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No. 105

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

Deacon Dan S. Borne, Diocese of Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, guest chaplain, offered the following prayer:

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us. Melt us. Mold us. Fill us. Use us.

Direct our actions by Your holy inspiration, and carry them on with Your gracious assistance so that every prayer and work of ours may begin with You and through You be brought to successful completion.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois 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 GUEST CHAPLAIN DAN BORNE

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

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I want to give a quick shout-

out and recognition to our guest chaplain today, Deacon Dan Borne.

Not to take anything away from the Almighty Father, but I think Deacon Borne's voice is often confused with the Almighty in Tiger Stadium in "Death Valley", as over and over again fans hear, "First Down, Tigers," "Chance of Rain? Never," and "Touch-down, Tigers," to the frustration of our guest teams.

Borne has been a longtime friend, along with his wife, a Catholic school-teacher. His son, Jason, was one of my best friends in high school. David and Elizabeth are the other kids in the family. Deacon Borne has been leading them in a life of faith and is now leading our entire community as deacon in the East Baton Rouge Catholic Church.

I appreciate him being here. I welcome him and certainly welcome his prayer, as we need much more of that here today.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. KIM of California). The Chair will entertain up to 5 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

DAN BORNE WEARS MANY DIFFERENT HATS

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

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I, too, want to thank our guest chaplain, Dan Borne. For so many years, over 30 years, I have known Dan and known him wearing many different hats. Anybody in Louisiana who has encountered a number of different interests, whether it is philanthropic, religious, business, you have run into Dan Borne.

I know Dan through the Louisiana Chemical Association, as the head, rep-

resenting thousands of workers throughout Louisiana, making things that all of us use in our everyday life and making sure that those great men and women have the ability to do their jobs with the pride that they have. That was the first role in which I really got to know Dan Borne and his dear friend, Greg Bowser.

Also, of course, as an LSU alum, when you are in Tiger Stadium, everybody knows that voice. When you hear the voice of Dan Borne, it is just one that gets people excited, most people get excited. There are other people in Tiger Stadium that might not be as excited when they are on the other end of what happens in Death Valley, but Dan is the one who really keeps things going as the voice of the LSU Tigers. Then, of course, there is his role as a deacon and also a spokesperson for the diocese of Baton Rouge.

Dan Borne wears many hats, but he wears them all with great pride and distinction. He carries himself the way all of us should, a true man of God.

We are honored to have Dan here with us today. I am glad he was able to open the House up in prayer today. God bless him.

COMMEMORATING JUNETEENTH NATIONAL HOLIDAY

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, beginning tomorrow there will be thousands and thousands of events, commemorations, and activities all over America celebrating Juneteenth, which will be June 19. There will be many of those in the district that I represent, at Malcolm X College and also at the JLM Center.

I look forward to participating with many of my constituents as we remember and recall but project the future,

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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and that is what Juneteenth means. We look back to go forward.

Happy Juneteenth to all of the constituents in my district and throughout America.

SEPARATION OF POWERS

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

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, the Constitution is clear. The people's elected Representatives, Congress, have the power to legislate, and the courts have judicial authority.

Unfortunately, in recent years, those powers have been diluted by overreaching and unelected administrative branch bureaucrats that believe they are the sole arbiters when it comes to administering policies, not the American people through their Representatives.

Regardless of which political party is in office, both Republicans and Democrats alike should be concerned about willfully giving away their constituents' voices when deciding pressing matters.

The Separation of Powers Restoration Act, which I am proud to support, would restore a separate but equal government our Founding Fathers intended and give back to the people, the American people and their Representatives the capacity to make policy. This is as common sense as it gets and should draw wide bipartisan support.

Madam Speaker, I urge all Members to join me in voting "yes" on H.R. 288.

CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF DAVID M. BARTLEY

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

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I wish to call attention to the passing of the former speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, David Bartley.

Speaker Bartley was one of the most talented and gifted legislators I have known. His legislative prowess brought about Chapter 766, so that the mentally and physically challenged might be guaranteed a sound public education. His measured approach to public life meant that he led through developing consensus and forging historic legislation.

Speaker Bartley went on to serve as president of Holyoke Community College, where he brought the college to new heights of widely acknowledged academic achievement. He was also a very successful secretary of administration and finance who oversaw the State's finances.

Born to a very modest background, Dave Bartley brought acclaim to the city of Holyoke that he loved, and it returned its highest regards to him.

Well-read and well-rounded, Speaker Bartley was a Renaissance man and a

really good guy. To his wife, Bette, and children, Myles, Susan, and David, our best during this difficult time.

The United States of America thanks Speaker Bartley.

CONGRATULATING EILEEN BRADNER ON HER RETIREMENT

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

Mr. CRAWFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a leader in the American steel industry. Eileen Bradner, the senior director and counsel at Nucor, has worked for one of my district's most prominent employers since 2009. Her hard work advocating for the steel industry here in Washington helped grow jobs in Arkansas' First District and at Nucor facilities across the United States.

Before leading Nucor's Washington office, Eileen represented American manufacturers on international trade policy, litigation, and legislative matters for 21 years. Her legislative work included 8 years with Senator John Glenn, where she worked on foreign trade and antidumping policies.

Eileen dedicated her career to protecting American jobs and manufacturing, representing small and large companies alike. I am proud to call Eileen a friend. She will be dearly missed as she embarks on a well-earned retirement.

CONGRATULATING MY DISTRICT'S YOUNG LEADERS AS THEY GRADUATE

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

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, each year I am lucky to work with smart, dedicated students in my district through our student advisory panel. I am amazed and motivated by their passion, civic engagement, and thoughtfulness. They give me hope.

Throughout this month, our communities smile, as some of these young leaders graduate from high school.

To celebrate this milestone, I congratulate each of my graduates by name:

Will Bond, Sreekara Dandibhotla, Emma Eby, Mark Ellison, Michael Gribbin, Frances Holcomb, Chloe Jeon, Elisabeth Kokorin, Phoebe Lee, Aditi Mangal, Noah Pletcher, Jayleen Santana, Caden Schaeffer, Charlie Sywulak-Herry, and Gabriella Thomas.

In addition, our task force would not be possible without the care and organization of teachers Alan Malachowski and Jenn Statler of the Pennsylvania State Education Association. I thank them both.

I wish each of our students the brightest future. I thank them for being leaders in our community, and I know they will continue to be leaders wherever life takes them.

MOMENT OF SILENCE HONORING TREATHA BROWN-FOSTER

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

Mr. ESTES. Madam Speaker, today I honor a longtime friend and Kansan with a true servant's heart, Treatha Brown-Foster.

One minute is not nearly enough time to adequately share all the impressive contributions Treatha has made to Wichita and Kansas. She was a member of the Library Board, District 1 Advisory Board, Boys and Girls Club Parent Advisory Board, and the Kansas African American Museum Board, just to name a few. She was instrumental in advancing both the Kansas and Sedgwick County Black Republican Councils, serving in various leadership roles, including chair.

While her contributions to society are many, her real legacy is the joy she brought to all who were around her. Kansans who met Treatha will remember her animated smile, infectious laugh, and warm hugs that were a prerequisite to starting any conversation with her.

She loved everyone, and everyone loved her, as made evident by the numerous community leaders and elected officials who sought her friendship and counsel regardless of political differences.

Madam Speaker, I ask for a moment of silence to honor this beloved Kansan and my friend, Treatha Brown-Foster.

□ 0915

SEPARATION OF POWERS RESTORATION ACT OF 2023

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 495, I call up the bill (H.R. 288) to amend title 5, United States Code, to clarify the nature of judicial review of agency interpretations of statutory and regulatory provisions, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 495, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118-7 is adopted, and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 288

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 "Separation of Powers Restoration Act of 2023" or "SOPRA".

SEC. 2. JUDICIAL REVIEW OF STATUTOR AND REGULATOR INTERPRETATIONS.

Section 706 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “To the extent necessary” and inserting “(a) To the extent necessary”;

(2) by striking “decide all relevant questions of law, interpret constitutional and statutory provisions, and”;

(3) by inserting after “of the terms of an agency action” the following “and decide de novo all relevant questions of law, including the interpretation of constitutional and statutory provisions, and rules made by agencies. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this subsection shall apply in any action for judicial review of agency action authorized under any provision of law. No law may exempt any such civil action from the application of this section except by specific reference to this section”;

(4) by striking “The reviewing court shall—” and inserting the following:

“(b) The reviewing court shall—”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill, as amended, shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees.

After 1 hour of debate on the bill, as amended, it shall be in order to consider the further amendment printed in part B of House Report 118-108, if offered by the Member designated in the report, which shall be considered read, shall be separately debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to a demand for a division of the question.

The gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. FITZGERALD) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER), each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 288.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 288, Separation of Powers Restoration Act or SOPRA. The Constitution separates the powers of the Federal Government into a system of checks and balances.

Article I, Section 1 grants Congress all legislative power, while executive power is granted to the President, and judicial power is vested in the courts, as we all know.

However, since 1984 when the Supreme Court ruled that courts must defer to an agency’s interpretation of an ambiguous statute rather than what Congress intended, the executive branch has begun usurping the legislative branch to issue regulations with the force of law.

This consolidation of power departs from the constitutional principles and harms our own liberties. It is certainly not what our Founders intended. Yet,

this 1984 ruling, known as Chevron, has paved the way for unelected bureaucrats to issue sweeping rules with no consequences.

Just in 2021, for example, executive branch agencies issued more than 3,200 rules that imposed vaccine mandates on workers. They were also involved in overturning the Keystone pipeline, and required a \$15 minimum wage for Federal contractors, and allowed the IRS to spy on Americans’ bank accounts.

Meanwhile, that same year, only 143 bills passed by Congress were signed into law. This means executive branch agencies impose more than 20 times as many mandates as actual legislators. These regulations are not without cost. According to the American Action Forum, Federal agencies collectively finalized \$200 billion in regulatory costs in 2021, equivalent to more than \$600 per U.S. household.

In 2022, we saw an additional \$117 billion in regulatory costs added to the bottom line. Taken with rules from previous administrations and according to the Competitive Enterprise Institute, the total annual costs of regulation is almost \$2 trillion, or about 8 percent of the U.S. GDP.

If it were a country, for comparison, U.S. regulation would be the world’s 8th largest economy, only behind France.

If Members of this Chamber impose that kind of cost on taxpayers—well, we know what would happen—we would all be voted out of office.

Yet, the Biden administration continues to issue binding rules and courts continue to apply the Chevron doctrine when determining its statutory authority. It is no surprise to see that the President will probably oppose this legislation and promise to veto it. Just 5 months into 2023, and we have already seen his administration circumvent Congress to make changes to non-competes, require climate disclosures by Department of Defense contractors, and ban the use of pistol braces nationwide.

An unchecked administrative state is dangerous to the American people. That is why it is imperative that Congress regain its legislative power by passing H.R. 288.

The Separation of Powers Restoration Act would displace Chevron and other precedents that require courts to defer to agency positions. It ensures that courts independently consider what Congress has said through its statutes rather than putting a thumb on the scale in favor of the Federal agencies.

By forcing courts to apply de novo review, the standard would reclaim the courts’ constitutional role as the branch that interprets the law, and Congress’ role will once again be underscored as the branch that writes them.

Agencies are not supposed to make laws, and it is past time to bring the power of legislating back to the branch our Founders intended.

Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman JORDAN for his leadership on the issue,

and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, the so-called Separation of Powers Restoration Act would completely upend the administrative process by eliminating judicial deference to agencies and by requiring Federal courts to review all agency rulemakings and interpretations of statutes on a de novo basis.

More than 30 years ago, the Supreme Court held in Chevron USA v. Natural Resources Defense Council, that courts must give “considerable weight” to an agency’s construction of a statute it administers. This makes sense, because while Congress sets broad policies, we delegate authority to executive agencies because we do not have the expertise to craft technical regulations ourselves, and we rely on these agencies to carry out the policies we enact.

Under the Chevron doctrine, courts respect the careful process undertaken by the dedicated professionals at our Federal agencies, many of whom who have decades of experience and vast technical expertise.

Courts give deference to an agency’s interpretation of its statutory authority if the interpretation is determined to be reasonable. The Chevron doctrine has been the ruling precedent for judicial review of agency decisions for decades. But this legislation would do away with this longstanding precedent—a move that would throw uncertainty into the entire rulemaking process.

It would also empower judges to completely override the determination of agency experts, substituting their own judgment regardless of their comparative lack of technical knowledge and understanding of the underlying subject matter for the carefully crafted and scientifically based decisions made by agencies.

It is the height of hypocrisy for the party that rails against what it calls judicial activism to support legislation that is the very embodiment of the judicial activism.

This legislation would also make the Federal rulemaking process even more time consuming and costly than it already is, forcing agencies to adopt even more detailed factual records and explanations in order to withstand judicial scrutiny, which would further delay the finalization of critical life-saving regulations.

These are regulations that protect the quality of the air we breathe, the water we drink, the food we consume, and the safety of the products we use. But this legislation is just the latest step in the Republican’s decades-long assault on the regulatory process, trying to add hurdle after hurdle on the

ability to issue regulations that protect public health and safety, regulations whose benefits consistently outweigh their cost, often by many multiples.

Slowing down the rulemaking process for these vital health and safety protections would put the lives of Americans at greater risk. By eliminating judicial deference to agencies, this bill would empower the courts to make public policy from the bench, ignoring the careful consideration and technical expertise of executive agencies.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD two letters: The first from the Coalition for Sensible Safeguards, which includes more than 160 diverse labor, consumer, public health, food safety, financial reform, faith, environmental, and scientific integrity groups; and another letter from the Earthjustice organization.

COALITION FOR
SENSIBLE SAFEGUARDS,

June 5, 2023.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: The Coalition for Sensible Safeguards (CSS), which includes more than 160 diverse labor, consumer, public health, food safety, financial reform, faith, environmental, and scientific integrity groups representing millions of Americans, strongly opposes the Separation of Powers Restoration Act, H.R. 288.

Congress should be looking for ways to strengthen our country's regulatory system by identifying gaps and instituting new safeguards for the public. Unfortunately, this legislation does the opposite by placing even more obstacles before agencies as they work to provide new public health, safety, and financial security protections for the public.

The legislation will make our system of regulatory safeguards weaker by enabling judicial policymaking at the expense of agency expertise and congressional authority, thereby resulting in unpredictable outcomes and regulatory uncertainty for all stakeholders. If passed, H.R. 288 would prevent many critical updates to public protections, especially those that ensure clean air and water, safe food and consumer products, safe workplaces, and a stable, prosperous economy.

This problematic legislation attempts to reverse a fundamental and well-settled legal principle that has long effectively guided our regulatory system and provided a vital check on judicial overreach. It strives to abolish judicial deference to agencies' statutory interpretations in rulemaking by requiring a court to decide all relevant questions of law de novo, including all questions concerning the interpretation of constitutional, statutory, and regulatory provisions of final agency actions. Such deference was established as bedrock administrative law by the Supreme Court in the 1984 case *Chevron v. Natural Resources Defense Council* and came to be referred to as *Chevron* deference. *Chevron* deference has been upheld by hundreds of federal courts since and has been endorsed by both conservative and liberal Supreme Court justices and federal court judges.

In practice, abolishing *Chevron* deference will make the current problems in our country's regulatory process much worse in several ways. H.R. 288 will lead to even more regulatory burdens and delays, particularly for those "economically significant" or "major" new rules that provide the greatest benefits to the public's health, safety, and financial security.

There is substantial academic literature and expert consensus that intrusive judicial

scrutiny of agency rulemaking is one of the main drivers of regulatory paralysis. Thus, increasing litigation risk for agency rules, which is exactly what this bill would accomplish by spawning hundreds of new lawsuits per year, will mean many more missed congressional deadlines and a regulatory process that fails to efficiently and effectively protect the public as Congress requires. This further "chilling" of rulemaking will certainly benefit special interests who will further pressure regulators to carve out loopholes, weaken safety standards, or otherwise obstruct new rulemakings with the greatly enhanced threat of a lawsuit waiting in the wings.

Of even greater concern, eliminating judicial deference to agency rulemaking would empower reviewing courts to substitute their policy preferences for those of the agency. One of the primary policy rationales for *Chevron* deference is that agencies have considerable and superior expertise in the regulatory sectors they oversee as compared to generalist judges with far less expertise. Thus, H.R. 288 aims to make it easier for the courts to overturn an agency's highly technical, resource-intensive, and science-based rulemaking without the expertise needed to make such determinations.

Further, abolishing *Chevron* review would actually undermine congressional authority, an irony given the name of the bill. De novo review of the scope and nature of congressional grants of authority to agencies invites courts to create law, ignore congressional intent, or both. In particular, it defeats a deliberate choice by Congress to confer on agencies the authority to resolve complex policy questions based on their expertise and the public input they receive during the rulemaking process.

Perhaps the most telling critique of attempts to replace *Chevron* deference with de novo review comes from former Justice Antonin Scalia, a vocal supporter of *Chevron* deference during his career and an indication of just how broad the support is for maintaining such deference. Writing for the majority in *City of Arlington v. F.C.C.*, Justice Scalia argued that requiring that "every agency rule must be subjected to a de novo judicial determination" without any standards to guide this review would result in an "open-ended hunt for congressional intent," rendering "the binding effect of agency rules unpredictable and destroy the whole stabilizing purpose of *Chevron*. The excessive agency power that the dissent fears would be replaced by chaos." [*City of Arlington, Tex. v. F.C.C.*, 133 S. Ct. 1863, 1874 (2013).]

H.R. 288 aims to achieve an unprecedented and dangerous move away from traditional judicial deference towards a system of enhanced powers for Big Business lobbyists and weakened protections for consumers and working families. We strongly urge opposition to the Separation of Powers Restoration Act, H.R. 288.

Sincerely,
COALITION FOR SENSIBLE SAFEGUARDS.

EARTHJUSTICE,
June 6, 2023.

Re Opposition to H.R. 288, the so-called "Separation of Powers Restoration Act of 2023".

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of Earthjustice, I respectfully urge you to oppose "H.R. 288, Separation of Power Restoration Act of 2023" on the floor this week for vote. *Chevron* deference is a longstanding and well-founded framework for judicial review that acknowledges a regulatory process grounded in extensive administrative records, and long processes of public input and expert evaluations. The framework is

carried out by officials appointed and confirmed by elected officials working under an elected president.

H.R. 288 in an effort to check the executive branch of power instead creates an unchecked judiciary branch and an unbalanced division of power. The judiciary would be given the power to nullify agencies reasonable regulations based on preference of a particular outcome or interpretation of a regulation. Agency decisions are currently based on extensive expert evaluations of complex natures. Without the reliance on the administrative record and process, judges' decisions will be based on limited information gleaned from the small sampling of litigants before them.

The Separation of Powers Restoration Act interferes in the stabilized standards used for judicial review of agency interpretation of administrative law. The act essentially transfers implementation power delegated to the executive branch to judges. Congress has the power to set forth strong laws that set forth boundaries around agency implementation. Agencies are prevented from making interpretations that are void of the required connection to the intent and statutory purpose.

Courts continuously set aside arbitrary and capricious or an abuse of discretion for a wide variety of reasons including the absence of a reasonable relationship to statutory purposes or requirements. Agencies must defend their actions and offer explanations that provide clear links to the statutory purposes based on unflawed reasoning. The fundamental nature of arbitrary and capricious threshold is created to protect the individual's rights by ensuring that no ones liberty is constrained without plausible justification. Government officials are thus only able to operate within the confines of the law.

H.R. 288 is likely to create a system in which agencies act to protect their interpretations by drafting unclear regulations. The regulations will have vague language with fewer details to prevent de novo reviews. Furthermore geographic differences in regulatory uncertainty will increase. The *Chevron* test creates a stabilized system in which federal statutes are all given the same interpretational deference in circuit courts where judges are in conflict on regulatory interpretation.

This bill is another anti-regulatory attempt to attack federal regulation by harming the legal infrastructure. Most erroneously, H.R. 288 would put the general public in harm's way, resulting in impaired safeguards for civil rights, consumer rights, health, the environment, safety, financial markets, and all concerns of federal regulatory statutes.

Accordingly, I urge you to vote no on H.R. 288.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
BRIELLE L. GREEN,
Senior Legislative Counsel,
Earthjustice.

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose this dangerously flawed legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD a cost estimate for H.R. 288, prepared by the Congressional Budget Office.

H.R. 288, SEPARATION OF POWERS RESTORATION ACT OF 2023, AS ORDERED REPORTED BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY ON MAY 10, 2023

	By fiscal year, millions of dollars—		
	2023	2023– 2028	2023– 2033
Direct Spending (Outlays)	a	a	a
Revenues	a	a	a
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	a	a	a

^a CBO has no basis to estimate the budgetary effects of enacting H.R. 288.

Increases net direct spending in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2034?^a

Increases on-budget in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2034?^a

Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply? Yes.

Mandate Effects:

Contains intergovernmental mandate? No.

Contains private-sector mandate? No.

H.R. 288 would authorize federal courts that review agency actions to decide all relevant questions of law, including the interpretation of constitutional and statutory provisions and rules, without deferring to previous legal determinations by the agency.

Under the bill, federal courts could overturn some agency decisions that they would have upheld under current law. Some of those decisions could affect federal spending by overturning regulations that affect direct spending, revenues, and spending subject to appropriation. However, CBO has no basis for estimating either the likelihood that such actions would be overturned or what the effects on spending might be.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Jon Sperl. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,

Director, Congressional Budget Office.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. McCLINTOCK).

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, the central architecture of the Constitution is the separation of powers. It is really just mother's rules, writ large.

One slice of pie; two hungry brothers. How does mother slice the pie so both brothers are happy? Pretty simple. One slices; the other chooses. The powers given to one brother cannot be abused because of the powers given to the other.

That is the brilliance of our Constitution. One brother makes law but cannot enforce it; the other brother enforces law but cannot make it.

Article I is the first and longest article in the Constitution. It begins with the words: "All legislative powers herein granted are vested in a Congress of the United States."

When a law was to be made, the Founders wanted a great big rowdy food fight. They wanted every voice expressed through their Representatives. They wanted the decision held up to every light. They created two Houses with decidedly different perspectives so that the Congress would even argue with itself. They wanted it hard to make laws so the Nation wouldn't be smothered by them, and they wanted those who make those laws directly answerable to the people.

But once made, they didn't want laws to be carried out by hundreds of squabbling prima donnas. That's why we have Article II: "The executive powers shall be vested in a President of the United States." One official, independent of the Congress but also accountable to the people, was to carry out those laws; not make them, but to take care that they are "faithfully executed."

Then in Article III, mother, the Supreme Court, independent of both brothers, is there to resolve disputes.

How different it is today. Today, executive agencies which are not elected and often act independently of the elected President, make ten times the laws that Congress makes. They then enforce the laws that they have made, and if they accuse you of violating them, you have to prove your innocence in an administrative court run by the same agency that made the law, accused you of breaking it, and which keeps the fines that it takes from you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from California.

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, while the courts give intentional scrutiny to the laws made by Congress, under the doctrine of Chevron deference, they have to give wide latitude to the acts of agencies that lack any checks and balances.

Madison warned that when all of the powers of government are in the same hands, you have tyranny. Just ask anyone who has been hauled before this Kafkaesque process.

This bill starts to return the law to its constitutional moorings by repealing this despotic doctrine and placing the acts of unelected administrative state under the same constitutional scrutiny as those of the elected Congress.

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the distinguished gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. DEAN).

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 288, the Separation of Powers Restoration Act, SOPRA.

If passed, Federal agencies would have a harder time protecting Americans from threats to our health, safety, and our well-being at a time when we need our agencies with their expertise and resources to be their most effective.

In just one of the most egregious examples, this bill would make it easier for weapons to fall into the hands of the wrong people, endangering countless American lives.

For example, it would make it harder for the Attorney General to implement regulations to improve our National Instant Criminal Background Check System.

Madam Speaker, I will offer a motion to recommit this bill to our committee, the Committee on the Judici-

ary, and to amend this bill to ensure that the AG's rules and regulations around the background check system remains unaffected.

The system is used nationally for determining someone's ability to possess a firearm. Its effectiveness is crucial to the safety and security of our communities, communities that are already struggling and reeling with far too many guns in the wrong hands.

While Republicans and Democrats are debating on how to address the gun violence epidemic in this country, 97 percent of Americans have made up their mind. They are angry, and they know we need effective background check systems.

As part of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, a bill that was signed into law just 1 year ago, we enhanced our background check system. We cannot afford to go backwards in any way, and this bill would do just that.

Ignoring the fact that in this country we suffer the scourge of 48,000 people a year dying of gun violence, more than 60 percent of those deaths are suicide; 8 children a day die in this country of gun violence.

□ 0930

I can't believe I must say this. Gun violence has become the leading cause of death for America's children. Shame on us.

Keeping firearms out of the hands of dangerous people is good for American communities, will save lives, will save our children's lives. We have to save more people.

SOPRA, this bill, is a dangerous bill. Thus, I hope my colleagues will join me in voting for the motion to recommit.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of this amendment into the RECORD immediately prior to the vote on the motion to recommit.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Once again, I remind everyone that SOPRA is not deregulatory. That has not been the goal at all. The goal is to forward this discussion between what should be legislative powers and the administration so that, in the future, it also sets a ground floor for many of the statutes. Congress remains free to regulate in a very detailed way and so do the administrative agencies.

I have heard this before. We heard it in committee, that somehow we were setting up or juxtaposing these two different goals, and it just isn't true.

I think that the other thing we would see is that you would find that legislators would do a much better job of drafting bills in the first place. I mean, shame on us if we leave a piece of legislation so vague that it opens the door for an administrative agency to somehow go in and interpret.

There are many times when the scope of the legislation is the first thing that should be determined before you even sit down and actually write the bill.

So, I know it is a criticism that has existed, but I don't think it is valid.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The other thing I will mention came up in our discussions during the committee. When you find yourself in a situation—we just had this discussion in relationship to the REINS Act—where the administrative powers continue to kind of escalate and bloom out from that original piece of legislation, what you will find is, later on, that has to be revisited because oftentimes it is done hastily, doesn't make sense, is arbitrary in nature. It is very difficult for legislators to even read through those powers that have been granted and try to make sense of that. It is another thing that came up in committee that I think is valid.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The other thing I will relay is that SOPRA does not turn judges into legislators. SOPRA helps to restore the court's constitutional role as the branch that construes the law.

Specifically, SOPRA requires that courts apply de novo review to all relevant questions of law when reviewing agency action. This means that the courts, not agencies, will interpret what a law means.

In other words, SOPRA enhances, not violates, the separation of powers under our Constitution. Within that discussion, the interpretation of the law is also something that I think would, once again, focus where we are.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. HAGEMAN).

Ms. HAGEMAN. Madam Speaker, over the last few decades, and as accelerated during the Obama and Biden administrations, our constitutional separation of powers has been undermined by Congress' overdelegation of legislative powers to regulatory agencies in the executive branch.

H.R. 288, the Separation of Powers Restoration Act, or SOPRA, would begin to rectify this imbalance.

SOPRA requires nothing more than for courts to apply de novo review to all questions of law, including agencies' interpretation of statutes and

rules. That is what courts are supposed to do under the Constitution. They are supposed to interpret the law.

SOPRA would override the ill-advised Supreme Court precedents like *Chevron USA v. Natural Resources Defense Council* that require courts to defer to agencies' interpretation of statutes and rules so long as they are reasonable but even if they are wrong, even if they are incorrect.

It would end this improper judicial deference that gives agencies greater leeway to pass rules carrying the force of law and which puts a thumb on the scale in favor of the administrative state and against the American people.

By doing so, SOPRA would help restore the constitutional separation of powers, reclaiming the courts' role as the branch that interprets the law and Congress' role as the branch that makes the law.

If we were to look at this issue as if it were a dartboard, courts should be aiming for the bull's-eye of what a particular statute means and enforcing the legislative intent.

Deference doctrines, however, allow courts to defer to an agency's interpretation of a statute or regulation if they are anywhere on the dartboard. This is improper, unconstitutional, and needs to change.

Agencies often try to avoid consultation and collaboration with the very people who are the experts, the people who must live, work, and often suffer under the rules and regulations that they mandate. It is a case of an all-knowing bureaucracy in Washington thinking that they know better than the people in the real world, the businessowners, the farmers, the ranchers, the construction workers.

SOPRA also would help to promote the electoral accountability of policymakers by ensuring that it is Congress' policies, and not those of unelected bureaucrats, that govern the American people.

Over the last couple of days, we have had the opportunity to talk about the REINS Act, and today, we are here talking about SOPRA, restoring constitutional order, applying Article I, Section 1 of the Constitution, where Congress makes the laws and the executive branch is merely there to carry them out.

As I indicated yesterday when talking about the REINS Act, I cannot understand why anyone in the legislative body would want to defer to unelected bureaucrats to make the decisions that impact the citizens of this country.

This body, Congress, was created to legislate. We need to jealously guard our power, our authority, and, ultimately, our accountability to the American public.

Again, I cannot understand why anyone who was elected would argue that we should allow agencies and folks sitting here in Washington, D.C., to make decisions that affect literally millions of people across this country without any accountability whatsoever.

I want to retake our authority to legislate. I want to make sure that this body carries out its responsibilities and duties. For that reason, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of SOPRA.

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

This legislation would allow judges to undermine and second-guess the carefully crafted and scientifically based regulations issued by our expert administrative agencies. It would upset decades of Supreme Court precedent just to further the extreme antiregulatory agenda of the Republican majority, which puts the health and safety of all Americans at risk.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose this dangerous legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Once again, I will say that by forcing the courts to apply the de novo review, this standard would reclaim the court's constitutional role as the branch that interprets the laws and Congress' role as the branch that writes them.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate on the bill has expired.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MS. HAGEMAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 1 printed in part B of House Report 118-108.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Madam Speaker, I have an amendment at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 1, beginning on line 16, strike "and rules made by agencies" and insert "rules made by agencies, and interpretative rules, general statements of policy, and all other agency guidance documents".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 495, the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. HAGEMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wyoming.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Madam Speaker, the Separation of Powers Restoration Act, or SOPRA, is great legislation that I fully support.

My amendment is simple and seeks to clarify that de novo judicial review applies to agency guidance as well as to agency rules and congressional statutes.

Specifically, my amendment explicitly states that interpretive rules, general statements of policy, and all other agency guidance are subject to de novo judicial review.

Unlike rules, guidance is undefined in the APA's definition section. Agency guidance consists of interpretive rules that explain how agencies interpret the statutes and rules that they administer and general statements of policy that prospectively advise how agencies may choose to exercise their authority.

Guidance is not subject to the APA's notice and comment requirements and, at least not officially, does not have the force of law or at least shouldn't have the force of law.

Yet, we have seen a growing trend of administrative agencies attempting to use guidance to have the force of law while at the same time avoiding even the APA process.

For example, in my private capacity before being elected to Congress, I was part of an effort to push back on the Department of Agriculture's attempt to mandate RFID ear tags on the cattle and bison of our Nation's ranchers. The agency tried to force this on the agriculture community through a two-page guidance document that was posted to the USDA website.

This circumventing of the congressional legislative and agency rule-making process would have cost our cattle producers \$2 billion to comply with this guidance, all without a single comment or public hearing.

Further concerning is that guidance is often not judicially reviewable because agencies then claim that it is not final agency action. Even when it is reviewed, the government then asks for deference to the agencies by the courts.

While the language in SOPRA is implicit that the requirement for de novo judicial review of all relevant questions of law applies to agency guidance, my amendment would make it explicit.

In closing, my amendment would clarify that agency guidance, which agencies routinely abuse, is subject to de novo judicial review under this bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I claim the time in opposition.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, as agency heads have stated time and time again, guidance documents, general statements of policy, and other agency guidance do not have the force and effect of law, and the agencies do not take enforcement actions based on supervisory guidance.

This amendment would unnecessarily require judicial review, de novo or otherwise, of guidance documents that have not been interpreted by courts to be given the force of law.

Before I discuss how guidance documents and rules differ, let's take a minute to consider the pure breadth of materials this amendment would cover: interagency statements, bulletins, policy statements, questions and answers, frequently asked questions, statements of policy, and advisories.

Rules and guidance from agencies are not only given different weight in court, but they also are developed through entirely different processes. Rules are made under the Administrative Procedures Act and, thus, follow a structured process for soliciting public comments, the review of those com-

ments, and the release of any final rule. Agency guidance documents, by contrast, are not made under the APA process. Guidance documents are not subject to public review and comment. When you consider the range of materials that falls under the category "guidance," this, naturally, makes sense.

□ 0945

A frequently asked questions page on an agency website cannot and should not be placed in the same category as rules that undergo months and years of review and development. Not only is it wrong as a matter of law to conflate these two classes of documents, but it would also signal to the judiciary that Congress sees them on equal footing; that is, rules and guidance on equal footing, which would muddy the judicial review of agency action.

I imagine the amendment sponsor did not intend for her amendment to accidentally expand what kinds of instruction from agencies should be given the force of law by expanding the Separation of Powers Restoration Act in this fashion, but in any case, that is what this amendment would do.

If agency guidance were treated the same as a rule, as wrong as that might be, agencies would be chilled and warned against providing much-needed information to the individuals and businesses who seek more feedback on an agency's point of view. They would be very hesitant to answer questions on question lines.

Finally, as I noted in response to a similar amendment to the REINS Act yesterday, by requiring agency guidance documents to receive the same review as rules, this amendment would create confusion among businesses subject to oversight from our executive branch agencies as to how much weight they should give agency guidance.

Expanding this bill to also require any guidance the agency gives to businesses about how the rules will be enforced is a drastic expansion of the Separation of Powers Restoration Act and would ensure that agencies provide less guidance for businesses, thus creating more uncertainty for businesses.

This amendment is an overstep that would further stifle the work of our agencies. I, therefore, oppose this amendment and urge my colleagues to do the same.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Madam Speaker, the irony of what my colleague on the other side is saying is that the only time that the courts would be addressing guidance is when the agencies are attempting to enforce it against someone outside of the agency.

Again, an example might be the EPA attempting to enforce their guidance against an irrigator in Wyoming because he moved an irrigation ditch and they have concluded that such irrigation ditch, through their guidance, is actually a navigable water of the United States.

Now, fortunately, recently, the Supreme Court of the United States slapped that down and has indicated that the EPA is no longer going to be able to abuse its power and try to control irrigation land and other resources by claiming that mud puddles and such are navigable waters of the United States, but that is just an example.

The only time that the courts are going to be looking at guidance is if the agencies are attempting to enforce it. Further, while my colleague on the other side would argue that these are just frequently answered questions and internal documents, the fact is that this is the way that agencies are circumventing the APA, circumventing the law, and attempting to enforce unofficial documents against the citizens of the United States of America.

I would also point out that yesterday we did pass a similar amendment to the REINS Act and what this does is it makes SOPRA and REINS consistent in terms of covering guidance documents as well as official rules.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, judging from what the gentlewoman just said, the gentlewoman does not understand the process at all.

Courts do not enforce guidance, so we are not prohibiting them here from doing what they do not do to start with. Courts do not enforce guidance. Guidance simply tells people how the courts will enforce the rules promulgated by the agencies.

So to say that you can't have guidance is to say that people must act in ignorance and bet their businesses on what the agency will do without knowing it because the agency can't tell them. That is absurd.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Madam Speaker, I find it so ironic, having been a practicing attorney for 34 years and fighting over these exact battles in court, that I am having someone who hasn't practiced for decades tell me that I am ignorant.

The agencies are the ones that attempt to enforce guidance, and I have defended lawsuits along that very line.

Therefore, while someone who may have sat in this room for years believes that he has the ability to judge what people in the real world deal with, the fact is that agencies do attempt to enforce guidance against citizens of this country.

The only thing that this amendment does is to say when that happens, the courts are to apply de novo review to the interpretation of what that guidance means. Nothing more and nothing less.

Again, this is a very simple amendment that says to the extent that guidance documents are before the court for interpretation, the courts must apply de novo review rather than defer to the agency interpretation of that guidance. It is very simple, and it is

something that is appropriate and ensures that we are following our constitutional separation of powers.

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

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, the gentlewoman is accurate as to what SOPRA would do, and for all the reasons I stated before, it is a terrible bill, as terrible as REINS is. I am not going to repeat those arguments.

As to this amendment, I don't have to have practiced law recently. I know how to read a bill. There are lawyers on my staff who know how to read a bill and we know, as I said before, that courts don't enforce guidance. There is no such thing.

Guidance issued by agencies tells the courts how to interpret the rules promulgated by those agencies. That is a simple fact. It is not debatable.

Similarly, to have an amendment that says there shall be no guidance is to have an amendment that says businesses should operate in the dark and bet their businesses on what an agency might do. That is ridiculous and harmful to business, and I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment as I urge them to oppose the bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended and on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. HAGEMAN).

The question is on the amendment by the gentlewoman from Wyoming.

The amendment was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Ms. Dean of Pennsylvania moves to recommit the bill H.R. 288 to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The material previously referred to by Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania is as follows:

Ms. Dean of Pennsylvania moves to recommit H.R. 288 to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

Page 1, line 9, insert after "extent necessary" the following: ", and except as otherwise provided in this section".

Add at the end the following:

SEC. 3. EXCEPTED RULES REGARDING THE PREVENTION OF FIREARMS TRANSFERS TO CRIMINALS AND SUSPECTED TERRORISTS.

Section 706 of title 5, United States Code, as amended by this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"(c) In the case of a rule made by the Attorney General pertaining to the implemen-

tation of the national instant criminal background check system, including rules pertaining to the denial of firearms transfers to international or domestic terrorist suspects, the reviewing court shall decide all relevant questions of law, interpret constitutional and statutory provisions, and determine the meaning or applicability of the terms of an agency action."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XIX, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

The question is on the motion to recommit.

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

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. 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 question are postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess for a period of less than 15 minutes.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 54 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1001

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CAREY) at 10 o'clock and 1 minute a.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:

The motion to recommit on H.R. 288; and

Passage of H.R. 288, if ordered.

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.

SEPARATION OF POWERS RESTORATION ACT OF 2023

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to recommit on the bill (H.R. 288) to amend title 5, United States Code, to clarify the nature of judicial review of agency interpretations of statutory and regulatory provisions, offered by the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. DEAN), on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit. The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 210, nays 220, not voting 3, as follows:

[Roll No. 270] YEAS—210

Table listing names of members and their states, such as Adams (ME), Aguilar (NY), Allred (TX), etc., corresponding to the yeas.

NAYS—220

Table listing names of members and their states, such as Aderholt (AL), Alford (TX), Allen (TX), etc., corresponding to the nays.

Curtis James Owens
 D'Esposito Johnson (LA)
 Davidson Johnson (OH)
 De La Cruz Johnson (SD)
 Diaz-Jarlais Jordan
 Diaz-Balart Joyce (OH)
 Donalds Joyce (PA)
 Duarte Kean (NJ)
 Duncan Kelly (MS)
 Dunn (FL) Kelly (PA)
 Edwards Kiggans (VA)
 Ellzey
 Emmer Kim (CA)
 Estes Kustoff
 Ezell LaHood
 Fallon LaLota
 Feenstra LaMalfa
 Ferguson Lamborn
 Finstad Langworthy
 Fischbach Latta
 Fitzgerald LaTurner
 Fitzpatrick Lawler
 Fleischmann Lee (FL)
 Flood Lesko
 Foxx Letlow
 Franklin, C. Loudermilk
 Scott Lucas
 Fry Luetkemeyer
 Fulcher Luna
 Gaetz Luttrell
 Gallagher Mace
 Garbarino Malliotakis
 Garcia, Mike Mann
 Gimenez Massie
 Gonzales, Tony Mast
 Good (VA) McCaul
 Gooden (TX) McClain
 Gosar McClintock
 Granger McCormick
 Graves (LA) McHenry
 Graves (MO) Meuser
 Greene (GA) Miller (IL)
 Griffith Miller (OH)
 Grothman Miller (WV)
 Guest Miller-Meeks
 Guthrie Mills
 Hageman Molinaro
 Harris Moolenaar
 Harshbarger Mooney
 Hern Moore (AL)
 Higgins (LA) Moore (UT)
 Hill Moran
 Hinson Murphy
 Houchin Nehls
 Hudson Newhouse
 Huizenga Norman
 Hunt Nunn (IA)
 Issa Obernolte
 Jackson (TX) Ogles

NOT VOTING—3

Green (TN) Hayes Lynch

□ 1034

Ms. LETLOW, Messrs. LATURNER, STRONG, RESCHENTHALER, WENSTRUP, and Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mrs. BEATTY, Messrs. MULLIN, HIMES, and LARSON of Connecticut changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

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

Mr. NADLER. 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 211, not voting 2, as follows:

[Roll No. 271]
 YEAS—220
 Aderholt Fulcher Miller-Meeks
 Alford Gallagher Mills
 Allens Garbarino Molinaro
 Allen Garcia, Mike Moolenaar
 Amodei Gimenez Mooney
 Armstrong Rodgers (WA) Gonzales, Tony
 Arrington Babin Good (VA)
 Babin Gooden (TX)
 Bacon Gosar
 Baird Murphy
 Balderson Granger Nehls
 Banks Graves (LA)
 Barr Graves (MO)
 Bean (FL) Greene (GA)
 Bentz Griffith
 Bergman Grothman
 Bice Guest
 Biggs Guthrie
 Bilirakis Hageman
 Bishop (NC) Harris
 Boebert Harshbarger
 Bost Hern
 Brecheen Higgins (LA)
 Buchanan Hill
 Bunch Hinson
 Burchon Houchin
 Burchett Hudson
 Burgess Huizenga
 Burlison Hunt
 Calvert Issa
 Cammack Jackson (TX)
 Carl James
 Carter (GA) Johnson (LA)
 Carter (TX) Johnson (OH)
 Chavez-DeRemer Johnson (SD)
 Jordan
 Joyce (OH)
 Joyce (PA)
 Kean (NJ)
 Kelly (MS)
 Kelly (PA)
 Kiggans (VA)
 Kiley
 Kim (CA)
 Kustoff
 LaHood
 LaLota
 LaMalfa
 Lamborn
 Langworthy
 Latta
 Lawler
 Lee (FL)
 Lesko
 Letlow
 Loudermilk
 Lucas
 Luetkemeyer
 Luna
 Luttrell
 Mace
 Malliotakis
 Mann
 Massie
 Mast
 McCaul
 McClain
 McClintock
 McCormick
 McHenry
 Meuser
 Miller (IL)
 Miller (OH)
 Miller (WV)
 Fry

NAYS—211

Adams Carabajal Costa
 Aguilar Cárdenas Courtney
 Allred Carson Craig
 Auchincloss Carter (LA) Crockett
 Balint Cartwright Crow
 Barraquán Casar Davids (KS)
 Beatty Case Davis (IL)
 Bera Casten Davis (NC)
 Beyer Castor (FL) Dean (PA)
 Bishop (GA) Castro (TX) DeGette
 Blumenauer Cherfilus-DeLauro
 Blunt Rochester McCormick DelBene
 Bonamici Bonamici Chu
 Bowman Clark (MA) DeSaulnier
 Boyle (PA) Clarke (NY) Dingell
 Brown Brownley Doggett
 Brownley Escobar
 Budzinski Cohen Eshoo
 Bush Connolly Espallat
 Caraveo Correa Evans

Fletcher Levin Salinas
 Foster Lieu Sánchez
 Foushee Lofgren Sarbanes
 Frankel, Lois Lynch Scanlon
 Frost Magaziner Schakowsky
 Gaetz Manning Schiff
 Gallego Matsui Schneider
 Garamendi McBath Scholten
 Garcia (IL) McClellan Schrier
 Garcia (TX) McCollum Scott (VA)
 Garcia, Robert McGarvey Scott, David
 Golden (ME) McGovern Sewell
 Goldman (NY) Meeks Sherman
 Gomez Menendez Sherrill
 Gonzalez, Meng Slotkin
 Vicente Mfume Sorensen
 Gottheimer Moore (WI) Soto
 Green, Al (TX) Morelle Sorenson
 Grijalva Moskowitz Spanberger
 Harder (CA) Moulton Stansbury
 Higgins (NY) Mrvan Stanton
 Himes Mullin Stevens
 Horsford Nadler Strickland
 Houlahan Napolitano Swalwell
 Hoyer Neal
 Hoyle (OR) Neguse Sykes
 Huffman Nickel Takano
 Ivey Norcross Thanedar
 Jackson (IL) Ocasio-Cortez Thompson (CA)
 Jackson (NC) Omar Thompson (MS)
 Jackson Lee Pallone Titus
 Jacobs Panetta Tlaib
 Jayapal Pappas Tokuda
 Jeffries Pascrell Tonko
 Johnson (GA) Payne Torres (CA)
 Kamlager-Dove Pelosi Torres (NY)
 Kaptur Peltola Trahan
 Keating Perez Trone
 Kelly (IL) Peters Underwood
 Khanna Pettersen Vargas
 Kildee Phillips Vasquez
 Kilmer Pingree Veasey
 Kim (NJ) Pocan Velázquez
 Krishnamoorthi Porter Wasserman
 Kuster Pressley Schultz
 Landsman Quigley
 Larsen (WA) Ramirez Waters
 Larson (CT) Raskin Watson Coleman
 Lee (CA) Ross Wexton
 Lee (NV) Ruiz Wild
 Lee (PA) Ruppersberger Williams (GA)
 Leger Fernandez Ryan Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—2

Green (TN) Hayes

□ 1045

So 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

Mrs. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I was unavailable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 270 and “nay” on rollcall No. 271.

ADJOURNMENT TO FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 2023; AND ADJOURNMENT FROM FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 2023, TO TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2023

Mr. FRY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. Friday, June 16, 2023; and further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, when it shall convene at noon for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

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

There was no objection.

INDIA AND THE UNITED STATES SHARE AN IMPORTANT RELATIONSHIP

(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 celebrate the important relationship between two of the largest democracies in the world, the United States and India.

India and the United States built our relationship on our shared values for democracy and freedom, but today it is based on so much more. We support India and its emergence as a leading economic power and as a vital partner in promoting peace and prosperity for all.

India has grown exponentially in the 21st century, quickly becoming home to one of the fastest growing economies in the world and leading innovation in the fields of information technology, communications, and agriculture. Consequently, India was named the 2023 president of G20 where they have and will continue to work to address major issues in the global economy.

Recently, through the U.N., India has declared 2023 the International Year of Millets, taking a strong approach on the promotion of important issues such as food security and global health.

The Indian community in Georgia's First Congressional District will always have my support in generating good will between our two vibrant democracies.

I extend my best wishes to Prime Minister Modi, and I look forward to seeing what the future holds for the United States and India.

HONORING GEORGE MARABLE AND THE DLV LOUNGE

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise Mr. George Marable of Montclair, New Jersey, and his DLV Lounge.

For more than 50 years, Mr. Marable's DLV Lounge was an iconic jazz club in Montclair, New Jersey, and it showcased some of the most talented jazz musicians in the country.

However, the DLV Lounge was more than an entertainment venue. As one musician said, it was central to the local Black community. It was the home of the Montclair Blues and Jazz Festival, and students from Jazz House Kids would perform there. It was a place where local artists could jam with nationally recognized artists. Every night, Mr. Marable would greet his patrons and musicians alike from his swivel barstool.

It was not only a home for jazz, it was a home for Black culture.

Unfortunately, the DLV Lounge closed last year, but Mr. Marable and

the DLV Lounge will not soon be forgotten. It was a place we could all go and feel a great community. Mr. Marable is a great man, and we appreciate all that he has done for our community.

CONGRATULATING KENNETH AND MAMIE SPEARS ON THEIR 80TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. FRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth and Mamie Spears, who are celebrating their 80th wedding anniversary this year.

When they first met, Mr. Spears would walk several miles each way to visit Mrs. Spears before asking for her hand in marriage. When they married, they decided to call Effingham, South Carolina, in the Pee Dee home, and have been there ever since.

The couple shares a strong faith in the Lord and has raised their large family of 6 children, 13 grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren to do the same. They have always enjoyed fishing and farming together and now live a quiet and peaceful life.

I extend my sincerest congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Spears and wish them many more joyful years together.

PROTECTING ACCESS TO BIRTH CONTROL

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

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, last year in his concurring opinion in the Dobbs case, Justice Clarence Thomas called for the right to contraception to be reconsidered, encouraging extreme Republican State lawmakers who have been attempting to restrict birth control for years.

Ninety percent of Americans believe there should be access to all FDA-approved birth control, yet we continue to see States, including my home State of North Carolina, attempt to restrict birth control. I will not stand idly by and watch extreme politicians interfere with Americans' private healthcare choices.

Birth control is essential healthcare. Access to birth control is key to women's equality, bolstering education and economic opportunity, and ensuring that people are in control of their futures.

That is why I am reintroducing my bill, the Right to Contraception Act, to create a Federal right to access FDA-approved birth control. My bill passed the House last Congress with bipartisan support. There is no reason why that can't happen again.

I call upon my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in protecting access to birth control.

CURBING EXTREME EXECUTIVE OVERREACH

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, this week I was proud to vote in support of the REINS Act to curb extreme executive overreach.

President Biden and his administration have made a constant habit of sidestepping Congress, the people's House, to enact their radical agenda, costing the American people billions of dollars of their hard-earned money.

Let's take a look at the list: President Biden's student loan bailout, shutting down the Keystone pipeline, banning oil and gas leases, mandating climate risk disclosures, and a radical ESG rule that jeopardizes Americans' retirement returns, all done without the consent of Congress.

In year one of the Biden Presidency, the administration finalized more than \$200 billion in new regulatory costs; \$200 billion. Even worse, in 2022, the administration proposed more than \$1 trillion in new regulations. It is no wonder why we are fighting inflation.

The REINS Act will put an end to the insanity by requiring the House and Senate to approve any major rule before going into effect. It is high time to end the era of Federal overreach in Washington, and this bill does just that.

CONGRATULATING QUEER IN CANTON

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

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly represent Ohio's 13th Congressional District, and this Pride Month I rise to recognize Queer in Canton as Ohio's 13th Congressional District's Champion of the Week.

Queer in Canton was founded in 2020 by Abby Henry and Curstynn Marks, two young, dedicated, and inspiring people who saw a gap in resources available to queer people in Canton and Stark County, and they resolved to make a change.

Queer in Canton works to cultivate the LGBTQ+ community in Stark County and create a more equal community in Canton and beyond.

During the second annual Stark Pride Festival last weekend, Abby announced that after 2 years of fundraising, Queer in Canton has successfully raised the \$20,000 they needed to open Stark County's first community center to support those who identify as LGBTQ+ and their allies.

This community center will offer LGBTQ+ residents a safe place to call home, a space where the queer community can socialize, access resources, and have the freedom to be their authentic selves.

Once again, congratulations to Queer in Canton for this monumental achievement and for their advocacy this Pride Month and beyond. They are truly making a difference in Ohio's 13th Congressional District and making it the best place to live, work, and raise a family, no matter who you love or how you identify.

□ 1100

PENN KINGSMEN SOFTBALL 4A STATE CHAMPIONS

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

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the newest State champions to come out of Indiana's Second District.

Last weekend, the Penn High School softball team won the 4A State Championship for the second time in school history. The return of State champs was 24 years in the making for the Lady Kingsmen.

It wasn't easy. To take home the trophy, the Kingsmen first had to go through two-time defending champs Indianapolis Roncalli.

With the score tied 1-1 going into extra innings, Head Coach Beth Zachary knew that her team was going to do whatever it took to pull out a win. That is exactly what the Kingsmen did, eventually prevailing 2-1 after an exhilarating nine innings.

Congratulations to Coach Zachary and all the Lady Kingsmen on your big win and an incredible season.

Thank you for making Hoosiers and north central Indiana and beyond so incredibly proud.

God bless you, and Go Kingsmen.

HONORING DEPUTY BRETT HARRIS OF RIVERSIDE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and memorialize a fallen hero, Riverside County Sheriff's Office Deputy Brett Harris, who gave his life serving our communities.

Every day, our law enforcement officers say good-bye to our loved ones and make our community safer no matter the cost.

On May 12, 2023, Riverside County Sheriff Deputy Brett Harris was on duty responding to a request for assistance before he was involved in a serious motor vehicle collision that caused him significant and traumatic head injuries. At only 27 years old, Deputy Harris succumbed to his injuries the following day, surrounded by his family and his wife, Myreia, in a hospital ICU.

Today, a wife and a family mourn a loved one, a public servant, and a

friend. Let us honor and cherish the memory of a good man, loving son, and a devoted husband who served our communities well and who loved music, the arts, and video games.

Mr. Speaker, I ask everyone present on the House floor to join me in a moment of silence for Deputy Brett Harris, his family, and every fallen peace officer who has answered the call, put their lives on the line, and sacrificed themselves for our safety.

ENERGY REGULATION

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

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, on top of the self-inflicted crises the Biden White House has created, including excessive spending, the assault on American energy, open borders, and a rattled economy, the Biden administration has accumulated over \$367 billion in regulatory costs.

These overbearing regulations are harming small businesses and hindering growth. This administration seems determined as well to weaken the American energy industry. It has gone after everyday automobiles, drilling, pipelines, coal, and natural gas. But their anti-all-of-the-below energy crusade doesn't stop there.

They have mandated emissions rules on air-conditioning units, washing machines, refrigerators, and, yes, even light bulbs. What a bright idea.

Now they are coming after the American families' gas stoves.

This is a blatant example of the heavy hand of government thinking it knows best, putting an excessive burden on American families.

Mr. Speaker, we must change course and start working for the American people, not against them.

CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I wish my colleagues a happy Juneteenth. I hope they will celebrate Juneteenth as we leave for this Juneteenth commemoration.

H. Res. 1001, my resolution to recognize Juneteenth, June 19, was introduced on June 15, 2020. The resolution garnered 214 of my colleagues as co-sponsors, and it led to the introduction of the first Juneteenth National Independence Act, my bill, H.R. 7232, on June 18, 2020.

In the 117th Congress, we introduced again the Federal holiday on February 25, 2021. I was asked by Senator MARKEY to introduce the Senate companion to my bill in the United States Senate.

Mr. Speaker, that year was the golden year. That led to both Houses supporting the legislation and being signed by the President of the United States.

How significant this was that General Granger made a visit to Galveston 2 years after the Emancipation Proclamation to indicate to those slaves—still slaves—you are free.

This is a day of jubilation. This is a day of freedom. It is a holiday for all Americans. The 12th holiday here in the United States; 38 years after the last holiday. I encourage the Nation to celebrate it.

I thank Reginald Adams for a wonderful mural. I thank Representative EDWARDS for putting that forward in the State of Texas.

Happy Juneteenth. Celebrate it.

Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the House Judiciary Committee, the Chair of the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, and the principal sponsor in the House of the Juneteenth National Independence Day Federal Holiday.

I stood in strong and enthusiastic support of S. 475, the Senate companion to the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act I introduced on February 25, 2021, which establishes June 19 as a federal holiday.

Research by the Library of Congress looking back to the beginning of the Congress's existence as a legislative body could find no bill that sought to make Juneteenth a federal holiday, prior to the bill I introduced on June 18, 2020.

I have introduced the Juneteenth resolution annually since 2013. In 2020, the resolution received 214 sponsors in the House of Representatives. This surge in support let me know that the nation was ready for a new holiday, and therefore I introduced H.R. 7232, the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act which received 158 sponsors in the 116th Congress.

I applauded the U.S. Senate for passing S. 475, Juneteenth National Independence Day Act in the 117th Congress, which was a companion bill to H.R. 1320, which I introduced to make Juneteenth a federal holiday to commemorate the end of chattel slavery, America's Original Sin, and to celebrate the perseverance that has been the hallmark of the African American struggle for equality.

I thank Senator MARKEY of Massachusetts for contacting my office with his request to introduce the Senate companion to H.R. 1320 for this Congress, and to my senior senator, Senator JOHN CORNYN of Texas, for his steadfast support of the Juneteenth holiday over the years, and others who spearheaded this effort in the Senate, and Senate Majority Leader SCHUMER for his support and for using his legislative skills to ensure the bill was voted on and passed.

Mr. Speaker, the process that has brought us to this day has been bipartisan, bicameral, cooperative, and constructive beginning with my collaboration in the 116th Congress with former Senator Doug Jones of Alabama and Senator CORNYN of Texas to coordinate the introduction and cultivate the necessary support for the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act.

That partnership has continued through the 117th Congress with the addition of Senator MARKEY of Massachusetts as the lead Democratic sponsor in the Senate.

The bipartisan H.R. 1320, the House version of S. 475, is sponsored by 166 Members from all regions of the country, including

two of my Republican colleagues from Texas, Congressman Van Taylor and Congressman RANDY WEBER.

Mr. Speaker, now it is time for the House of Representatives to act swiftly and bring to the floor, vote on, pass the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act, and send it to the desk of President Biden for signature.

With the President's signature, the federal government will join 47 states in recognizing as a holiday Juneteenth, the day that has been celebrated by African Americans for 156 years and has been called rightly as "America's second Independence Day."

Let me extend on behalf of all of us who have labored to pass this important legislation our deep appreciation to the House leadership, particularly Majority Leader HOYER, for their support which paved the way for the House last year to pass by unanimous consent H. Res. 1001, the resolution I introduced recognizing Juneteenth Independence Day.

As I have said many times, Juneteenth is as significant to African Americans as July 4 is to all Americans because on that day, June 19, 155 years ago, General Gordon Granger, the Commanding Officer of the District of Texas, rode into Galveston, Texas and announced the freedom of the last American slaves; belatedly freeing 250,000 slaves in Texas nearly two and a half years after Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation.

When General Granger read these words of General Order No. 3 set off joyous celebrations of the freedmen and women of Texas:

"The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection therefore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired laborer."

Juneteenth thus made real to the last persons living under the system of chattel slavery, of human bondage, the prophetic words of President Abraham Lincoln delivered November 19, 1863, at Gettysburg 'that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.'

Juneteenth was first celebrated in the Texas state capital in 1867 under the direction of the Freedmen's Bureau and remains the oldest known celebration of slavery's demise, commemorating freedom while acknowledging the sacrifices and contributions made by courageous African Americans towards making our great nation the more conscious and accepting country that it has become.

As the nation prepares to celebrate July 4th, our nation's independence day, it is a time to reflect on the accomplishments of our nation and its people.

The celebration of Juneteenth followed the most devastating conflict in our country's history, in the aftermath of a civil war that pitted brother against brother, neighbor against neighbor and threatened to tear the fabric of our union apart forever that America truly became the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Juneteenth honors the end of the 400 years of suffering African Americans endured under slavery and celebrates the perseverance that has been the hallmark of the African American experience in the struggle for equality.

But as the poet Langston Hughes reminds us in his famous poem, "Mother to Son," life in America for African Americans "ain't been no crystal stair."

The post-bellum period in America was marked by violence and terrorism against African Americans as they sought to make real the promises of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

General Granger's reading of General Order No. 3 ended the remaining vestiges of the system of chattel slavery, a form of perpetual human bondage that held generations of Africans in captivity in the United States for two-hundred and forty-eight years and opened a new chapter in American history.

Recognizing the importance of this date, former slaves coined the word "Juneteenth" to celebrate the occasion, the first of which occurred in the Texas state capital in 1867 under the direction of the Freedmen's Bureau.

Juneteenth was and is a living symbol of freedom for people who did not have it.

Juneteenth remains the oldest known celebration of America's freedom from slavery.

It commemorates freedom while acknowledging the sacrifices and contributions made by courageous African Americans in the quest to make our more perfect.

The celebration of Juneteenth followed the most devastating conflict in our country's history, in the aftermath of a civil war that pitted brother against brother, neighbor against neighbor and threatened to tear the fabric of our union apart forever that America truly became the land of the free and the home of the brave.

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "Freedom is never free," and African American labor leader A. Phillip Randolph often said "Freedom is never given. It is won." Truer words were never spoken.

We should all recognize the power and the ironic truth of those statements, and we should pause to remember the enormous price paid by all Americans in our country's quest to realize its promise.

In recent years, a number of National Juneteenth Organizations have arisen to take their place alongside older organizations—all with the mission to promote and cultivate knowledge and appreciation of African American history and culture.

I am reminded that the first legislation introduced in Congress recognizing Juneteenth occurred a quarter century ago, in 1996, when H.J. Res. 195 was introduced by Congresswoman Barbara Rose Collins of Michigan and I have introduced similar legislation annually since the 109th Congress.

So it has been a long road we have travelled to get to this day, even longer than the 15-year journey taken to pass the bill making the Birthday of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. a national holiday.

Juneteenth celebrates African American freedom, and in so doing celebrates America's history and promise, while encouraging self-development and respect for all cultures.

But it must always remain a reminder to us all that liberty and freedom are precious birthrights of all Americans, which must be zealously guarded and preserved for future generations.

In conclusion, I wish to take a moment to salute two of the unsung heroes who helped bring us to this day: the late Texas State Representative Al Edwards and nonagenarian

Opal Lee, known affectionately as the "Grandmother of Juneteenth."

In 1852, Frederick Douglass famously asked: "What to the slave is the 4th of July?"

In 2021, we can reply that it is the beginning of the American Promise that would be fulfilled and made real for all Americans, including the descendants of slaves, on June 19, 1865, "Juneteenth Day."

That is why we celebrate Juneteenth, and the nation joins in this celebration this week-end.

REIN IN FEDERAL REGULATIONS

(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, Federal bureaucrats have usurped more and more power over the American people in the last few decades.

Three-letter agencies now regularly enact sweeping unilateral rules without congressional approval or consent of the American people. This kind of governance is not in the spirit of the Constitution.

Congress makes the laws, the executive branch enforces the laws, and the judiciary makes sure the laws are constitutional.

Agency rulemaking makes a mockery of this system of checks and balances. This is why House Republicans passed the REINS Act. This bill will allow Congress to rein in out-of-control agencies by requiring our oversight over any regulation that is going to cost the people over \$100 million.

Congress for too long has abdicated its authority over these agencies. It is time for that to end.

It has been devastating, especially to our rural economies in agriculture, in mining, and in timber. It is killing small towns. Instead, they are burning up because they can't get over the regulations to do normal things like timber harvest, et cetera.

The American people elected us to do the job—not the EPA, not the ATF, not the FDA—to make the laws of this country.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DON BONKER

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

Ms. PEREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my distinguished predecessor, a true statesman, and above all, a dear friend, Don Bonker.

I had the honor of knowing Don personally and can attest to his generosity. When he heard that I was shopping for a suit for my husband at Goodwill, he mailed out one of his old suits for us to borrow. His generosity really knew no bounds.

He was a real source of guidance during those early days. He was always able to take my calls and answer my questions. I will forever cherish our memories and our conversations together.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in keeping Don's beloved wife, Carolyn, and his children, Dawn and Jonathan, in our thoughts and prayers.

May they find solace in knowing Don's legacy will live on in the hearts and minds of those who had the honor of knowing him.

BLIZZARD OF REGULATION

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, there has been a lot of discussion going on this week about regulation. As we go home for this 3-day weekend, I encourage my colleagues, as they get around their district, whether they run into people who are in farming, in manufacturing, in banking—particularly in the nursing home field—to ask those folks about the difference between regulatory rules that they live under today and 30 years ago. How many more man-hours are they spending every week filling out government forms that does nothing to make their bank or farm or manufacturing facility run better.

I think you will find them saying that they never would have gone into business in the first place if they knew about this blizzard of regulation, that they could not have swallowed it all at once but had to take a drip, drip, drip over 20 years.

In any event, I encourage my colleagues to get out to a different group that they normally don't deal with, the businessmen and -women—the farmer, manufacturer, nursing home, banker—and they will find out that our country is unquestionably poor because of the sea of people we have filling out paperwork every week.

ILWU/PMA TENTATIVE AGREEMENT

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

Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend both the International Longshore and Warehouse Union, the ILWU, and the Pacific Maritime Association, the PMA, for reaching a new 6-year contract just last night for 22,000 workers across 29 West Coast ports.

This agreement is critical for our economy and recognizes the heroic work of all frontline dock workers, who worked tirelessly throughout our entire supply chain crisis to move our economy forward.

As mayor of Long Beach, I oversaw our port, which supports 2.6 million jobs across the country. As co-chair of the Ports Caucus, I am proud to have worked with both sides throughout the entire bargaining process. This deal would not have been possible without the work of President Biden and Acting Labor Secretary Julie Su.

Julie's engagement was key and proved why she should be confirmed swiftly by the Senate.

This news builds upon Tuesday's report that showed inflation has fallen for 11 months in a row.

Our ports will continue to fight inflation and bring back jobs.

HONORING OUR COURAGEOUS SERVICEMEMBERS WITH THE FLAG ACT

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country, I introduce the bipartisan Honor and Remember Flag Recognition Act of 2023 with Representative JEN KIGGANS of Virginia.

Currently, 27 States, including North Carolina, have adopted this symbol in honor of those killed in action. By supporting the Honor and Remember Flag Recognition Act, we can help the families of these fallen servicemembers find closure.

On behalf of these families, I ask all Members of Congress to support this vital legislation. Together, let us affirm our unwavering commitment to honoring and remembering our courageous and brave heroes who have given their lives for our freedom and democracy.

HONORING SANDY TORRES FOR HER WORK AND SERVICE

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and the work of Sandy Torres for a lifetime of commitment and service to Santa Ana Unified School District.

Sandy was born and raised in Orange County, and Sandy attended local Santa Ana schools. She started working at Madison Elementary School when she graduated from college in 1982.

Mr. Speaker, 40 years later, she is still there, working and helping children learn to become good citizens.

She has been a three-time recipient of the Madison School Employee of the Year Award and was recognized last year as a classified employee of Santa Ana Unified.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to nominate her as my Congressional Woman of the Year.

We thank Sandy for a lifetime of service, and we honor her commitment.

□ 1115

COMMEMORATING THE LEGACY OF JESSE TAFALLA, JR.

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the legacy of Jesse Tafalla, Jr., a pillar in the north Texas community who was a steadfast champion for equality, justice, and inclusion.

Jesse lived to serve his community. After high school, Jesse worked for IBM and, for the past 10 years, DART. He was an active member in many organizations in Dallas, including Rainbow LULAC, Stonewall Democrats, Dallas County Democratic Party, and the MLK Jr. Community Center board.

He was a champion of so many different social causes and issues, and he worked tirelessly to try to bridge the gaps and create understanding between communities. He was a very special person.

He greeted everyone with the line, "Hey, don't I owe you a drink?" This was his way of saying that he cared. After that, he would listen to people, and he advocated for communities and people who he felt were genuinely left behind.

Jesse was an embodiment of service and kindness, and his legacy will be carried on through the countless lives he touched. His love for family, friends, and strangers was unconditional.

I extend my deepest condolences to all of his family, his friends, and everyone in the community who loved him and called him a friend.

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF SERVICE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA GRANGE

(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. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the dedication and determination of the Pennsylvania Grange as they celebrate 150 years of service.

Their story began in 1871 with the organization of the Eagle Grange No. 1 near Williamsport in Lycoming County. It eventually became statewide in 1873. The PA Grange was founded with the intent to heal a wounded Nation following the Civil War.

Today, the PA Grange has members of all ages and represents more than 5,440 Pennsylvanians.

The PA Grange is honoring their 150 years with 150 acts of service. Each chapter is tasked with completing a service project, and as of Wednesday, June 13, they have completed 194 projects.

It is with full confidence I stand here honored to represent a State with people dedicated to helping members grow as individuals, unifying their communities, and fostering opportunities through legislation and community service.

Mr. Speaker, every year I have the privilege of attending the Grange Fair in Centre County, my home county. While attending the fair, I am able to witness their mission firsthand. The

mission of this organization continues to withstand the test of time.

I congratulate the Pennsylvania Grange on 150 years of service, education, legislation, and fellowship.

HONORING THE LIFE OF TARAS G. SZMAGALA

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, last week, America and we in Ohio lost a true patriot, family man, successful business leader, and community champion, Taras G. Szmagala, who passed away at 90 years of age.

To his wife, Katherine, of 64 years; son, Taras; grandson, Gregory; and a vast network of extended family and friends, I know this is a difficult time. Yet, I also know that you carry forward in all you do the living memory of your beloved husband, father, and grandfather. Please know many others feel the sharp pain of your loss.

Taras inspired us all with his gentlemanly manner, easy smile, and dedicated passion on matters that mean the most. There was no stronger advocate on behalf of liberty for Ukraine than Taras. He knew the stakes.

His life was a classic, committed to family, profession, Nation, and liberty, and he was resolute. He made and kept his promises. He maintained resolve in all pursuits. He was jovial, loving, dependable, and visionary, and he made our world a better place.

May he rest in peace as he takes his place at a high altar of praise, as his spirit helps guide our world, including freedom for Ukraine. May he help usher her into the birth of liberty to which he dedicated so much of his life.

Sending deepest sympathy and abiding gratitude of friendship.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF GRANT GAUTSCHE

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor the director of Riverside County Department of Veterans' Services, Mr. Grant Gautsche, on the eve of his retirement from public service.

Grant, a United States Navy veteran himself, has selflessly attended to veterans throughout California's 39th Congressional District, as well as the entire County of Riverside and beyond for the past 25 years with esteemed honor.

Since beginning with the County of Riverside in 2014, Grant has served local veterans, their dependents, and their loved ones in obtaining the resources, guidance, and benefits entitled to them. He has worked closely with my district office, ensuring those who have bravely put their lives on the line receive the recognition and care they deserve.

Grant's hard work and devotion are a testament to the way we should all express gratitude to our Nation's veterans, and his retirement is well deserved.

OUR ECONOMIC FUTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EZELL). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I want to do a couple of things, and what I am going to sort of walk through is what we are seeing in the numbers.

There is a sense of theater around here that I am trying to break through, so let's see if we can have some fun with some math.

For those who were complaining about the caps, the spending reductions in the recent debt ceiling, for those who wanted more over here, for some of our brothers and sisters around this place who didn't think any of it was necessary, I need to break through and help this place get its head around the fact that we actually were allowed to negotiate on 11 percent of the spending.

Remember, your government is functionally an insurance company with an army. The vast majority of our spending is on autopilot. It is earned benefits. You earned your Medicare. You earned your Social Security. You worked your 40 quarters. Veterans earned benefits. You get certain things if you fall under a certain income. That is called Medicaid. You get certain things because of treaty agreements, the Tribal populations.

Those aren't formula. We don't vote for them. As a matter of fact, it is almost radioactive around here if we tell the truth, that it is the vast majority of spending. So, I am going to do some of this backward.

A week ago Friday, two of the lead economists at Bloomberg—they call it Bloomberg Intelligence. You have to sort of go to the Bloomberg Terminal to get this. I subscribe to a couple of things, so I got the top line.

Have you ever started to read something and go, oh my God, what are they talking about? That number can't be real. Then you bother someone who has an actual Bloomberg Terminal, and they pull the full printout on it.

Here is the reality, and I don't know how to get folks to actually understand the math. Bloomberg Intelligence, the two economists said their model—Bloomberg has this fairly fancy model, just like we do at the Joint Committee on Taxation, the CBO, the Tax Foundation. Everyone has their models. Theirs is fairly impressive. Their model said, in 10 years, we are at 130 percent of debt to GDP.

Now, understand that the cuts we just did, the rebalancing, the flattening, the slowing down, the debt growth that we just fought through in the debt ceiling, we sort of took our-

selves from 119 percent of the size of the economy at the end of the decade, or 10 years from now, to around 114 percent. That is a big deal.

You figure, 10 years from now, you have a \$39 trillion economy, so a percent is real money. We pulled it down from 119 to 114 percent. I think I have a board on it.

Then, to read through the analytics from these economists saying: Here is your problem. Interest is dramatically higher than we have been modeling.

They see inflation and, therefore, interest running longer. They also see healthcare costs growing faster and larger.

If you actually think about the reading you have done this last week, because I know all of us around here read the technical aspects of, you know, whether—I am sorry. I was going to get sarcastic, and I am trying to dial that back.

You start to see we are seeing this huge, very substantial spike in Medicare spending. It turns out a lot of our seniors actually had postponed lots and lots of procedures.

You just saw, for one of the major health companies that caters to part D, their stock just cratered yesterday because of utilization.

They had some other interesting things in there. Interest is up. Healthcare costs are up fairly dramatically. The thing I have tried to explain here that no one gets their head around, before the agreement—and I am going to use rough numbers. The nondefense discretionary spending is \$700 billion. We, functionally, just removed \$100 billion. So, now it is \$600 billion.

Just that reduction of that \$100 billion over those 10 years, they actually calculated that, next year, the GDP growth will be down a whole half a percent.

That is huge because we were already starting to see, because of our demographics, we have gotten very old in society and are getting older very fast.

You all know what has happened to fertility since the early nineties. Last year, we were down to 1.67, so in 18 years, the United States has more deaths than births. Half the States today already has more deaths than births.

You start to say, okay, we are going to be at 1.8. There were a couple of projections for next year. We are a little higher than that if we just shaved off another half a percent.

Then, I have folks running around here saying: Look at our pretend budget. We can balance in 10 years.

Absurd.

The borrowing this year, have you seen the numbers? Realize that you don't do budgeting this way. We have a fiscal year. Year to date, so if you do a 12-month cycle, we have now borrowed \$2.1 trillion this year. That does not have the backfill of all the extraordinary measures that are getting done right now, as now the debt ceiling has been raised.

\$2.1 trillion is more than all defense and all discretionary, meaning everything you think of as government—the FBI, the White House, the Supreme Court, the State Department, all of it—all of government is, functionally, living on borrowed money.

We weren't supposed to hit that for about 9 more years, and we have already hit it this year.

Look, I hope this is wrong. I desperately hope these numbers are wrong, but this was Bloomberg Intelligence. Two of their lead economists said that when you put in these factors of the cuts in spending, which we have to do—you have to deal with the reality that it does slow down the economy, the higher interest rate cost, the dramatic increase in the utilization of healthcare, particularly in Medicare and Medicaid but mostly Medicare, 130 percent debt to GDP. That is 9 budget years from now.

I beg of someone, pull out your calculator, put some batteries in it, and do a little math experiment for me.

If you had 130 percent of debt to GDP, if today publicly held debt is—let's call it \$25 trillion, \$26 trillion. That is publicly held. That is where you haven't been borrowing from the trust fund. Publicly held—you had to go to market. That is doubling publicly held debt.

Let's say it is \$51 trillion. You can almost do that math in your head if you said you had a 5 percent strike rate, which is high. That is well over \$2 trillion a year just in financing costs.

Nine years from now, the interest cost is functionally equal to every dime you and I think of as government. We were not supposed to hit that for like 15, 18 years.

□ 1130

With the higher interest rates, the increased costs of healthcare, the fact that the economy does not look like it is going to grow much more than a point if we even hit the consensus number of 1.7, 1.8—9 years, \$2 trillion a year in financing costs.

I hope it is absolutely wrong. I hope our projection on interest rates is way off, but this is coming off the Bloomberg model. These aren't slackers. These are some of the best in the world at analytics.

Let's go to something that was more optimistic, Moody's Analytics. We have Bloomberg Intelligence and Moody's Analytics. Their number was much more optimistic. Instead of being at 114 percent of debt-to-GDP functionally in 9 budget years, they had it as 121 percent of debt-to-GDP.

Now, understand, we are supposed to be 114. Even Moody's has a few points above that; meaning, we will have broken through the debt-to-GDP more than in World War II in just the financing costs, let alone the drag on the economy.

Because this government, in trying to finance all this spending—I will come back to where the spending is

coming from—is going to consume much of the world's capital. We don't have a high enough savings rate in the United States to have an economy that grows and the financing. We are going to have to reach out all over the world and grab stunning amounts of capital.

How much discussion have any of us heard this week, last week, the week before that behind these microphones about dramatically changing the cost of healthcare?

When the President got behind that microphone during the State of the Union and said: You are not allowed to talk about Social Security, even though in 9 years the trust fund is gone, and we double senior poverty.

If you are on Social Security, start planning for it. We have made it radioactive here to even have an honest conversation about it. In 9 years you take a 25 percent cut in your check, therefore, we are going to double senior poverty and that is the morality of the State of the Union we had. You are not allowed to talk about it. We won't cut it. We won't touch it.

How about Medicare? The Medicare Trust Fund is also gone in this window. The Medicare Trust Fund only pays for—I will be generous—40 percent because it is mostly the hospital portion, the rest comes right out of the general fund.

So please understand when you read something like that—and CBO was over here originally before the debt ceiling agreement at 119 percent of GDP, they brought it down to 114. Then the other analysts are saying, yeah, but you haven't calculated the costs of higher interests. You haven't calculated the fact that, as you are trying to start to slow down the growth of spending, you actually slow down the economy and the healthcare costs are going off the charts. Yet we are terrified to get behind these microphones and tell the public the truth.

So one more time, an oldie but a goodie—and I will make a new slide one of these days. Don't look at the 1965 date. This is 2022. Seventy-one percent of all spending in 2022 was just Medicare, Social Security, what we call entitlements. They are earned benefits. Some are not earned; some you get because you are part of certain groups or certain incomes.

Defense was about 13 percent, meaning the rest of discretionary is 16. We actually took some of that off. You couldn't negotiate on it, so when we were doing our negotiations, we were down to 11 percent of the budget. This red part of the pie grows and grows and grows. Everything else is flat. This consumes us, and yet we have made it politically dangerous to talk about it.

You talked about Medicare. You talked about Social Security. Oh, you are right. My passion, one of the reasons I keep running, is I am trying to save them. It is a moral argument that you deserve to have security in your retirement. It is like having cancer and refusing to actually go to the doctor and talk about it.

This is a malignancy, and it is growing dramatically faster. Just look at the data that came out in the last 10 days of the growth and spending in Medicare. In the first 7 months of this fiscal year, Medicare spending went up 16 percent.

Now, a lot of that is healthcare inflation, a lot of that were seniors who had postponed medical services during COVID, but 16 percent in the first 7 months.

Here is part of the punch line: When we talk about these big numbers, particularly in the time of inflation, we often use, oh, that is a trillion dollars. The more eloquent way is to say we are all officially economists, we went out and got our Ph.D., and you would talk about a percentage of the economy because that stays constant.

You can have lots of inflation, a little inflation, but the percentage of the economy that is going to debt servicing, that is going to borrowing, we were projected in 9 years to be about 7, 7½ percent of the economy being borrowed.

You sort of see over here—this is just the running-borrowing chart. We had that huge spike substantially because of COVID spending, but in 2023, we were supposed to be at 7½ percent of the economy, the entire United States Government would be borrowing, but we are only growing at about 1.8.

Remember that delta. It is simple math: 1.8 and over here you are borrowing 7½, but if we go back to what Bloomberg said, their economists, in 10 years that is not 7½ percent of the economy being borrowed, that is 13. You are growing at 1.8 and you are borrowing 13 percent of the economy. This is Armageddon, and it is in a 10-year window.

The clown show around here is either terrified to talk about it or we are going to make up numbers. Unless you see budget documents talking about dramatically changing the cost of healthcare, this starts to become real. Now, all of a sudden, running 7½ percent of the economy in borrowing will look good because if we get up near 13 percent in a 10-year window, you think we are going to have money for defense. You think you are going to have money for education. You think you are going to have money for research. Where are you going to have any cash at all? You are going to be struggling for every dime you have to keep the retirement security benefits.

It is math. It is demographics. What is the primary driver of U.S. debt? Demographics. We got old. Today, for every dollar we spend on young people, we spend \$5 on seniors. In the 1970s, for every \$5 we spent on young people, we spent \$1 on seniors. It flipped because those young people were the baby boomers and they have moved through the python and now they are here, and we still have about 6 more years of baby boomers moving into retirement.

There are 10,300 Americans turning 65 every day. Many of us weren't giddy,

but we were pleased we had started to make—understand that the debt ceiling deal is actually the largest cut in U.S. history. You wouldn't hear that from the propagandists who are trying to raise money from scaring the crap out of you, but it is.

We went from 119 percent of GDP down to 113. Think of that. Our math in our office was 114. This is the Center for Responsible Budget. They had us down to 113, but our math in our office is, we picked up about four points of GDP in reduction in spending and just the higher interest rates consume maybe two, three times that savings.

Let's sort of walk through some of what we are seeing. I try so hard to try to convince people because if you go right now to our social media for our office—and I am sure it is the same for other Members here, look at the crazy that you get. If you just cut foreign aid, we could balance the budget.

Foreign aid is about 12 days of borrowing. At the end of the decade, it is half that. Just get rid of congressional salaries. Trust me, we are probably overpaid for our work product, but every dime of a Senator's salary, Members of Congress' salaries are like 18 minutes in an entire year of borrowing.

We borrow a little over \$50,000 a second and in 9 years, we are over \$90,000 a second every day, 7 days a week, 12 months a year. That is per second, and it is all Social Security and healthcare entitlements.

Do you see this delta here? Functionally, you can get rid of every dime of defense, every dime of government. There is no government at all, and you still will be borrowing trillions of dollars at this rate 10 years from now.

There is a model out there that we have talked about—now this was on the CBO numbers from last February that said in 9 years you can get rid of all of government, all of defense, and you had to borrow \$300 billion. Then a couple weeks later, we got the data that the Social Security Trust Fund would be emptied.

I apologize for talking too fast. I had a lot of caffeine today.

With the backfilling of Social Security, add another few hundred billion dollars a year. If these new numbers are correct, we are about to hit the numbers that we are supposed to hit in 9 years and we are hitting them now.

Part of that is that tax receipts have taken a huge fall in the last month or two. If you actually dig into the data you may wonder what has happened. Turns out it was capital gains receipts, which makes perfect sense.

Let's say you have an asset. It has gone up substantially in value because of inflation, not because you are more productive, not because it is some incredible technology. It has gone up because of inflation.

If you sell it, you are going to pay all this capital gains tax on inflation because another asset you are going to go buy has also been inflated. There is lots of data in the literature that talks

about when you hit inflationary cycles, the fact you have devalued the dollar, you have devalued people's savings, you have devalued people's retirements, but you also create such a distortion because you don't know what is actually a gain or just fluff. It is inflation, and now we are starting to see it in our tax receipts. It has already begun to hit us.

I am going to do this board one more time. The number of times you hear, particularly our colleagues on the left, talk about, well, you need to just get rid of this debt ceiling. It is not right to have these stressors. It makes people nervous. That is part of the point. I know this sounds like I'm being a jerk, but you have got to understand, this place is incapable of doing adult work unless there is a stressor, whether it be the budget or the debt ceiling.

I come here and ramble. I bring my charts. I bring my calculator. I have my handful of Ph.D. economists from the Joint Economic Committee. We do our data. You preach it to your brothers and sisters, both on the right and the left, and they just stare at you. It is not till you have something like the debt ceiling where everyone on financial television has their hair on fire, even though it is mostly theater because we have plenty of cash flow to cover the interest on our bonds, and it requires those inflections.

Yet when we hit the debt ceiling when the Democrats controlled this place, they required more spending. Remember, the 2019 bipartisan debt ceiling agreement, it is scored by the Center for Responsible Budget as costing—that is Speaker PELOSI and the Democrats because they ran this place. They took a Republican President and said: We won't pass a debt ceiling unless you spend, in their number, \$1.4 trillion.

How many of you heard anyone talk about the fact that just a couple of years ago, the left demanded more spending by \$1.4 trillion plus for them to vote out the debt ceiling?

□ 1145

Then there is rage from my brothers and sisters on the left that we asked to flatten the spending growth. That is how duplicitous the media is here. When you talk about numbers and they have lots of zeros, I think people immediately tune out and go hit their Netflix account.

Here is the history. When the Democrats have been in charge and we hit debt ceilings, it is more spending. When the Republicans have been here, at least we have gotten some inflection of some fiscal sanity.

Once again, I have used this chart every month for probably 3 years now, because I am trying to get it to sink in. One hundred percent of the next 30 years of borrowing is interest, Medicare, and if we choose to backfill Social Security. Everything else is flat.

The new number on this chart, we had calculated to be about \$128 trillion. With the new numbers coming in on in-

flation and, therefore, interest costs, we think we may be a few trillion short.

Understand what that means. If I tell you right now that 30 years from now, the United States Government, when you add in the cost of Medicare and the financing, the backfilling of Social Security and its financing, we have borrowed \$130 trillion. If any of you plan to be working 23 years from now, the CBO's own math says the United States will have to double all U.S. taxes just to maintain the baseline services. That is nothing new. That is baseline services. This is the reality.

Then you have the irony. We haven't had time to put together all the boards, because it turns out it is a lot more than I thought, the incredible duplicity where our brothers and sisters on the left attack us: They are trying to cut things.

So the Inflation Reduction Act, which is just an Orwellian title, Goldman Sachs says the actual spending of the grants, handouts, tax specialties for their favorite companies, equals \$1.2 trillion. What is the financing cost? Remember, that is all borrowed money. So you hand out borrowed money to these favorite companies. This is the Democrat bill. Not a single Republican voted for it. What is the financing cost of \$1.2 trillion over forever? Because we won't have a demographics balance for 30 or 40 years before you can actually start to pay down this debt. That is the math.

The CHIPS Act, here is \$50 billion or \$60 billion. You have got to go to the White House to get a grant, but you have got to be nice to Democrats in the White House to get your grant.

The number of soft nationalization that the Democrats passed—now, understand, Goldman Sachs said this would be \$1.2 trillion of spending in their Inflation Reduction Act. CBO came back about 3 weeks ago and doubled their estimate. Remember, when they were voting on this, they told the American people it will only be \$2.8 trillion—excuse me—\$280 billion over the 10 years. CBO just came back and said it is \$500 billion plus. That is partially with the assumption that you can't get all the credits because you can't get all of these components made in the United States. If you could, yeah, it is 1.2.

I know people glaze over when I use math like that. Where I am simply going with this is the left has spent a stunning amount of money in the last couple of years when they controlled this place. Then they attack us for trying to slow down the spending. Our beg is, hey, we want some caps. We want to cut discretionary spending, that 11 percent of the budget we were allowed to work on, that \$700 billion, we are going to roll it down \$100 billion over the 10 years, and we are heretics for wanting to slow this down. At the same time, interest, Medicare, and healthcare costs explode.

What is the solution? Seriously, what is the solution around here? You can't

cut unless you are willing to wipe out government to get us anywhere close to balance. We are now heading toward the death spiral of interest.

The argument we make is if the predominant driver, almost all of the driver of spending is healthcare, we have got to come up with a way to revolutionize the cost of healthcare.

When was the last time you saw Members, both Democrat and Republicans, get behind this microphone willing to have a discussion about obesity? When have you seen us get behind this microphone and talk about the stunning growth of diabetes in America?

Diabetes, it is type 2. Diabetes is 33 percent of all healthcare spending, 31 percent of Medicare. Maybe the discussion of our brothers and sisters are dying in this country, there is something horribly wrong, but we are not supposed to talk about it. These are the same people that 30 years ago made the moral argument that stopping people from smoking was good for society and good for those individuals, but today we are not allowed to talk about the fact that we have about 3½ million prime-age males missing from the labor force. Some of the best data we have says the number one cause is probably obesity and number two is drugs.

Now, it is complicated. People are complicated. When we look at the data and what we did during COVID of forcing people to stay home, the stunning growth of morbid obesity in the United States, is it moral? Is it moral that we are not willing to talk about it? Do we care so little about our brothers and sisters that we are not going to reach out and save them?

You have some opportunities. You have the farm bill coming. Are we willing to think like revolutionaries both in what we grow and what we do for nutrition support? Is it moral to hand someone an EBT card, which is the replacement of Food Stamps—it is the newer, better, faster, whatever way—and say you can use that EBT card to go buy onion rings?

I believe you should be able to eat whatever you want, smoke your cigarettes, but you should also carry your own cost, not pawn it off on the rest of society. If you are willing to cover your own cost, have a party. If the rest of us have to pay for it, because right now it is borrowed money—I have an 11-month old at home we are adopting. That little boy, when he is functionally 23 years old, his taxes have to be doubled. Is that moral?

Make the moral decision today. Change the farm bill. I know it is politically hard. I know it is a balancing act. Democrats have to care about people, too. At least I hope they do.

Second thing I would do, there are now over-the-skin blood glucose monitors. We are told that there is actually now—forgive me. I won't say the company. One company already now has it in the watch. There is another one that

actually has something that would actually calculate your calorie intake. We are told a couple of generations from now, even the Apple Watch will have blood glucose on it.

If we could stabilize prediabetic populations in the United States, it is one of the most dramatic things you could do to stabilize debt.

Have we ever had a conversation about that? Can we get the Budget Committee to actually put that in one of their footnotes that here are a couple positives? Republicans and Democrats—because I don't know if we have made that partisan yet—could actually work with each other to say we need to stop having our brothers and sisters in the country dying.

The third one—and this one I will get crap for—is the new GLP-1s. The data is remarkable on how they are as appetite suppressants. We are doing math right now, and it is going to take us another month because it turns out the math is hard if you are going to do it like adults.

If you took your populations of Medicare, Medicaid, Indian Health Services, VA—these are government-paid-for populations—took those who were morbidly obese and said: We actually love and care about you. We are going to give you access to these because we want you to live. We want you to be able to participate in society.

Here is one of the punch lines. On Monday, we had maybe the Nation's leader in healthcare statistics do a little forum down the hall. His data says—remember, this is the guy with 70 million U.S. health records, and it is used for mining and used for setting up drug trials, but he is sort of the demagogue of data. He said there are functionally 4,000 human diseases. Of those, 2,000 have direct relationships to obesity. That is half the human misery.

So we are a moral body, right? We care about people. We are going to have a—oh, we are not allowed to talk about it, except an idiot like me who is willing to get behind the microphone.

Would it be good for productivity? Of course. Would it be good for people's future economic vitality, their ability to save for retirement? Of course. Would it be good for the debt and deficit? Of course. Would it be good for my little boy's future, not having to pay for the borrowing of today? Because that is what we do. We borrow today so our kids and grandkids can pay it off tomorrow.

That is number three, the willingness to actually do the math. What would happen if with the GLP-1s we made a government decision that the math is so compelling, the economics are so compelling that we are going to roll these out in our populations who are suffering.

The fourth thing, on Monday, we had one of the teams here that is about to begin their phase 1 on a cure for type 1 diabetes that they believe is applicable to type 2. It is a stem cell that does not require antirejection drugs. They lay it

into the lining of the tummy, and apparently it produces these islet cells which produce insulin.

At the end of the decade, we may have an actual cure. The math is like this. If someone is a type 2—type 2 is actually complex. There are lots of things within it. If it is the traditional type 2, obesity is the driver. If that weight gets back down, in about 70 percent of Americans, their bodies will start to produce insulin again. Thirty percent, the damage is done. For that 30 percent, at the end of the decade, it looks like there is hope.

These are four simple, moral steps that are great economics. We are going to come here and complain about the debt and deficit, but at least I am standing here giving you one idea that actually can pass this body, unlike some of the fake budgets that the left, and even some of my friends, will roll out here that will just be pretty words, no math, and we will say: You see? I can get you there if we just pretend that we are going to grow at this rate and get rid of all of government.

I will argue, and I have the math to prove it, that the path of taking on diabetes and its primary causes is the most elegant, most moral, and something that can pass and get a Presidential signature.

If someone else has a better idea that equals trillions and trillions and trillions of dollars of savings in 10 years, please send it to me. I am happy to steal brilliant ideas.

Mr. Speaker, how do we get our brothers and sisters, who are all smart—some are smarter than others—but our brothers and sisters that work here, whether it be staff, whether it be elected Members, to understand that sounding like it is the 1990s policy-wise isn't going to save us. The numbers are crashing dramatically faster than any of us even expected a few months ago.

There is a path. There is hope. The hope only exists if we actually start dealing with the realities of a path that is actually doable.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1200

COUNTERING CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY THREATS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. SANTOS) for 30 minutes.

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Speaker, nearly 50 years ago, during the Cold War, Soviet Russia was the enemy of the people and the biggest threat to the free world.

Fast forward to 2023, and it appears that history is repeating itself once again as the threat of nuclear annihilation comes full circle as two opposing ideological blocs dominate the world.

General Secretary Xi Jinping has imitated Soviet Russia's playbook ever since he came to power more than 20

years ago. The Chinese Communist Party has built a cabal of global partners through predatory and oppressive investments in foreign countries, political strong-arming, stealing American technology, and strengthening ties with anti-American tyrannical leaders.

This plan is taken straight from the Soviet's playbook. Only this time, China is infinitely stronger than the Soviet Union ever was.

The United States must recognize and take immediate action against China's push for influence in the developing world. The Soviet Union used military might and territory conquest to forge strategic alliances and expand its influence past the Iron Curtain. However, China mainly uses economic sway and exploits our globalized economic system to expand.

Over the past two decades, China has emerged as the critical trading partner for many regions and developing countries across the globe, and it is not by coincidence. China is intentionally targeting less-developed countries to popularize its authoritarian model and undermine developing democracies worldwide.

China's strategic approach is rendered explicitly in Xi Jinping's Belt and Road Initiative, aka the BRI, a lending gambit that grants China's allies, over 140 nations, billions of dollars under the pretense of economic integration and interconnected development.

China has bought up so much copper, pork, and soy, and constructed so many roads, trains, power grids, and bridges, that it has surpassed the U.S. as South America's largest trade partner, and it is now Brazil's, Chile's, and Peru's single largest trading partner.

Compared to the U.S. and the EU, Latin America's bilateral trade in goods with China grew dramatically from \$14.6 billion in 2001 to \$315 billion in 2020. That is a 21.5-fold increase since Beijing joined the World Trade Organization.

These insidious tactics have made China an undeniable economic superpower through unbounded dishonesty and underhanded manipulation.

In 2019, China, an active trade partner of the U.S., allowed the yuan to fall below the 7-to-1 yuan to U.S. dollar peg it had maintained since 2015. This action set off a day of intense selling in global markets. In the U.S., the Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 2.9 percent, its worst daily decline all year.

By devaluing its currency, China could effectively undercut competitors in the marketplace by offering lower prices on its exports and, according to the U.S. Treasury Department, gain an unfair competitive advantage in international trade.

Intellectual property theft, corporate espionage, forced technology transfer, widespread product dumping, and currency manipulation are just a few of the economic warfare tactics used by the Chinese Communist Party.

This brings me to my point. One of China's most recent efforts to desta-

bilize the United States involves forging an unofficial alliance with Russia to maintain Vladimir Putin's power at all costs. China is also the top trader with Russia and Ukraine.

Before Russia invaded Ukraine, China had already surpassed Germany and the U.S. as Russia's most significant commercial partner and the largest consumer of its oil and gas. China has provided a financial lifeline to Russia over the past year by buying goods that the West won't and helping Russia continue to access financial markets despite harsh Western sanctions.

China not only accounted for the highest year-over-year rise in export volume to Russia of any country in 2022, but it was also the largest exporter to Russia overall.

Moving on, it is no secret that Putin and Xi are determined to end the U.S. and create what Xi called a new model of major country relations.

Sure enough, they have had great success in forming the BRICS bloc and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, whose citizens comprise two-thirds of the world's population.

China has been expanding its military production capabilities and is now the world's fourth largest arms exporter. There has been a drastic 80 percent increase in Chinese military sales to regions across the globe throughout the last decade. A growing number of United States defense officials are expressing concerns about China's swift military modernization.

At this rate, the United States cannot keep up with their prices and turnaround, especially in regions like the Middle East, South Asia, and Africa. Between 2017 and 2020, Chinese arms exports to sub-Saharan Africa outpaced the United States by a ratio of nearly 3-to-1.

China has spread its malevolent influence this far simply because China is determined to bolster our enemies and supplement them with whatever they need to undermine democracy and our sovereignty.

China has allied with other iron-fisted regimes that are presently in the crosshairs of U.S. sanctions, including some of the world's most monstrous dictators, such as Nicolas Maduro of Venezuela and Russia's Vladimir Putin.

China has shipped more than \$12 million in drones to Russia since it invaded Ukraine, indicating quiet collaboration between the two.

Recently, Chinese state-affiliated entities sold metals and centrifuges to corporations affiliated with Iran's Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics to aid in constructing Iran's first hypersonic missile, which amplifies Iran's nuclear capabilities.

Despite debt-trapping Venezuela, China has remained their steadfast ally, negotiating payment grace periods and concealing trades.

China has even gone so far as to support a veto of the 2019 U.S.-backed resolution in the United Nations calling

for free and fair presidential elections. The Maduro regime has become reliant on China for disinformation campaigns and social control programs, including an ID card that serves as a scorecard of loyal Venezuelan citizens to the regime.

Close to \$68 billion in loans has been given to Venezuela by China since 2007, plus around 490 agreements have been signed in diverse areas of investment. The exact nature of these investments is still yet to be made public, but essentially everything comes down to extracting Venezuela's rich mineral supply.

In addition, some of these quiet deals encompass state-affiliated entities that have sold over \$615 million worth of weapons to Venezuela in the past 8 years.

This is the perfect example of the kind of mischief destabilization the CCP is known for—preying on other countries via unsustainable and corrupt lending while ignoring global labor and environmental standards for their own economic gain.

Even with their own country, the CCP will only continue to enhance their economic development. Forced labor has become common practice and part of the CCP's plan for Xinjiang's economic development, which includes making it a hub of textile and apparel manufacturing.

In fact, tens of thousands of Uyghurs detained in concentration camps for religious persecution were sent to factories throughout China linked to 83 global brands. To cover up a mass genocide and enslavement of the Uyghur people, Chinese officials called the policy "poverty alleviation."

More than a million Uyghurs are locked up in camps in their homeland or blindfolded and transported to prison by truckloads. Brutal crimes against Uyghur women, including forced sterilization and abortion, have been carried out to diminish the Uyghur population. Children are taken away from their parents and under pressure to deny their Uyghur ancestry.

China's deep pockets have left its partners notably silent. Prioritizing their economic ties and strategic relationships with China, many other foreign governments continue to ignore human rights abuses.

Taking another page out of Soviet Russia's book, propaganda, censorship, and disinformation are pillars of the CCP's grand strategy toward world domination. Their goal is to make the state and its objectives appear favorable to the world while simultaneously manipulating markets, lying, cheating, and stealing to fuel its ceaseless attacks on democracy.

The COVID pandemic was the perfect example of what kind of propaganda the China Communist Party is known for. Millions of Americans died of the coronavirus. The epidemic was first reported in Wuhan, a city in central China. However, instead of alerting the

global community in the early stages of the outbreak, the CCP sought to cover up the severity of the coronavirus outbreak but also to carry out a great propaganda campaign downplaying the severity of COVID-19, attempting to shift responsibility and hide the origins of the virus.

I would hope the Biden administration and Congress would be willing to step up to the plate and finally take a different approach toward prevention and protecting the American people from the CCP's unrelenting attempts to infringe on our national security. I hope that as leaders of the free world we will take proactive steps to counter the CCP's threat toward democracy and efforts to infiltrate our sovereignty.

This is why I have introduced several bills that would hold China accountable and protect our Nation's innovation, ideas, and way of life.

Instead, we have senior officials of the DOJ colluding with the CCP to have Chinese political asylees exiled from the United States to be tortured and killed by CCP agents.

We have a President who promises to buy American but vetoes legislation that has reinstated tariffs on solar panels from Chinese companies in Southeast Asia. We have an administration actively allowing the CCP to dodge responsibility for COVID.

□ 1215

Drug traffickers are smuggling fentanyl produced by China into the United States through our unsecured borders killing millions of Americans while benefiting China from a weakening America due to the fentanyl epidemic.

There are ways we can legislate to make a safer, more secure, and better America for the next generation. Here are 10 measures I have introduced to counter the threat posed by the Chinese Communist Party:

H. Con. Res. 51 is a concurrent resolution that makes it the opinion of Congress that the Chinese Communist Party is the greatest threat to freedom and the free world.

H.R. 4001 is a bill which includes a provision to prohibit the United States from selling weaponry to the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party.

H. Con. Res. 52 is a concurrent resolution condemning Cuba and the Chinese Communist Party for discussing and implementing an agreement to build a Chinese Communist Party spy base on the island of Cuba, 90 miles from the United States' coast.

H.R. 4000 is a bill to authorize the United States to bring civil actions against the Government of the People's Republic of China for harm suffered by the state as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

H.R. 3757 is a bill to prohibit the availability of Federal funds to institutions of higher education that fund the Confucius Institute.

H.R. 3664 is a bill to prohibit the availability of Federal funds to the World Health Organization pending the conduct of an investigation relating to the influence over such organization by the Chinese Communist Party and for other purposes.

H.R. 3598 is a bill to direct the Secretary of State to conduct a comprehensive study assessing the Chinese Communist Party's role in the distribution of fentanyl in the United States.

H.R. 3597 is a bill to direct the President to impose sanctions on the People's Republic of China.

H. Con. Res. 48 is a bill condemning the Chinese Communist Party for the Wuhan Lab leak causing the deadly COVID-19 epidemic.

H. Res. 421 is a resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Chinese Communist Party should be held accountable for present-day efforts of knowingly and intentionally manipulating their currency.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, June 16, 2023, at 2 p.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-1235. A letter from the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, Department of Defense, transmitting a Selected Acquisition Report titled, "MQ-4C Triton Unmanned Aircraft System", pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 4351(f); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1236. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's Technical correction — Fair Housing Rule, Consumer Protection in Sales of Insurance Rule (RIN: 3064-AF89) received June 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-1237. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Administration's 2022 report to Congress, titled, "Garrett Lee Smith Youth Suicide Prevention and Early Intervention Programs", pursuant to Public Law 108-355, section 3(d); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1238. A letter from the Deputy Chief, Policy and Rules Division, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of the Commission's Rules to Make Non-Substantive Editorial Revisions to Part 2 [ET Docket No.: 23-108] received June 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1239. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's Major final rule — Revision of Fee Schedules; Fee Recovery for Fiscal Year 2023 [NRC-2021-0024] (RIN: 3150-AK58) received June 13, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1240. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Determination under section 7034(I)(5) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2023 (Div. K, P.L. 117-328), pursuant to Public Law 117-103, div. K, title VII, Sec. 7071; (136 Stat. 682); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1241. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Determination under section 7034(I)(5) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2023 (Div. K, P.L. 117-328), pursuant to Public Law 117-103, div. K, title VII, Sec. 7071; (136 Stat. 682); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1242. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report titled, "Resolution of the Cyprus Dispute", pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2373(c); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1243. A letter from the Chair, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's Semiannual Report to Congress of the Office of Inspector General, from October 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-1244. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report to Congress No. 86, which covers the six-month period ending March 31, 2023, pursuant to section 5(b) of the Inspector General Act of 1978; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-1245. A letter from the Senior Advisor, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting notification of a nomination and a designation of acting officer, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-1246. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report to Congress for the period ending March 31, 2023, pursuant to Public Law 95-452; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-1247. A letter from the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta, transmitting the 2022 management report and financial statements of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 9106(a)(1); Public Law 97-258 (as amended by Public Law 101-576, Sec. 306(a)); (104 Stat. 2854); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-1248. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting the Commission's Office of the Inspector General Semiannual Report to Congress for the period October 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023, pursuant to section 5(b) of the Inspector General Act of 1978; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-1249. A letter from the Chairman, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's FY 2022 No FEAR report, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 2301 note;

Public Law 107-174, Sec. 203(a) (as amended by Public Law 109-435, Sec. 604(f)); (120 Stat. 3242); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-1250. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, the Chief Human Capital Officers (CHCO) Council's Report to Congress for Fiscal Year 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 1401 note; Public Law 107-296, title XIII, Sec. 1303, Nov. 25, 2002 (as amended by Public Law 117-81, div. F, title LXVI, Sec. 6604); (135 Stat. 2441); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-1251. A letter from the Acting Director, Selective Service System, transmitting the Service's FY 2024 Congressional Budget Justification, pursuant to 45 U.S.C. 231f(f); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-1252. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Domestic Listing, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for the Miami Tiger Beetle [Docket No.: FWS-R4-ES-2021-0053; FF09E21000 FXES11110900000 234] (RIN: 1018-BF38) received June 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-1253. A letter from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting the 2022 Annual Report of the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts and Judicial Business of the United States Courts, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Sec. 604(a)(4); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1254. A letter from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Report to Congress for Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021, pursuant to section 118(c) of the Clean Water Act; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-1255. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Congressional and Legislative Affairs, Small Business Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Small Business Lending Company (SBLC) Moratorium Rescission and Removal of the Requirement for a Loan Authorization [13 CFR Part 120] (RIN: 3245-AH92) received June 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Small Business.

EC-1256. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Congressional and Legislative Affairs, Small Business Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Affiliation and Lending Criteria for the SBA Business Loan Programs [13 CFR Parts 120 and 121] (RIN: 3245-AH87) received June 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Small Business.

EC-1257. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Congressional and Legislative Affairs, Office of Capital Access, Small Business Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Affiliation and Lending Criteria for the SBA Business Loan Programs; Correction [13 CFR Parts 120 and 121] (RIN: 3245-AH87) received June 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Small Business.

EC-1258. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB Only rule — Guidance on Section 305 of the SECURE 2.0 Act of 2022 with Respect to Expansion of the Employee Plans Compliance Resolution System [Notice 2023-43], pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-1259. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Serv-

ice, transmitting the Service's IRB Only rule — Additional Guidance for the Qualifying Advanced Energy Project Credit Allocation Program under Section 4 [Notice 2023-44] received June 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-1260. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Interior, transmitting a Certification that nationals of a foreign country, directly or indirectly, are conducting fishing operations in a manner or under circumstances which diminish the effectiveness of an international fishery conservation program, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 1978(a)(4); Aug. 27, 1954, ch. 1018, Sec. 8 (as amended by Public Law 114-231, Sec. 501(1)); (130 Stat. 956); jointly to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Natural Resources.

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 Ms. GARCIA of Texas (for herself, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. CORREA, Ms. CHU, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. LOFGREN, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. DUARTE, and Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN):

H.R. 16. A bill to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain aliens, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 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. FULCHER:

H.R. 4141. A bill to provide that certain communications projects are not subject to requirements to prepare certain environmental or historical preservation reviews, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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. SANTOS:

H.R. 4142. A bill to provide for a cause of action for any United States national who lost a relative on due to COVID-19; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. LOFGREN (for herself and Mr. LUCAS):

H.R. 4143. A bill to amend the National Construction Safety Team Act to enable the National Institute of Standards and Technology to investigate structures other than buildings to inform the development of engineering standards, best practices, and building codes related to such structures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. OWENS (for himself, Mrs. McCLAIN, and Ms. FOX):

H.R. 4144. A bill to streamline and improve the Federal student loan repayment system to protect borrowers and taxpayers; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, Mr. NEHLS, and Mr. GROTHMAN):

H.R. 4145. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require additional disclosures relating to gifts and contracts from foreign sources; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. BARRAGAN (for herself and Ms. KELLY of Illinois):

H.R. 4146. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of dental services under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. BERA (for himself, Ms. SCHRIER, Mrs. FLETCHER, and Mr. POCAN):

H.R. 4147. A bill to provide for the establishment of an education program to expand abortion care training and access; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER (for himself and Mr. DUNN of Florida):

H.R. 4148. A bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 relating to de minimis treatment under that Act; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER:

H.R. 4149. A bill to amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to provide funding for the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 4150. A bill to improve the provision of health care furnished by the Department of Veterans Affairs for veterans diagnosed with diabetes and heart disease, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BUCK (for himself, Ms. HAGEMAN, and Mr. LAMBORN):

H.R. 4151. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require certain contract terms in contracts relating to wind turbines on land not owned by the taxpayer as a requirement in order to claim the credit relating to electricity produced from certain renewable resources; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. CARAVEO (for herself, Mr. LAMBORN, Ms. PETERSEN, and Mr. NEUGE):

H.R. 4152. A bill to direct the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and Secretary of Commerce to submit to Congress a report on the merits of, and options for, establishing an institute relating to space resources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. KILMER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. CARSON, Ms. WILD, Ms. TITUS, Mr. BACON, Mr. HARDER of California, Ms. TOKUDA, and Mr. GRIMALVA):

H.R. 4153. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize a national network of statewide senior legal hotlines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. CLINE (for himself, Mr. HERN, Mr. SELP, Mr. BRECHEEN, and Mr. PERRY):

H.R. 4154. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to close the nominal benefits loophole; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. COLE (for himself, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. CISCOMANI, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. ZINKE, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H.R. 4155. A bill to provide for rental assistance for homeless or at-risk Indian veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself, Mr. BEYER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr.

SMITH of Washington, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. EVANS, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. GARCÍA of Texas, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. OMAR, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. PASCRELL, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. RASKIN, and Mr. GRIJALVA):

H.R. 4156. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for a minimum number of refugees who may be admitted in any fiscal year after fiscal year 2024, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself and Ms. MACE):

H.R. 4157. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to prepare an annual report on suicide prevention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania (for herself and Ms. WEXTON):

H.R. 4158. A bill to require the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network to issue an advisory about how homegrown violent extremists and other perpetrators of domestic terrorism procure firearms and firearm accessories, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 4159. A bill to establish a grant program through the Department of Justice to incentivize States to establish point-of-contact systems for firearm sales subject to a background check, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 4160. A bill to modernize the Undetectable Firearms Act of 1988; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DONALDS (for himself, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. MANN, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. SANTOS, and Ms. MACE):

H.R. 4161. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish an apprenticeship program for students at flight schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida (for himself, Mr. SOTO, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, and Ms. LEE of Florida):

H.R. 4162. A bill to amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to include additional priorities as research and extension initiatives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. GALLAGHER (for himself, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Mr. NUNN of Iowa):

H.R. 4163. A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to optimize the sequestration of carbon and the reduction of net emissions through agricultural practices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. GARBARINO (for himself, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, and Mr. CISCOMANI):

H.R. 4164. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlements of the Department of Health and Human Services to establish additional procedures for making placement determinations for all unaccompanied alien children who are in Federal custody by reason of their immigration status, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana (for himself and Mrs. PELTOLA):

H.R. 4165. A bill to prohibit the importation of seafood and seafood products from the Russian Federation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. HOULAHAN (for herself, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. BERA,

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BROWN, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CASE, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Ms. CHU, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. COSTA, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. CROW, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DELUZZO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. FOSTER, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. GALLEGRO, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. GARCÍA of Texas, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. HIMES, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. KEATING, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KILMER, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mrs. MCCLELLAN, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEU, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. MANNING, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Mr. MFUME, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PETERSEN, Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Ms. PORTER, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. ROSS, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. RYAN, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. TRONE, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. WATERS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILD, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Ms. STEVENS):

H.R. 4166. A bill to authorize contributions to the United Nations Population Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. HUDSON (for himself, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BALDERSON, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mr. WALBERG):

H.R. 4167. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from changing energy conservation standards for distribution transformers for a certain period, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HUIZENGA (for himself and Mr. BARR):

H.R. 4168. A bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to require that information required to be disclosed to the Securities and Exchange Commission by issuers be material to voting or investment decisions regarding those issuers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. JACOBS (for herself, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. PHILLIPS, and Mr. CASTRO of Texas):

H.R. 4169. A bill to repeal the 25 percent cap on United States contributions to United Nations peacekeeping operations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. JAYAPAL (for herself, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr.

CARBAJAL, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CASAR, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Ms. CHU, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CORREA, Mr. CROW, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. GALLEGRO, Mr. ROBERT GARCÍA of California, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. GARCÍA of Texas, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. IVEY, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KILMER, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. LIEU, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MENG, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Ms. PORTER, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SOTO, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. TRONE, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. PHILLIPS, and Mr. PASCRELL):

H.R. 4170. A bill to amend the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to provide certain benefits to noncitizens, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, Education and the Workforce, Energy and Commerce, the Judiciary, and Financial Services, 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. KEAN of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. STEEL, Mrs. KIM of California, and Mr. VAN DREW):

H.R. 4171. A bill to amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to establish a veterans business enterprises program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Small Business, 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. KRISHNAMOORTHY (for himself, Ms. MENG, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BROWN, Ms. BUSH, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. CHU, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CORREA, Mr. COSTA, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS, Ms. GARCÍA of Texas, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KILMER, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LIEU, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mr. MCGOVERN,

Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. POCAN, Ms. ROSS, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TONKO, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. VEASEY, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H.R. 4172. A bill to establish a United States Commission on Hate Crimes to study and make recommendations on the prevention of the commission of hate crimes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LAMALFA (for himself, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, and Ms. SPANBERGER):

H.R. 4173. A bill to amend the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a specialty crop mechanization and automation initiative, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. EVANS, Ms. CHU, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Ms. CASTOR of Florida):

H.R. 4174. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to carry out a program to increase access to prekindergarten through grade 12 computer science education; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. MCCAUL (for himself, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. COHEN, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 4175. A bill to authorize the Secretary of State to provide additional assistance to Ukraine using assets confiscated from the Central Bank of the Russian Federation and other sovereign assets of the Russian Federation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Rules, and Financial Services, 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 Mrs. MCCLELLAN (for herself, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. NORTON, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, and Ms. SEWELL):

H.R. 4176. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to include certain part B institutions to be eligible for certain grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. MEEKS:

H.R. 4177. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require the submission by issuers of data relating to diversity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. MENG (for herself, Mr. BEYER, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. CHU, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. NADLER, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. SARBANES):

H.R. 4178. A bill to reestablish the Office of Noise Abatement and Control in the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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. NEGUSE (for himself, Mr. CURTIS, and Mr. CASTRO of Texas):

H.R. 4179. A bill to amend the General Education Provisions Act to allow the release of education records to facilitate the award of a recognized postsecondary credential; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself and Ms. CARAVEO):

H.R. 4180. A bill to amend the America COMPETES Act to strengthen reporting requirements relating to deficiencies in Federal research infrastructure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. OGLES (for himself, Mr. TIFANY, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. RESCENTIALER, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. LUTTRELL, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. COLLINS, Mrs. LUNA, Mr. BABIN, Mr. CLINE, Mr. ZINKE, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mrs. BICE):

H.R. 4181. A bill to designate the area between the intersections of International Drive, Northwest and Van Ness Street, Northwest and International Drive, Northwest and International Place, Northwest in Washington, District of Columbia, as "Tiananmen Square Memorial Boulevard", and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. PAYNE (for himself and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H.R. 4182. A bill to improve men's health initiatives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. RASKIN (for himself, Mr. IVEY, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Ms. NORTON, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. TLAIB, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H.R. 4183. A bill to amend section 1977 of the Revised Statutes to protect equal rights under law; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Mr. EVANS, Mr. CROW, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Ms. BALINT, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BUSH, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. CHU, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. FROST, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. MENG, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. NADLER, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PETTERSEN, Mr. POCAN, Ms. PORTER, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H.R. 4184. A bill to repeal the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act, and provide for the discoverability and admissibility of gun trace information in civil proceedings; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SCHRIER (for herself, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Ms. DELBENE):

H.R. 4185. A bill to amend the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 to provide additional agricultural products for distribution by emergency feeding organizations; and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. STEFANIK:

H.R. 4186. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to establish employer-directed skills accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. STEFANIK:

H.R. 4187. A bill to establish a voluntary compliance assistance initiative at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission regarding the usage of employment tests and selection procedures by employers; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. STEFANIK (for herself, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. TENNEY, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. BALINT, and Mr. MOLINARO):

H.R. 4188. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to modify certain requirements for Regional Commissions, to reauthorize the Northern Border Regional Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, 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. THOMPSON of California (for himself, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio):

H.R. 4189. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. TRONE (for himself and Mr. CISCOMANI):

H.R. 4190. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to repay the estates of deceased beneficiaries for certain benefits paid by the Secretary and misused by fiduciaries of such beneficiaries; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. VAN DUYNNE:

H.R. 4191. A bill to prohibit the disposition of a firearm to, and the possession of a firearm by, an adult who, while a juvenile who had attained 15 years of age but not 18 years of age, committed an offense that would have been a felony if committed by an adult; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself and Ms. WATERS):

H.R. 4192. A bill to apply the Truth in Lending Act to small business financing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. WAGNER (for herself and Ms. SPANBERGER):

H.R. 4193. A bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to establish a policy with respect to family seating on air transportation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. WATERS:

H.R. 4194. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to add additional demographic reporting requirements, to modify the goals of the Federal Reserve System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GOSAR:

H.J. Res. 74. A joint resolution relating to a national emergency declared by the President on May 16, 2012; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. LOUDERMILK:

H.J. Res. 75. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the

United States requiring that the Federal budget be balanced; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. LUNA:

H. Res. 512. A resolution censuring and condemning Adam Schiff, Representative of California's 30th Congressional District; to the Committee on Ethics.

By Mr. BOST (for himself and Mr. TAKANO):

H. Res. 513. A resolution expressing support for recognizing September 20 as National Service Dog Day; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself, Mr. BURGESS, Ms. LEE of California, and Mr. BILIRAKIS):

H. Res. 514. A resolution expressing support for the designation of June 19, 2023, as "World Sickle Cell Awareness Day" in order to increase public alertness across the United States and global community about sickle cell disease, the continued need for empirical research, early detection screenings for sickle cell trait carriers, novel effective treatments leading to a cure, and preventative care programs with respect to complications from sickle cell anemia and conditions related to sickle cell disease; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DONALDS:

H. Res. 515. A resolution commending the Florida Everblades hockey team for winning the 2023 ECHL's Patrick J. Kelly Cup; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. FOSTER (for himself, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. TITUS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Ms. CLARKE of New York):

H. Res. 516. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Secretary of Defense should review section 504 of title 10, United States Code, for purposes related to enlisting certain aliens in the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. GOMEZ (for himself, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. GALLEGGO, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. NICKEL, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. RYAN, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mr. BEYER, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. LIEU, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. CROW, Ms. BARRAGAN, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. CORREA, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. STANSBURY, and Mr. VARGAS):

H. Res. 517. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the third Sunday in June as "Father's Day"; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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 Mrs. McCLAIN (for herself, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. BABIN, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. SELF, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, and Mr. WEBSTER of Florida):

H. Res. 518. A resolution pushing back against the labeling of attempts by parents to ensure school curriculum and sports are age and sex appropriate as extreme; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. PRESSLEY (for herself, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. OMAR, Ms. SCHA-

KOWSKY, Ms. BUSH, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. LEE of California, and Mrs. RAMIREZ):

H. Res. 519. A resolution recognizing that the United States has a moral obligation to meet its foundational promise of guaranteed justice for all; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

ML-23. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Colorado, relative to House Joint Resolution 23-1014, concerning the fifty-fifth anniversary of the capture of the U.S.S. Pueblo by North Korea; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Armed Services and Foreign Affairs.

ML-24. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Arizona, relative to House Concurrent Memorial 2002, urging the United States government to sell underused federal lands to state and local governments to build residential housing; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Natural Resources and Agriculture.

ML-25. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Arizona, relative to House Concurrent Memorial 2004, urging the United States Congress to enact sound forest management policies in national forest service lands; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Natural Resources and Agriculture.

ML-26. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Colorado, relative to Senate Joint Resolution 23-007, concerning the designation of March 13, 2023, as "Colorado Aerospace Day"; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology and Armed Services.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. GOSAR:

H.J. Res. 70.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I.
The single subject of this legislation is:
To end the national emergency proclamation relating to Libya declared in 2011.

By Ms. GARCIA of Texas:

H.R. 16.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18
The single subject of this legislation is:
immigration

By Mr. FULCHER:

H.R. 4141.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, providing Congress to "make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution" the power enumerated in Article 1 and "all other Powers vested by [the] Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Office thereof."

The single subject of this legislation is:
To provide for the efficient development of wireless, wired, and communication apparatus in relation to federally owned lands.

By Mr. SANTOS:

H.R. 4142.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

US Constitution, Article 1 Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
To provide for a cause of action for any United States national who lost a relative on due to COVID-19.

By Ms. LOFGREN:

H.R. 4143.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

Pursuant to clause 7 of Rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statement is submitted regarding the single subject of this legislation.

Enables the National Institute of Standards and Technology to investigate other structures than buildings.

By Mr. OWENS:

H.R. 4144.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
Education

By Mr. BANKS:

H.R. 4145.
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).

The single subject of this legislation is:
Research security

By Ms. BARRAGAN:

H.R. 4146.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:
This bill provides for coverage of dental services under the Medicare program

By Mr. BERA:

H.R. 4147.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:
Health

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 4148.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 3 of Article Section 8 of Article I of the U.S. Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
Trade

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER:

H.R. 4149.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 4150.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:
Veterans

By Mr. BUCK:

H.R. 4151.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:
Wind Energy Production Tax Credit.

By Ms. CARAVEO:

H.R. 4152.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I; Section 8.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To report to Congress the merits of and options for establishing an institute relating to space resources.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 4153.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I; Section 8; Clause 1 of the Constitution states The Congress shall have the 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 . . .

The single subject of this legislation is:

To create a competitive grant program to support organizations that operate senior legal hotlines.

By Mr. CLINE:

H.R. 4154.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact the legislation pursuant to Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

The legislation is related to closing a loophole in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

By Mr. COLE:

H.R. 4155.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18.

The single subject of this legislation is:

The Tribal HUD-VASH Act of 2023 permanently authorizes the Tribal HUD-VASH program and allows for the placement of Native veterans in Formula Current Assisted Stock (FCAS) units without a resulting negative impact on a tribe's Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG).

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 4156.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill sets a floor of 125,000 for the maximum number of refugees who may be admitted into the United States each fiscal year.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 4157.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

The bill requires the VA to examine veterans' usage of their benefits in their annual suicide prevention report to evaluate the relationship between benefits and suicide outcome. The bill also requires the VA to analyze which benefits have the greatest impact on preventing suicide, and require the Department to issue recommendations for expansion of those benefits in their fight to combat veteran suicide.

By Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 4158.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Gun violence prevention

By Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 4159.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:
Gun violence prevention

By Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 4160.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Gun violence prevention

By Mr. DONALDS:

H.R. 4161.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. 1, Sec. 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:
Aviation Workforce Development

By Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida:

H.R. 4162.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress is granted the authority to introduce and enact this legislation pursuant to Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to include additional priorities as research and extension initiatives, and for other purposes.

By Mr. GALLAGHER:

H.R. 4163.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Agriculture

By Mr. GARBARINO:

H.R. 4164.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlements of the Department of Health and Human Services to establish additional procedures for making placement determinations for all unaccompanied alien children who are in Federal

By Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana:

H.R. 4165.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Banning seafood from the Russian Federation from U.S. markets.

By Ms. HOULAHAN:

H.R. 4166.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To authorize contributions to the United Nations Population Fund

By Mr. HUDSON:

H.R. 4167.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Energy

By Mr. HUIZENGA:

H.R. 4168.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Securities and Exchange Act of 1933 to require that information required to be disclosed to the Securities and Exchange Commission by issuers be material to voting or investment decisions regarding those issuers.

By Ms. JACOBS:

H.R. 4169.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Foreign Affairs—Peacekeeping

By Ms. JAYAPAL:

H.R. 4170.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Health

By Mr. KEAN of New Jersey:

H.R. 4171.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to establish a veterans business enterprises program, and for other purposes.

By Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY:

H.R. 4172.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish a United States Commission on Hate Crimes to study and make recommendations on the prevention of the commission of hate crimes, and for other purposes.

By Mr. LAMALFA:

H.R. 4173.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3

The single subject of this legislation is:

To Amend the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a specialty crop mechanization and automation initiative.

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 4174.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

increase access to computer science education

By Mr. MCCAUL:

H.R. 4175.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

The single subject of this legislation is:

To authorize the Secretary of State to provide additional assistance to Ukraine using assets confiscated from the Central Bank of the Russian Federation and other sovereign Assets of the Russian Federation

By Mrs. MCCLELLAN:

H.R. 4176.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of section 8 of article 1 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Graduate level STEM programs at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Predominantly Black Institutions (PBIs)

By Mr. MEEKS:

H.R. 4177.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require the submission by issuers of data relating to diversity, and for other purposes.

By Ms. MENG:

H.R. 4178.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the US Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To reestablish the Office of Noise Abatement and Control in the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other purposes.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 4179.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Authorize record sharing between institutions to facilitate student degrees.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 4180.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

federal labs

By Mr. OGLES:

H.R. 4181.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To commemorate the lives lost during the Tiananmen Square Massacre.

By Mr. PAYNE:

H.R. 4182.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Pursuant to Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

health care.

By Mr. RASKIN:

H.R. 4183.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

civil rights.

By Mr. SCHIFF:

H.R. 4184.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the US Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Gun Violence

By Ms. SCHRIER:

H.R. 4185.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Nutrition

By Ms. STEFANIK:

H.R. 4186.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Amending the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to allow for an employer to sponsor skills development programs.

By Ms. STEFANIK:

H.R. 4187.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Establishing a voluntary compliance assistance initiative at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission regarding the usage of employment tests and selection procedures by employers

By Ms. STEFANIK:

H.R. 4188.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Reauthorizing the Northern Border Regional Commission.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:

H.R. 4189.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I

The single subject of this legislation is:

To provide for permanent Medicare coverage of certain telehealth services.

By Mr. TRONE:

H.R. 4190.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To support veterans.

By Ms. VAN DUYN:

H.R. 4191.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To extend federal restrictions on the receipt, possession, shipment, and transportation of firearms and ammunition to a new category of persons: persons who while 15, 16, or 17 years of age commit an act of juvenile delinquency that would have been a felony if committed by an adult.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 4192.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power. . .To regulate Commerce with Foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill applies the Truth in Lending Act to financing originations to small business entities.

By Mrs. WAGNER:

H.R. 4193.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 3 of Section 8 of Article

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Secretary of Transportation to establish a policy with respect to family seating on air transportation

By Ms. WATERS:

H.R. 4194.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 provides Congress with the power to "regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes."

The single subject of this legislation is:

Amends the Federal Reserve Act to add additional demographic reporting requirements, to modify the goals of the Federal Reserve System.

By Mr. GOSAR:

H.J. Res. 74.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I

The single subject of this legislation is:

To end the extended national emergency related to Yemen declared in 2012

By Mr. LOUDERMILK:

H.J. Res. 75.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article V: The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Proposing an amendment to the United States Constitution that would require the Federal budget to be balanced.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 53: Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas.
H.R. 396: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut and Mr. SHERMAN.

H.R. 468: Mr. YAKYM.
H.R. 542: Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. FROST, and Mr. CROW.

H.R. 549: Mrs. KIM of California, Ms. WILD, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Ms. ESHOO, and Mr. CASAR.

H.R. 598: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 603: Mr. GREEN of Texas.

H.R. 615: Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas.
H.R. 625: Ms. ESHOO.

H.R. 652: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 694: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 700: Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, and Mr. LATURNER.

H.R. 839: Ms. DE LA CRUZ.
H.R. 913: Ms. BROWNLEY.

H.R. 1065: Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 1083: Ms. BUDZINSKI.

H.R. 1147: Ms. CRAIG and Mr. ARMSTRONG.
H.R. 1208: Ms. TOKUDA.

H.R. 1249: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 1369: Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. CASAR, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 1465: Ms. LEE of Nevada.
H.R. 1503: Mr. FERGUSON.

H.R. 1509: Ms. OMAR and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 1510: Ms. GARCIA of Texas and Mr. MULLIN.

H.R. 1511: Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 1525: Mr. CLINE.

H.R. 1570: Mr. KEATING, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. SALAZAR, and Ms. MACE.

H.R. 1610: Mrs. WAGNER.
H.R. 1680: Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1699: Mr. PASCRELL and Ms. HOYLE of Oregon.
H.R. 1740: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.

H.R. 1764: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.
H.R. 1777: Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. BANKS, and Mr. HIGGINS of New York.

H.R. 1787: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 1794: Ms. JACOBS and Mr. AGUILAR.

H.R. 1826: Mr. IVEY and Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
H.R. 1831: Mrs. HINSON.

H.R. 2403: Mr. DELUZZO and Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 2500: Mr. SARBANES.

H.R. 2613: Mr. PALLONE and Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 2697: Mr. QUIGLEY.

H.R. 2708: Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, and Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 2729: Ms. BROWNLEY.
H.R. 3008: Mr. SARBANES.

H.R. 3018: Mr. CLEAVER and Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 3074: Ms. SLOTKIN and Ms. PEREZ.

H.R. 3092: Mr. CASAR and Ms. BROWNLEY.
H.R. 3103: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 3170: Mr. SIMPSON.
H.R. 3183: Mr. MFUME.

H.R. 3202: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 3239: Ms. CHU.

H.R. 3245: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.
H.R. 3246: Ms. MANNING, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, and Mr. CASTRO of Texas.

H.R. 3318: Mr. VALADAO.
H.R. 3328: Mr. EZELL.

H.R. 3329: Mr. EZELL.
H.R. 3357: Mr. WALTZ.

H.R. 3391: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H.R. 3392: Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas and Mr. BERGMAN.

H.R. 3396: Ms. BROWNLEY and Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 3407: Mr. HARRIS.

H.R. 3413: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr.

TONKO, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. KEATING, and Ms. MENG.
 H.R. 3455: Mr. BANKS.
 H.R. 3468: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHIL.
 H.R. 3541: Ms. SEWELL.
 H.R. 3547: Ms. STEVENS.
 H.R. 3566: Ms. SEWELL.
 H.R. 3576: Mr. POCAN and Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
 H.R. 3662: Ms. KUSTER.
 H.R. 3694: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
 H.R. 3712: Mr. MASSIE.
 H.R. 3759: Mr. HARDER of California.
 H.R. 3763: Mr. ROUZER.
 H.R. 3774: Mr. HIGGINS of New York and Ms. LEE of Nevada.
 H.R. 3792: Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. MILLS, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. BANKS, and Mr. CURTIS.
 H.R. 3817: Mr. TONKO, Mr. TRONE, and Ms. CHU.
 H.R. 3838: Ms. WILD.
 H.R. 3847: Ms. MENG and Ms. SALINAS.
 H.R. 3851: Mr. VAN DREW.
 H.R. 3882: Mr. EVANS and Mr. ROGERS of Alabama.

H.R. 3930: Mrs. MILLER of Illinois.
 H.R. 3990: Ms. PINGREE.
 H.R. 4010: Ms. TITUS.
 H.R. 4019: Mr. DONALDS, Mr. MEUSER, and Ms. GREENE of Georgia.
 H.R. 4046: Mrs. HAYES.
 H.R. 4079: Ms. CRAIG.
 H.R. 4086: Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.
 H.R. 4121: Ms. PETTERSEN, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. COHEN, Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. BUSH, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, and Mr. MEEKS.
 H.R. 4134: Ms. BARRAGÁN.
 H.J. Res. 70: Mr. GAETZ.
 H. Con. Res. 10: Mr. GROTHMAN.
 H. Con. Res. 33: Mr. CASAR.
 H. Res. 61: Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK.
 H. Res. 62: Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. PASCRELL, and Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK.
 H. Res. 413: Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. IVEY, and Mr. CASAR.

H. Res. 425: Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. ROSS, Ms. WILD, and Mr. NADLER.

H. Res. 472: Mr. HARDER of California.

H. Res. 492: Mr. HIMES.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

PT-3. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, relative to House Resolution No. 987, expressing support for the agreement entered into by the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Forum of Presidents of the Legislative Bodies of Central America and the Caribbean Basin (FOPREL), which provides for the establishment of a FOPREL branch office in Puerto Rico; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.



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No. 105

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

God most high, Your faithfulness endures through all generations. Hear our prayer. You desire truth and justice, and You are true to Your promises. Let Your presence be felt today on Capitol Hill.

Lord, open the hearts of our lawmakers to the guidance of Your Spirit as You empower them to serve with faithfulness. Dwell in them and those who support their labors, making them productive for the glory of Your Name. May our Senators hear Your call to rise and follow where You lead as You inspire them to be obedient to Your perfect will. Lord, give them patience with those who oppose them, and may they trust in Your perfect love, which never fails.

We pray in Your glorious Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CARDIN). The majority leader is recognized.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 1615

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, first, a little housekeeping.

I understand there is a bill at the desk that is due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1615) to prohibit the use of Federal funds to ban gas stoves.

Mr. SCHUMER. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceeding.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

TAX REFORM

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, 6 months into the 118th Congress, the tale of two parties continues.

