that hard work paid off. The Pentagon selected Fort Knox to host the reactivated V Corps headquarters. Kentucky is one of the most military-friendly States in the country, and Hardin County was eager to welcome more than 600 additional soldiers. I am grateful to KRDA, Brad and his team, and our many other partners who made the stationing of the V Corps at Fort Knox a reality.

Over the years, Brad increased chamber membership and made substantial innovations for his community and our Commonwealth. That record of accomplishment would be enough for anyone. But Brad was determined to bring his good humor and enthusiasm to every project. He made it a real pleasure to be part of his team. When Brad took this job, he set an ambitious goal to enhance the quality of life in Hardin County. By any objective standard, I think he succeeded.

So we are all going to miss working with Brad at the Hardin County Chamber of Commerce. Along with his colleagues and friends, I extend my best wishes for a fulfilling retirement. On behalf of the Senate, I would like to congratulate Brad on all of his success and to thank him for many years of leadership in Kentucky.

NOTICE OF A TIE VOTE UNDER S. RES. 27

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to print the following letter in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

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

To the Secretary of the Senate:

PN116, the nomination of Rohit Chopra, of the District of Columbia, to be Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection for a term of five years, having been referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee with a quorum present, has voted on the nomination as follows—

1. On the question of reporting the nomination favorably with the recommendation that the nomination be confirmed 12 ayes to 12 noes; and

In accordance with section 3, paragraph (1)(A) of S. Res. 27 of the 117th Congress, I hereby give notice that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs has not reported the nomination because of a tie vote and ask that this notice be printed in the Record pursuant to the Resolution.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I rise today to submit for the RECORD a letter sent to the U.S. Senate from Cathy and Bill Schreiber of Wilson, WY.

I recently had the opportunity to visit with Bill. He shared with me his optimism for the future of our Nation and his belief that the ''worst of the pandemic is behind us.''

In their letter, Cathy and Bill expressed support for helping those most impacted by the COVID–19 pandemic. Like many people, they felt assistance should be targeted to only those individuals truly impacted by the pandemic. They offered sincere, honest options to make sure the relief got in the hands of those who need it, while limiting the financial strains additional debt spending will create for our Nation.

Cathy and Bill asked that I share their letter with the Senate. It expresses their confidence in the future and their compassion for others who continue to be adversely impacted by the current pandemic. I ask unanimous consent that their letter be printed in the RECORD.

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

MARCH 3, 2021.

U.S. SENATE,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATORS: I want to start by thanking you all for the hard work you have all performed over the last year dealing with the COVID 19 pandemic. The economic relief and stimulus bills that you have pass starting last March have made all the difference in the world! Without this support from the federal government I believe the country would have descended into the greatest depression the country has ever experienced. And that would negatively effect the world economy.

As indicated by the amazing rebound in the stock market, it is clear that the current economic slow down is a health problem, not a systemic economic problem. I live and work in a small resort in northwest Wyoming and our community was hit very hard early last year. But now the economy is strong again and the unemployment rate is less than 4%! That means over 90% of the workforce is working. With the number of vaccines being administered now close to two million doses a day and vaccine availability ramping up very quickly, I believe the worst of the pandemic is behind us.

So now it is time to focus on the people who got hit hard by COVID. And there are millions. I see that the Senate is reducing the income eligibility for stimulus checks and I believe that is a good thing. I hope it can focus the $1,400 payments to an even higher degree to the people that need them. This will help the bill be more bipartisan which will set the tone for future legislation! This is SO important right now.

It appears to me that my wife and I will qualify for the full $2,800 stimulus check based on our income from 2019. But we would not qualify based on our 2020 income. We do not need the stimulus check. The check we received last spring we gave to people we knew who had lost their jobs. We will do the same thing again if we do receive a check, but we would much rather see less money borrowed by the U.S. government than giving money to the millions of workers that have not been financially effected by the pandemic. I would like you all to compromise a little and consider the following.

Treat the stimulus checks received in 2021 as ordinary income. This way folks that have made great financial gains over the last year will give some back to the U.S. treasury.

Restrict who gets checks based on net worth. Pick a number. I understand this is difficult to determine but it can be done.

Have state and local governments provide revenue statements for the last 24 months to see which ones really needs help. The county I live in does not need any financial help in my opinion. A 5% reduction in revenue is not the end of the world. It is even heathy in my opinion.

Keep some extra ''gunpowder'' for some more future support for the unemployed for later this year and 2022.

Start to discuss how the government is going to pay this money back. These trillion-dollar sums become meaningless after a while. If the taxpayers of this county were to pay 10 million dollars a day towards this new debt, it would take 530 years to pay it off! And that amount does not even account for any interest.

And last, please remove funding for special projects and put them in a separate piece of legislation.

I know that fundamentally all Senators basically want the same near-term result. The pandemic to be behind us and that all Americans who have been hit hard by it be helped through the next year or two. I believe the economy is going to come roaring back very soon. It will be different but strong.

I thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

CATHY AND BILL SCHREIBER,
Wilson, Wyoming.

P.S. Please reduce the proposed stimulus bill by $2,800 on our behalf.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:17 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1276. An act to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish COVID–19 vaccines to certain individuals, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1319) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of S. Con. Res. 5.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 4:05 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1319. An act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of S. Con. Res. 5.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. SCHUMER).

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–603. A communication from the Director of the Regulations Management Division, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Rural eConnectivity Program'' (RIN0572–AC51) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–604. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency that