In 1993, Governor Lawton Chiles appointed Judge Little to the Circuit Court where he served in the Juvenile and Circuit Civil Divisions until his retirement in 2007.

Much of Judge Little's Circuit experience was dedicated to positively impacting the lives of juveniles and young adults through his legal decisions, who he continues to serve as an inspiration. Judge Little retired to care for his aging father in Georgia but continues to lend his judicial expertise as a Senior Judge for the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, and assists other judges to ensure each case is given the time and care it deserves. He has been recognized for his extensive commitment to service through various awards, including the 2018 Distinguished Leadership Award from the Black Law Students Association at WMU-Cooley Law School's Tampa Bay campus.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Tampa Bay community, it gives me immense pride to honor a great public servant this Black History Month. Judge Little is a man faithful to his family and community, and is unparalleled in service to his neighbors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID SCHWEIKERT

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Speaker, due to travel complications, I was unable to be present for votes on Monday, March 2.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 79, H.R. 5003 and YEA on Roll Call No. 80, H.R. 5932.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILL HURD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. HURD of Texas. Madam Speaker, due to travel delays, I was unable to participate in the following votes: Roll Call No. 79, 80, 81, and 82. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 79; YEA on Roll Call No. 80; YEA on Roll Call No. 81; and YEA on Roll Call No. 82.

HONORING SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT DIANA M. CAREY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable community servant, Senior Master Sergeant Diana M. Carey.

Sergeant Carey attended Jackson State University where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary and special education. She also earned a Masters in English to teach secondary level education.

Sergeant Carey retired from the United States Air Force with twenty years of service. She actively served in Texas, Japan, Turkey and Saudi Arabia. In addition, she has held administrative, contracting and intelligence positions within the United States Air Force. Sergeant Carey also supported the Military Airlift Command in deployments.

Since July of 1997, she has served as the Air Force Junior Reserve Officers' Training

Corps (AFJROTC) instructor for Raymond High School in Raymond, Mississippi. Effective June 30, 2020, she will be retiring from the Hinds County School District with 23 years of service. During her time, she has trained over 1,500 cadets. Sergeant Carey has been named Teacher of the Year and Outstanding Air Force Junior ROTC instructor twice during her tenure. Not to mention, she is one of the 25 percent qualified as an advanced instructor.

Sergeant Carey has also been instrumental in training new instructors at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama. Her overall mission has been to "develop citizens of character dedicated to serving the nation and community."

Aside from her military duties, Sergeant Carey is a member of the Illinois American Legion and the Brandon Quilters Guild. She attends Jackson Revival Center where she has taught Sunday school, sang in the choir and managed vacation Bible school activities.

Her hobbies include quilting, gardening and spending time with her son and three grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Senior Master Sergeant Diana M. Carey for her dedication and tenacity to serving the community and the desire to be an example for all.

IN HONOR OF LEE-SCOTT ACADEMY WINNING THE AISA CLASS AAA BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Lee-Scott Academy girls basketball team for winning the Alabama Independent School Association (AISA) Class AAA basketball championship.

The Warriors defeated Glenwood 44 to 26 in the championship game on February 15th at the Crampton Bowl in Montgomery.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the students and faculty of Lee-Scott Academy, the coaches, the players and all the Warrior fans on this exciting achievement. Go Warriors.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHIEF ED KULHAWIK

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition Chief Ed Kulhawik as he retires after 39 years of service as a law enforcement officer.

Ed began his career with the Wilton, Connecticut Police Department in 1981 as a patrol officer until he chose to take a leave of absence to pursue a master's degree in Social Work from Boston College. After returning to the Wilton Police Department he went on to be promoted to the rank of Sergeant, Lieutenant, Administrative Captain, and in 2004, Chief of Police. After serving the Wilton community for 27 years, he accepted a position with the Eastham, Massachusetts Police Department on August 31, 2009. In doing so, Chief Kulhawik fulfilled a long-time dream of working on Cape Cod.

During his tenure as Chief in Eastham, he developed new recruitment strategies that focused on education. Chief Kulhawik improved training techniques and built significant relationships with both residents and local legislators. In both departments, he repeatedly exemplified the highest ideals of his profession and worked to greatly improve both communities.

Additionally, Chief Kulhawik led many of Massachusetts' most prodigious non-departmental policing bodies, such as the FBI National Academy Associates for Connecticut and the Cape Cod Regional Law Enforcement Council.

Chief Ed Kulhawik has dedicated his career to serving Eastham, and I wish him many years of well-deserved happiness and more with his family in retirement.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Edward V. Kulhawik, Chief of the Eastham Police Department, and I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing his years of dedication to his community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KATIE PORTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Ms. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present for suspension votes on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 due to the California primary election. Had I been present, I would have assented to H. Res. 387, H.R. 4508, and H. Res. 230 passing by voice vote.

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I rise today in observance of Women's History Month and its 2020 theme—Valiant Women of the Vote. Each year, the National Women's History Project selects a unifying theme to recognize and promote Women's History Month. This year's theme recognizes the centennial of the 19th Amendment and honors the stories of women from the original suffrage movement.

In the United States, women of every race, class, and ethnic background have played a critical role with ensuring that women's voices are heard. For generations, women have contributed to resolving conflicts and have worked to promote equality in the workplace, schools, homes, communities, and government. Women have insisted upon and continue to fight for respect, justice, and equality for all of humanity.

Throughout the years, women from diverse backgrounds have contributed to the courageous movement that would secure a woman's right to vote. Among these remarkable leaders being recognized this month are passionate activists, including Congresswoman ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, Theresa Kumar, founder of Voto Latino, Terry Ao Minnis, Director of Asian Americans Advancing Justice, and Edith Mayo, curator at the Smithsonian Museum and historian of women's suffrage. Also honored are Lucy Burns, a Silent Sentinel who protested at the White House, and Carrie Chapman Catt, a suffrage activist from Iowa who served as president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA). Wilhelmina Kekelaokalaninui Widemann Dowsett, a NAWSA member and founder of a suffrage organization in Hawaii, Ana Roque de Duprey, a Puerto Rican suffrage organizer, and Elizabeth Piper Ensley, a reporter for the "Women's Era" and member of the National Association of Colored Women, are also remembered for their contributions to the movement.

We also recall the passionate efforts of Marie Foster, a civil rights leader who marched from Selma to Montgomery and attempted to register to vote eight times before being allowed to vote, Dr. Mabel Ping-Hua Lee, a New York suffragist who earned a PhD in economics, and Virginia Louisa Minor, the Missouri woman who appealed to the Supreme Court in 1874 for her right to vote. Finally, we salute Anna Howard Shaw, who earned a Distinguished Service Medal during World War I and played a critical role in the leadership of NAWSA. For their leadership and outstanding dedication to women's rights, unity, and peace, these courageous women are well deserving of our respect and admiration. I commend them and the many others who fought alongside them for women of every creed, class, and ethnic background. These fearless and strong women serve as remarkable role models who reflect the 2020 theme, Valiant Women of the Vote.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to join in celebrating Women's History Month and recognizing the dedication, perseverance, contributions, and advances great American women from all cultures and classes have made to bettering our communities and the entire country. I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in celebrating these extraordinary women who have improved American society and whose stories are woven into the fabric of our nation.

CONGRATULATING THE KNOXVILLE HIGH SCHOOL DANCE TEAM FOR ITS WIN AT THE IDTA STATE FINALS

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Knoxville High School Dance Team for its win at the Illinois Drill Team Association (IDTA) State Finals for Class A Kick Dance. The Knoxville High School Dance Team overcame significant adversity to win this title and I commend them for their hard work and dedication.

After parting ways with two coaches who could not stay and coach the team, volunteer moms Tammy Myers and Jennifer Stoneking

came on board to help high school captains Fionna Drake and Clara Ponder complete the season. The team practiced whenever they could, outside of their mandatory three lessons per week. Parents across the community opened their garages and other spare spaces to the girls for practice. The teamwork and dedication displayed by the moms, team captains and the dancers is remarkable and led them to victory at the IDTA State Finals. As a former athlete, I admire the fortitude the Knoxville High School Dance Team displayed to achieve their dreams of being state champions and I commend them for their efforts and can-do attitudes. I am proud to see them represent Knoxville so well throughout the state with their talent and passion.

It is because of student leaders such as the Knoxville High School Dance Team that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate the Knoxville High School Dance Team on its victory at the IDTA State Finals in the Class A Kick Dance category.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID ROUZER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. ROUZER. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on March 2 because I was in North Carolina with the President of the United States. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 79, and YEA on Roll Call No. 80.

RECOGNIZING OUR LADY OF LOURDES ACADEMY GIRLS' SOCCER TEAM

HON. DONNA E. SHALALA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of Our Lady of Lourdes Academy, which celebrated its second soccer state championship win this last week.

With this victory, Lourdes Academy reaffirms its reputation for excellence in every field. Lourdes is well known as an academic powerhouse, and this victory is proof of the school's incredible athletics program.

The championship game was a test of the Lourdes soccer team's resilience. Although Lourdes scored an early lead in the first quarter, the game once again became tied just 2:06 before halftime. Despite the close game, the Bobcat defense was stellar, and the they retook lead in the second half.

With 500 fans cheering from the stands in Spec Martin Stadium, incredible teamwork, and endless determination, Lourdes captured the Class 6A state championship with a 2–1 victory against Venice, marking the Bobcats' second state title in the past three years.

Congratulations to the Lourdes' girls' soccer team on a well-earned victory. It's an honor to represent this team in Congress, and I hope to see many of these young women take their talents on to collegiate and professional soccer.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ALLEN CONNELLY

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of The American Legion, Department of Indiana State Commander Mr. Allen Connelly.

As a 50-year member of LaGrange American Legion Post 215, Connelly's engagement with the Legion over the last half-century is historic. That includes serving as Post Service Officer, Hoosier Boys State and Flag Education Chairman, member of the District Finance Committee and District Advisory Committee, member of the Department Strategic Plan Committee and Centennial Celebration Committee, member of the National Veteran's Preference Committee and Education, Other Benefits and Homelessness Committee, and more.

Connelly has been heavily involved in his community outside the Legion as well. He served 25 years on the LaGrange Volunteer Fire Department; he was president and member of the Lakeland School Corporation Board of Trustees; he served 12 years as a member of the Bloomfield Township Advisory Board, and he has served as the Veteran Representative on the LaGrange County Drug Court since its founding. He is a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in LaGrange.

Connelly has also served our nation with distinction. He was active duty in the U.S. Army between 1964 and 1965, where he earned the rank of Sergeant. This record is testament to his civic engagement, attentiveness and hard work for which northeast Indiana is forever grateful.

ROSS ANDERSON—BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a true ''Man of Vision,'' Mr. Ross Anderson. He was born and raised in Tampa, Florida and has left an indelible mark in our hometown. Mr. Anderson graduated from Hillsborough High School and the University of South Florida. He received his graduate degrees from Columbia Southern University and Waldorf College, respectively. While Mr. Anderson takes great pride in his distinguished education and vocation, he is most proud to be the father of James Elaissaint-Anderson and Henry Tillman Jr., and the grandfather of Jasmine Tillman.

Mr. Anderson saw a profound need in our community for mentorship directed towards young men whom he often refers as ''our boys.'' His vision for mentorship led him to leave his career as a successful corporate executive. In 2006, one year into his tenure as a teacher, Mr. Anderson helped found Men of Vision at Sligh Middle School. In 2010, Men of Vision, Inc. was established with the concept of ''Action & Vision can change the World.'' The effort starts at the commnunity level but knows no limits in its outreach. In Mr. Anderson's world, ''our boys'' enhance their personal development, and by doing so, address the physical and social needs of their communities. It also follows that they then promote better relations among all people through a framework of friendship and service, and provide an overall vision for the future.

Men of Vision is open to young boys and men from ages 10 to 19, fifth grade through post-secondary school. The group is organized into elementary, middle and high schools throughout the community. Membership is open to young men regardless of race, color, ability, creed, gender, national origin or religion, reflecting the diversity of Tampa Bay, the community it serves. The impact has been tremendous.

Mr. Anderson serves as a guide, mentor and advocate for ''our boys,'' some who may be on the brink of hopelessness. By boosting these individuals and turning them instead into confident contributors and leaders, Mr. Anderson lifts our community one Man of Vision at a time. He has dedicated his life to ensuring that Tampa's future generations believe they can make a difference in the community in which they live by focusing on serving others and respecting themselves as vital members of our community. Nearly 100 percent of Men of Vision complete high school and many continue higher education.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of Florida and my neighbors across Tampa Bay I am proud to honor Ross Anderson this Black History Month. Mr. Anderson's untiring efforts and selfless devotion are a shining beacon to all of us, especially the young people in our community. The time and energy he has invested into developing our youth and making Tampa Bay a better place to live are unmatched. His legacy will live on in history through the hundreds of young men and the community at large that he has inspired and impacted.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TJ COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. COX of California. Madam Speaker, due to flight mechanical issues and delays, I missed votes on March 2, 2020. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 79, and YEA on Roll Call No. 80.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PHIL COTT

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Mr. Phil Cott, a beloved member of California's 33rd Congressional District, who passed away at the age of 68 on February 6, 2020 after a decade-long bout with kidney cancer. Phil served as the principal of Webster Elementary School in Malibu, California for more than 20 years, capping off a storied career as an educator, lawyer, and administrator.

Born on July 2, 1951 in Los Angeles, California, Phil attended Venice High School and the University of California, Los Angeles. After graduating, Phil taught for 14 years in Culver City as an elementary school teacher and served as president of his teachers' union for six years.

Phil then decided on a bold mid-career pivot, attending law school at night and eventually becoming a lawyer. He also served as a Los Angeles County deputy District Attorney, where he had numerous successes in the courtroom. However, Phil told friends that he missed working in public education and returned as an administrator, beginning his tenure as the principal of Webster Elementary School in 1990.