This week, House Republicans advanced a massive tax package, showing precisely where their loyalties lie—in helping large, multibillion-dollar corporations, Big Oil polluters, and those at the very, very top.

Today, the President is reminding the American people where Democrats' loyalties lie—with ordinary families who want to lower costs and who have had it with junk fees that nickel and dime people every single day.

President Biden used his State of the Union Address to call out companies that exploit consumers through surprise fees on everything from credit cards, bank overdrafts, hotel resort purchases, and air travel. Today, he is holding a roundtable discussion with companies at the White House on the progress they have made in eliminating surprise fees.

I cannot tell you how many times people have come up to me in New York, exasperated by junk fees, often-times at the last minute. Many times,

they know nothing about them until they are asked to pay them. It is precisely the kind of abuse that frustrates Americans to no end and which the Federal Government can address.

It is why, in the House, I authored legislation to protect Americans from surprise expenses on their credit card bills by requiring credit card companies to clearly break down all fees and interest rates. They call it the "Schumer Box"—a nickname I am proud has stuck.

And junk fees are everywhere. You want to switch your cell phone company? A termination fee can cost you \$250 or something exorbitant like that. Many people think the phone companies ask for it so you don't switch even if you are dissatisfied with their service.

You want to book a hotel room listed at \$300? Good luck. You will get the bill and discover the real price is much higher. More than a third of hotel guests have reported paying some kind of hidden fee.

The kind of abusive behavior from some large companies is exactly what Americans want to focus on, and it is the major difference between the two parties.

Republicans think it is best to spend time on cutting taxes for the very largest, billion-dollar corporations—that often don't pay their fair share—and on stoking the fires of the culture wars.

But Democrats want to focus on things ordinary families have to deal with every single day. We can all relate to the frustration of hidden fees. We can all relate to driving to work on dilapidated roads and crumbling bridges. We can all look out the window and see that wildfires, flooding, and extreme weather events are getting worse and harming our communities. These are the issues Democrats have legislated on over the past few years, and we are going to keep going.

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



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JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Mr. SCHUMER. Now, Mr. President, on nominations, well, it has been a busy week for nominations here on the floor. This morning, the Senate will confirm Nusrat Choudhury, whom I was proud to recommend to President Biden to serve as district judge for New York's Eastern District.

When President Biden listened to my recommendation and nominated Ms. Choudhury, she made history as the first Bangladeshi American ever to be nominated to the Federal bench, and, today, Ms. Choudhury will make history as the first Bangladeshi American ever to be confirmed to the Federal bench. Ms. Choudhury will also be the first Muslim American woman and only the second Muslim American ever to serve as a Federal judge. It shows she is a history maker in more ways than one.

Ms. Choudhury is also a shining example of the American dream: the daughter of immigrant parents, a graduate of Columbia, Princeton, and Yale Law School. Ms. Choudhury has dedicated her career to making sure all people can have their voices heard in court.

It is a great day for our country. Our courts are at their strongest when they mirror the diversity and dynamism of our democracy. We have a vibrant Bangladeshi community in New York and in the United States. I am confident Ms. Choudhury will make an excellent judge.

Yesterday, the Senate also confirmed another excellent judge, Dale Ho, whom I was proud to recommend to be district judge for the Southern District of New York. As voting rights continue to come under attack, it is only fitting that we elevated one of the country's top voting rights experts to the bench to safeguard our democracy and preserve our most fundamental right as citizens.

With Mr. Ho and Ms. Choudhury, we will have confirmed 21 Asian Americans to the bench. Let me say that again. With these two new nominations, we will have confirmed 21 Asian Americans to the bench, a demographic that has been historically underrepresented in the judiciary.

I am proud of this majority's record of increasing both the demographic and professional diversity on the bench. This is how we strengthen the public's trust in our judiciary. And our work will continue.

I yield the floor.

 CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

 EXECUTIVE SESSION

 EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will pro-

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Nusrat Jahan Choudhury, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MENENDEZ). The Republican leader is recognized.

GERMANY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, as I have discussed all week, the war in Ukraine has forced some of America's closest allies to sober up and start investing more seriously in their own defense.

Germany is exhibit A. Yesterday, Germany's Government released a comprehensive security strategy—another important step forward for a key member of the transatlantic alliance—but, as I mentioned at the Munich Security Conference, questions remain about whether the encouraging changes in Germany will be sufficient or enduring.

Some of these questions are being answered. Germany's national security strategy is an incremental shift. It is the product of a rather divided government, like our own, reaching difficult consensus, except with three different, sometimes internally divided political parties rather than just two.

But just consider where our German allies were before Putin's escalation. Europe's most powerful economy had let a major portion of its military fall into literal disrepair. German military spending reached barely halfway—halfway—to NATO's member target of 2 percent of GDP. And the country's precarious reliance on Russian energy was actually only increasing.

But as Ukraine dug in for a fight last February, Germany changed course. In the last 18 months, Berlin has made major contributions of key lethal capabilities to the Ukrainian cause and is on track to provide even more. The new German security strategy is clear-eyed about the Russian threat, and in light of hard-learned lessons, it prioritizes reducing dependence on foreign energy and integrating economic and security policy.

As Foreign Minister Baerbock put it this week:

We paid for every cubic metre of Russian gas twofold and threefold with our national security.

None of us should want to make the same mistake when it comes to Beijing, and in this regard, Germany's strategy indicates incremental progress toward a more realistic understanding of the challenge a revisionist power and systemic rival like China poses not only to neighbors but to the West as well. Germany's governing coalition continues to debate its approach to the PRC, and answers to how Germany plans to manage it are still forthcoming.

The world will want to know how Germany will balance growing realism about Beijing's behavior with its stated desire for economic partnership with China. They will want to know what Germany is prepared to do to assist vulnerable Asian countries that are the most threatened by the PRC's military aggression, espionage, and economic or diplomatic pressure. Of course, these same questions can still be asked about our own government's approach to the PRC.

More broadly, I am encouraged that Germany's strategy explicitly recognizes robust defense as a pillar—a pillar—of German security.

I have criticized Germany's slow pace of defense spending to meet urgent needs, but I am encouraged by Germany's new Minister of Defense, Boris Pistorius, who has a focus on rebuilding Germany's military and cutting through its calcified military procurement bureaucracy. To be successful, he will need cross-party political support and sustained defense spending above 2 percent of Germany's GDP. This new strategy does not necessarily guarantee such a commitment.

Ultimately, the biggest question for our German allies is whether their strategy sufficiently defines the priorities of their government and whether it provides the resources necessary to execute it. The very same question still applies to America's own national security strategy.

STUDENT LOANS

Mr. President, now on a totally different matter, in the coming days, the Supreme Court will rule on President Biden's plan to impose student loan socialism on millions of working families across America. The Court's decision will settle whether the President is allowed to use two-decade-old "emergency" authorities dating back to the early days of the War on Terror to put \$430 billion in debt on the American taxpayers without congressional approval. But the American people don't need to wait for the Supreme Court to explain to them why letting wealthy people dine and dash doesn't make sense; they know the Biden administration's plan adds up to a raw deal.

Almost a third of all student debt in America is held by the wealthiest 20 percent of households. Only 8 percent—8 percent—is held by the bottom 20 percent of households. Sure enough, one prominent analysis found that more than 70 percent of President Biden's so-called loan forgiveness could go to the top 60 percent of earners. It is no surprise when you consider that the median annual income of young college graduates is 55 percent higher than folks working with high school diplomas. In some cases, Americans who choose to go to college already have an extra leg up. More students at the Nation's most elite colleges have parents among the top 1 percent of earners than the bottom 50 percent.

The facts are so clear—so clear—that even a former top Obama administration economist has admitted that

“across-the-board student loan forgiveness is regressive”—student loan forgiveness is regressive.

So, Mr. President, it is really pretty simple. Millions of Americans choose—choose—to take on student loan debt and unlock higher earning potential. Millions of other Americans choose not to take on debt and make sacrifices to avoid it. The Biden administration wants to take that basic choice away and impose student loan socialism instead. They want working Americans to take on \$430 billion in debt they didn't sign up for, just to pad the pockets of Washington Democrats' base. What a raw deal.

Senate Republicans know that complex issues require thoughtful solutions, not partisan hatchet jobs. That is why several of our colleagues are working hard on legislation that actually gets to the root of soaring tuition costs. Senators CASSIDY, GRASSLEY, CORNYN, DAINES, TUBERVILLE, and TIM SCOTT have put forward ideas to increase transparency before students sign up for massive debt, to streamline repayment plans, and to go after the advanced-degree loans that are particularly responsible for driving up prices. I am grateful to our colleagues for their work on real solutions.

On the other hand, the Biden administration's student loan socialism plan is painfully, painfully unfair, and very soon we will find out if it isn't just downright illegal.

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

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

DACA

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, in June, our Nation celebrates National Immigrant Heritage Month. It is a reminder that, with the exception of Native Americans and the descendants of enslaved people, every one of us shares something in common with the families arriving in America today, and that is the fact that our own ancestors once traveled far and wide to reach this land of liberty and opportunity. In my case, it was my grandmother. The year was 1911. She was forced to flee her home in Lithuania. She boarded a ship in Germany, bound for America, carrying two things in her arms: her Catholic prayer book and my infant mother. She arrived in our country with the same hopes as every immigrant who comes to America—from the immigrant business owners in my State of Illinois and communities like Little Village to all of the immigrant farm workers who keep food on our tables.

And today, the month of June is not only a chance to celebrate America's heritage as a nation of immigrants, it should also serve as a call to action for

us in Congress. That is because today, June 15th, marks the 11th anniversary of a life-changing program for a group of young people who share my mother's story—the Deferred Action For Childhood Arrival Program, DACA.

Back in 2010, on a bipartisan basis, the late Republican Senator Richard Lugar and I asked President Obama to use his power as President to protect from deportation hundreds of thousands of young people, many of whom arrived in our country as infants and toddlers, like my mom. And 11 years ago today, President Obama responded. He announced that he would use his executive authority to create the DACA Program.

These young people are known generally as Dreamers. They have grown up alongside our kids and grandkids. They pledge allegiance, as you said so many times, to the same American flag, and many have gone on to serve our Nation as members of the United States Armed Forces, first responders, and much more. In fact, over the years, Dreamers have become a household name. They have touched the hearts of Americans because in them, we see ourselves, our own history, our own families.

Dreamers have earned their place in the American story. But right now, they are still waiting on this Congress to finish the job that President Obama started with DACA.

This program was always intended to be a temporary solution. The permanent solution is obvious: Enact legislation—bipartisan legislation—that was introduced more than two decades ago—the DREAM Act. It would provide a path to citizenship for Dreamers all across America. Without the protections of the DREAM Act, these young people have been forced to live a life of uncertainty. They have to renew their status every 2 years, which means they can only plan their lives in two-year installments.

Today I want to tell you the story about one Dreamer. Her name is Sumbul Siddiqui. Her story is the 136th Dreamer story that I have shared on the Senate floor. Sumbul's family moved to the State of Georgia from Pakistan when she was 4 years old. With most of her relatives out of the country, she relied on her neighbors in Georgia as her chosen family. Growing up, she was a star student with no shortage of passions. She spent hours in the library getting lost in books, learned to play the viola, and fell in love with the arts. In her mind, she was just like any other kid, until she started applying to college and discovered officially, legally, she was not an American citizen.

So even though Sumbul graduated from high school with the highest honors, she feared that her immigration status would prevent her from pursuing a college education. Fortunately, it did not.

Instead, Sumbul was awarded a private merit scholarship to attend Agnes

Scott College in Atlanta, GA. During her first year, she was accepted into the DACA Program. She worked four jobs to cover the cost of tuition and graduated still a semester early with honors. She even found time to volunteer at a free health clinic. And it was in this role, working alongside doctors in her community, that she found her professional calling: medicine. So she decided to apply to a medical school that had supported Dreamers since the beginning of DACA. I am proud to say it is the Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine in Chicago.

You see, back in 2012, the Stritch School of Medicine made a brave commitment. They became the first medical school in America to adjust its admission policy to welcome Dreamers. And in the years since, nearly 40 Dreamers have graduated from this program at that medical school.

Last month, Dr. Sumbul Siddiqui became one of those graduates. I had the honor of speaking at her commencement ceremony before she and her fellow graduating class, which included five other DACA recipients, walked across the stage to receive their medical degrees. With her medical degree, Dr. Siddiqui plans to dedicate her career to serving families in the Chicagoland area. Soon, she will begin her residency at the University of Chicago, where she will focus on supporting underserved communities.

Ask yourself a basic question: Would America be better off if Dr. Siddiqui and Dreamers like her were unable to work here in the United States, when our communities are in desperate need of doctors and nurses? Of course not.

Earlier this year, I reintroduced the Dream Act with my friend, Republican Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM. We have been on the cusp of passing the DREAM Act for years, but time and again, Congress has failed to finish the job.

Right now, this legislation is more important than ever. That is because one judge in Texas—who has repeatedly ruled against DACA—could soon end protections for nearly 600,000 Dreamers. That would be a disaster—not just for Dreamers, but for our entire country. It is time for Congress to step up and meet our responsibility to Dreamers once and for all—as well as our responsibility for America's future—on a bipartisan basis.

I think that time is already here, and I hope we will meet our obligation that is long overdue to solve this problem, not just for this wonderful young woman and the ambition she has shown to make a better life for herself, but for the future world.

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

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

CHINA

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, the threat that China poses is widely recognized. Recent events laid bare the Chinese Communist Party's interest in spying on Americans. The Chinese military is growing more aggressive in the Indo-Pacific, especially toward Taiwan. And China is aligning itself with other adversaries like Russia, whose war against Ukraine China has helped support.

We need to make the right decisions now to ensure that the United States is able to counter China from a position of strength, which brings me to the majority leader's current China proposal. Last month, the Democrat leader launched an initiative Democrats are calling China Competition bill 2.0. While this proposal has some laudable goals, a lot of Republicans are rightly skeptical of this initiative. Leader SCHUMER's last China initiative massively ballooned in cost, and now it is being implemented by the Biden administration as a vehicle for advancing progressive policies.

I am not alone in fearing the Democrats' latest initiative will turn out to be just more of the same. If Democrats are serious about competing with China, one thing they should be doing is making passage of a robust National Defense Authorization Act a priority.

Unfortunately, the NDAA has not exactly been a priority for the Democrat leader over the past 2 years. In fact, last year, Senator SCHUMER refused to bring the bipartisan Senate Armed Services Committee-passed bill to the floor. This critical legislation was allowed to languish for months before a negotiated bill with the House and the Senate finally passed in December of last year.

Our national security should not be an eleventh-hour concern.

I am encouraged that the Senate markup of the NDAA is occurring next week and that the majority leader is inclined to bring it to the floor in July. And I hope that holds.

China has made investment in its military a priority. Over the last 10 years, China's defense budget has doubled. This year, it will increase by more than 7 percent for the second year in a row, not counting any additional defense funding that China hides. It comes as no surprise that China is outpacing our military in modern capabilities like hypersonic missiles and has amassed a larger Navy.

Recent U.S. war games positing a U.S.-China conflict following an attack on Taiwan have had grim results, showing enormous military and economic costs on both sides. These war games also made clear that the United States would run through its inventory of munitions, especially for long-range strike, in a matter of weeks, blunting our ability to sustain a protracted conflict.

The United States, along with our allies and partners, need to maintain a credible deterrence to ensure that the cost is prohibitively high and the odds of success are extremely slim for China to attack across the Taiwan Strait or further attempt to assert any absolute control within the so-called First Island Chain. To do that, we have work to do on boosting our military's resources and readiness. At the very least, that starts with taking up each year's Defense authorization and appropriations bills in a timely fashion.

Besides building up our military, one of the best ways to ensure our competitiveness with China is to strengthen American industry so we continue to lead in the breakthroughs, innovations, and advanced technologies that will define the future. How we attempt to do that matters.

The President and Democrats in Congress have shown their preference for heavy-handed and often costly industrial policy that bestows taxpayer-funded subsidies on certain select industries, and it would be wise to ask where this will put us in the next 5, 10, and 20 years. Will it stifle innovation in our most important engines of growth? What will be the result of government picking winners and losers? Will small businesses and new enterprises be able to compete with large, established, and government-subsidized firms?

The way the Biden administration has so far been implementing its subsidy programs makes me suspect that we are well on our way to having government bureaucrats play an outsized role in our economy, with correspondingly negative effects.

Look no further than the strings that the Commerce Department has attached to funding for semiconductor manufacturers. The Department is giving preference to companies using union workers and, in some cases, conditioning funding on companies offering employee benefits that align with the Biden administration's agenda. It is the opposite of creating a level playing field.

America succeeds when innovators and entrepreneurs are empowered to do what they do best, and government steps out of the way. Government should be focused, not on heavy-handed regulation or picking winners and losers but on creating the conditions on which all businesses, large and small, can thrive.

Republicans have shown how pro-growth policies like this lead to greater investment, more opportunities for workers, and a stronger economy for all. Take our 2017 tax reform legislation. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act lowered tax rates for owners of small- and medium-sized businesses, farms and ranches, and made it easier for them to recover the cost of investing in their businesses, which, in turn, freed up cash for them to invest in their operations and their workers.

It lowered our country's sky-high corporate tax rate to make American

businesses more competitive in the global economy. And it brought our international tax system into the 21st century so that American businesses no longer operated at a disadvantage to their foreign counterparts.

And it worked.

In the wake of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, incomes grew, unemployment fell to a 50-year low, the income gap in this country narrowed, and the list goes on. Business investment increased, inventions—which is tax speak for companies moving their headquarters overseas—stopped. Companies created new jobs and invested in their employees, and they opened new opportunities for American workers by moving production and capital into the United States and bringing substantially more than a trillion dollars in offshore funds home.

One major thing—one major thing—that we could do to help boost our economy and increase our competitiveness with China is to extend the expired provisions of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act to give certainty to American businesses and entrepreneurs, and in Democrats' case, commit to not repealing key Tax Cuts and Jobs Act provisions.

In the defense space, we can enhance the certainty for businesses by authorizing more multiyear acquisition contracts for key munitions like those used by the B-1 bomber, something that would both enhance economic growth and strengthen our Nation's defense.

We also need to resume a real and robust trade policy. For the last 2½ years, the Biden administration has put trade on the back burner to the detriment of our economy and our place in the world. Trade opens new jobs and opportunities for American workers. It helps businesses and agriculture producers access new markets, which grows our economy, and it provides an opportunity to develop important strategic relationships, foster ties with our allies, and advance U.S. priorities abroad.

Under the Biden administration, the United States has been essentially inactive—inactive—on trade, but the rest of the world has not. China, for one, is currently negotiating or implementing a number of new trade agreements, adding to its already large portfolio of trading partners. These agreements aren't just economically advantageous, they are allowing China to build sometimes predatory relationships that serve to expand its sphere of influence.

One of the most important things we can do to ensure that our country remains competitive with China is to re-engage on the trade front and get to work on trade deals that expand market access and strengthen our relationships with other countries, particularly those that neighbor China.

There are a number of other steps we can take to boost our competitiveness with China, things like unleashing American energy production to increase our energy security and to boost

American industry, developing critical mineral resources here at home instead of relying on China for so much of our critical mineral supply, expanding our own security and technological partnerships so we have a more agile and resilient supply chain, and more.

If the Democrat leader is serious about improving our competitiveness with China and not just funding progressive priorities, these are the kinds of things that he should focus on for his bill.

There is no question in my mind that the United States can successfully compete with and deter aggression from China. But to do that, we have to make sure that we are doing the right things to build up our military and ensure that American industry can thrive. And I hope that as we move forward, we will make securing our competitiveness with China a priority and ensure that any China initiative does not simply become a vehicle for more spending on progressive fantasies.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

NOMINATION OF NUSRAT JAHAN CHOUDHURY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Nusrat Jahan Choudhury to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York. Her historic confirmation will be an important step forward in this Senate's efforts to bring greater professional and demographic diversity to the Federal bench.

Ms. Choudhury is a seasoned litigator who has dedicated virtually her entire career to defending the civil rights of all Americans. She attended Columbia University and Yale Law School before clerking for Judge Denise L. Cote on the Southern District of New York and for Judge Barrington D. Parker, Jr., on the Second Circuit Court of Appeals. Following her clerkships, Ms. Choudhury began her career at the American Civil Liberties Union—ACLU—in New York, where she focused on racial justice and national security issues for nearly a decade. Since 2020, she has served as the legal director of the ACLU in my home State of Illinois, specializing in issues including prison reform, civil rights, and government transparency. Ms. Choudhury has spent the vast majority of her time in practice litigating in Federal court, and she has tried three cases to verdict. Her courtroom experience and commitment to ensuring equal justice under law will serve her well on the Eastern District of New York.

She will also bring important diversity to the bench as the first Bangladeshi American and first Muslim woman to serve as a Federal judge.

The American Bar Association rated Ms. Choudhury “well qualified” for the district court, and she has the strong support of her home State Senators: Mr. SCHUMER and Mrs. GILLIBRAND.

I support Ms. Choudhury's nomination, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. HEINRICH. I ask unanimous consent to start the regularly scheduled vote.

VOTE ON CHOUDHURY NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Choudhury nomination?

Mr. MANCHIN. 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 legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT).

The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 49, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 164 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Baldwin	Heinrich	Rosen
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Blumenthal	Hirono	Schatz
Booker	Kaine	Schumer
Brown	Kelly	Shaheen
Cantwell	King	Sinema
Cardin	Klobuchar	Smith
Carper	Lujan	Stabenow
Casey	Markey	Tester
Coons	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warnock
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Feinstein	Ossoff	Welch
Fetterman	Padilla	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Hassan	Reed	

NAYS—49

Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blackburn	Grassley	Ricketts
Boozman	Hagerty	Risch
Braun	Hawley	Romney
Britt	Hoeven	Rounds
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Collins	Lankford	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lee	Thune
Cotton	Lummis	Tillis
Cramer	Manchin	Tuberville
Crapo	Marshall	Vance
Cruz	McConnell	Wicker
Daines	Moran	Young
Ernst	Mullin	
Fischer	Murkowski	

NOT VOTING—1

Scott (SC)

The nomination was confirmed.

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

The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, also with me today is Mr. James Shea, who is one of my colleagues.

ENERGY

Mr. President, the American people, as we all know, are facing many serious—one might describe them as grave—issues, some of which fall under

the purview of our U.S. Department of Energy. Average gas prices remain well above \$3 a gallon. That is a hardship on a lot of Americans. That is up 50 percent since President Biden took office. Average electricity prices—that is something we have to deal with every day—have increased 14.5 percent since 2022. Our aging power grid remains at risk for devastating cyber security attacks. While China's nuclear stockpile is growing, ours is getting older, and it is getting smaller.

These are weighty problems. The Presiding Officer knows that as well, if not better, than I do. These problems cost the American people a lot of money, and they place our national security at risk. They are all impacted by the U.S. Department of Energy and the policy that it creates. But instead of trying to get control over our gas prices or the national security issues I just mentioned, President Biden's administration and his Energy Department, frankly, seem more concerned about Americans' basic kitchen appliances, and suddenly dishwashers seem to be enemy No. 1.

The Department of Energy recently announced that it would be proposing a new rule to regulate the amount of water and the amount of energy used by dishwashing machines nationwide. Now, under the proposed rule—I want to describe it fairly. Under the proposed rule, dishwashers will only be able to use 3.2 gallons of water per cycle. Right now, the rule allows—although dishwashers don't use this much, the rule allows a dishwasher to use 5 gallons of water per cycle.

No person with a brain above a single-celled organism has asked for this change. No reasonable circumstance demands it. Instead, the Department of Energy and President Biden's administration have harkened to the extreme climate activists who, frankly, we have learned from bitter experience will find any reason to micromanage the lives of Americans, by force if necessary.

Let me give you a case in point. Most American dishwashers already use less than the 5 gallons of water that are allowed under current regulations. In fact, most American dishwashers use not 5, which is allowed, but 3.5 gallons of water per cycle. Why? Because the EPA, the Environmental Protection Agency, gave its Energy Star standard seal of approval to any dishwasher that will use 3.5 gallons or less. So even though a dishwasher can use up to 5, to get the seal of approval, which most dishwashers have and most manufacturers want, you have to use 3.5 or less.

Now, despite being EPA-approved, the Department of Energy's new rule will force manufacturers to abandon these efficient designs that we are already using to placate people who arbitrarily want not 3.5 but 3.2 gallons of water per cycle. And you may be thinking, OK, well, we will save 0.3 gallons per cycle. We will not.

I want to sidetrack a moment, but this is relevant. During President

Obama's administration, his regulators imposed a similar restriction. The results were disastrous. His rule was adopted in 2012, some may recall, and increased the price of dishwashers by \$100. That is \$100 in 2012 dollars; it is more today. In exchange for those higher prices, the regulation that President Obama promulgated forced Americans to buy machines that don't wash their dishes nearly as well as the older machines, and that will prove the case with this new rule that is being promulgated by the Department of Energy.

Now, if you have one of these dishwashers—not the ones that have yet to be approved by the Department of Energy but the ones mandated under President Obama—you know how it goes. You have to prewash the dishes. I mean, it defeats the whole purpose of a dishwasher. If you don't prewash the dishes, half the gravy is still going to be on the plate after the first run.

So that leaves families with a choice: You can run the dishwasher twice, which uses twice as much water, in order to get your dishes clean or you have to hand-wash your dishes, which is going to use about 17 gallons of water. Both of these options—and, once again, this is not the new rule yet. We are under President Obama's restrictive but less restrictive rule. Both of these options waste more water than the older washers.

Now, the Department of Energy itself admits that 20 percent of families who own a dishwasher never use it. Why is that? It is not because dishwashing is fun; it is because they don't want to taste last night's jambalaya in their morning Cheerios when these weaker machines don't do their job.

So now, instead of having dishwashers use enough water the first time to actually clean dishes, we are going to have even more families opting to use an average of 17 gallons of water per night to wash by hand.

Let me restate this. Under President Obama's regulation, which will be made even worse by the proposed regulation by President Biden, if you wash your dishes the first time, they don't get clean. And those of you who use a dishwasher know what I am talking about. You do save water the first round, but your dishes aren't cleaned. So you are forced to use the dishwasher a second time, which uses even more water, or you are forced to wash your dishes by hand, which uses three times more water.

Now, you don't need to be Euclid to see that this does not add up to water savings, and it makes even less sense when you consider the savings in electricity. The Department of Energy's new rule says it will cut the amount of energy that dishwashers can use by 27 percent. Shoot; we will all be for that. It will cut the amount of electricity, the energy, from 307 kilowatt hours annually to 223 kilowatt hours. That is for a standard dishwasher.

The Department of Energy under President Biden says that this will help

reduce "carbon pollution" and it is going to save the American people money, and, in reality, it won't.

By decreasing the amount of allowed energy use by 27 percent under this new proposed rule, the new rule will save 84 kilowatt hours annually. That is fewer kilowatt hours than it takes to run an LED light bulb for a year. We are not talking about serious energy savings.

How much will it save the American people? Using the very generous estimates of the Department of Energy, it is going to save Americans about 17 bucks annually every year. That is not even enough for a tank of gas under President Biden's inflation. However, once again, I will draw a parallel to the so-called water savings. Once again, the lesser performance capacity in these energy-efficient machines is going to result in more Americans choosing to run the machine twice or to hand-wash the dishes just to get the plates clean.

It is important to consider the context too. Louisianans—let me talk about my State. I know my State best, just as the Presiding Officer knows his wonderful State best. Louisianans are paying an extra \$740 a month—not a year, a month—because of President Biden's inflation. That is almost \$9,000 a year. And most of my people are not wealthy people.

Let me just read you—these are not my numbers; these are the numbers compiled by President Biden's own government. Electricity is up 20 percent; gas, 48 percent; eggs—I know they have come down a little bit, thank God. They are still up 67 percent. Potato chips are up 28 percent. Bread 27 percent. Coffee 30 percent. Rice 28 percent. Flour is up 24 percent. Milk is up 20 percent. Ice cream is up 21 percent. Chicken is up 21 percent. Bacon—I don't want to live in a world without bacon—it is up 10 percent.

I could keep going. I mean, the American people and my people are burning through their savings, and they are getting priced out of the housing market, but President Biden's administration seems to be obsessed with robbing our people of access to affordable appliances that actually get the job done; and I can't think of any better evidence of the fact that, in too many instances, this administration has a fatal attraction to nutty ideas.

I am not against regulation. I mean, I think the world is complicated and, in some cases, dangerous; and if we can make it more efficient and safer for our people, we ought to do it; but you have to weigh the cost and the benefit. You have to weigh the cost and the benefit.

This is what we know, after doing that, under this proposed new rule. The new rule is not going to save water. It is not going to save a significant amount of energy. It is not going to save the American people money. In fact, it is going to cost them money. This new policy is not going to be a win for America, but I will tell you

who it will be a win for—the People's Republic of China.

China is the world's largest producer of CO₂ emissions. We are reducing our CO₂ emissions; China is increasing its CO₂ emissions. China stands to benefit from this rule because it produces about 70 percent of the world's dishwashers, and China is probably going to produce 70 percent of the new dishwashers mandated by the Department of Energy—more business for China. The dishwasher manufacturers in China are delighted.

Now, these manufacturers in China, their factories, they don't run on solar panels. They don't run off of wind energy. They are not powered by fairy dust or unicorn urine, nor do the ships that have to bring the dishwashers from China to the American consumer. They all run off fossil fuels. Some of these manufacturers in China that our Department of Energy is giving business to run off coal.

Now, look, I care about our planet, and I know you do, too, Mr. President. I want clean air. I want bright water. We all do. But this new proposed rule by the Department of Energy is not going to help anything or anybody. It is only going to make the American people have to spend more money on less efficient machines. The costs dramatically outweigh the benefit. It is going to make most of them either stop using their dishwasher or use it twice, using twice as much water or energy, or frustrate them to the point that they are going to say, hey, I will just wash the dishes by hand, using three times the amount of water.

And it is not just dishwashers. If it were just dishwashers, I would chalk this up to, well, we have got some regulators that we need to talk to and rein in. There are other things on this looney list. In the past few months, the Biden administration has proposed new regulations for electric motors, for beverage vending machines, for microwaves, for ovens, for refrigerators, for furnaces, for air-conditioners, for light bulbs. Get ready. In fact, the Biden administration added more than 110 regulations since it has been in office on appliances and equipment during 2 years.

Most of these policies, if you weigh the cost and the benefits, make no sense—not in terms of CO₂ emissions, not in terms of energy savings, not in terms of water savings, and certainly not in terms of the pocketbook of the American people. They are sops to the woke wing of the Democratic Party—not all Democrats. I am not going to paint with a broad brush here. Not all of them.

But there are some members of the Democratic Party who think that we will all be better off if we had a rule for everything, and they think the American people are not capable of running their own lives. These new regulations will do little, if anything, to help the planet. But they do harm regular Americans—the Americans who get up every day, go to work, obey the law,

pay their taxes, try to do the right thing by their children, and try to save a little money for retirement. That is whom these new regulations are going to hurt. All these folks want is for their dishwashers to work. They want to spend less time on dishes because they want to spend time with their families. They don't want to have to hand wash the dishes every night. That is what they bought a dishwasher for.

Now, surely, the regulators who are proposing this know that, and that is why they are going to downplay—they already are—the dishwasher regulations. It is why they are going to act confused when Americans wonder if the Federal Government is coming to unhook their gas stoves next.

We have heard officials from the Biden administration say: If you like your gas stove, you can keep your gas stove. Not true. I am sorry; it is just not true. This administration is willing to regulate and try to control every aspect of American life. There are people in this administration who believe that. Why? To avoid empty criticism from the looney left—the looney left, which often ignores science and always insists on more control.

Don't listen to what politicians do or say. Don't. Never listen to what a politician says. You can listen to them, but you have got to compare it to what they do. What you do is what you believe; everything else is just cottage cheese.

President Biden and his administration are saddling Americans with harmful—maybe even hateful—regulations because they care more about what the activists say on TikTok than they do about the quiet suffering of everyday families in America all over this country.

They have a blind spot for the lives and concerns of ordinary Americans, and it is why this administration is more worried about dishwashers and gas stoves than the fact that the average Louisiana family is paying \$740 more a month—not a year—because of inflation. It is why they will kill American jobs, while continuing to buy solar panels and new dishwashers from the polluters in China. It is why they will give rich people tax credits to buy electric cars. How many poor people do you know driving electric cars? It is why they will give rich people tax credits to buy electric cars while people in rural areas in rural America struggle to pay for a full tank of gas and can't even dream of buying a used car because the used cars cost 30 percent more since President Biden took office.

All this is virtue signaling. To some, it may be it amusing, but it is not free. There is no free lunch, and you don't get one now. It costs money—money that Americans don't have—and it causes them pain that they don't deserve, Mr. President.

The new rule on dishwashers isn't yet settled. There is still time for my colleagues at the Department of Energy to scrap this rule and walk away from

this fallacious nonsense, and I hope that they will.

I suggest the absence of a quorum. The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

SOUTHERN BORDER

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I wanted to come to the Senate floor this afternoon to talk about a scandal of incredible proportion.

Since President Biden became President of the United States, 300,000 unaccompanied children have been encountered at the border and then placed with sponsors inside the interior of the United States—300,000.

