''Independent Agencies—Pandemic Response Accountability Committee'' in title V of division B of the CARES Act (Public Law 116–136), as amended by paragraph (1), 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.

(b) DEFINITION OF COVERED FUNDS.—Section 15010(a)(6) of division B of the CARES Act (Public Law 116–136) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''this Act'' and inserting ''divisions A and B of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (Public Law 116–136)'';

(2) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''or'' at the end; and

(3) by striking subparagraph (D) and inserting the following:

''(D) the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Enhancement Act (Public Law 116–139); or

''(E) the Coronavirus Relief Fair Unemployment Compensation Act of 2020; and''.

(c) APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON.—Section 15010(c) of division B of the CARES Act (Public Law 116–136) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''and (D)'' and inserting ''(D), and (E)''; and

(2) in paragraph (2)(E), by inserting ''of the Council'' after ''Chairperson''.

SA 2572. Mr. DAINES submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2499 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill S. 178, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. ESTABLISHMENT AND USE OF TRAIL STEWARDSHIP FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY FUND.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States a fund, to be known as the ''Trail Stewardship for Economic Recovery Fund'' (referred to in this section as the ''Fund'').

(b) DEPOSIT INTO THE FUND.—On the date of enactment of this Act, out of amounts in the Treasury not otherwise obligated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall deposit into the Fund $200,000,000, to remain available until expended and without further appropriation or fiscal year limitation, to carry out the purposes described in subsection (c).

(c) USE OF FUND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service (referred to in this section as the ''Secretary''), shall use amounts in the Fund to enter into cooperative agreements or contracts with an outfitter or guide to complete, on National Forest System land—

(A) trail maintenance projects; and

(B) additional invasive plant and noxious weed prevention and control projects.

(2) PREFERENCE.—In entering into cooperative agreements or contracts under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

(A) give preference to projects described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1) that can be performed in an area that the Secretary has selected as a priority area under section 5 of the National Forest System Trails Stewardship Act (16 U.S.C. 583k–3); and

(B) expedite projects with the goal of initiating the majority of the projects not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(3) CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS.—A cooperative agreement or contract that is entered into under paragraph (1)—

(A) shall not be subject to any requirement relating to the procurement of matching funds under any other provision of law; and

(B) may contain such terms and conditions as the Secretary requires.

(d) SUBMISSION OF LIST OF PROJECTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for each fiscal year for which amounts made available under subsection (b) are expended, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a list of projects described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subsection (c)(1) that—

(1) meet the criteria described in this section; and

(2) have been, or are expected to be, funded from amounts made available under subsection (b).

SA 2573. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2499 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill S. 178, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. SPECIAL INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR PANDEMIC RECOVERY.

Section 4018(e) of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9053) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking ''The Special'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the Special''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), the Special Inspector General may exercise any authority provided to the head of a temporary organization under section 3161 of title 5, United States Code, without regard to whether the Office of the Special Inspector General for Pandemic Recovery qualifies as a temporary organization under subsection (a) of that section.

''(ii) LIMITATIONS.—With respect to the exercise of authority under subsection (b) of section 3161 of title 5, United States Code, as permitted under clause (i) of this subparagraph—

''(I) the Special Inspector General may not make any appointment under that subsection on or after the later of—

''(aa) the date that is 180 days after the date of enactment of this subparagraph; or

''(bb) the date that is 180 days after the date on which the Special Inspector General is confirmed by the Senate;

''(II) paragraph (2) of that subsection (relating to periods of appointments) shall not apply; and

''(III) no period of an appointment made under that subsection may extend after the date on which the Office of the Special Inspector General for Pandemic Recovery terminates under subsection (h).''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) REEMPLOYMENT OF ANNUITANTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), if an annuitant receiving an annuity from the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund becomes employed in a position in the Office of the Special Inspector General for Pandemic Recovery—

''(i) the annuity of that annuitant shall continue; and

''(ii) that reemployed annuitant shall not be considered to be an employee for the purposes of chapter 83 or 84 of title 5, United States Code.