As principal, Phil introduced innovative projects and ideas to the benefit of Webster's students, including Websterville, an annual recreation of a colonial American village. Phil also led annual trips to Yosemite National Park and was key in establishing the school's computer lab. Phil was known among Webster's teaching staff for encouraging individuality and creativity in the classroom and contributing to a warm and friendly environment for the students.

Phil is survived by his wife, Charlee; children Rachel and Daniel; and grandchildren, Heaven and Paris. May his compassion, leadership, and devotion to those around him live on in the students he inspired and educators he helped nurture over his 37-year career.

HONORING TUSKEGEE AIRMEN DAY

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Alabama State Legislature's joint resolution which recognizes March 7 as Tuskegee Airmen Day. House Joint Resolution 120 will acknowledge the honor and valor of those Tuskegee Airmen who risked their lives in defense of our country, despite racism, prejudice and segregation.

In 1941, a group of African American men in Tuskegee, Alabama, joined together to form an all-African American squadron of pilots known as the Tuskegee Airmen. This squadron fought fiercely overseas on behalf of the United States of America during World War II, proving that patriotism and love of country conquers even the cruelest forms of bigotry. Segregation barred African Americans from enlisting alongside white Americans, and prior to the Tuskegee Airmen, the United States had never had an African American military pilot.

After being rejected from enlisting during World War I, African Americans spent more than two decades advocating for the right to enlist and train as military aviators. With help from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, labor union leader A. Philip Randolph and Judge William H. Hastie, these advocates were successful in passing Appropriations Bill Public Law 18 with an amendment by Senator Harry H. Schwartz of Wyoming, which designated funds for training African American pilots. The money was then invested in civilian flight schools willing to train African American pilots.

In June of 1941, the 99th Pursuit Squadron at Tuskegee University was founded. The unit consisted of 47 officers and 429 enlisted men who began primary training at Moton Field before moving to the Tuskegee Air Field about ten miles to the west for conversion training. Tuskegee Air Field mirrored existing all-white air fields like Maxwell Air Field only forty miles away, providing African American pilots with the same rigorous training as white Americans.

Major Noel F. Parrish advocated for the Tuskegee Airmen to be allowed to enter into combat, petitioning Washington, D.C. on their behalf. Eventually, in 1943, the Tuskegee Airmen were deemed eligible for combat and were sent to North Africa to join the 33rd Fighter Group under the command of Colonel William W. Momyer. Given little guidance from experienced combat pilots, the Tuskegee Airmen flew toward Italy where they attacked the small and strategically located volcanic island of Pantelleria. The island eventually surrendered, and the Airmen flew on to Sicily, receiving a Distinguished Unit Citation. The men went on to fight with heart and valor throughout World War II, proving to America and to the entire world that African Americans were just as capable as white Americans of serving their country. In many ways, these men displayed even more patriotism, as they actively fought to overcome barriers in order to serve and protect.

The Tuskegee Airmen's legacy is one that should make the state of Alabama truly proud. These men are part of Alabama's remarkable legacy of advocating for civil rights, proving that the determination of African American Alabamians can charge the course of history, not only for our country but for the entire world.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the exemplary service of the Tuskegee Airmen, and to the Alabama State Legislature for acknowledging their service through the passage of House Joint Resolution 120. May we celebrate the resilience and sacrifice of the Tuskegee Airmen not only on March 7, but every day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KATIE PORTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Ms. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present for suspension votes on Monday, March 2, 2020 due to the California primary election. Had I been present, I would have assented to H.R. 5931, H.R. 5003, H.R. 5932, and H.R. 4351 passing by voice vote.

IN HONOR OF ANNISTON WINNING THE AHSAA CLASS 4A BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Anniston girls basketball team for winning the Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA) Class 4A basketball championship.

The Bulldogs defeated Deschler 61 to 51 in the championship game on February 28th at Legacy Arena.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the students and faculty of Anniston High School, the coaches, the players and all the Bulldogs fans on this exciting achievement. Go Bulldogs.

IN RECOGNITION OF RICHARD E. FOX, M.A., RECIPIENT OF ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Reverend Richard E. Fox, M.A. as the recipient of the Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 4 Paul ''Hook'' O'Malley Man of the Year award. He will be honored at the organization's annual gathering on Wednesday, March 4, 2020.

Reverend Fox, son of Richard and Ann C. Madden Fox, was born in Pottstown, Pennsylvania and raised in South Wilkes-Barre. In June 1983, Reverend Fox graduated from E.L. Meyers High School and the Wilkes-Barre Area Vo-Tech School with a concentration in warehouse management. He was a member of the 100th graduating class of the University of Scranton, earning a degree in Christian Traditions in 1988. While at the University of Scranton, he also studied at St. Pius X Seminary in Dalton. In 1992, Reverend Fox graduated from Christ the King Seminary in Buffalo, New York with a master's degree in pastoral ministry.

On June 27, 1992, Reverend Fox was ordained as a priest at St. Peter's Cathedral Church in Scranton. Following his ordination, he served as assistant pastor at churches across Northeastern Pennsylvania, including Epiphany Church in Sayre (1992 to 1995), Immaculate Conception Church in Scranton (1995 to 1998), and St. Jude's Church in Mountain Top (1998 to 2000). He then served as pastor of Blossburg Area Catholic Community in Tioga County (2000 to 2003), Holy Trinity/Holy Child Church in Nanticoke (2003 to 2005), Immaculate Conception Church in Scranton (2005 to 2007), Holy Family Church in Luzerne (2007 to 2009), St. Eulalia's Church in Roaring Brook Township (2009 to 2010), as well as other churches in Exeter and Old Forge in 2010 and 2011.

After serving many communities across the region, Reverend Fox called Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Lake Silkworth his home parish from 2011 to 2016. Since 2016, he has been the pastor at St. Patrick's Parish in Scranton.

Reverend Fox has two siblings, Bridget Fox Ford, married to William Ford, and the late Christopher Fox.

He is the proud uncle of his niece and nephew, Mitchell and Cameron Ford.

It is an honor to recognize Reverend Richard E. Fox as the Ancient Order of the Hibernians Division 4 Man of the Year and congratulate him on his distinguished career in

service to the Catholic community of Northeastern Pennsylvania. May he continue to find happiness and peace in his vocation.

FEBRUARY VETERAN OF THE MONTH

HON. KEVIN HERN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the First District of Oklahoma's February Veteran of the Month, Megan Lowry.

A Military Police Officer in the United States Marine Corps, Ms. Lowry honorably served our nation for three years. Following her military career, Megan served in the Secret Service during President George W. Bush's last term in office helping to protect the First Family from various threats. Due to her outstanding work with the Secret Service, Ms. Lowry was awarded the Presidential Service Badge for honorable service to the President of the United States and the White House. Upon returning home from service, Megan Lowry has dedicated her life to serving other veterans.

Megan serves her fellow veterans who may be suffering from the invisible wounds that remain from their time in combat. Lowry is a service dog trainer for Wounded Veterans of Oklahoma and also works with the Pups4Patriots program which works to provide service animals to veterans free of charge.

Ms. Lowry is a recent alumna of the University of Tulsa where she was an active member of their Student Veterans Association, which seeks to help transition returning servicemembers into collegiate life. Megan is also an active member of the Delaware Tribe, helping to preserve her native heritage for future generations.

Megan Lowry lives a life of unmatched dedication, sacrifice, and service to our great nation. She answered the call to defend freedom, and she sacrificed whatever was necessary in the name of that noble cause. She continues to serve our country, community, and her fellow veterans at a high level on a daily basis. It is my honor to recognize Megan Lowry as the 1st Congressional District of Oklahoma's February Veteran of the Month.

RECOGNIZING JASON SAMSAL OF SUNBURST

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jason Samsal of Sunburst for his innovation as a conservationist on his Montana family farm.

Jason's land, just north of Shelby, has been in his family for generations. When Jason was 11 years old, his grandpa began teaching him the ways of the farmer and rancher. Jason has worked alongside his father for more than three decades. For him, it's the independence and lifestyle that he loves so much.

Jason has been an example for many Montana farmers and ranchers. Participating in United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) conservation programs, he goes above and beyond to ensure high-quality care for his crops and land. Jason is committed to using a diverse and intense cropping rotation that enhances the soil and protects it from erosion.

His methods are working. Jason is known for his produce, including one-year turnips that have reached the size of dinner plates. As a result of his work, he was recognized as the Toole County Conservationist of the Year in 2019.

Along with crop rotation, Jason makes constructing habitat a top priority on his farm. After noticing bees were struggling to pollinate his large farm in 2010, he found a solution. For every quarter mile, Jason created habitat with plants and flowers that pollinate yearround, giving the bees an area to rest. Because of measures like these, his bees and crops are thriving.

Jason is also committed to responsible wildlife practices. His farm is open for hunters as part of the state's block management program. He's constructed three wildlife corridors for animals to roam freely. He's also rebuilt all his fences with gates so antelope and deer can travel safely throughout his property. Madam Speaker, for his innovative approach to sustainable farming and his commitment to conserving Montana's land and creating healthy, practical wildlife habitat, I recognize Jason Samsal for his Spirit of Montana.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN W. ROSE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, on the night of March 2nd into the early morning of March 3rd, several tornadoes struck Middle Tennessee, inflicting severe damage and taking numerous lives. Most of the devastation occurred in my congressional district, the Sixth District of Tennessee, including my hometown, Cookeville, TN.

After careful consideration, my family and I returned home to Cookeville, TN, on March 3rd so that we could meet with local officials and first responders to assess the damage for ourselves and lend a helping hand to our friends and neighbors wherever it might be needed. Because of our decision to return home, I was absent for votes today.

I missed Roll Call vote number 83. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I missed Roll Call vote number 84. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I missed Roll Call vote number 85. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I missed Roll Call vote number 86. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 5, 2020 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 10

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Matthew P. Donovan, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, and William Jordan Gillis, of Georgia, and Victor G. Mercado, of California, both to be an Assistant Secretary, all of the Department of Defense.

SD–G50

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2021 for the Federal Communications Commission.

SD–562

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's semi-annual report to Congress

SD–538

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2021 for the Department of the Interior.

SD–366

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights

To hold hearings to examine competition in digital technology markets, focusing on self-preferencing by digital platforms.

SD–226

11 a.m.

Committee on Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of James E. Trainor III, of Texas, to be a Member of the Federal Election Commission.

SR–301

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs

To hold hearings to examine fragility in the Sahel.

SD–138

2:30 p.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Intellectual Property

To hold hearings to examine copyright law in foreign jurisdictions, focusing on how other countries are handling digital piracy.

SD–226

MARCH 11

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Department of Defense

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2021 for the Navy and Marine Corps.

SD–138

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on SeaPower

To hold hearings to examine Marine Corps ground modernization in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2021 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR–222

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider S. 1046, to establish the Office of Internet Connectivity and Growth, S. 3132, to extend the Undertaking Spam, Spyware, And Fraud Enforcement With Enforcers beyond Borders Act of 2006, S. 3191, to increase the capacity of research and development programs of the Federal Government that focus on industries of the future, S. 3248, to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency, S. 3303, to amend title 49, United States Code, to promote transportation career opportunities and improve diversity in the workforce, H.R. 835, to impose criminal sanctions on certain persons involved in international doping fraud conspiracies, to provide restitution for victims of such conspiracies, and to require sharing of information with the United States Anti-Doping Agency to assist its fight against doping, and routine lists in the Coast Guard; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine pending nominations.

SR–253

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine pending nominations.

SD–406

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the EARN IT Act, focusing on holding the tech industry accountable in the fight against online child sexual exploitation.

SD–226

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of The American Legion.

SD–G50

2 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2021 for the Government Accountability Office and Congressional Budget Office.

SD–124

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2021 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SD–192

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2021 for the Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation within the Department of the Interior.

SD–138

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine personnel programs in the Department of Defense in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2021 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD–106

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 3045, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to protect United States critical infrastructure by ensuring that the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency has the legal tools it needs to notify private and public sector entities put at risk by cybersecurity vulnerabilities in the networks and systems that control critical assets of the United States, S. 2757, to waive the imposition of a civil fine for certain first-time paperwork violations by small business concerns, S. 2502, to ban the Federal procurement of certain drones and other unmanned aircraft systems, S. 2722, to prohibit agencies from using Federal funds for publicity or propaganda purposes, S. 3207, to require the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to establish a Cybersecurity State Coordinator in each State, S. 3332, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for the halt in pension payments for Members of Congress sentenced for certain offenses, S. 2847, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 42 Main Street in Slatersville, Rhode Island, as the ''Specialist Matthew R. Turcotte Post Office'', S. 2945, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 171 South Maple Street in Dana, Indiana, as the Ernest ''Ernie'' T. Pyle Post Office, S. 3257, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 311 West Wisconsin Avenue in Tomahawk, Wisconsin, as the ''Einar 'Sarge' H. Ingman, Jr. Post Office Building'', S. 3365, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Crosby Street in Mansfield, Louisiana, as the ''Dr. C.O. Simpkins, Sr., Post Office'', H.R. 3675, to require a review of Department of Homeland Security trusted traveler programs, H.R. 2589, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a homeland intelligence doctrine for the Department of Homeland Security, H.R. 4761, to ensure U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers, agents, and other personnel have adequate synthetic opioid detection equipment, that the Department of Homeland Security has a process to update synthetic opioid detection capability, H.R. 5273, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a plan to increase to 100 percent the rates of scanning of commercial and passenger vehicles entering the United States at land ports of entry along the border using large-scale non-intrusive inspection systems to enhance border security, H.R. 4713, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make certain improvements in the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties of the Department of Homeland Security, H.R. 4739, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to protect U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers, agents, other personnel, and canines against potential synthetic opioid exposure, H.R. 1833, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 Tulip Avenue in Floral Park, New York, as the ''Lieutenant Michael R. Davidson Post Office Building'', H.R. 3207, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 114 Mill Street in Hookstown, Pennsylvania, as the ''Staff Sergeant Dylan Elchin Post Office Building'', H.R. 3329, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5186 Benito Street in Montclair, California, as the ''Paul Eaton Post Office Building'', H.R. 4794, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8320 13th Avenue in Brooklyn, New York, as the ''Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini Post Office Building'', H.R. 4981, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2505 Derita Avenue in Charlotte, North Carolina, as the ''Julius L. Chambers Civil Rights Memorial Post Office'', H.R. 5037, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3703 North Main Street in Farmville, North Carolina, as the ''Walter B. Jones, Jr. Post Office'', H.R. 3317, to permit the Scipio A. Jones Post Office in Little Rock, Arkansas, to accept and display a portrait of Scipio A. Jones, an original bill entitled, ''Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2020'', an original bill entitled, ''Guidance Clarity Act of 2020'', an original bill entitled, ''Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation Act of 2020'', and the motion to issue a subpoena to Andrii Telizhenko as described in Schedule A.