Ordinarily, there would be a process by which Health and Human Services would attempt to contact those minor children, in the custody of those sponsors, for a wellness check 30 days after they were placed with them. The New York Times has documented that at least 85,000 of those 300,000 children cannot even be reached—no response to the phone call or any other outreach.

So under the Biden administration's policies, an untold number of minor children have been placed with sponsors in the interior of the United States, and the Biden administration can't tell you where they are; the administration can't tell you what their condition is, whether they are being sent to school, whether they are being recruited into gangs, whether they are being sexually or otherwise physically assaulted, or whether they are being neglected. They simply don't know.

Now, I know it takes a lot to get people's attention these days because there is so much competing for our attention—so many different types of outrage. But the fact that this hasn't been front page news for a long time now or hasn't motivated the Biden administration to actually do anything to change this situation leads me to the conclusion that President Biden simply doesn't care. He doesn't care. He doesn't care what happens to these children. If he did care, he would do something about it, but he doesn't, apparently, care.

These are some of the most vulnerable individuals encountered at the border. They come to the United States, not in the care of their parents, but in the care of transnational criminal organizations, the cartels—the coyotes, as they are called—who treat them like a commodity. They don't treat them like a human being. They treat them like a commodity because the only thing these cartels care about is cold, hard cash.

This is a huge cash cow. And it is not just the children. It is the other 5 million migrants encountered at the border, as well. All of them pay these criminal organizations to transport them here to the United States.

I mentioned previously that when I went to Yuma, AZ, with a bipartisan group of Senators, that Border Patrol sector chief greeted us by saying: Welcome to the Yuma Sector. It is a sleepy little agricultural community.

He said: We encounter people from 176 countries, speaking 200 languages.

So people are literally being transported around the world to show up at our border and claim a right to be admitted, and the Biden administration continues to roll out the welcome mat and not deter illegal immigration by people who cannot qualify, whom we know will not qualify for any legal relief.

The children, particularly, endure a dangerous and long journey to our country, and they are often exploited en route. We heard from one of the witnesses in the Judiciary Committee yesterday about them being particularly vulnerable to sex trafficking, but we know they are subjected to violence and other forms of exploitation as well.

You would hope that once these children arrive at the border, they would be safe. I think that is our obligation, to make sure they are safe.

But over the last few years, we have seen mounting evidence that shows that tens of thousands of these migrant children who show up at our border without a parent or legal guardian are placed with sponsors and are essentially lost by the administration. Again, they don't know where they are. They don't know what is happening to them.

And, of course, we all should be concerned that they are being taken advantage of in a multitude of ways and being damaged in ways that we don't want to even imagine.

In August 2021, Bloomberg reported that Federal law enforcement was investigating unaccompanied migrant children who had been released to labor traffickers. This is kind of like modern-day slavery. The reporting uncovered situations where dozens of children were released to the same sponsor—dozens of children to the same person. You think that would have raised some questions, and maybe they tap the brake a little bit and investigate further—apparently not, because this same individual then exploited them for labor in poultry processing facilities. It is impossible for me to understand why the administration wouldn't see the warning signs.

About a year later, Reuters reported on another deeply concerning discovery. Federal and local officials were struggling to locate a dozen migrant children in Houston. They simply lost them. The Health and Human Services refugee office conducted an emergency review and found that 57 migrant children had been reported missing in Houston since the year prior—lost by the Biden administration.

As bad as those two reports are, the story does not get any better. Recent reporting by the New York Times has

confirmed that these aren't just the exception. These are part of a deeply disturbing trend, and it shows what bad things can happen to innocent children when their own government doesn't even care.

Of course, many of these are migrant children so, technically, I guess, the United States isn't their government. But we owe them a duty while they are in our country to protect them from the predators and the exploiters—the traffickers.

In February, the New York Times published its first story detailing widespread exploitation of migrant children. It includes countless stories of unaccompanied migrants who are working dangerous jobs that violate child labor laws: a 15-year-old girl, for example, who packages cereal at night in a factory; a 14-year-old boy working on a construction job; a 13-year-old day laborer; children working at meat processing plants, commercial bakeries, and suppliers for automakers. These are not after-school jobs. These are grueling and dangerous full-time jobs that are meant not for children but for adults.

Two months later, the Times published another story that detailed the extent to which the Biden administration officials knew about these abuses and chose to ignore them—willful ignorance.

The Health and Human Services Department received warning after warning that some of these migrant children were at risk. These warnings came through government staffers, outside contractors, and on the Department's own hotline established for that purpose. But not only were whistleblowers ignored, many were silenced, pushed out of their jobs. They were retaliated against for trying to protect these vulnerable children. These concerns made their way to the highest echelons of the Biden administration.

Health and Human Services Secretary Javier Becerra was aware of the credible reports of trafficking abuse but continued to push for the expedited placement of migrants with sponsors, with no regard for the dangers that presented.

At one point, he reportedly told his employees:

If Henry Ford had seen this in his plants, he would have never become famous and rich. This is not the way you do an assembly line.

So here is the highest level government official, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, a member of President Biden's Cabinet, who considers placing vulnerable migrant children in a dangerous situation, as he regards it as an assembly line.

Then-Labor Secretary Marty Walsh was aware of the situation as well. Last year, the Department's investigators identified major instances of child labor violations that took place in auto parts factories and meatpacking plants. Former Secretary Walsh even confirmed that the Department in-

cluded details about these situations in its weekly reports to the White House. So at least Secretary Walsh was appearing to do his job by reporting this to the top-level officials at the White House.

Until last month, Susan Rice served as the Director of the White House Domestic Policy Council, where she oversaw virtually every aspect of domestic policy matters, including the placement of migrant children. When the border crisis reached a fever pitch during the summer of 2021, Ms. Rice's team received a memo from Health and Human Services managers about possible labor trafficking. Two people confirmed that Ms. Rice was told about the contents of the memo, but the White House now disputes that claim.

High-ranking Biden officials saw clear warnings that children were in danger and chose willful blindness. They did nothing to rescue these children from a dangerous situation or to prevent more young migrants from meeting the same fate.

In the wake of these damning reports, we have yet to see a thorough investigation or explanation of how this happened. How could the administration fail these children so badly over and over and over again? How could they not act on credible reports that children were being exploited?

This is a disgusting failure of leadership, and it is dangerous. We need to get answers and accountability, and we need to fix it, something the Biden administration apparently does not care enough to do. If they did care, they would fix it. But they obviously don't care.

Following the second New York Times report, I wrote a letter to Chairman DURBIN of the Judiciary Committee that was cosigned by every Republican. We urged him to invite these three Biden administration leaders who failed to act in the face of these warnings to testify in front of the Judiciary Committee. That included Secretary Becerra, former Labor Secretary Walsh, and former White House adviser Susan Rice.

The Judiciary Committee, on which I am privileged to serve, is charged with oversight of the Unaccompanied Children Program, and we have a duty to ensure that these children are treated humanely. We need to know who made the decision to loosen vetting requirements for sponsors and why those decisions were made. We need to hear from the current and former administration officials who knew about the widespread abuse of migrant children and yet chose not to act. We need a thorough explanation of how the Department is changing its policies, assuming it is, to prevent more children from being placed with dangerous sponsors. And we need to know how those responsible for these grotesque abuses will be held accountable.

But in the Judiciary Committee hearing yesterday, we didn't get any of that information. None of the officials

that I mentioned that we requested actually testified. They didn't show up. So not only have they neglected the cries of these vulnerable children to do something—anything—they didn't even care enough to show up at the Judiciary Committee yesterday to explain why they failed to act in the face of these cries for help. We didn't hear from a single current or former Biden administration official. There was not one witness on the five-person panel who could shed light on the decisions that caused so many of these migrant children to be exploited.

If our Democratic colleagues are as disturbed as I am about what I described, I hope they will join Republicans in a bipartisan push to get Secretary Becerra, Secretary Walsh, former White House domestic policy adviser Susan Rice to testify under oath before the Judiciary Committee and before the rest of the country.

These senior administration officials saw the warning signs, and they chose to ignore them. They continued to press for the rapid placement of these children with sponsors, and they didn't apparently care enough to make sure that they could track where these children were and what was happening to them. Now they need to explain their decisions on behalf of the Biden administration to the Senate.

I can't imagine the Biden administration doing a worse job responding to this border crisis than it has.

If you set out to design a system that would fail, it would look something like the current policies of the Biden administration. By refusing to secure the border, the administration has allowed criminal organizations to smuggle fentanyl and other deadly drugs into the country. It has enabled more than 1.5 million "got-aways" to evade Border Patrol and slip into the United States.

And it has released hundreds of thousands of migrants before we had sufficient information about who they were, where they were going, and when they needed to report to court. Migrants in some cities reportedly wait as long as 10 years to present an asylum claim in front of an immigration judge. And we know that only maybe 15, max 20 percent of them will be able to legitimately show a right to asylum.

So the 80 to 85 percent have had to wait in line for 10 years—or the 15 percent or so with valid claims have had to wait in line for 10 years because of the 80 to 85 percent who can't qualify; but they have gummed up the system so bad by the sheer volume of cases, even people with legitimate claims can't get heard. And now we are seeing how the administration looked the other way and allowed migrant children to be exploited on American soil.

So my question is, how long will we have to go before our colleagues join us in demanding a change? Because failure to do something is, in fact, a choice. Are we going to choose to let

this exploitation of these migrant children continue when the U.S. government who placed them with these sponsors doesn't even know where they are, whether they are getting a good education, whether their healthcare needs are being attended to, or whether they are being recruited in gangs, sex-trafficked, exploited, neglected?

I started out by saying I don't believe the Biden administration cares; but I do believe Members of this body care. And it is within our power to change it. That is a choice, in and of itself.

Now, some of my colleagues like the chairman of the Judiciary Committee said, yeah, we need to get together and talk about comprehensive immigration reform, but we have had those conversations the entire time I have been in the U.S. Senate. We cannot leverage these innocent children for other unrelated measures.

The same problem with the fentanyl and drugs coming across the border. People say, well, we need to do something. Well, we can't do it until we do comprehensive immigration reform. The DACA population, the Deferred Action on Childhood Arrival, these young people who came here as children who now are in a box canyon not of their making because President Obama overreached and created a program without working with Congress.

Each of those problems, I think, deserves to be addressed on its own merits. But you can't tell me that you are serious about solving the problem if you say, well, we can't do this, we can't fix those problems until we deal with all of the immigration issues as a whole, because I don't see that happening anytime soon. Meanwhile, these children will be languishing, being exploited, and worse.

The young people who are uncertain about their future because they received this Deferred Action on Childhood Arrival, but now it has been held illegal, unconstitutional by a Federal judge in the Southern District of Texas—and the families that are grieving because their loved ones took a pill they thought was relatively innocuous, but it was contaminated with fentanyl, and their son or daughter lost their life—do you want to tell these people to keep waiting? Just wait until we pass a massive immigration reform bill containing other matters. You wait. They shouldn't have to wait. And we shouldn't let the neglect and the willful blindness of the Biden administration prevent us from doing our duty, Republican and Democratic Senators alike. It is within our power to do it. But doing nothing is a choice too. And I hope that is not a choice we will make.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PETERS). The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. President, I would ask unanimous consent to speak as if in morning business.

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

TRIBUTE TO KENT SALAZAR

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. President, in the Jemez Mountains of New Mexico, there is a stunning 13-mile-wide crater that was created by a collapsed supervolcano. What is now known as the Valles Caldera National Preserve is home to a deep grassy valley, volcanic cinder cones, crystal-clear trout streams, and some of the best elk habitat in North America. The Valles Caldera National Preserve is one of the most beautiful places on the planet, but for many, many decades most New Mexicans could only peer into its edge from the side of a road. The entire Caldera was privately owned. That has since changed.

In 2000, we used the Land and Water Conservation Fund to purchase the Valles Caldera, but it took nearly a decade and a half after that to see truly meaningful public access.

One New Mexican deserves an enormous amount of credit for unlocking the Valles Caldera and its scenic hiking trails, elk hunting, and its trout fishing. That New Mexican is Kent Salazar.

As a member of the New Mexico Game Commission, Kent sought to undo a system that allowed wealthy and out-of-state hunters to purchase greater access to elk hunting than everyday New Mexicans or Americans. In the face of big money opposition, Kent pushed to establish a fair and equal lottery system that honored the principle of "one person, one chance," and he succeeded.

I have personally harvested two elk in the Caldera thanks in part to the changes that Kent made. Then, after President Obama appointed Kent to lead the Valles Caldera Board of Trustees, he quickly became a champion for transitioning the Valles Caldera to a National Park Service managed preserve.

This change has expanded public access and made it possible for many more New Mexicans—and for visitors from around the world—to experience this incredible landscape. It also protected the public's fair access to both hunting and fishing, and none of this would have been possible without the determination, leadership, and vision of my friend, Kent Salazar.

A lifelong New Mexican, Kent has dedicated himself to the idea that the outdoors are for everyone, not just for those with wealth or family connections. And from an early age, Kent found that time spent outdoors brought him a sense of renewal. And ever since, he has worked to make sure that all New Mexicans and all Americans can build a connection with nature.

For 20 years as a public administrator, Kent worked to make our land and air and water safer and healthier at the city of Albuquerque's Environmental Health Department.

An avid hunter, angler, and outdoorsman, Kent also breathed new life into the New Mexico Wildlife Federation.

The legendary conservationist Aldo Leopold founded the organization that became the New Mexico Wildlife Federation more than a century ago. But when Kent took the reins, the organization had no staff and no real driving mission. Even so, Kent saw the incredible potential if he could reinvigorate the organization; and, that, he did.

Under Kent's leadership, the New Mexico Wildlife Federation grew its membership dramatically and hired professional staff. Today, the New Mexico Wildlife Federation is one of the most influential grassroots organizations in our State. The organization has become much more active and much more effective in protecting iconic New Mexico landscapes, including the Valle Vidal, the Sabinoso Wilderness, and the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument.

The impact of Kent's leadership has also grown nationally. Three years ago, Kent was elected unanimously to serve as the chairman of the National Wildlife Federation's Board of Directors. With the National Wildlife Federation, Kent helped to lead the charge to secure permanent and dedicated funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund and pass historic investments in landscape restoration as part of the Inflation Reduction Act.

And he is still helping us today as we work to pass the bipartisan Recovering America's Wildlife Act.

Kent also helped to found the Green Leadership Trust and Hispanics Enjoying Camping, Hunting, and the Outdoors, or HECHO. Through all of this, I have especially appreciated Kent's kindness and passion, his pragmatism and knowledge, his devoted focus on making the conservation movement more inclusive and mentoring the next generation of conservation leaders, the way he keeps an open mind, listens to others, and always seems to drive the whole room in a more productive direction.

Kent's name might not make it to the newspaper that often, but it should. He is one of the most effective conservation leaders of our time. Kent once said:

[I]f we get the right people involved, we can accomplish a lot, and help our communities and our future, our children.

He is absolutely right. We are all better off because Kent is involved, serving our communities, our future, and our children.

I am extraordinarily grateful to have worked with and learned from Kent for all these years, and I am honored to call him a friend.

Kent, we cannot thank you enough for everything that you have done to inspire New Mexicans and to care for our Land of Enchantment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

INDIA

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, I rise to extend a warm welcome to His Excellency Narendra Modi, the esteemed Prime Minister of the Republic

of India. Next week, we will be honored to have him address a joint meeting of Congress underscoring the significance of the relationship between the United States and India.

The bond between India and the United States is not just an alliance, it is a strategic and global partnership. Our two nations' relationship is built on the strong foundation of shared values—democracy, freedom, and respect for the rule of law.

India and the United States have long recognized the power of collaboration and fostering peace, prosperity, and global stability. United States-India diplomatic relations have only grown since India gained its independence 75 years ago.

In the face of global challenges ranging from education to energy to agriculture and health, Prime Minister Modi has worked with the United States to address these issues, and continues to work toward solutions that benefit not just our countries but the entire world.

Prime Minister Modi's visit to Washington, DC, is an occasion to celebrate that progress and to reaffirm our commitment to further strengthen this vital partnership.

I have had the opportunity to learn more about this partnership from Dr. Kulkarni, who is the Indian Consulate General in Atlanta, and a friend of mine. And she is also a friend of my State director, Umesh Sanjanwala.

So Prime Minister Modi's visit is an opportunity to deepen our collaboration in areas such as trade, defense, technology, and healthcare, which will shape the future trajectory of our nations.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in extending a warm welcome to the Prime Minister as he visits our great Nation.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—EXECUTIVE
CALENDAR

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I take this time—and I will be making a unanimous consent request in regards to the superintendent of U.S. Naval Academy, but I first want to acknowledge my responsibilities on behalf of this body.

You see, I serve on the Board of Visitors of the United States Naval Academy. I was selected to be one of the Senate representatives on the U.S. Naval Academy Board of Visitors. We are extremely proud of what that academy has produced, and today it is producing the next generation of military leaders. It is consistently ranked as one of the top colleges in the United States, and it should be for training the next generation of leaders for our military.

I will just give you one example. The U.S. Naval Academy is prepared to deal with the challenges of AI and cyber security. It has new facilities there and is training experts to help defend our national security in that regard.

I also want to acknowledge on behalf of the Board of Visitors Admiral Buck, the current superintendent, who is retiring. He has done an incredible service to our Nation as the superintendent of the U.S. Naval Academy and now has completed 40 years of service to this country.

Rear Admiral Yvette Davids is exceptionally qualified to be the next superintendent of the U.S. Naval Academy. Admiral Davids is a career professional military officer who has sworn an oath to support and defend the Constitution and our country. She has consistently put service before self and the Constitution before politics.

Admiral Davids graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1989 with a B.S. in oceanography and was commissioned as an ensign. She later received an M.A. in national security and strategic studies from the Naval War College in 2002 and an M.S. in national resource strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces in 2012.

She has had a distinguished career at sea, highlighted by commanding multiple U.S. warships as well as a carrier strike group. Ashore, she has served in increasing roles of importance, including as a senior military adviser at the State Department and as the chief of staff at U.S. Southern Command.

Admiral Davids has led men and women in combat, and her extensive experience will be vital to leading our next generation of officers at the Naval Academy.

Admiral Davids' confirmation as the next superintendent will be the culmination of a 34-year career dedicated to defending our country, and it will be historic, as she will become the first woman to lead the Naval Academy.

The incoming class of 2027 reports to the Naval Academy for induction on June 29, just a few days from now, and the fall semester begins on August 24. Admiral Davids should be confirmed as superintendent without delay in order to complete the turnover with the ongoing superintendent and prepare for the fall semester.

The last time the Naval Academy superintendent did not have a summer change of command was over 59 years ago. It occurred in 1964 when the incumbent superintendent had a heart attack that resulted in early retirement.

The Senate needs to confirm the promotion of Rear Admiral Davids now. The U.S. Naval Academy superintendent is charged with the moral, mental, and physical development of our 4,500 U.S. Naval Academy midshipmen across four classes who represent roughly one-third of the naval officers we commission each fiscal year. The position provides direct oversight to the commandant of midshipmen, who serves as the dean of students and supervises all military and professional development training of the brigade of midshipmen, and direct oversight to the civilian academic dean, who manages the academic pro-

grams and student facilities at the U.S. Naval Academy.

The superintendent is the public face of a premier academic institution and consistently hosts government officials, international symposiums, and liaises directly with alumni and distinguished Members of Congress on all matters pertinent to the institution.

If Rear Admiral Davids is not confirmed, it would force potential courses of action that are not in the best interests of the institution. This could include having the O-6 commandant of midshipmen act as superintendent or temporarily assigning another flag officer to act as superintendent. Neither of these options provides the continuity and leadership and seniority required to oversee a world-class academic institution. The other option could be to require an involuntary extension of the current superintendent of the academy, who has already selflessly served his country for over 40 years.

I think we all recognize that the United States Naval Academy is a unique institution. It provides us the trained leadership for future generations in our military. It is an academic institution that needs the full-time attention of a CEO to manage all the aspects that go on at the Naval Academy. We need to have that person in place before the beginning of this academic year, which is just a few days off.

Delaying this promotion will adversely affect the morale and readiness of the Naval Academy and beyond. Delaying this promotion is unfair to the young men and women already at or entering the Naval Academy who have signed up to put themselves in harm's way to serve our Nation in uniform. Delaying this promotion is a gratuitous, self-inflicted wound to our national security.

So, Mr. President, I am going to make this unanimous consent request. I do that, as I said earlier, with my experience on the Board of Visitors representing this institution, charged with doing everything we can to make sure we are as supportive as possible to our men and women who wear the uniform of this Nation and to those attending the U.S. Naval Academy.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following nomination: Calendar No. 192, Rear Admiral Yvette Anne Davids, to be vice admiral; that the Senate vote on the nomination without any intervening action or debate; that, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Reserving the right to object, this is the ninth time that my colleagues on the left have come to the floor to try to break my

hold on Department of Defense nominees. This is the ninth time I am coming forward to keep my word. Since the last time we did this, nothing has changed, and so my hold will remain in place.

I want to be clear about this because my Democratic colleagues have been spreading a little bit of disinformation. I am not blocking anyone from getting confirmed. I am not blocking a single vote. I am only blocking unanimous consent. If Democrats want to vote on these nominees one at a time, I am all for it and will probably vote for them.

I understand that Senator CARDIN is a strong supporter of this nominee. I am a strong supporter of the Naval Academy. I have several relatives who have gone to the Naval Academy. It is possible that when these come up, I will vote on all of them. But, so far—let me just respond to some of the false claims that have been made against me in the press and even on this floor in the last week or so.

Yesterday, the White House Press Secretary was asked why they haven't reached out to me at all from the White House. She said:

I do not know when the last time is that [the White House] has talked to the Senator.

I will tell you when the last time was—never. The White House has not reached out to me once in 4 months. No one has contacted me. There has not been one conversation about a path forward.

I have spoken to Secretary Austin, outside of Armed Services hearings, exactly once in the last 2 years. That was a 10-minute phone call 3 months ago. He made absolutely no effort to find a compromise in our situation.

I have never once heard from Chairman REED on this issue, of the Armed Services Committee—absolutely no discussion regarding my concerns. Instead, Senator REED has attacked me on this floor.

I have never once heard from Senator SCHUMER. Instead, Senator SCHUMER has attacked me six or seven times on this floor in his seat.

Many of the claims made about me have been completely false.

This is no way to negotiate with a colleague. I don't understand it—especially not in this body, the United States Senate. Frankly, this kind of behavior just steels my resolve. The more false claims my colleagues on the left make about me, the more it makes me inclined to just keep my hold in place.

I have already laid out the reasons why these claims do not add up. I don't need to repeat them all as we speak. We don't need to waste time. But I would note that yesterday a news story reported correctly that these military positions are being fulfilled by acting officials. These jobs are being done as we speak. They are not empty. Four months into this situation, it is obvious that people are doing the job. It is not affecting our readiness. Anyone who says otherwise is wrong.

So let me just say this one more time because I keep getting asked the same question over and over again. I will keep my hold until the Pentagon follows the law or Congress changes the law. That is the way we do it here in the Senate.

A show vote in committee is not good enough. We can do that all we want, but it is not going to make any difference. An amendment that gets stripped out on the floor by Senator SCHUMER is not good enough. What I have said from the beginning is either follow the law or change it. Follow the law we have made in this body or change the law.

The burden is not on me. It is not on me to pass this legislation. This is an illegal policy that they changed to. So let's in this body discuss it and go one way or the other. The burden is on the administration to stop breaking the law, and that is exactly what is going on here.

There are two conditions that would get me to stop this and drop this hold, and I think everybody knows those conditions.

So because of that, Mr. President, I object.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, obviously I am deeply disappointed by the objection being heard here. I really feel compelled to explain one factor of my colleague's comments.

We don't want the military involved in politics. We do everything we can to keep them insulated from the internal politics of the Congress, the Senate and the House, and that is exactly what my colleague is doing by this hold.

We are responsible to make sure that we support our men and women in harm's way. Having the military academies properly managed is part of our responsibility so that they have the tools they need to defend our Nation.

One last point that was mentioned by my colleague about having up-or-down votes on these nominations, that he would not hold that up. Well, he is. He is requiring the break of a filibuster. What he is suggesting is that he is not letting us have an up-or-down vote. That is what my unanimous consent request would have allowed. My unanimous consent request would have allowed us to have an up-or-down vote on the nomination so we don't have to go through a cloture motion, which is exactly what my colleague is suggesting we need to go through, in order to vote on hundreds of these promotions within the military; that if we followed the course he is suggesting, those plebes who are entering this month at the Naval Academy will be in their second year before we get around to voting on that nomination.

So for all those reasons, I regret that we are playing politics with our military and affecting our ability to defend our Nation.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 30.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Natasha C. Merle, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 30, Natasha C. Merle, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Alex Padilla, Tim Kaine, Margaret Wood Hassan, Ben Ray Lujan, Raphael G. Warnock, Tammy Duckworth, Jack Reed, John W. Hickenlooper, Catherine Cortez Masto, Tammy Baldwin, Brian Schatz, Christopher Murphy, Tina Smith, Debbie Stabenow, Sheldon Whitehouse.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

TAX CONVENTION WITH CHILE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Executive Calendar No. 1, Treaty Document 112-8.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The treaty will be stated.

The legislative clerk read as follows:
Treaty Document No. 112-8, Tax Convention with Chile

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask that the treaty be considered as having advanced through the various parliamentary stages up to and including the presentation of the resolution of advice and consent to ratification.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Calendar No. 1, Treaty Document No. 112-8, Tax Convention with Chile, and a resolution of advice and consent to ratification with 2 reservations and 2 declarations.

Charles E. Schumer, Robert Menendez, Margaret Wood Hassan, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Benjamin L. Cardin, Catherine Cortez Masto, Patty Murray, Thomas R. Carper, Christopher Murphy, Chris Van Hollen, Tammy Baldwin, Jack Reed, Richard J. Durbin, Tim Kaine, Jeanne Shaheen, Richard Blumenthal, Christopher A. Coons, Cory A. Booker.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, June 15, be waived.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from Illinois be given 10 minutes to speak immediately and, following her, 5 minutes to the Senator from Massachusetts.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2023

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, I rise today as both chair of the Subcommittee on Aviation Safety but, more importantly, as a pilot who is only alive because of the swift actions of an experienced flight crew.

I have lived the experience of piloting a Blackhawk that was struck by a rocket-propelled grenade in flight and entered into flight conditions immediately that flight simulators taught me would be catastrophic. But having the experience of flying in the toughest conditions had shown me that that was not the case.

I have probably spent more hours in the most sophisticated flight simulators than any other Senator of this body, short of, of course, Senator KELLY, our astronaut. In my over a decade of training as a military pilot, every time—every single time—that we simulated a total loss of all aircraft

avionics that would follow with a total loss of hydraulic power, we died in that simulator. We did this every year, and we simulated it over and over. It was not survivable.

We never simulated an RPG explosion in the lap of one of the pilots wherein any of the crew could survive. Why did we never simulate that condition? Nobody ever imagined that it would ever happen and have the crew survive or that the aircraft would not break apart in flight.

Yet, on that day in Iraq—on that day when that rocket-propelled grenade landed in my lap and exploded—we did. The aircraft held together, and we survived it. We were 10 feet above the trees, and we looked, and we had no avionics, and we could tell that the hydraulics were next. If we had relied on that simulator training, we would have done what dark pilot humor had always said, which was: You are going to die anyway. Let's change spots and leave a mystery for the acting investigators to figure out what the heck happened.

But we didn't. We fought to fly that aircraft because our training in the cockpit, in real-world flight conditions, taught us that we could do it. Led by the expertise of my pilot in command, we landed that aircraft and saved our entire flight crew.

I would not be alive today but for the in-cockpit experience gained through many hard-earned flight hours over a decade of training. It was actual, real-world experience, not a flight simulation, that made us prepared and ready to respond to a life-threatening emergency, with level heads and swift action—with instinct.

Of course, my experience is not unique. When the hero of the Hudson, Captain "Sully" Sullenberger, implores Congress to understand that the combined 40,000-plus flight hours between him and his first officer were critical in saving 155 lives on that January 15, 2009, day, we should listen.

Do you think that, prior to that day, there were any flight simulations of a dual-engine failure from a bird strike, followed by ditching in the Hudson River, by any airline? by any flight school? No. In fact, when that very simulation was done after the miracle on the Hudson, even with the flight crews experiencing and expecting the scenario, they still crashed time after time in that simulated emergency. It was pilot in-cockpit flying experience that saved the miracle on the Hudson.

My experience as both a pilot, who was responsible for the lives of my crew and passengers in the most hazardous conditions, along with my commitment to my leadership role on the Aviation Safety Subcommittee, means that I cannot be complicit in efforts to compromise on safety for the flying public. There has never been a worse time to consider weakening pilot certification requirements to produce less experienced pilots.

The year 2023 has already been chilling for our civil aviation system.

We have witnessed a disturbing rise of near deadly close calls that has led the FAA to convene an unprecedented safety summit, where the Acting Administrator has warned that the entire aviation industry needs to not grow complacent because complacency kills.

The NTSB has treated a recent uptick in near misses as a national crisis and has investigated these incidents to determine whether systemic problems are a root cause. Some observers believe the surge in hiring that was necessary to address the perfect storm of pre-pandemic buyouts and the post-COVID travel boom has simply resulted in a less experienced workforce that is more prone to mistakes.

We must treat these unnerving near misses as red flags and be proactive in strengthening safety requirements to make sure that these close calls do not become precursor events to a catastrophic incident.

The last thing we should be doing is weakening part 121 certification standards. We have had seven close calls most recently, and the answer is not "let's reduce pilot training." It is the pilot who prevented those close calls from becoming accidents in the first place.

As a pilot, I learned the value of real-world experience. Trust me. Hours in that cockpit, in the sky, matter. Simulators are a valuable training tool. I applaud them, and I have made use of them, but they are no substitute for the real thing. Lifesaving instincts are earned through hours of hard work and dedication through the craft of piloting a real aircraft with real stakes.

Look, I know the experience of the perfect storm of major carriers buying out thousands of their most experienced pilots, followed by a post-pandemic surge in air travel demand, has created a temporary shortage of pilots and first officers, especially for regional airlines. The consequences for communities, especially with rural airports, have been real and painful. I see them myself in my own home State. I understand the temptation to cut corners or to chase the false promise of a quick fix to a systemic challenge. But weakening a pillar of our post-Colgan reforms won't magically solve the need for more pilots.

Believe me. I have asked for the specifics. If we reduce the minimum flight hours from 1,500 to 1,000, how many more pilots would be available in the following calendar year? What about 800 hours? What if we drop it to 500 or to 250? How many more pilots would you have then? Yet, today, I have received no precise estimate, let alone any credible projections.

At this point, I question whether the special interests pushing to weaken the 1,500-hour rule even have a methodology or model to measure the relationship between certain certification standards and the availability of pilots.

I am not the only one who has stress-tested industry assertions and come away with more questions than answers. Last year, the FAA rejected a

petition for an exemption to the flight hours requirement and explicitly stated:

The FAA has previously concluded the argument that an exemption would serve to address a pilot shortage is overly simplistic and does not present a persuasive argument.

Foreign carriers that are not subject to the 1,500-hour rule are also experiencing workforce challenges post-pandemic. Yet they are not reducing their requirements. This bolsters the FAA's conclusion.

Simply put, reducing hours, even just for restricted ATPs, represent a serious risk with no reward. It represents an unacceptable backsliding, a dangerous complacency, in an industry where complacency kills. As chair of the Aviation Safety Subcommittee, as a professional aviator, and as a private pilot, I am holding the line on safety.

I want to encourage my colleagues to focus on the long list of other, more urgent aviation issues facing our country. Now is not the time to go backward on a post-Colgan safety system, and there has not been a single aviation fatality due to pilot error since the 1,500-hour rule was put into effect.

Now is not the time to put corporate profits ahead of the lives of our constituents who may want to board a commercial flight in the future. A vote to reduce the 1,500-hour rule for pilot training will be blood on your hands when the inevitable accident occurs as a result of an inadequately trained flight crew.

I urge my colleagues to uphold the 1,500-hour rule.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

NOMINATION OF JULIE RIKELMAN

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to speak in support of the confirmation of Julie Rikelman to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

In just a few minutes, the Senate will vote to invoke cloture on Julie Rikelman's nomination, and, soon after, we will vote on her confirmation.

Julie Rikelman has a distinctively American story. In 1979, her family emigrated to the United States from the Soviet Union—Ukraine, to be specific—settling in Massachusetts. Like so many Soviet immigrants in the 1970s, her family sought freedom, and especially, as Soviet Jews, they sought religious freedom.

As a child, Ms. Rikelman and her family left behind the only home they knew. They endured the challenges of beginning anew in an unfamiliar country, as refugees, mastering a new language and a new culture. They embraced their new home and became naturalized U.S. citizens. Ms. Rikelman's experience as a Soviet political refugee shaped her lifelong commitment to the American legal system as well as her commitment to true "justice for all" and to the fundamental principles of the rule of law.

