roads, bridges, and storm and wastewater systems.

In recent years, Marylanders have seen firsthand the effects of climate change in my State. Intense rainstorms have caused unprecedented flood damage to homes and businesses in Prince George's County, Southwest Baltimore, Ellicott City, and Hagerstown. The cost of rebuilding our infrastructure after these storms is significant. Unless we change the way we think about infrastructure in the future, taxpayer investments will be washed away with the next big storm. I requested a Government Accountability Office GAO report on the Federal Government's fiscal exposure to the effects of climate change. GAO found that in 2018, 14 separate natural and weather disasters occurred, costing the Federal Government a total of $91 billion. Unsurprisingly, GAO determined that this amount will rise as climate change causes more frequent and more severe weather events. Inaction on this issue amounts to a gross negligence by Congress in our management of taxpayers' funds. I consider it my duty to ensure that the Federal Government takes full advantage of the opportunity before us to make long-sighted upgrades to our systems.

In addition to building back physical infrastructure better, the Nation is in the process of rebuilding its reputation on the international stage as a leader on climate change. By rejoining the Paris Agreement, the United States is signaling its commitment to the global community. As I speak, the President is hosting the Leaders Summit on Climate, where world leaders will outline how their countries will commit to their own ambitious goals. The United States is committing to a bold 2030 emissions target as its new nationally determined contribution under the Paris Agreement. This summit represents the formal return of the United States to its leadership position and an opportunity to regain the trust from our international partners that President Trump decimated.

When President Trump withdrew the United States from the Paris Agreement, I helped to maintain relationships with our partner-members by introducing a bipartisan resolution that expressed support for the Paris Agreement and assuring the international community that, despite President Trump's abdication of his duties, leaders on climate change in the U.S. Senate remained. I previously led the U.S. congressional delegation to the conference where the Paris Agreement was adopted and will continue to position our Nation as a strong partner in the international fight against warming global temperatures.

Domestically. this Earth Day, I will recommit to my long-term endeavor to preserve and restore the Chesapeake Bay. The Chesapeake Bay is the lifeblood of the State of Maryland, and the communities that depend on it are seeing their livelihood threatened as the climate changes. Saltwater intrusion on agricultural lands and fragile fisheries make it harder for Maryland farmers and fishers to earn a living. In some cases, Marylanders are seeing their communities disappear before their eyes from the dual threat of sea level rise and subsidence. A healthy Chesapeake Bay watershed is essential to a thriving economy. Additionally, the Chesapeake Bay's wetlands are Maryland's best defense against climate change-induced flooding, as they act as natural buffers to storm surge during severe weather.

The good news is that action on climate change, through international commitments, domestic infrastructure improvements, and restoring regional natural resources like the Chesapeake Bay, will stimulate our economy. Stewardship of our environmental can and should go hand in hand with economic development. Our Nation will be grappling with the economic fallout of the COVID–19 pandemic for years to come, and bold Federal action is a time-tested practice for economic recovery. A truly bold investment in action on climate change will pay dividends for generations to come, but it must meet the size and urgency of the challenge before us.

I am certain that our Nation can honor our planet and our future generations with urgent, thoughtful decision-making. Earth Day is one of the most celebrated secular holidays in the world and for good reason. We are all stewards of our planet and now more than ever understand that we are on a journey together. I will embrace this Earth Day and the opportunities for progress that lie ahead. I hope my Senate colleagues and all Americans will join me honoring our planet through diligent work, today and every day.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MARY LILLY SMITH

● Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a Springfield, MO, resident who has dedicated 38 years of her life in service to the city of Springfield by helping facilitate economic development, creating and retaining thousands of jobs, and bringing life to the downtown area. Mary Lilly Smith started her career in 1983 as a city planner for downtown Springfield, where she helped create the city's initial neighborhood conservation office. During the next 38 years, Mary played an instrumental role in nearly 100 key economic initiatives.

Mary is best known for her 17 years as the economic development director. Along with her commitment to the downtown area, she created the Economic Development Incentives Policy Manual, which became a template for other towns and cities across the State to implement development policies. In addition to her economic development initiatives, Mary made sure to preserve the city of Springfield's incredible history. Throughout her nearly four decades of service, Mary has developed many different approaches to preserving and honoring the history of the area. She also developed the city's first capital improvement program, which facilitated a change in the review process for protecting architecturally significant historical properties.

Mary leaves behind a legacy for the city of Springfield to be enjoyed by all for years to come. For her many years of service, she has earned her retirement. As she enters this new chapter of her life, I offer Mary best wishes.●

TRIBUTE TO ROD OSTERMILLER

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week I have the honor of recognizing Rod Ostermiller of Yellowstone County for nearly 30 years of service in law enforcement in Montana.

Rod first entered law enforcement in 1991 at the age of 21 and moved up the ranks swiftly. In 2004, he became Chief Deputy Marshal and later served as acting U.S. Marshal when his predecessor retired.