SD–342

MARCH 12

10 a.m.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine the coronavirus and America's small business supply chain.

SR–428A

MARCH 24

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

SD–538

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1449–S1508

Measures Introduced: Nine bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3385–3393, and S. Res. 527–530. **Pages S1476–77**

Measures Passed:

Secure 5G and Beyond Act: Senate passed S. 893, to require the President to develop a strategy to ensure the security of next generation mobile telecommunications systems and infrastructure in the United States and to assist allies and strategic partners in maximizing the security of next generation mobile telecommunications systems, infrastructure, and software, after withdrawing the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S1506–07**

McConnell (for Cornyn) Amendment No. 1510, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S1507**

Rare Disease Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 529, designating February 29, 2020, as ''Rare Disease Day''. **Page S1507**

National Assistive Technology Awareness Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 530, designating March 4, 2020, as ''National Assistive Technology Awareness Day''. **Page S1507**

Measures Considered:

Advanced Geothermal Innovation Leadership Act—Agreement: Senate began consideration of S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, after agreeing to the motion to proceed, withdrawing the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S1450–52, S1452–68**

Pending:

Murkowski Amendment No. 1407, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S1452**

McConnell (for Ernst) Amendment No. 1419 (to Amendment No. 1407), to establish a grant program for training wind technicians. **Pages S1452–53**

Prior to the consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 90 yeas to 4 nays (Vote No. 64), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S1452**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, March 5, 2020. **Page S1507**

Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 11:15 a.m., on Thursday, March 5, 2020, Senate begin consideration of H.R. 6074, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and the only amendment in order be Paul Amendment No. 1506; that 20 minutes of debate prior to 12 noon be under the control of Senator Paul, or his designee; that Senate vote on or in relation to Paul Amendment No. 1506 at 12 noon, and upon disposition of Paul Amendment No. 1506, the time until 1:45 p.m. be equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees, and Senate vote on passage of the bill, as amended, if amended, with a 60 affirmative vote threshold required for passage; and that the last ten minutes of debate be under the control of Senators Leahy and Shelby. **Page S1507**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency originally declared in executive order 13288 of March 6, 2003, with respect to the actions and policies of certain members of the Government of Zimbabwe and other persons to undermine Zimbabwe's democratic processes or institutions; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–49) **Page S1475**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

2 Air Force nominations in the rank of general. **Pages S1507–08**

Messages from the House: Page S1475
Measures Referred: Pages S1475–76
Executive Communications: Page S1476
Additional Cosponsors: Pages S1477–78
Additional Statements: Pages S1474–75
Amendments Submitted: Pages S1480–S1505
Authorities for Committees to Meet: Pages S1505–06

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—64) Page S1452

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 5, 2020. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1507.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2021 for the National Guard and Reserve, after receiving testimony from General Joseph Lengyel, Chief, National Guard Bureau, Lieutenant General Charles D. Luckey, Chief of Army Reserve, Lieutenant General Richard W. Scobee, Chief of Air Force Reserve, Vice Admiral Luke M. McCollum, Chief of Navy Reserve, and Lieutenant General David G. Bellon, Commander of Marine Corps Forces Reserve, all of the Department of Defense.

APPROPRIATIONS: DOI

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2021 for the Department of the Interior, after receiving testimony from David Bernhardt, Secretary of the Interior.

APPROPRIATIONS: DOT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2021 for the Department of Transportation, after receiving testimony from Elaine L. Chao, Secretary of Transportation.

APPROPRIATIONS: DOE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2021 for the Department of Energy, after receiving testimony from Dan Brouillette, Secretary of Energy.

NAVAL AIR STATION PENSACOLA

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities concluded open and closed hearings to examine the Department of Defense review of vetting policies for international military students following the attack on Naval Air Station Pensacola, after receiving testimony from Garry Reid, Director for Defense Intelligence (Counterintelligence, Law Enforcement, and Security), Office of the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Security, and Lieutenant General Charles W. Hooper, USA, Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, both of the Department of Defense.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on SeaPower concluded a hearing to examine Navy shipbuilding programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2021 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from James F. Geurts, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development, and Acquisition, Lieutenant General Eric M. Smith, USMC, Commanding General, Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Deputy Commandant for Combat Development and Integration, and Vice Admiral James W. Kilby, USN, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Warfighting Requirements and Capabilities, all of the Department of Defense.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Department of Defense budget posture in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2021 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Mark T. Esper, Secretary, and General Mark A. Milley, USA, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, both of the Department of Defense.

5G SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine 5G supply chain security, focusing on threats and solutions, after receiving testimony from Steven K. Berry, Competitive Carriers Association, Jason S. Boswell,

Ericsson North America, Asha Keddy, Intel Corporation, and James A. Lewis, Center for Strategic and International Studies, all of Washington, D.C.; and Michael Murphy, Nokia, Irving, Texas.

ROLE OF AVIATION IN CONTAINING THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Aviation and Space concluded a hearing to examine the role of global aviation in containing the spread of infectious disease, focusing on coronavirus, after receiving testimony from Joel Szabat, Assistant Secretary of Transportation for Aviation and International Affairs, performing the duties of the Undersecretary of Transportation for Policy; Rear Admiral Stephen C. Redd, Public Health Service, Director, Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services; and William Ferrara, Executive Assistant Commissioner for Operations Support, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

IMPACT OF INVASIVE SPECIES

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water and Power concluded a hearing to examine the impact of invasive species on Bureau of Reclamation facilities and management of water resources in the West, after receiving testimony from Scott Cameron, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, Department of the Interior; Mayor Jackie A. Meck, Buckeye, Arizona; Stephanie Criswell, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Helena, on behalf of the Western Invasive Species Council; Michael Preston, Dolores Water Conservancy District, Cortez, Colorado; and Julie W. Regan, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, Stateline, Nevada.