With 25 years of experience, her legal career has been nothing short of stel-

lar. Julie attended Harvard College and Harvard Law School. She clerked for Justice Dana Fabe on the Alaska Supreme Court and for Judge Morton Greenberg on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

She has worked in private practice and in public interest law, litigating a range of issues, from reproductive rights cases across the country to civil and criminal cases at both the trial and appellate levels. She has experience in securities law, antitrust law, election law, and constitutional law. Ms. Rikelman's Federal and State court cases have involved defamation, intellectual property, and employment discrimination claims. She is a brilliant legal mind and brings deep experience to issues commonly before the First Circuit.

Julie Rikelman has dedicated her career to the protection of Americans' fundamental rights, including the rights to liberty and privacy, distinguishing herself as one of our Nation's leading reproductive rights attorneys. In 2021, she argued the Supreme Court case *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, a seminal case in the history of our highest Court's considering that issue.

I have complete confidence that Ms. Rikelman will bring a broadened perspective, steadfast integrity, and deep knowledge to the bench. And I am not alone in my enthusiasm. My office has received letters in support of Ms. Rikelman's nomination from dozens of individuals and organizations, including members of the Alaska State Bar, current and former prosecutors, law enforcement officials, the National Council of Jewish Women, and many of her former colleagues.

Colleagues describe Julie Rikelman as "brilliant, committed to the rule of law, and deeply devoted to honoring the Constitution and protecting our civil rights and civil liberties."

These are precisely the qualities we are looking for in a nominee to a Federal appeals court. We have them in Julie Rikelman.

It is essential that our Nation's courts reflect the diversity of our country, and Ms. Rikelman, when confirmed, would be the first immigrant woman and the first Jewish woman to serve on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. That is what this Nation is all about.

Senator WARREN and I are proud and enthusiastically recommend Julie Rikelman's nomination to President Biden and are proud to speak in favor of her nomination before the full Senate today. She will make an exceptional addition to the First Circuit.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote yes on cloture and then on her confirmation.

I yield the floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the

Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 23, Julie Rikelman, of Massachusetts, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Christopher A. Coons, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tina Smith, Christopher Murphy, Mazie Hirono, Tammy Baldwin, Margaret Wood Hassan, John W. Hickenlooper, Sheldon Whitehouse, Catherine Cortez Masto, Brian Schatz, Gary C. Peters, Alex Padilla, Michael F. Bennet.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Julie Rikelman, of Massachusetts, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 53, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 165 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Baldwin	Heinrich	Reed
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Blumenthal	Hirono	Sanders
Booker	Kaine	Schatz
Brown	Kelly	Schumer
Cantwell	King	Shaheen
Cardin	Klobuchar	Sinema
Carper	Lujan	Smith
Casey	Manchin	Stabenow
Collins	Markey	Tester
Coons	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murkowski	Warnock
Durbin	Murphy	Warren
Feinstein	Murray	Welch
Fetterman	Osoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Hassan	Peters	

NAYS—45

Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Boozman	Grassley	Ricketts
Braun	Hagerty	Risch
Britt	Hawley	Romney
Budd	Hoeben	Rounds
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville
Daines	McConnell	Vance
Ernst	Moran	Wicker
Fischer	Mullin	Young

NOT VOTING—2

Blackburn Scott (SC)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). On this vote the yeas are 53, the nays are 45.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Julie Rikelman, of Massachusetts, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

TRIBUTE TO TRICIA ENGLE

Mr. SCHUMER. Just parenthetically, true to Trish's dedication to the job, she just sat down and whispered to me: We are not in a quorum call. That will probably be one of the very last of about 10,000—maybe 100,000—proper, right instructions she has given me over the years that she has been here—or given all of us. So I thought that was a moment to remember.

Anyway, today, I want to take a moment to honor one of the—the—the most beloved members of the Senate team, and that is Trish Engle, who will be leaving the Democratic cloakroom after 26 years of service.

That means you started about a year before me, 1998—1997. I came here in early 1999.

Trish is the proud mom of two boys, William and Garrison.

Wave to us, William. Who is older—William or Garrison? William. Very nice. Both are in their nice blue shirts.

They are here with us today, and I am sure they are looking—are you looking forward to spending more time with your mom? You are saying you are. I am not quite sure, at your age, that is exactly the case. But I am sure it is good quality time, knowing Trish.

Trish's mom, Melva Ongstad, is here in the Gallery.

Hello, Melva.

I am glad her family could be here, and I know how proud everyone is of Trish. We all are.

We all know that Trish is one of the most familiar faces in the Senate, but even then, it is easy to miss just how important, just how critical she has been to making the Senate agenda come to life. There are so many—and Trish is at the top of the list—of these unsung heroes who make the place work. No one notices them, no one praises them, but without them, this place would collapse.

Without Trish, the Democratic caucus wouldn't have accomplished a fraction—that is true—a fraction of all the amazing things we have gotten done over the years: drug reform, infrastructure, CARES Act, ACA—the list goes on and on. The list of bills she has had a hand in literally spans decades.

Every Senator on our side of the aisle, every single one, and many of those who have retired, can think of some accomplishment we have been proud of at one point or another. You can bet that Trish was the one who helped make that accomplishment happen on the floor because it is Trish who comes up with these brilliant parliamentary maneuvers to achieve our

mission. She is always writing the scripts that speed up the voting process. She is something truly unique, a legislative artist who knows the inner workings of this body like few others in the country. There are probably maybe fewer than 10 people who know as much about the Senate as Trish of the whole—how many?—8 billion people on Earth, approximately 8 billion people on Earth. That is pretty good.

Over the years, she worked wonders serving—I met her when Daschle was leader. He loved her and depended on her. She worked her magic under Harry Reid. He loved her and depended on her.

Today, I want to express how grateful I am for all the good work you have done during my time as leader.

Like so many parents around here, Trish had to juggle a very demanding job where she is almost on call all the time while making sure her wonderful family got all they needed. If that wasn't challenging enough, during all this time, she is like Superwoman. She earned an M.B.A. and M.A. from Johns Hopkins while working on the Senate floor. And to do that from any college is amazing; to do it from Johns Hopkins—wow. No slouch are you, Trish. Doing it all. Doing it all.

But these are only some of the wonderful reasons we will miss her. We will miss her because of her wonderful sense of humor. We will miss her because few people put up with Senators so regularly and never—I don't think I ever saw you get mad. Anybody? Oh, you got mad at Amy once. OK, I understand.

We will miss her because she is a wonderful person to work with no matter the day, no matter the issue, no matter the outcome. She is the best.

On behalf of the Senate, Trish, of all of us, the whole big Senate family, we thank you for everything you have done for this institution and derivatively for our country. We love you. We will miss you. And you will always have a home here in this Chamber. We wish you and your wonderful family the very best.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The President pro tempore.

Mrs. MURRAY. If I could, I just wanted to also take this opportunity to thank Trish and echo the majority leader's words. All of us are grateful for her tremendous service to each and every one of us.

As one of the few Senators who were here when she first started who are still here, I just want to tell you the Senate will not be the Senate without Trish. Her smile, her ability to work with us, her knowledge of the rules, being at our back, helping us understand the process, have really helped laws pass, changed lives, and made a difference for all of us.

Trish, we are going to miss you, and I just personally want to share my thanks with your family for sacrificing you for so many years to be with us, and I wish you all the best.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I want to share the perspective of individual Senators who, at various moments, are extremely stressed over getting their amendment considered or how to deal with a particular issue that is coming up. There have been moments, for example, not too far back into last year, when I really wanted an amendment up and was asking Trish, how do I do this? How do I position this to get this done? And I know that many of us, when we are trying to do something we consider important or are concerned about something happening that is detrimental, our emotions are high. Every time that I have been in that position, you have been a calm and steady presence facilitating our efforts—maybe raising an eyebrow now and then about whether this was the right moment or the right process but giving sound guidance and taking our levels of anxiety and stress down a few notches and helping us get the job done.

So all of us who, in moments—critical moments—have come to you and asked for your help and your insight on how to proceed, thank you for being a wise and sober and calming counsel to us. And I wish you all the best in your next chapter.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as if in morning business.

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

PRIDE MONTH

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I am thrilled to join people across Washington State and across the country in recognizing Pride Month.

Pride is an opportunity every year for people across our country and across the world to mark the progress we have made and the work left to do and celebrate the LGBTQ community. It is a joyful, beautiful thing, and it stands in stark contrast to the bigotry some voices on the far right have been fanning.

It is impossible to watch a Pride parade today without seeing just how far we have come as a nation; and, unfortunately, it is also impossible to follow the news without seeing a reminder of how far we still have to go and how hard a bigoted minority of people is fighting to pull us back.

Some far-right provocateurs have been twisting the most basic mundane gestures of inclusion into so-called controversies through blatant distortions and demonization. I mean, imagine calling for an investigation into a private company because they just sent their product to a trans person with a massive online audience.

Imagine being outraged because a company cares about having a diverse, equitable, inclusive workplace.

Imagine getting worked up because of rainbow logos or a Pride sale or an adorable little rainbow baby onesie.

I have a news flash for everyone who is trying to act like companies selling their products to every community they can is something new or some new nefarious conspiracy. Get this: Gay and trans people drink beverages; they eat food; they buy things. And for suddenly everyone to be outraged over some cute baby clothes? You know what? LGBTQ have families, too. They are parents and aunts and uncles and grandparents. Where have you been?

They are queer; they are here; and they have been for years. Get used to it. They are not going anywhere.

And let's be clear: These attacks on the LGBTQ community are not just ridiculous, they are dangerous, because we are not just talking about a handful of far-right voices complaining about companies. There is a truly insidious and ugly effort to demonize and ostracize and erase the LGBTQ community and our trans friends, neighbors, and loved ones in particular.

Far-right lawmakers across our Nation and across different levels of government are spewing some of the most hateful rhetoric, peddling some of the most bigoted conspiracies, and passing some of the most hateful LGBTQ laws I have seen in a long while.

Over the past few years, these far-right politicians have taken books with LGBTQ characters off the shelves. They have demonized drag performers with dangerous rhetoric. They have investigated parents for helping their kids get the care they need and blocked kids from that care. It is extreme, cynical, and hateful to a degree that is even hard to believe.

Far-right legislators are happy to ignore the First Amendment to ban books and keep kids away from their entirely made-up danger of drag shows; but they are nowhere to be found when it comes to a serious discussion of the Second Amendment and protecting kids from gun violence—an actual public health threat and the leading cause of death for children in the United States.

One Republican Presidential candidate is shamelessly and falsely suggesting that trans kids participating in youth sports might be to blame for the teen mental health crisis and insidiously ignoring the reality that the same kids they are using as a political punching bag face some of the highest rates of depression and suicide of anyone.

Another Republican Presidential candidate championed a bill that is silencing and erasing LGBTQ kids and parents and teachers from schools by banning discussion about gender identity and sexual orientation and banning books with the slightest acknowledgment that LGBTQ people even exist. One school district in Florida even banned a kids' book about a penguin—a penguin—with two dads. Seriously?

Then there is the wave of laws we are seeing that are meant to cut kids off from age-appropriate, gender-affirming healthcare that they rely on, like the

law that passed in Idaho, right across the border from my State, that criminalizes doctors for providing kids with gender-affirming care that they need—care that is overwhelmingly recommended by medical experts as safe and even lifesaving—or the vile effort to falsely accuse loving parents whose kids are getting this care they need as child abuse.

I said it before. It truly feels like far-right Republican lawmakers are in a race to the bottom in pursuit of the most extreme, hateful agenda they can think of. And their attacks have been especially cruel to the trans community and to trans kids.

There are real consequences to this hateful rhetoric. We know the trans community is more likely to face suicide and homelessness and violence, and yet far-right lawmakers are using their megaphone and their positions of power to bully kids.

That is what it comes down to. They are attacking people—attacking kids—for being different, for being themselves.

I said it last year on the Senate floor. I am here again because I still have to say it: We—we—all have a responsibility to stand up and make clear that this is not right. Trans people are our friends. They are our neighbors. They are our families. They deserve to be kids—just kids—to play sports and go to school and see a doctor and get healthcare. They should be able to get the same opportunities as any other kid to learn and grow and play and thrive, free from fear and discrimination. And parents deserve to be able to make their own parenting decisions with their medical providers to do what is best for their kids' health. They should not have to worry about what a right-wing politician thinks is best for their child, and they definitely should not live in fear that a State legislature is going to intervene in their parenting decisions and hurt their child.

We have got to push back against these attacks on trans kids every way we can—in the courts, with legislation, through Executive action, and by speaking out and speaking up—which is why I am here today, to tell everyone facing these hateful attacks: You are not alone. You have so many people in your community and in your corner.

I am proud to stand with these kids, their families, and the whole LGBTQ community. This Pride Month, we commit ourselves to making sure that these kids are not just safe in our country, not just welcome in our country, but allowed to be themselves here; allowed to be joyful and confident about who they are in every part of our country.

And in that spirit, I want to share some wisdom from Stella. She is a young trans activist in Washington State who spoke with me last year about the dangerous laws targeting trans communities.

I will quote her:

Opinions cannot stop us from existing. They cannot stop me from living my dream to the fullest and following all of my dreams . . . And opinions do not change who we are as transgender and nonbinary people.

I certainly am proud to be a voice for young people like Stella here in the United States Senate. Stella, I hope you are having a great Pride Month.

My message today to everyone who has been encouraging or complicit in the attacks on the LGBTQ community is simple: First, leave kids and families alone. You are not their doctor. You are not their parents. You have no idea what they are going through, what they have gone through, or what is best for them. It is not your say, and it is not your business.

Second: Be kind. Be kind. You do not have to bully people because they are different. You do not have to champion hatred and fear or anger. You can make a different choice. It is really not that hard to listen, to learn, to respect, and accept people for who they are, to have compassion. And I promise it will make your world brighter, and your heart will be lighter.

Finally, if you do continue down this dangerous path—bullying kids, erasing LGBTQ people, and demonizing them with dangerous rhetoric, I will rise against you every step of the way, and I will do so with pride.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. 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,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
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. 23-36, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Spain for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$48.2 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSH,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 23-36

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 Spain.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment * \$32.8 million.

Other \$15.4 million.

Total \$48.2 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: Foreign Military Sales (FMS) case SP-B-WAT was below congressional notification threshold at \$21.87 million (\$12.20 million in MDE) and included one hundred eighteen (118) M982A1 Excalibur tactical projectiles. The Government of Spain has requested that the case be amended to include an additional one hundred fifty-three (153) M982A1 Excalibur tactical projectiles. This amendment will push the current case above the MDE notification threshold and thus requires notification of the entire case.

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): Two hundred seventy-one (271) M982A1 Excalibur Tactical Projectiles.

Non-MDE: Also included is a portable electronic Fire Control System (FCS); Improved Platform Integration Kit; Propelling Charge Modular Artillery Charge System; Simple Key Loaders (SKL); crypto cable; training aids; technical data; U.S. Government technical assistance; transportation; Excalibur spare parts; artillery cleaning sections; new equipment training; repair and return support equipment; support related to collateral damage estimation tables; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (SP-B-WAT).

(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: June 14, 2023.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Spain—Excalibur Projectiles

The Government of Spain has requested to buy an additional one hundred fifty-three (153) M982A1 Excalibur tactical projectiles that will be added to a previously implemented case whose value was under the congressional notification threshold. The original FMS case, valued at \$21.87 million, included one hundred eighteen (118) M982A1 Excalibur tactical projectiles. This notification is for a combined total of two hundred seventy-one (271) M982A1 Excalibur tactical projectiles. Also included is a portable elec-

tronic Fire Control System (FCS); Improved Platform Integration Kit; Propelling Charge Modular Artillery Charge System; Simple Key Loaders (SKL); crypto cable; training aids; technical data; U.S. Government technical assistance; transportation; Excalibur spare parts; artillery cleaning sections; new equipment training; repair and return support equipment; support related to collateral damage estimation tables; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The total estimated cost is \$48.2 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by improving the security of a NATO ally which is an important force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

The proposed sale will improve Spain's capability to meet current and future threats and will enhance interoperability with U.S. forces and other allied forces. The enhanced capability will also strengthen its homeland defense. Spain will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Raytheon Company Missile Systems, McAlester, OK. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this sale will not require the assignment of any U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Spain.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness because of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 23-36

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 M982A1 Excalibur 155 mm, High Explosive Projectile is an all up projectile with Global Positioning System (GPS)-aided precision guidance capability. The Excalibur provides the ability to accurately engage targets at distances up to 25 miles. Excalibur is commonly fired from U.S. Army and Marine Corps towed and self-propelled howitzer systems, including the M777 and M109.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that Spain can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Spain.

CONFIRMATION OF DILAWAR SYED

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, last week, the Senate confirmed Dilawar Syed to be the Deputy Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration with a bipartisan vote. Mr. Syed was the longest pending nomination in the Biden administration, waiting 827 days to be confirmed.

The Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration should

not have been a controversial nomination. Mr. Syed has served our Nation admirably as Special Representative for Commercial Diplomacy at the State Department, where he has helped American companies compete in international markets throughout the world. He has extensive background as an entrepreneur and business leader with an inspiring immigrant success story that is only possible in America. Now that he has been confirmed, he is the highest ranking Muslim American in the Biden administration.

Mr. Syed should have been confirmed unannounced years ago. But regrettably, Senate Republicans chose to play politics with changing excuses designed to obstruct the nomination. Obstruction and delay resulted in the position being vacant for over 5 years. With record numbers of entrepreneurs starting new small businesses, we need a fully staffed SBA.

Senate Republicans criticized pandemic loans that were taken out by Mr. Syed's company, Lumiata, and accused Mr. Syed of being slow to disclose the loans. Mr. Syed testified before the committee that the board of his company had taken out Paycheck Protection Program—PPP—loans from SBA, funds that they were legally eligible to receive. And to his credit, Mr. Syed and his company repaid those PPP loans when they secured an additional round of venture funding. All of this funding was disclosed to the White House during the vetting process, and Mr. Syed was transparent about his financials, even beyond the information asked by the Senate committee questionnaire. Critics tried to claim that he had misled Congress or outright lied. That is simply not true.

Despite his unfair treatment, justice ultimately prevailed, and his nomination passed with bipartisan support from five Republican Senators who were able to judge Mr. Syed on his character and business acumen rather than false attacks.

Many nominees would have given up and decided the attacks were not worth it. With his background, Mr. Syed could have taken a lucrative position in the private sector. But our Nation is fortunate that Mr. Syed did not let this long process deter him from serving the public interest. I join Mr. Syed's family, friends, and colleagues in congratulating him on his perseverance throughout this process and look forward to working with him, Administrator Guzman, and the leadership team at the Small Business Administration.

WILLA CATHER STATUE UNVEILING

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following speech be printed in the RECORD.

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

SEN. FISCHER WILLA CATHER UNVEILING
REMARKS

When we are here in Statuary Hall, I like to remind people that we are not alone.

If you look above the door leading into the Rotunda, you'll see a figure. It is Clio, the muse of history.

For generations, she served as a constant reminder that our words and actions—the good and the bad—would be judged by time and leave a lasting mark on the nation.

Today Clio welcomes one of Nebraska's finest literary artists, Willa Cather.

"Let your fiction grow out of the land beneath your feet."

This quote, attributed to Cather, is an apt summation of the author's life and work.

Cather's vivid, reflective writing has become synonymous with the pioneer spirit of Nebraska.

Her fiction—epitomized by the Great Plains novels *O Pioneers!*, *The Song of the Lark*, and *My Antonia*—truly feels like it grew from the soil of Nebraska.

Cather herself grew from that land. Her family settled in Red Cloud while she was still a child, and her imaginative mind put its roots down there in Webster County.

For decades until her death in 1947, Cather was unable to shake her creative spirit away from its home in the open plains of the heartland.

The unveiling of Cather's statue is especially poignant for me, because Cather's fiction is not the only art to grow out of the land beneath her feet.

In 2006, my sister-in-law Nadine McHenry's art was selected as part of the annual Willa Cather Conference organized by the Cather Foundation.

"I am a Nebraska painter and my feet stand on the same prairie grasses that Cather stood on," Nadine wrote of her painting exhibition.

Nadine's impressionistic paintings are a blend. They blend an imaginative representation of Cather's prose with Nadine's own personal experience on our family's ranch in the Nebraska Sandhills.

Four of the paintings—"Longing," "Isolation," "Pioneering the Way," and "Way Ahead"—draw new vigor out of Cather's century-old works, each created as an expression of a different quote by the novelist.

Nadine's art illustrates the profound resonance of Cather's writing for those of us who call Nebraska home.

That resonance—the talent and imagination immortalized in Cather's indelible novels—is what endows her with the significance to be placed in the U.S. Capitol as a representation of Nebraska's best.

I'll end with words from Cather's "Song of the Lark," words that strike a sense of understanding into the heart of any Nebraskan who has read her work.

"What was any art but a mold to imprison for a moment the shining, elusive element which is life itself?"

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MARTHA NATHANSON

• Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, Ella Winter famously remarked to author Thomas Wolfe, "Don't you know you can't go home again?" The remark, in abbreviated form, became the title of one of his most famous books, published after he died. The two writers never met Martha D. Nathanson, who grew up in Park Heights, went to Indiana University in Bloomington to earn

her bachelor's degree and J.D., and then returned home and dedicated her life to making Baltimore a better, safer, healthier, and happier place.

Martha is retiring from LifeBridge Health, where she has been responsible for government relations, focusing on legislative and regulatory policy at all three levels of government, covering all aspects of healthcare delivery and community and economic development in the areas surrounding all of LifeBridge Health's facilities, including Sinai Hospital of Baltimore. Martha's expertise, political skills, finesse, and natural ability as a community organizer have made her a formidable force for bringing better healthcare and other vital services to underserved communities, including Lower Park Heights. I don't know whether LifeBridge's Northwest Hospital would be the outstanding facility it is today without Martha's tireless advocacy.

Before Martha joined LifeBridge some 25 years ago, she was director of risk management and legislative and regulatory affairs for Kirson Medical Equipment Company, where she developed legal, regulatory, and joint commission—JCAH—compliance programs and drafted and negotiated contracts with providers. She also worked as an attorney advisor at the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services and as an associate attorney at Ober Kaler in Baltimore. I have relied on and am grateful for Martha's wise counsel on healthcare and community and economic development issues in Baltimore over the years.

Martha's vocation and avocation are one and the same. In addition to her professional career, she serves on the board of CHAI—Comprehensive Housing Assistance, Inc.—served as chair of the Board of Park Heights Renaissance and is a founding member of the Northwest Baltimore Partnership. She also serves on the board of advisers of the University of Maryland School of Social Work and the Safe Streets Community Advisory Board. She has bought, renovated, and sold houses in her neighborhood and is active in CREW Baltimore, which promotes the business interests and professional advancement of women in all disciplines of the commercial real estate industry by providing educational and networking opportunities and contributing resources to support the local community. Given all of this, it is no surprise that Martha was named as one of Maryland's 100 Top Women by the "Daily Record" in 2017.

We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give. Martha Nathanson has given so much to her beloved hometown, and Baltimore is so much better for her tireless efforts. Since she is not the "retiring" kind, I know she will stay active in community affairs. But now, she will have more time for biking and trekking and environmental causes and, most important, for her family. I know that she is especially "over the moon" about

being a grandmother. I want to thank her for her service and friendship and wish her all the best as she begins the next chapter in a wonderful life of service.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. SUSAN
PETERSON THOMAS

• Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, I rise today to thank Dr. Susan "Sue" Peterson Thomas for her many years of service to the State of Kansas and Kansas State University—K-State—as well as honor her for all that she accomplished during her career.

The daughter of a dairy farmer and former mayor of Abilene, KS, Sue began her journey at K-State as a student, where she graduated with a bachelor of science degree in political science and history. She would go on to earn a master of public administration degree from the University of Kansas, and a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction from K-State.

Sue's service to the State of Kansas began in 1978, where she worked for Mike Hayden during his time as the speaker of the Kansas House of Representatives and Governor of Kansas. She also served on the transition teams for Governor Hayden and Governor Sam Brownback.

Sue would go on to work for her alma mater, beginning her distinguished career at K-State in 1989. During her 33 years of service to the university, Sue worked her way up to chief government relations officer, where she was directly responsible for all university liaison activities with the State and Federal legislature. She also served as a political science instructor since 1992, where she taught Kansas politics and government to over 1,000 students.

During her time at K-State, Sue was responsible for multiple different projects that have had a tremendous impact on the university. She was instrumental in securing State funding to renovate Farrell Library and add 153,000 square feet of new space to the library on K-State's Manhattan campus; she coordinated the successful legislative effort to merge the Kansas College of Technology in Salina into K-State, forming the K-State Salina campus; she led the efforts to secure State and Federal funding for the construction and equipment of Pat Roberts Hall, the home of K-State's Biosecurity Research Institute. The fruits of her labor culminated at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility's ribbon-cutting ceremony this last May, which she worked tirelessly on, helping pass multiple pieces of legislation that were crucial to the State's efforts to land the facility adjacent to K-State's campus in Manhattan.

Throughout her career, Sue has been recognized at the local, State, and national levels. She has been awarded the prestigious Marvin D. "Swede" Johnson Achievement Award, the Flinchbaugh Family Wildcat Pride

Award, and the Career Excellence Award from the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities' Council on Governmental Affairs.

Sue officially retired from K-State on April 7, 2023, after 33 years, 8 months, and 6 days of service to the university. I now ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the distinguished career of Dr. Susan Peterson Thomas, as well as thank her for all of her work on behalf of the State of Kansas and Kansas State University.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:44 p.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 bill, without amendment:

S. 467. An act to modify the age requirement for the Student Incentive Payment Program of the State maritime academies.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1640. An act to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing the proposed rule titled "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Consumer Conventional Cooking Products", and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 2(b)(4) of Public Law 171-40, the Minority Leader appoints the following individuals to the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific History and Culture: Mr. Rodney Davis of Taylorville, Illinois and Mr. Vincent K. Fong of Bakersfield, California.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1640. An act to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing the proposed rule titled "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Consumer Conventional Cooking Products", and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1615. An act to prohibit the use of Federal funds to ban gas stoves.

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. RISCH (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 2003. A bill to authorize the Secretary of State to provide additional assistance to

Ukraine using assets confiscated from the Central Bank of the Russian Federation and other sovereign assets of the Russian Federation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 2004. A bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 relating to de minimis treatment under that Act; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ROUNDS (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. DAINES, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 2005. A bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to require that information required to be disclosed to the Securities and Exchange Commission by issuers be material to voting or investment decisions regarding those issuers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 2006. A bill to foster Tunisia's democratic institutions, to limit funds until Tunisia restores checks and balances, and to authorize the creation of a fund to support democratic reforms; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. SMITH, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. BROWN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 2007. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require the submission by issuers of data relating to diversity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. WARREN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 2008. A bill to amend section 1977 of the Revised Statutes to protect equal rights under law; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 2009. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize a national network of statewide senior legal hotlines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. HAWLEY):

S. 2010. A bill to subject professional baseball clubs to the antitrust laws; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 2011. A bill to prohibit the importation of seafood and seafood products from the Russian Federation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 2012. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of dental services under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. CASEY, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 2013. A bill to amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act to provide funding to sustain and increase the supply and quality of child care, access to child care, and the child care workforce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Ms. ERNST, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 2014. A bill to ensure that certain members of the Armed Forces who served in female cultural support teams receive proper

credit for such service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 2015. A bill to amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to provide funding for the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. KING, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. CASEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KELLY, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Ms. WARREN, Mr. LANKFORD, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. WELCH, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. DAINES, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. LUMMIS, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. VANCE, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BENNETT, Mrs. BRITT, Ms. SMITH, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MORAN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CARPER, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. MARSHALL):

S. 2016. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ROMNEY (for himself, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. LEE, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RICKETTS, and Mr. DAINES):

S. 2017. A bill to provide multiyear procurement authority for LGM-35A Sentinel intercontinental ballistic missiles, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. KING, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. LEE, and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH):

S. 2018. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct an assessment to identify locations in National Parks in which there is the greatest need for broadband internet access service and areas in National Parks in which there is the greatest need for cellular service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Ms. ERNST, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. COTTON, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. 2019. A bill to prevent States and local jurisdictions from interfering with the production and distribution of agricultural products in interstate commerce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 2020. A bill to amend the Oregon Resource Conservation Act of 1996 to reauthorize the Deschutes River Conservancy Working Group, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 2021. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to apply that Act to small business financing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. LUMMIS):

S. 2022. A bill to establish a youth savings match grant program for students in grades 9 through 12; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. FETTERMAN):

S. 2023. A bill to amend the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act and the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to further plant cultivar and animal breed research, development, and commercialization, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. KELLY):

S. 2024. A bill to provide for the establishment of an education program to expand abortion care training and access; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 2025. A bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to prohibit the provision of any foreign assistance for state sponsors of terrorism; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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

S. 2026. A bill to provide support for programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs relating to the coordination of maternity health care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. BRAUN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 2027. A bill to amend the General Education Provisions Act to allow the release of education records to facilitate the award of a recognized postsecondary credential; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 2028. A bill to amend the Natural Gas Act to authorize expedited approval of applications to export natural gas to certain allies of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 2029. A bill to appropriate amounts to carry out the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 2030. A bill to establish a United States Commission on Hate Crimes to study and make recommendations on the prevention of the commission of hate crimes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ROMNEY (for himself, Mr. SUL-LIVAN, and Mr. PETERS):

S. 2031. A bill to strengthen the national security of the United States by decreasing the reliance of the Department of Defense on critical minerals from the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of North Korea, and other geostrategic competitors and adversaries of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 2032. A bill to require the reduction of the reliance and expenditures of the Federal Government on legacy information technology systems, and for other purposes; to

the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. HAWLEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 2033. A bill to provide that certain discriminatory conduct by covered platforms shall be unlawful, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself, Mr. KELLY, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 2034. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to develop procurement policy and guidance to mitigate consulting company conflict of interests related to national security and foreign policy; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. ROUNDS (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. CRAMER, and Ms. LUMMIS):

S. 2035. A bill to amend the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 to make additional coverage under the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program available for crops and grasses used for grazing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 2036. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from changing energy conservation standards for distribution transformers for a certain period, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. FETTERMAN):

S. 2037. A bill to amend the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 to prohibit the slaughter of equines for human consumption; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. HEINRICH, and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 2038. A bill to amend the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to provide certain benefits to noncitizens, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mr. MORAN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. KING, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 2039. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require a group health plan (or health insurance coverage offered in connection with such a plan) to provide for cost-sharing for oral anticancer drugs on terms no less favorable than the cost-sharing provided for anticancer medications administered by a health care provider; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 2040. A bill to reinstate the position of Chief Management Officer of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. LEE):

S. 2041. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO:

S. 2042. A bill to amend the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area Act to adjust the boundary of the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. RISCH):

S. 2043. A bill to provide for certain authorities of the Department of State, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. Res. 254. A resolution unequivocally condemning antisemitism and lauding the working definition of antisemitism of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. BROWN):

S. Res. 255. A resolution expressing support for the designation of June 19, 2023, as "World Sickle Cell Awareness Day" in order to increase public awareness across the United States and global community about sickle cell disease and the continued need for empirical research, early detection screenings, novel effective treatments leading to a cure, and preventative care programs with respect to complications from sickle cell anemia and conditions relating to sickle cell disease; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. WARNOCK (for himself, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. Res. 256. A resolution recognizing Father's Day and the role of father engagement in improving the overall health and life outcomes for both the mother and baby; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Ms. WARREN, Mr. KELLY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. COONS, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. Res. 257. A resolution designating July 19, 2023, as "Glioblastoma Awareness Day"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 52

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) were added as cosponsors of S. 52, a bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to establish country of origin labeling requirements for beef, and for other purposes.

S. 133

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 133, a bill to extend the National Alzheimer's Project.

S. 134

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were

added as cosponsors of S. 134, a bill to require an annual budget estimate for the initiatives of the National Institutes of Health pursuant to reports and recommendations made under the National Alzheimer's Project Act.

S. 592

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 592, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the mileage rate offered by the Department of Veterans Affairs through their Beneficiary Travel program for health related travel, and for other purposes.

S. 786

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 786, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain amounts paid for physical activity, fitness, and exercise as amounts paid for medical care.

S. 985

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 985, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to ensure campus access at public institutions of higher education for religious groups.

S. 993

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. 993, a bill to prohibit certain uses of xylazine, and for other purposes.

S. 1095

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1095, a bill to authorize members of reserve components of the Armed Forces to take parental leave for the adoption or placement for long-term foster care of a child.

S. 1117

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1117, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently allow a tax deduction at the time an investment in qualified property is made.

S. 1183

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1183, a bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of mental or physical disability in cases of organ transplants.

S. 1266

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1266, a bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United State Code, to improve benefits and services for surviving spouses, and for other purposes.

S. 1329

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Pennsyl-

vania (Mr. FETTERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1329, a bill to direct the Librarian of Congress to carry out activities to support Armenian Genocide education programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1491

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1491, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of pharmacist services.

S. 1562

At the request of Mr. MULLIN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1562, a bill to ensure that Federal laws that enable Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies to access firearms apply equally to Tribal law enforcement agencies.

S. 1571

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1571, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to restore State authority to waive for certain facilities the 35-mile rule for designating critical access hospitals under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 1573

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1573, a bill to reauthorize the Prematurity Research Expansion and Education for Mothers who deliver Infants Early Act.