In 2018, I had the distinct honor of nominating Rod to become the U.S. Marshal for Montana, which received unanimous approval in the U.S. Senate. He was then officially appointed by President Trump.

Rod is a Montana native from the south side of Billings. He later attended Montana State University to earn his bachelor's degree in criminal justice.

Since his retirement from law enforcement, Rod went on to become the executive director of the Mental Health Center in Billings, where he continues to help combat the meth crisis we have in Montana in a different capacity. He exemplifies what it means to make one's community better.

It is my honor to recognize Rod for his decades of service to Montana's law enforcement and for his continued efforts to make Montana a safer and better place for all.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 10:32 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by

Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 422. An act to allow Senators, Senators-elect, committees of the Senate, leadership offices, and other offices of the Senate to share employees, and for other purposes.

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

At 11:07 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1333. An act to transfer and limit Executive Branch authority to suspend or restrict the entry of a class of aliens.

H.R. 1392. An act to protect Saudi dissidents in the United States, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1573. An act to clarify the rights of certain persons who are held or detained at a port of entry or at any facility overseen by U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

H.R. 2630. An act to amend the Temporary Reauthorization and Study of the Emergency Scheduling of Fentanyl Analogues Act to extend under October 2021, a temporary order for fentanyl-related substances.

At 1:09 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 51. An act to provide for the admission of the State of Washington, D.C. into the Union.

H.R. 367. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish an acquisition professional career program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 370. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make technical corrections to the requirement that the Secretary of Homeland Security submit quadrennial homeland security reviews, and for other purposes.

H.R. 396. An act to amend the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 to clarify certain allowable uses of funds for public transportation security assistance grants and establish periods of performance for such grants, and for other purposes.

H.R. 397. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear intelligence and information sharing functions of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security and to require dissemination of information analyzed by the Department to entities with responsibilities relating to homeland security, and for other purposes.

H.R. 408. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a mentor-protégé program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 490. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to improve morale within the Department of Homeland Security workforce by conferring new responsibilities to the Chief Human Capital Officer, establishing an employee engagement steering committee, requiring action plans, and authorizing an annual employee award program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 965. An act to establish a comprehensive United States Government initiative to build the capacity of young leaders and entrepreneurs in Africa, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1251. An act to support United States international cyber diplomacy, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1395. An act to require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to discount FHA single-family mortgage insurance premium payments for first-time homebuyers who complete a financial literacy housing counseling program.

H.R. 1491. An act to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to provide enhanced protection against debt collector harassment of members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1528. An act to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to carry out a study of Rule 10b5–1 trading plans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1532. An act to require a review of the effects of FHA mortgage insurance policies, practices, and products on small-dollar mortgage lending, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1565. An act to create an interdivisional taskforce at the Securities and Exchange Commission for senior investors.

H.R. 1602. An act to direct the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission to jointly establish a digital asset working group, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2523. An act to amend the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to improve the COVID–19 Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance program, to make certain technical corrections to the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 367. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish an acquisition professional career program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 370. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make technical corrections to the requirement that the Secretary of Homeland Security submit quadrennial homeland security reviews, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 396. An act to amend the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 to clarify certain allowable uses of funds for public transportation security assistance grants and establish periods of performance for such grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 397. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear intelligence and information sharing functions of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security and to require dissemination of information analyzed by the Department to entities with responsibilities relating to homeland security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 408. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a mentor-protégé program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 490. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to improve morale within the Department of Homeland Security workforce by conferring new responsibilities to the Chief Human Capital Officer, establishing an employee engagement steering committee, requiring action plans, and authorizing an annual employee award program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 965. An act to establish a comprehensive United States Government initiative to build the capacity of young leaders and entrepreneurs in Africa, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 1251. An act to support United States international cyber diplomacy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 1333. An act to transfer and limit Executive Branch authority to suspend or restrict the entry of a class of aliens; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 1392. An act to protect Saudi dissidents in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 1395. An act to require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to discount FHA single-family mortgage insurance premium payments for first-time homebuyers who complete a financial literacy housing counseling program; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1491. An act to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to provide enhanced protection against debt collector harassment of members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1528. An act to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to carry out a study of Rule 10b5–1 trading plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1532. An act to require a review of the effects of FHA mortgage insurance policies, practices, and products on small-dollar mortgage lending, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1565. An act to create an interdivisional taskforce at the Securities and Exchange Commission for senior investors; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1573. An act to clarify the rights of certain persons who are held or detained at a port of entry or at any facility overseen by U.S. Customs and Border Protection; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 1602. An act to direct the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission to jointly establish a digital asset working group, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 2523. An act to amend the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to improve the COVID–19 Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance program, to make certain technical corrections to the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, April 22, 2021, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 422. An act to allow Senators, Senators-elect, committees of the Senate, leadership offices, and other offices of the Senate to share employees, and for other purposes.