NATIONAL PARKS LEGISLATION

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks concluded a hearing to examine S. 1863, to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the sites associated with the life and legacy of the noted American philanthropist and business executive Julius Rosenwald, with a special focus on the Rosenwald Schools, S. 1910, to rename the Homestead National Monument of America near Beatrice, Nebraska, as the Homestead National Historical Park, S. 1969, to authorize the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, S. 2206, to express the sense of Congress regarding restoration and maintenance of the Mardasson Memorial in Bastogne, Belgium, S. 2340, to establish the Cahokia Mounds Mississippian Culture National Historical Park in the States of Illinois and Missouri, S. 2827, to amend title 54, United States Code, to establish within the National Park Service the U.S. African-American Burial Grounds Network, S. 2924, to establish the Bandelier National Park and Preserve in the State of New Mexico, S. 3098, to redesignate the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site as the "Jimmy Carter National Historical Park", S. 3119, to modify the boundary of the Casa Grande Ruins National Monument, S. 3121, to establish the Chiricahua National Park in the State of Arizona as a unit of the National Park System, S. 3265, to redesignate the Weir Farm National Historic Site in the State of Connecticut as the "Weir Farm National Historical Park", S. 3331, to modify the boundary of the Rocky Mountain National Park, H.R. 182, to extend the authorization for the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission, and H.R. 1472, to rename the Homestead National Monument of America near Beatrice, Nebraska, as the Homestead National Historical Park, after receiving testimony from Shawn Benge, Acting Deputy Director, Operations, National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION OVERSIGHT

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, after receiving testimony from Kristine L. Svinicki, Chairman, and Jeff Baran, Annie Caputo, and David A. Wright, each a Commissioner, all of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY BUDGET

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for 2021 for the Department of Homeland Security, after receiving testimony from Chad Wolf, Acting Secretary of Homeland Security.

INDIAN AFFAIRS LEGISLATION

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 2610, to reauthorize certain programs under the Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs of the Department of Energy, and S. 2891, to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish Tribal Wildlife Corridors, after receiving testimony from Kevin R. Frost, Director, Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs, Department of Energy; Stephen Guertin, Deputy Director for Policy, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; Lawrence Montoya, Pueblo of Santa Ana, New

Mexico; and Raymond Auginaush, Sr., White Earth Tribal Nation, Ogema, Minnesota.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of John Peter Cronan, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, Thomas T. Cullen, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia, who was introduced by Senators Warner and Kaine, and Jennifer P. Togliatti, to be United States District Judge for the District of Nevada, who was introduced by Senators Cortez Masto and Rosen, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BIG TECH AND BEIJING

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism concluded a hearing to examine big tech and Beijing, after receiving testimony from Clyde E. Wallace, Deputy Assistant Director, Cyber Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Adam S. Hickey, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, National Security Division, both of the Department of Justice; Bryan Ware, Assistant Director for Cybersecurity, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, Department of Homeland Security; and Derek Scissors, American Enterprise Institute, and Samm Sacks, New America, both of Washington, D.C.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 21 public bills, H.R. 6071–6091; and 2 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 95; and H. Res. 885, were introduced. **Pages H1503–04**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1505–06**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Butterfield to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1473**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:11 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H1474**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Pastor Ethan Magness, First Christian Church, Johnson City, Tennessee. **Page H1474**

Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy: Representative Ted Lieu (CA). **Page H1477**

National Council on the Arts—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Member on the part of the House to the National Council on the Arts: Representative Adams. **Page H1477**

Authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal collectively to the Chinese-American veterans of World War II: The House agreed to discharge from committee and agree to H. Con. Res. 91, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal collectively to the Chinese-American veterans of World War II. **Pages H1484–85**

Authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust: The House agreed to discharge from committee and agree to H. Con. Res. 87, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust. **Page H1485**

Rights for Transportation Security Officers Act of 2020: The House considered H.R. 1140, to enhance the security operations of the Transportation Security Administration and stability of the transportation security workforce by applying the personnel system under title 5, United States Code, to employees of the Transportation Security Administration who provide screening of all passengers and property. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, March 5th. **Pages H1477–84, H1485–89**

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee

on Homeland Security now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. **Page H1485**

H. Res. 877, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1140) was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 220 yeas to 192 nays, Roll No. 84, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 219 yeas to 194 nays, Roll No. 83.

Pages H1483–84

Recess: The House recessed at 2:45 p.m. and reconvened at 4 p.m. **Page H1494**

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure. Consideration began Tuesday, March 3rd.

Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act: S. 1678, amended, to express United States support for Taiwan's diplomatic alliances around the world, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 415 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 85. **Pages H1494–95**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020: H.R. 6074, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 415 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 86.

Pages H1489–94, H1495–96

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, March 5th. **Page H1496**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency with respect to Zimbabwe that was declared in Executive Order 13288 of March 6, 2003 is to continue in effect beyond March 6, 2020—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 116–104). **Page H1489**

Senate Referral: S. 1869 was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Page H1502

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page 1499.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1483–84, H1484, H1494–95, and H1495. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Committee Meetings

THE STATE OF THE RURAL ECONOMY WITH AGRICULTURE SECRETARY SONNY PERDUE

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "The State of the Rural Economy with Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue". Testimony was heard from Sonny Perdue, Secretary, Department of Agriculture.

APPROPRIATIONS—ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on the Environmental Protection Agency. Testimony was heard from David Bloom, Acting Chief Financial Officer, Environmental Protection Agency; and Andrew Wheeler, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a budget hearing on the Department of the Treasury. Testimony was heard from Steven Mnuchin, Secretary, Department of the Treasury.

APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on the National Institutes of Health. Testimony was heard from the following National Institutes of Health officials: Diana Bianchi, Director, Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development; Francis Collins, Director; Anthony Fauci, Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; Gary Gibbons, Director, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; Ned Sharpless, Director, National Cancer Institute; and Nora Volkow, Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Testimony was heard from Ben Carson, Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on the Department of Veterans Affairs. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Veterans Affairs officials: Paul R. Lawrence, Under Secretary for Benefits; Jon Rychalski, Assistant Secretary for Management and Chief Financial Officer; Richard A. Stone, Executive in Charge, Veterans Health Administration; and Robert Wilkie, Secretary.

APPROPRIATIONS—U.S. NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a budget hearing on the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. Testimony was heard from General David H. Berger, Commandant of the Marine Corps; Admiral Michael M. Gilday, Chief of Naval Operations; and Thomas B. Modly, Acting Secretary of the Navy.

MEMBER DAY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a hearing entitled ''Member Day''. Testimony was heard from Chairman Kilmer, and Representatives Rodney Davis of Illinois, Fitzpatrick, Golden, and Graves of Georgia.

APPROPRIATIONS—EXPORT AND FINANCE AGENCIES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs held a budget hearing on the Export and Finance Agencies. Testimony was heard from Adam Boehler, Chief Executive Officer, U.S. International Development Finance Corporation; Thomas Hardy, Acting Director, U.S. Trade and Development Agency; and Kimberly Reed, President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States.