''(B) LIMITATIONS.—Subparagraph (A) shall apply to—

''(i) not more than 25 employees of the Office of the Special Inspector General for Pandemic Recovery at any particular time, as designated by the Special Inspector General; and

''(ii) pay periods beginning after the date of enactment of this paragraph.''.

SA 2574. Mr. CRAMER (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. PERDUE, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. MCSALLY, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. LOEFFLER, Mr. WICKER, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. LANKFORD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2499 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill S. 178, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR PPP LOANS UNDER $150,000.

Section 1106 of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9005) is amended—

(1) in subsection (e), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''An eligible'' and inserting ''Except as provided in subsection (m), an eligible'';

(2) in subsection (f), by inserting ''or the information required under subsection (m), as applicable'' after ''subsection (e)'';

(3) by striking subsection (h) and inserting the following:

''(h) HOLD HARMLESS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A lender may rely on all certifications and documentation submitted by an applicant or eligible recipient pursuant to any requirement in statute regarding covered loans, or rules or guidance promulgated to carry out any action relating to covered loans, from an applicant or eligible recipient attesting that the applicant or eligible recipient has accurately verified all documentation provided to the lender.

''(2) NO ENFORCEMENT ACTION.—With respect to a lender that relies on the certifications and documentation described in paragraph (1)—

''(A) no enforcement or other action may be taken against the lender relating to loan origination, forgiveness, or guarantee based on such reliance, including claims under—

''(i) the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.);

''(ii) sections 3729 through 3733 of title 31, United States Code (commonly known as the 'False Claims Act');

''(iii) the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act (Public Law 101–73);

''(iv) section 21 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1829b), chapter 2 of title I of Public Law 91–508 (12 U.S.C. 1951 et seq.), and subchapter II of chapter 53 of title 31, United States Code (collectively known as the 'Bank Secrecy Act'); or

''(v) any other Federal, State, or other criminal or civil law or regulation; and

''(B) the lender shall not be subject to any penalties relating to loan origination, forgiveness, or guarantee based on such reliance.''; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

''(m) FORGIVENESS FOR COVERED LOANS UNDER $150,000.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (e), with respect to a covered loan made to an eligible recipient that is not more than $150,000, the covered loan amount shall be forgiven under this section if the eligible recipient submits to the lender a one-page online or paper form, to be established by the Administrator not later than 7 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, that attests that the eligible recipient complied with the requirements under section 7(a)(36) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)(36)).

''(2) HOLD HARMLESS.—With respect to a lender that relies on an attestation submitted by an eligible recipient under paragraph (1), no enforcement action may be taken against the lender for any falsehoods contained in the attestation.

''(3) DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION.—The online or paper form established by the Administrator under paragraph (1) shall include a means by which an eligible recipient may, at the discretion of the eligible recipient, submit demographic information of the owner of the eligible recipient, including the sex, race, ethnicity, and veteran status of the owner.

''(n) ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST BORROWERS.—An eligible recipient of a covered loan may only be subject to an enforcement action or penalty relating to loan origination, forgiveness, or guarantee of the covered loan if the eligible recipient commits fraud or expends covered loan proceeds on expenses that are not allowable under section 7(a)(36)(F) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)(36)(F)).''.

SA 2575. Mr. CRAMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2499 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill S. 178, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. KEEPING CRITICAL CONNECTIONS EMERGENCY FUND.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''Keeping Critical Connections Act of 2020''.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term ''Commission'' means the Federal Communications Commission;

(2) the term ''covered program'' means a program established by a small business broadband provider under which the small business broadband provider, at any time during the COVID–19 emergency period, voluntarily—

(A) provides a customer with free or discounted broadband service, or free upgrades of existing service to meet certain capacity and speed needs, due specifically to the presence of a student in the household of the customer who needs distance learning capability; or

(B) refrains from disconnecting broadband service provided to an existing customer due to nonpayment or underpayment if the customer—

(i) has a household income, at the time of the nonpayment or underpayment, that does not exceed 135 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines (as determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services);

(ii) is unable to make a full payment due specifically to the economic impact of the national emergency described in paragraph (3); and

(iii) provides sufficient documentation to the provider to show that the customer meets the criteria under clauses (i) and (ii);

(3) the term ''COVID–19 emergency period'' means the period during which the national emergency declaration by the President under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID–19) is in effect; and

(4) the term ''small business broadband provider'' means a broadband provider that provides broadband service to fewer than 500,000 customers.