MEMBER DAY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled ''Member Day''. Testimony was heard from Representatives Danny K. Davis of Illinois, Gonzalez of Ohio, González-Colón of Puerto Rico, Hill, Jackson Lee, Kennedy, Perlmutter, Schneider, Visclosky, and Yoho.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies held a budget on the Department of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration. Testimony was heard from the following National Nuclear Security Administration officials: Admiral James Caldwell, Deputy Administrator, Naval Reactors; Lisa E. Gordon-Hagerty, Administrator; Brent K. Park, Deputy Administrator, Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation; and Charles P. Verdon, Deputy Administrator, Defense Programs.

PUBLIC WITNESS DAY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a hearing entitled ''Public Witness Day''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

U.S. SPACE FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL PLAN

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing entitled ''U.S. Space Force Organizational Plan''. Testimony was heard from Major General Clinton E. Crosier, Director, Space Force Planning, Office of the Chief of Space Operations; and Lieutenant General David D. Thompson, Vice Commander, U.S. Space Force.

THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BUDGET REQUEST FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''The Fiscal Year 2021 National Defense Authorization Budget Request for the Department of the Air Force''. Testimony was heard from Barbara Barrett, Secretary of the Air Force, Department of the Air Force; General David Goldfein, Chief of Staff, Department of the Air Force; and General John Raymond, Chief of Space Operations, U.S. Space Force.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET REQUEST FOR SEAPOWER AND PROJECTION FORCES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces held a hearing entitled ''Department of the Navy Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Request for Seapower and Projection Forces''. Testimony was heard from James F. Geurts, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Research Development and Acquisition, Department of the Navy; Vice Admiral James W. Kilby, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Warfighting Requirements and Capabilities (N9), Department of the Navy; and Lieutenant General Eric M. Smith, Deputy Commandant, Combat Development and Integration, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps.

THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET REQUEST FOR U.S. CYBER COMMAND AND OPERATIONS IN CYBERSPACE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Intelligence and Emerging Threats and Capabilities held a hearing entitled ''The Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Request for U.S. Cyber Command and Operations in Cyberspace''. Testimony was heard from Kenneth P. Rapuano, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Global Security, and Principal Cyber Advisor to the Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense; and General Paul M. Nakasone, U.S. Army, Commander, U.S. Cyber Command, and Director, National Security Agency, Department of Defense.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES FY 2021 BUDGET

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Department of Health and Human Services FY 2021 Budget''. Testimony was heard from Eric D. Hargan, Deputy Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services.

REAUTHORIZING THE NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP ACT: STRENGTHENING AND GROWING APPRENTICESHIPS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Committee on Education and Labor: Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Investment held a hearing entitled ''Reauthorizing the National Apprenticeship Act: Strengthening and Growing Apprenticeships for the 21st Century''. Testimony was heard from Tiffany P. Robinson, Secretary, Maryland Department of Labor; and public witnesses.

BUYER BEWARE: FAKE AND UNSAFE PRODUCTS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce held a hearing entitled ''Buyer Beware: Fake and Unsafe Products''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE, REFORM: ADDRESSING AMERICA'S PLASTIC WASTE CRISIS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change held a hearing entitled ''Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Reform: Addressing America's Plastic Waste Crisis''. Testimony was heard from Enrique C. Zaldivar, General Manager, Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment Bureau, City of Los Angeles, California; and public witnesses.

THE TRAFFICKERS' ROADMAP: HOW BAD ACTORS EXPLOIT FINANCIAL SYSTEMS TO FACILITATE THE ILLICIT TRADE IN PEOPLE, ANIMALS, DRUGS, AND WEAPONS

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on National Security, International Development, and Monetary Policy held a hearing entitled ''The Traffickers' Roadmap: How Bad Actors Exploit Financial Systems to Facilitate the Illicit Trade in People, Animals, Drugs, and Weapons''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

DRIVERS OF DISCRIMINATION: AN EXAMINATION OF UNFAIR PREMIUMS, PRACTICES, AND POLICIES IN THE AUTO INSURANCE INDUSTRY

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Housing, Community Development, and Insurance held a hearing entitled ''Drivers of Discrimination: An Examination of Unfair Premiums, Practices, and Policies in the Auto Insurance Industry''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a markup on H. Res. 512, calling for the global repeal of blasphemy, heresy, and apostasy laws; H.R. 5408, the ''Ukraine Religious Freedom Support Act''; H. Res. 742, recognizing the continued success of the Food for Peace Act; H.R. 5664, the ''LIFT Act''; H. Res. 720, expressing the sense of House of Representatives that the International Olympic Committee should correct Jim Thorpe's Olympic records for his unprecedented accomplishments during the 1912 Olympic Games; H.R. 2166, the ''Global Health Security Act''; H.R. 2847, the ''No Passport Fees for Heroes' Families Act''; H. Res. 723, encouraging all nations to end sexual violence against girls through in-country data-driven reforms as demonstrated by multiple African nations; H. Res. 809, expressing the importance of the United States alliance with the Republic of Korea and the contributions of Korean Americans in the United States; H. Res. 458, reaffirming the strong partnership between Tunisia and the United States and supporting the people of Tunisia in their continued pursuit of democratic reforms; and H.R. 1611, the ''Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act''. H. Res. 512, H.R. 5408, H. Res. 742, H.R. 5664, H.R. 2166, H.R. 2847, H. Res. 723, H. Res. 809, H. Res. 458, and H.R. 1611 were ordered reported, as amended. H. Res. 720 was ordered reported, without amendment.

CONFRONTING THE CORONAVIRUS: PERSPECTIVES ON THE RESPONSE TO A PANDEMIC THREAT

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Confronting the Coronavirus: Perspectives on the Response to a Pandemic Threat". Testimony was heard from Ngozi O. Ezike, M.D., Director, Illinois Department of Public Health; and public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR'S SPENDING PRIORITIES AND THE PRESIDENT'S FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET PROPOSAL

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Examining the Department of the Interior's Spending Priorities and the President's Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Proposal". Testimony was heard from Susan Combs, Assistant Secretary of Policy, Management and Budget, Department of the Interior.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 4894 the "Congressional Budget Justification Transparency Act"; H.R. 6020, a bill requiring a GAO Study on Minor League Baseball; H.R. 3870, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 511 West 165th Street in New York, New York, as the "Normandia Maldonado Post Office Building"; H.R. 4875, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2201 E. Maple Street in North Canton, Ohio, as the "Lance Cpl. Stacy 'Annie' Dryden Post Office"; H.R. 4971, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 15 East Market Street in Leesburg, Virginia, as the "Norman Duncan Post Office Building"; H.R. 5307, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 115 Nicol Avenue in Thomasville, Alabama, as the "Postmaster Robert Ingram Sr. Post Office"; H.R. 5317, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 315 Addicks Howell Road in Houston, Texas, as the "Deputy Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal Post Office Building"; H.R. 5597, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 305 Northwest 5th Street in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, as the "Clara Luper Post Office Building"; H.R. 5954, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 108 West Maple Street in Holly, Michigan, as the "Holly Veterans Memorial Post Office"; H.R. 5987, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 909 West Holiday Drive in Fate, Texas, as the "Ralph Hall Post Office"; H.R. 5988, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2600 Wesley Street in Greenville, Texas, as the "Audie Murphy Post Office Building". H.R. 4894, H.R. 6020, and H.R. 5307 were ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 3870, H.R. 4875, H.R. 4971, H.R. 5317, H.R. 5597, H.R. 5954, H.R. 5987, and H.R. 5988 were ordered reported, without amendment.

MAKING IT A PRIORITY FOR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing entitled "Making IT a Priority for The Federal Government". Testimony was heard from Anil Cheriyan, Director, Technology Transformation Services, General Services Administration; Carol C. Harris, Director, Information Technology and Cybersecurity, Government Accountability Office; and Bill Zielinski, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Information Technology Category, General Services Administration.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Environment held a markup on H.R. 5519, the "Atmospheric Climate Intervention Research Act"; H.R. 4656, the "Background Ozone Research Act"; and H.R. 3297, the "Harmful Algal Bloom Essential Forecasting Act". H.R. 4656 and H.R. 3297 were forwarded to the full Committee, as amended. H.R. 5519 was forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a business meeting on the Committee's Budget Views and Estimates for Fiscal Year 2021. The Budget and Views Estimates were approved, without amendment.

BUILDING BLOCKS OF CHANGE: THE BENEFITS OF BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Building Blocks of Change: The Benefits of Blockchain Technology for Small Businesses". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FUNDING A ROBUST FREIGHT AND PASSENGER RAIL NETWORK

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials held a hearing entitled "Funding a Robust Freight and Passenger Rail Network". Testimony was heard from Sandra Bury, Mayor, Village of Oak Lawn, Illinois; Kevin Corbett, President and Chief Operating Officer, NJ TRANSIT Corporation; and public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE IMPACT OF THE TAX CODE ON NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures held a hearing entitled "Examining the Impact of the Tax Code on Native American Tribes". Testimony was heard from Representatives Davids of Kansas, Haaland, and Mullin; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

VFW LEGISLATIVE PRESENTATION

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Senate Committee concluded a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, after receiving testimony from William J. Schmitz, B.J. Lawrence, Ryan Gallucci, Carlos Fuentes, and Ronald Rusakiewicz, all of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Washington, D.C.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, *p. D225)*

H.J. Res. 80, approving the request of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for a waiver under section 1703E(f) of title 38, United States Code. Signed on March 3, 2020. (Public Law 116–120)

S. 394, to amend the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 to improve the orderly transfer of the executive power during Presidential transitions. Signed on March 3, 2020. (Public Law 116–121)

S. 2107, to increase the number of CBP Agriculture Specialists and support staff in the Office of Field Operations of U.S. Customs and Border Protection. Signed on March 3, 2020. (Public Law 116–122)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2020

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2021 for the Department of Commerce, 10 a.m., SD–192.

Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2021 for the Department of Education, 10 a.m., SD–124.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the posture of the Navy in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2021 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine threats posed by state-owned and state-supported enterprises to public transportation, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the latest developments and longer-term prospects for global energy markets, with a special focus on the United States, from the perspective of the International Energy Agency, 9:30 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on State Department and USAID Management, International Operations, and Bilateral International Development, to hold hearings to examine the Global Engagement Center, focusing on leading the United States Government's fight against global disinformation threat, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the Federal interagency response to the Coronavirus and preparing for future global pandemics, 9:30 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider the nominations of Fernando L. Aenlle-Rocha, Stanley Blumenfeld, and Mark C. Scarsi, each to be a United States District Judge for the Central District of California, John Charles Hinderaker, to be United States District Judge for the District of Arizona, John Leonard Badalamenti, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, William Scott Hardy, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania, John F. Heil III, to be United States District Judge for the Northern, Eastern and Western Districts of Oklahoma, David Cleveland Joseph, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana, Anna M. Manasco, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama, Drew B. Tipton, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, and Grace Karaffa Obermann, of Virginia, Stephen Sidney Schwartz, of Virginia, Kathryn C. Davis, of Maryland, and Edward Hulvey Meyers, of Maryland, each to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, 10 a.m., SD–226.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Defense, hearing entitled "Defense Health Program (DHP)", 9 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, budget hearing on the Architect of the Capitol, 10 a.m., HT–2 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, budget hearing on the Government Publishing Office, 11 a.m., HT–2 Capitol.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces, hearing entitled "The Fiscal Year 2021 Army and Marine Corps Ground Modernization Programs", 9:30 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties, hearing entitled ''Presidential Clemency and Opportunities for Reform'', 9 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Beyond Coronaviruses: Understanding the Spread of Infectious Diseases and Mobilizing Innovative Solutions'', 9 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Technology Modernization, hearing entitled ''Getting It Right: Challenges with the Go-live of Electronic Health Record Modernization'', 9 a.m., HVC–210.

Next Meeting of the **SENATE**

10 a.m., Thursday, March 5

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will continue consideration of S. 2657, Advanced Geothermal Innovation Leadership Act.

At 11:15 a.m., Senate will begin consideration of H.R. 6074, Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, and vote on or in relation to Paul Amendment No. 1506, at 12 noon. Senate will vote on passage of the bill at 1:45 p.m.

Next Meeting of the **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

9 a.m., Thursday, March 5

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Complete consideration of H.R. 1140—Rights for Transportation Security Officers Act of 2020.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Allred, Colin Z., Tex., E256
Banks, Jim, Ind., E258, E260
Bustos, Cheri, Ill., E257, E259
Cartwright, Matt, Pa., E261
Castor, Kathy, Fla., E256, E258, E260
Cisneros, Gilbert Ray, Jr., Calif., E255
Costa, Jim, Calif., E255
Cox, TJ, Calif., E260
DeLauro, Rosa L., Conn., E257
Dingell, Debbie, Mich., E256
Garamendi, John, Calif., E257
Gianforte, Greg, Mont., E262
Gomez, Jimmy, Calif., E257
Hern, Kevin, Okla., E262
Hurd, Will, Tex., E258
Johnson, Dusty, S. Dak., E255
Keating, William R., Mass., E259
Lieu, Ted, Calif., E260
Porter, Katie, Calif., E259, E261
Riggleman, Denver, Va., E256, E257
Roby, Martha, Ala., E255
Rogers, Mike, Ala., E257, E259, E261
Rose, John W., Tenn., E262
Rouzer, David, N.C., E260
Schweikert, David, Ariz., E258
Sewell, Terri A., Ala., E261
Shalala, Donna E., Fla., E260
Stevens, Haley M., Mich., E255
Thompson, Bennie G., Miss., E258
Visclosky, Peter J., Ind., E259

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