(c) FUNDING.—

(1) APPROPRIATION.—Out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, there is appropriated to the Commission $2,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2020, to remain available until expended, to reimburse small business broadband providers for the costs of carrying out a covered program.

(2) RULES.—The Commission shall promulgate rules on an expedited basis, and without regard to section 553 of title 5, United States Code, regarding the provision of reimbursements to small business broadband providers under paragraph (1).

SA 2576. Mr. CRAMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2499 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill S. 178, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. ___. TAX CREDIT FOR SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an eligible employer, there shall be allowed as a credit against applicable employment taxes for each calendar quarter an amount equal to 50 percent of the qualified expenses paid or incurred by such employer during such calendar quarter.

(b) LIMITATIONS AND REFUNDABILITY.—

(1) LIMITATION.—The qualified fixed expenses which may be taken into account under subsection (a) by any eligible employer for any calendar quarter shall not exceed—

(A) in the case of any calendar quarter beginning in 2020, $500,000, and

(B) in the case of any calendar quarter beginning after 2020, $250,000.

(2) CREDIT LIMITED TO CERTAIN EMPLOYMENT TAXES.—The credit allowed by subsection (a) with respect to any calendar quarter shall not exceed the applicable employment taxes for such calendar quarter (reduced by any credits allowed under subsections (e) and (f) of section 3111 of such Code, sections 7001 and 7003 of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, and section 2301 of the CARES Act, for such quarter) on the wages paid with respect to the employment of all the employees of the eligible employer for such calendar quarter.

(3) REFUNDABILITY OF EXCESS CREDIT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If the amount of the credit under subsection (a) exceeds the limitation of paragraph (2) for any calendar quarter, such excess shall be treated as an overpayment that shall be refunded under sections 6402(a) and 6413(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(B) TREATMENT OF PAYMENTS.—For purposes of section 1324 of title 31, United States Code, any amounts due to an employer under this paragraph shall be treated in the same manner as a refund due from a credit provision referred to in subsection (b)(2) of such section.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

(1) APPLICABLE EMPLOYMENT TAXES.—The term ''applicable employment taxes'' means the following:

(A) The taxes imposed under section 3111(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(B) So much of the taxes imposed under section 3221(a) of such Code as are attributable to the rate in effect under section 3111(a) of such Code.

(2) ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''eligible employer'' means any employer—

(i) which was carrying on a trade or business at any time during calendar quarter, and

(ii) which has not more than 2,000 full-time equivalent employees (within the meaning of section 45R(d)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) for the taxable year.

(B) TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS.—In the case of an organization which is described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such Code, subparagraph (A)(i) shall apply to all operations of such organization.

(3) QUALIFIED EXPENSES.—For purposes of this section—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''qualified expenses'' means any amount paid or incurred after February 1, 2020, for—

(i) qualified equipment and services for the purposes of preventing infection related to SARS–CoV–2, or

(ii) the reconfiguration of facilities for such purposes, or

(iii) qualified education and training of employees for new business procedures related to preventing COVID–19 transmission.

(B) QUALIFIED EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES.—The term ''qualified equipment and services'' means—

(i) any product or material which—

(I) serves as personal protective equipment or as a barrier erected to prevent virus spread between customers and employees, including plexiglass installed at cashiers and other counters, and partitions to separate customers,

(II) is a disinfectant product registered by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency for which the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency has approved an emerging viral pathogen claim that applies with respect to use against SARS–CoV–2,

(III) is a thermometer, or

(IV) is approved by the Food and Drug Administration for testing for COVID–19 (including diagnosic testing and serology testing to detect antibodies) by the eligible employer, in conjunction with a certified diagnostics laboratory or health care provider,

(ii) any—

(I) contactless point-of-sale system,

(II) new software and technology to assist in maintaining social distancing,

(III) application for reporting employee symptom or providing wellness checks, and

(IV) property used to enable curbside pickup or delivery services,

(iii) hand sanitizer,

(iv) any sign related to public health awareness, social distancing, or altered services such as curbside pickups, and