S. 1802

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1802, a bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to establish a fund for the conduct of collaborative defense projects between the United States and Israel in emerging technologies, and for other purposes.

S. 1822

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1822, a bill to require U.S. Customs and Border Protection to expand the use of non-intrusive inspection systems at land ports of entry.

S. 1829

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) and the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) were added as cosponsors of S. 1829, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to persons engaged in the import of petroleum from the Islamic Republic of Iran, and for other purposes.

S. 1837

At the request of Mr. FETTERMAN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1837, a bill to amend the Food, Ag-

riculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to include spotted lanternfly control research and development as a high-priority research and extension initiative, and for other purposes.

S. 1855

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1855, a bill to reauthorize the Special Diabetes Program for Type 1 Diabetes and the Special Diabetes Program for Indians.

S. 1942

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1942, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to terminate the Hazardous Substance Superfund financing rate.

S. 1970

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1970, a bill to modify requirements relating to financial aid disclosures.

S. 1999

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1999, a bill to protect an individual's ability to access contraceptives and to engage in contraception and to protect a health care provider's ability to provide contraceptives, contraception, and information related to contraception.

S.J. RES. 31

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 31, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Federal 'Good Neighbor Plan' for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards".

S. RES. 253

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 253, a resolution designating June 16, 2023, as National Service and Conservation Corps Day.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 254—UNEQUIVOCALLY CONDEMNING ANTISEMITISM AND LAUDING THE WORKING DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM OF THE INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE ALLIANCE

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mrs. BLACKBURN) submitted the following resolution; which

was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 254

Whereas the United States Senate recognizes that antisemitism is a pernicious and destructive form of prejudice that has persisted throughout history, resulting in widespread discrimination, violence, and persecution against Jewish individuals and communities;

Whereas the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (referred to in this preamble as the "IHRA") has developed a widely accepted and comprehensive working definition of antisemitism that serves as a valuable tool for identifying and combating acts of antisemitism in all its manifestations;

Whereas the IHRA working definition of antisemitism states that "antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities";

Whereas the IHRA working definition of antisemitism includes examples that illustrate the various ways in which antisemitism manifests, including making derogatory statements about Jews, denying the Holocaust, promoting conspiracy theories about Jewish control, and holding the Jewish Community collectively responsible for the actions of the State of Israel;

Whereas the IHRA working definition of antisemitism serves as a valuable tool for governments, institutions, and organizations in identifying, monitoring, and addressing antisemitism, thereby helping to ensure the safety, security, and dignity of Jewish communities around the world;

Whereas, for nearly 2 decades, the IHRA working definition and its predecessor, the European Union Military Committee working definition, which was developed with the cooperation and support of Jewish communities, have provided essential guidance in efforts to combat antisemitism to governments and organizations in Europe, the Americas, and across the globe;

Whereas the IHRA definition has been adopted by more than 40 nations and multilateral organizations, including the European Union and the Organization of American States, which has earned the near-unanimous endorsement of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

Whereas no other definition of antisemitism has been as broadly adopted and utilized by practitioners, governments, and civil society as the IHRA working definition of antisemitism; and

Whereas the United States Senate is committed to upholding the principles of equality, human rights, and religious freedom, and recognizes the importance of combating all forms of discrimination, including antisemitism, in order to foster a more just and inclusive society: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) strongly condemns all forms of antisemitism, including acts of violence, discrimination, and hate speech directed at individuals or communities based on their Jewish identity;

(2) recognizes the significant impact of antisemitism on individuals, communities, and society as a whole, and reaffirms its commitment to combating this age-old prejudice in all its forms;

(3) commends the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (referred to in this resolution as the "IHRA") for its efforts in developing the IHRA working definition of antisemitism, which serves as a valuable

tool for identifying and addressing acts of antisemitism;

(4) encourages Federal, State, and local government entities, as well as academic institutions, civil society organizations, and other relevant stakeholders, to adopt and exclusively utilize the IHRA working definition of antisemitism as an essential resource in combating antisemitism and promoting tolerance and understanding;

(5) calls on all countries to endorse and make exclusive use of the IHRA working definition of antisemitism, and to take effective measures to combat antisemitism, protect Jewish individuals and communities, and promote religious freedom and human rights for all; and

(6) urges the Federal Government to continue its efforts to combat antisemitism domestically and internationally, including through diplomatic channels, law enforcement cooperation, educational programs, and public awareness campaigns.

SENATE RESOLUTION 255—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JUNE 19, 2023, AS "WORLD SICKLE CELL AWARENESS DAY" IN ORDER TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES AND GLOBAL COMMUNITY ABOUT SICKLE CELL DISEASE AND THE CONTINUED NEED FOR EMPIRICAL RESEARCH, EARLY DETECTION SCREENINGS, NOVEL EFFECTIVE TREATMENTS LEADING TO A CURE, AND PREVENTATIVE CARE PROGRAMS WITH RESPECT TO COMPLICATIONS FROM SICKLE CELL ANEMIA AND CONDITIONS RELATING TO SICKLE CELL DISEASE

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. BROWN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 255

Whereas sickle cell disease (referred to in this preamble as "SCD") is a group of inherited red blood cell disorders, a genetic condition present at birth, and a major health problem in the United States and worldwide;

Whereas the 2023 theme of World Sickle Cell Awareness Day, "Shine the Light on Sickle Cell", is an immediate call to action to improve the health and quality of life for individuals living with SCD and their families;

Whereas, in 1972, Dr. Charles Whitten established the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America to improve research, education, and health care for SCD patients and which is now headquartered in Hanover, Maryland;

Whereas, in 1972, Congress passed the National Sickle Cell Anemia Control Act (Public Law 92-294; 86 Stat. 136), which, for the first time, provided authority to establish education, information, screening, testing, counseling, research, and treatment programs for SCD;

Whereas sickle cell trait (referred to in this preamble as "SCT") is a gene mutation that causes a single misspelling in the DNA instructions for hemoglobin, a protein that aids in carrying oxygen in the blood, and results in chronic complications, including anemia, stroke, infections, organ failure, tissue damage, intense periods of pain referred to as vaso-occlusive crises, and even premature death in individuals living with SCD;

Whereas SCT occurs when an individual inherits 1 copy of the sickle cell gene from 1 parent, and, when both parents have SCT, there is a 25 percent chance that any of their children will have SCD;

Whereas there are an estimated 3,000,000 individuals with SCT in the United States, with many unaware of their status;

Whereas an estimated 100,000 individuals have SCD in the United States, with 1 out of every 365 African-American births and 1 out of every 16,300 Hispanic-American births resulting in SCD, and nearly 1 out of 13 African-American babies are born with SCT;

Whereas SCD affects millions of individuals throughout the world, especially individuals of genetic descent from sub-Saharan regions of Africa, South America, the Caribbean, Central America, Saudi Arabia, India, Turkey, Greece, and Italy;

Whereas the variance relating to disease prevalence of SCD ranges greatly by region, with rates as high as 40 percent in certain regions of sub-Saharan Africa, eastern Saudi Arabia, and central India;

Whereas, in many countries that are poor in resources, more than 90 percent of children with SCD do not live to see adulthood;

Whereas approximately 1,000 children in Africa are born with SCD each day, more than ½ of whom will die before their fifth birthday;

Whereas the high prevalence of SCD in the central and western regions of India results in approximately 20 percent of babies diagnosed with SCD in those regions dying before the age of 2;

Whereas, in 2006, the World Health Assembly passed a resolution, adopted by the United Nations in 2009, recognizing SCD as a public health priority with a call to action for each country to implement measures to tackle the disease;

Whereas screening newborns for SCD is a crucial first step for families to obtain a timely diagnosis, to obtain comprehensive care, and to decrease the mortality rate for children with respect to SCD;

Whereas approved treatments for SCD are limited, with the Food and Drug Administration approving only 4 SCD therapies since 2017, but, as of the date of adoption of this resolution, there are more than 40 SCD therapies in development;

Whereas there is an immediate need for lifesaving therapeutics that can improve the duration and quality of life for individuals with SCD;

Whereas, in 2020, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine developed a comprehensive strategic plan and blueprint for action to address SCD, which highlights the need to develop new innovative therapies and to address barriers to the equitable access of approved treatments;

Whereas, in 2020, the Department of Health and Human Services, in partnership with the American Society of Hematology and the SickleInAfrica Consortium, and in collaboration with the World Health Organization, hosted a webinar for a joint effort to strengthen efforts to combat SCD during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond;

Whereas the late Kwaku Ohene-Frempong, M.D., Professor Emeritus of Pediatrics at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, an American Society of Hematology member who founded and served as a member of the Global Sickle Cell Disease Network, was a leader in advancing the body of knowledge in SCD research, public health, and medicine and is recognized as immeasurably benefitting thousands of children worldwide;

Whereas there are emerging genetic therapy technologies, including gene editing, that can modify a patient's own hematopoietic stem cells to enable them to

generate healthy red blood cells to prevent sickle cell crises;

Whereas hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (commonly known as “HSC-T”) is currently the only cure for SCD, and while advancements in treatment for complications associated with SCD have been made, more research is needed to find widely available and accessible treatments and cures to help individuals with SCD; and

Whereas, although June 19, 2023, has been designated as “World Sickle Cell Awareness Day” to increase public awareness across the United States and global community about SCD, there remains a continued need for empirical research, early detection screenings, novel effective treatments leading to a cure, and preventative care programs with respect to complications from sickle cell anemia and conditions relating to SCD: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of World Sickle Cell Awareness Day;

(2) commits to ensuring equitable access to new sickle cell disease (referred to in this resolution as “SCD”) treatments by shining the light among all economic, racial, and ethnic groups to improve health outcomes for individuals living with SCD;

(3) calls on the Department of Health and Human Services to create global policy solutions aimed at providing support for the global community with respect to SCD and, in partnership with local governments, the domestic resources needed to provide access to newborn screening programs, therapeutic interventions, and support services with respect to SCD;

(4) supports eliminating barriers to equitable access to innovative SCD therapies, including cell, gene, and gene-editing therapies in the Medicare and Medicaid systems for the most vulnerable patients;

(5) encourages the people of the United States and the world to hold appropriate programs, events, and activities on World Sickle Cell Awareness Day to raise public awareness of SCD traits, preventative-care programs, treatments, and other patient services for those suffering from SCD, complications from SCD, and conditions relating to SCD;

(6) encourages the President to form a Sickle Cell Disease Interagency Group, which should include the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the National Institutes of Health, the Food and Drug Administration, and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, to work toward policies that will support equitable and appropriate access to innovative SCD therapies; and

(7) with respect to the policies described in paragraph (6), urges the interagency group described in that paragraph to consider options that not only address access to potential future curative treatments for SCD, but also address the bias that the population most affected by SCD continues to face within the United States and global healthcare systems.

SENATE RESOLUTION 256—RECOGNIZING FATHER’S DAY AND THE ROLE OF FATHER ENGAGEMENT IN IMPROVING THE OVERALL HEALTH AND LIFE OUTCOMES FOR BOTH THE MOTHER AND BABY

Mr. WARNOCK (for himself, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. BRAUN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 256

Whereas Father’s Day is celebrated on the third Sunday of June and will be celebrated in the United States on Sunday, June 18, 2023;

Whereas increased father engagement can play an important role in—

- (1) improving maternal health care;
- (2) addressing maternal mortality and morbidity in the United States;
- (3) bettering the development of the child; and
- (4) the long-term growth of the child;

Whereas research has found that supporting families holistically and actively by including and engaging fathers in all aspects of maternal health care, from preconception, through pregnancy, and during the first-year postpartum, can positively impact short term and long term health outcomes, improving—

- (1) pregnancy and postpartum health, as when fathers are involved and engaged, mothers are—

(A) more likely to receive early and regular prenatal care;

(B) at reduced risk of perinatal mood and anxiety disorders (referred to in this preamble as “PMADs”);

(C) less likely to smoke, drink, or misuse drugs during the pregnancy and perinatal period;

(D) more likely to eat well and take recommended vitamins;

(E) more likely to follow the recommendations of a physician;

(F) less likely to experience complications during pregnancy and labor; and

(G) more likely to have a healthy, safe birth, and more likely to sustain breastfeeding; and

(2) the health and well-being of the baby, including—

(A) improving healthy development;

(B) improving outcomes in school;

(C) reducing rates of teen pregnancies;

(D) reducing risk of substance use; and

(E) improving future executive function;

Whereas methods to empower fathers as advocates for both mother and baby include—

(1) addressing cultural beliefs about fatherhood and the role of men in maternal health and families, especially beliefs that discourage father participation;

(2) peer-to-peer, father-to-father encouragement and support;

(3) involving fathers in prenatal and postpartum care;

(4) providing fathers with information about what to expect before, during, and after birth, and how a father can better understand and support their partner, as well as to help the mother and father bond together as a parenting team; and

(5) educating and engaging fathers in conversations and guidance about mental health, breastfeeding practices, health care appointments, safe sleep, physical touch, and father-child bonding and early childhood development;

Whereas 1 in 5 women experience a PMAD, with suicide being the leading cause of preventable maternal deaths;

Whereas the added support of father engagement reduces the risks of PMADs and contributes to—

(1) a lower chance of preterm birth; and

(2) a healthier birth weight;

Whereas the support of the father during pregnancy can help promote cessation of smoking, drinking, and drug use in the mother;

Whereas father involvement during pregnancy has been linked with a 36 percent reduction in smoking in a mother;

Whereas increasing outreach for fathers to join group prenatal care models and to at-

tend prenatal and postnatal appointments will help prepare both parents and create opportunities for the parents to view pregnancy and parenting as a team effort;

Whereas evidence shows that when fathers are involved during pregnancy appointments and milestones, mothers are 1.5 times more likely to receive prenatal care in the first trimester, which improves health outcomes for both the mother and baby;

Whereas the participation of the father during prenatal care appointments provides the mother with additional support to recognize potential pregnancy-related complications that could lead to maternal morbidity and mortality, such as—

- (1) preeclampsia;
- (2) preterm labor;
- (3) PMADs;
- (4) pregnancy loss or miscarriage;
- (5) stillbirth;
- (6) high blood pressure;
- (7) cervical infections;
- (8) gestational diabetes;
- (9) placental abruption;
- (10) ectopic pregnancy; and
- (11) uterine rupture;

Whereas physical contact between the father and the baby just after birth and in the months following birth has been shown to support and improve the health and development of the baby, improve the mental health of the father, and foster father-child bonding in the short term and long term;

Whereas studies show that engaging fathers in conversations about safe sleep guidelines can help increase safe sleep and reduce infant deaths;

Whereas providing fathers with guidance about infant crying and the risks of shaken baby syndrome can reduce infant deaths;

Whereas the active support of the father during breastfeeding greatly increases the chances of sustained breastfeeding, which improves the physical and mental health of the baby and the mother;

Whereas removing barriers to father engagement can encourage greater involvement during pregnancy, delivery, and parenthood, such as—

(1) offering moderated father support groups and classes;

(2) changing messaging about societal perceptions on the role of the father in pregnancy and parenting; and

(3) health care providers offering prenatal appointments outside of regular work hours, through telehealth and through take-home father-focused resources; and

Whereas support from a warm and emotionally responsive father improves the life and development of their child as the child grows into adolescence, as the child—

- (1) is less emotionally reactive;
- (2) experiences less depression;
- (3) is less prone to mood and anxiety disorders; and
- (4) relates better with other children;

Whereas the sustained involvement of a father with their child to the age of 7 helps negate the risk of psychological maladjustment;

Whereas a trusting relationship between a caring father and son will help the son grow into a strong father themselves;

Whereas a litany of research relates positive outcomes with increased father involvement with their child, including—

- (1) higher academic achievement;
- (2) better school readiness and performance;
- (3) higher self-esteem; and
- (4) greater social awareness;

Whereas the involvement of a loving father in the life of a 16-year-old child predicts less psychological distress for that child when they reach adulthood;

Whereas 1,300 step families are formed every day and 1 out of every 25 families with

children have adopted a child, demonstrating a variety of fatherhood experiences; and

Whereas the genuine love of a father is irreplaceable, and the positive externalities that coincide with the love of a father prove both the power of genuine affection and the responsibility fathers have in caring for their children: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the important role of fathers in increasing positive maternal health outcomes and reducing maternal mortality and morbidity;

(2) acknowledges that father engagement efforts provide continuous physical and emotional support, which can contribute to healthier pregnancies, safer deliveries, and successful postpartum recoveries;

(3) acknowledges that sustained engagement by a father throughout the life of their child is a privileged responsibility that fulfills the father as much as the child; and

(4) wishes all fathers and father figures in the United States a happy Father's Day.

SENATE RESOLUTION 257—DESIGNATING JULY 19, 2023, AS “GLIOBLASTOMA AWARENESS DAY”

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Ms. WARREN, Mr. KELLY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. COONS, and Mr. WARNOCK) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 257

Whereas approximately 14,490 new cases of glioblastoma will be diagnosed in the United States in 2023;

Whereas glioblastoma is—

(1) the most common malignant (cancerous) brain tumor, accounting for approximately ½ of all primary malignant brain tumors; and

(2) the most aggressive, complex, difficult to treat, and deadly type of brain tumor;

Whereas it is estimated that more than 10,000 individuals in the United States will succumb to glioblastoma each year;

Whereas the 5-year survival rate for glioblastoma patients is only 6.9 percent, and the median length of survival for glioblastoma patients is only 8 months;

Whereas glioblastoma is described as a disease that affects the “essence of self”, as the treatment and removal of glioblastoma presents significant challenges due to the uniquely complex and fragile nature of the brain, the primary organ in the human body that controls not only cognitive ability, but also the actions of every organ and limb;

Whereas patients and caregivers play a critical role in furthering research for glioblastoma;

Whereas, relative to other types of cancers, brain cancer patients pay the second highest out-of-pocket costs for medical services in both the initial and end-of-life phases of care;

Whereas, although research advances may fuel the development of new treatments for glioblastoma, challenging obstacles to accelerating progress toward new treatments for glioblastoma remain, and there are no screening or early detection methods;

Whereas, in 2021, the World Health Organization reclassified brain tumors and made significant changes to the molecular characteristics of a glioblastoma diagnosis, necessitating critical biomarker testing for patients suspected of having a possible glioblastoma;

Whereas, although glioblastoma was first described in medical and scientific literature

in the 1920s, and despite its devastating prognosis, only 5 drugs and 1 medical device have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration to specifically treat glioblastoma since the 1920s, and the mortality rates associated with glioblastoma have changed little during the past 30 years;

Whereas, since the first Glioblastoma Awareness Day, the National Cancer Institute established the Glioblastoma Therapeutics Network (referred to in this preamble as “GTN”) in 2020 as part of a national infrastructure to enhance and support the discovery and development of glioblastoma therapies available for multi-institutional GTN teams to drive therapeutic agents through pre-clinical studies and early-phase clinical trials, which are necessary to rapidly evaluate potential treatments to advance toward cures and improved quality of life; and

Whereas there is a need for greater public awareness of glioblastoma, including awareness of both—

(1) the urgent unmet medical needs of glioblastoma patients; and

(2) the opportunities for research of, and treatment advances for, glioblastoma: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates July 19, 2023, as “Glioblastoma Awareness Day”;

(2) encourages increased public awareness of glioblastoma;

(3) honors the individuals who have died from the devastating disease of glioblastoma or are currently living with the disease;

(4) supports efforts to develop better treatments for glioblastoma that will improve the long-term prognosis for, and the quality of life of, individuals diagnosed with the disease;

(5) recognizes the importance of molecular biomarker testing to the diagnosis and treatment of glioblastoma;

(6) expresses support for the individuals who are battling brain tumors, as well as the families, friends, and caregivers of those individuals;

(7) urges a collaborative approach to brain tumor research among governmental, private, and nonprofit organizations, which is a promising means of advancing the understanding and treatment of glioblastoma; and

(8) encourages continued investments in glioblastoma research and treatments, including through the Glioblastoma Therapeutics Network and other existing brain tumor research resources.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. HEINRICH. Madam President, I have five 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 COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 15, 2023, at 10 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is author-

ized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 15, 2023, at 10 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 15, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Special Committee on Aging is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 15, 2023, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CHEMICAL SAFETY, WASTE MANAGEMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, AND REGULATORY OVERSIGHT

The Subcommittee on Chemical Safety, Waste Management, Environmental Justice, and Regulatory Oversight of the Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 15, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the following associates who are working with me this summer in my office be granted floor privileges until June 16, 2023: Ms. Lauren Gachassin and Ms. Jolea Simpson.

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

RECOGNIZING FATHER'S DAY

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 256, 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. 256) recognizing Father's Day and the role of father engagement in improving the overall health and life outcomes for both the mother and baby.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent 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 PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 256) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

GLIOBLASTOMA AWARENESS DAY

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 257, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 257) designating July 19, 2023, as “Glioblastoma Awareness Day”.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent 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 PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 257) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 2023, THROUGH TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2023

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned, to convene for a pro forma session with no business being conducted on Friday, June 16, at 10 a.m.; and that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m. on Tuesday, June 20; that on Tuesday, following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that following the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Rikelman nomination, postcloture, and that all time be considered expired at 5:30 p.m.; and further, that the cloture motions filed during today’s session ripen on Wednesday, June 21.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. MURRAY. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I

ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator SCHMITT.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

FATHER’S DAY

Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, Father’s Day is coming up. Father’s Day is this Sunday.

As a dad—and, actually, my two daughters are coming into the Galleries right now—it is a time for reflection and for gratitude, quite frankly.

I delivered my maiden speech earlier this week, on Tuesday, and a big part of that was of the influence that my father had on my life. Growing up in a working-class neighborhood and seeing him work 7 days a week on the 12 midnight shift and going to events and being a great role model for me is something that I am eternally grateful for.

I have had a lot of different positions or jobs or titles, but the most important one that I will ever have is being a father to my son Stephen and to my two daughters, Sophia and Olivia.

I also mentioned in that maiden speech the inspiration that my son gave me to run for office. Stephen was born with a rare genetic condition and suffers from epilepsy. He is nonverbal. He gave me and has given me, every day, a perspective on what is really important and what my focus is.

I know, for a lot of dads out there, being a father keeps them grounded. It is the most important thing that they will ever do. We all have important business to do even in this place, but being a dad is paramount.

And I have got my two daughters. I talk about Stephen a lot because Stephen, again, was my inspiration. He has profound medical challenges that my wife and I—and Jaime is here as well—deal with every day. If Stephen were here, he would be giving us big hugs. He is a great kid. My two daughters, in their own rights, are incredible people. Sophia is on her journey and is a great kid, a great swimmer. I am just blessed to be her dad. Then Olivia was asking thoughtful questions on the way here. So we know the statistics are just simply undeniable, and that is certainly my story.

But I know that, across the board, in a larger sense, the litany of research related to the positive outcomes that fathers have when they are involved with their children are those of better school readiness and performance, higher self-esteem, greater social awareness. Increased father engagement can play an important role in improving maternal healthcare, in addressing maternal mortality and morbidity in the United States, and in bettering the development of the child and the long-term growth of the child.

It was an honor to sponsor this resolution with the Senator from Georgia, my friend, as we shared what we thought was really important to come before this Chamber in advance of Father’s Day.

This resolution recognizes what we already know—that the presence of a strong father contributes to a child’s life in insurmountable ways. It is hard to calculate what those are. We have some statistics, but we all know that intuitively, and it strengthens our society as a whole. It is important that we recognize that and celebrate that on this Father’s Day.

So, to all of the dads out there, have a great Father’s Day. I don’t know what is on your wish list, but I hope you enjoy it and that we all have a greater sense of gratitude for the most important job we will ever have in our lives.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow, Friday, June 16, 2023.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 3:02 p.m., adjourned until Friday, June 16, 2023, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate June 15, 2023:

THE JUDICIARY

NUSRAT JAHAN CHOUDHURY, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDIAN RIVER GOLF CLUB

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the 100th Anniversary of the Indian River Golf Club on Chippewa Beach Road in Indian River, Michigan. Established in 1923, Indian River Golf Club has evolved into one of the premier golfing venues of Northern Michigan. Welcoming their members and the general public alike, the club has been able to offer easy and affordable access to their pristine locale. They have continued to innovate and find new means of connecting with the community, celebrating their storied history, and fostering positive change in Indian River—for this I am grateful.

Following the natural flow of the land on which it resides, Indian River Golf Club is a challenging, yet peaceful golf experience, one which makes the most of Michigan's natural beauty. A round at Indian River Golf Club brings with it changes in elevation, beautiful trees and vegetation, and water obstacles. With their level of attention to detail, it's easy to see why the club has been a staple of Indian River for a century, and I'd like to extend my appreciation to all involved in their success.

Rated by Golf Digest as one of the best places to golf in Northern Michigan, the members, staff, and public should be proud of this course's continued excellence. I look forward to another century of exceptional work and to the club's effort to preserve the game of golf for future generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the Indian River Golf Club for 100 years of continuous and exemplary operation in Northern Michigan. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I wish the club, its staff, and the local community of Indian River the best in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF NICHOLAS MOTLOWITZ

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Nicholas Motlowitz, a resident of Orleans, Massachusetts, who turns 100 on June 19, 2023.

Mr. Motlowitz was raised in Longmeadow, Massachusetts. In 1943, he joined the war effort in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater and bravely served our country as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy. Mr. Motlowitz was officially discharged from the Navy in 1956.

After returning home from his service in the Philippines, Mr. Motlowitz met the love of his

life, Joan, an accomplished ballroom dancer, on the dance floor of Terrain Hall. They married on June 3, 1950, and together they had 2 daughters—Maureen and Marilyn.

Following his service in the Navy, Mr. Motlowitz worked as a chief design engineer at Pratt Whitney Aircraft along with his wife, who worked as a personal secretary and blueprint machine operator for the company. After retiring, the couple moved from Springfield to Orleans, Massachusetts in 1986. Mr. Motlowitz now enjoys spending time with his 5 granddaughters and 6 great grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Mr. Nicholas Motlowitz on this joyous occasion of his 100th birthday. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing him many more years of health and happiness.

HONORING JUDGE RONALD S.W. LEW

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the Honorable Ronald S.W. Lew, who passed away on May 19, 2023, at the age of 81. Judge Lew's esteemed jurisprudence and relentless advocacy made him a widely respected judge and community leader.

Judge Ronald Lew was born in Los Angeles, California in 1941. He attended Loyola High School and went on to obtain his bachelor's degree in 1964 from Loyola Marymount University. He then enrolled in Southwestern Law School, but those studies were put on a temporary hold when he served in the U.S. Army from 1967 to 1969. Upon returning home, Judge Lew completed his studies in 1971 and went on to serve as deputy city attorney for the Los Angeles City Attorney's office in the Criminal and Civil Liability Divisions from 1972 to 1974. After practicing with the city attorney's office, Judge Lew practiced privately and, during that time, was appointed to commissioner of the Los Angeles Fire and Police Pension Board from 1976 to 1982.

As a widely respected jurist, Judge Lew was appointed by Governor Jerry Brown to the Los Angeles Municipal Court in 1982, and two years later was appointed to the Los Angeles County Superior Court by Governor George Deukmejian. Then, in 1987, Judge Lew was honored with a nomination from President Ronald Reagan to serve as United States District Judge for the Central District of California, making history by becoming the first Chinese American person appointed to a federal bench position outside of the state of Hawaii. After serving for nearly two decades, Judge Lew took senior status in 2006 but remained a committed and prominent jurist.

Judge Lew was also a dedicated advocate in the Chinese American community. He was instrumental in the creation and success of the Chinatown Service Center, a renowned non-

profit organization located in Los Angeles that provides health care, social services, economic development, youth, and many more resources to tens of thousands of deserving clients each year. After working with the Center to provide counsel on youth criminal issues in 1974, he became a board member of the Center, spearheaded the organization's incorporation into a 501(c)(3), drafted its bylaws and even became its first President of the Board of Directors. When Judge Lew began his work with this organization, it only had two staff members and no budget for employees. Judge Lew took action, organizing fundraisers and spreading the word which enabled the Center to obtain the staff and finances it needed to continue its essential services. But his work was nowhere near done. Judge Lew continued his incredible service to the Chinatown Service Center by securing crucial city funding and establishing a close partnership with the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, which later helped the Center receive its first city workforce grant. Since its founding, the Chinatown Service Center has had an immeasurable impact in providing essential services to the surrounding community, thanks in large part to the tireless work of Judge Lew.

Outside of his remarkable work with the Chinatown Service Center, Judge Lew helped found the Southern California Chinese Lawyers Association in 1975, the first Asian Pacific American bar association nationwide which offers support and resources to law students, lawyers, and jurists in the Chinese American and Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders communities. For his incredible work in law and in the Chinese American community, Judge Lew was named one of the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California's Chinese American Pioneers in Law and also received the Los Angeles Chinese American Museum's Historymakers Award.

Judge Lew was a trailblazer whose accomplishments strengthened the Chinese American community and uplifted all Angelenos. He was always considered a mentor and trusted advisor to those who knew him. His impact is indelible and will never be forgotten. Judge Lew was also a loving husband, father, grandfather, and inspiration to us all. I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the life of this extraordinary individual.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BUTTER GONZALES

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Butter Torres Gonzales, a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and leader.

Born on February 25, 1933, Butter was one of five children born to Salvador and Jessie Pinón Torres. In 1940, Butter and her family moved from Gonzales, California to Delano,

• 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.

California. In Delano, Butter attended Fremont School and graduated from the 8th grade in 1948. Around that same time, she met the love of her life, Lucio “Chio” Gonzales, when she was just 13 years old. It was love at first sight for both Butter and Chio, and their love would endure for all the years to come.

After graduating from Delano High School in 1952, Butter moved to San Jose to live with her sister Nellie. In San Jose, she worked at the cannery for Del Monte. Throughout this time, Butter and Chio endured a long-distance relationship. The love between them never wavered and the two married on November 24, 1956.

Over the next several years, Butter and Chio would expand both their family and their business. In 1955, the pair welcomed their first son, Anthony, into the world. Three years later, they had a second son named Eddie. Around this same time, Butter and Chio bought several properties, including People’s Market, from Butter’s father, Salvador. Butter and Chio would go on to work side by side for over 40 years. In 1963, Butter, Chio and their two children moved into the home that she designed and that her father helped build. Four years later, Butter’s daughter Heidi was born, and their family was complete.

Chio became more involved in politics, and Butter played a huge role in his political success. She possessed the innate ability to talk and connect with anyone, leaving a lasting impression on many members of the community.

Butter’s priority in life was her family. One of the ways she showed her love was by cooking delicious meals for them. Whether it was her menudo or chile verde, if Butter ever cooked for you, it was a memorable meal. Butter found joy in cooking, taking care of her home, and spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Even at 90 years old, Butter would play “chick-a-dee-dee” with her two great-grandsons and chase them around the house. She always opened her home to friends and family and made all those around her feel welcomed. Butter was also a woman of deep faith, and she worshiped at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Delano nearly every day.

Butter died peacefully in her home on May 5. She was surrounded by her family. She is survived by her husband, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, as well as the rest of her family. Her grace and impact on the community will not be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Butter Torres Gonzales for her commitment to her family and her community. May we never forget her legacy and continue to be inspired by her story.

RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HABITAT FOR HUMANITY—GRAND TRAVERSE REGION’S RESTORE

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the 20th Anniversary of the Habitat for Humanity—Grand Traverse Region’s ReStore located in Traverse City, Michigan. Established in 2003, the ReStore quickly grew to become an asset in the community and has

helped many in Northern Michigan. I am certain that, given their extensive track record of offering a hand up to those in need, they will continue to create a positive ripple effect for the communities they serve.

Beginning as an offshoot of Habitat for Humanity, the ReStore has an illustrious history of community service and has been sustained by the numerous volunteers and staff that have provided key services over the last two decades. I commend all directly involved in making the ReStore a success, as well as a safe and reliable option for quality goods within any budget. Offering items ranging from household appliances to building materials, they allow for quick and easy solutions to their community’s needs through their donated stock.

Celebrating 20 years in Traverse City, the ReStore held a fruitful event to highlight their achievement, connect with the community, and to relight the store with more efficient LED lighting. I would like to thank everyone involved for contributing to this event’s success and I look forward to seeing greater progress for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the Habitat for Humanity—Grand Traverse Region’s Restore in Traverse City for 20 years of continued service to the community. On behalf of Michigan’s First District, I wish the ReStore’s volunteers and staff the best in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING DR. ROBERT MAUDLIN

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Dr. Robert Maudlin, PharmD, and celebrate the impact he has had on Graduate Medical Education in Eastern Washington—and across the country—throughout his illustrious career of nearly 50 years.

Dr. Maudlin, or Bob as he is known by his friends and colleagues, started his career in the United States Navy where he played baseball and served as a pharmacy technician. After completing his time in the service, he returned to the University of California at San Francisco to earn his PhD in Pharmacy, a degree that was relatively new at the time.

After graduating, Bob came on board as a member of the pharmacy department faculty at Washington State University. He later joined the Family Medicine Residency Spokane program as the Assistant Program Director, a position he put his full heart and soul into. Through hard work and fierce dedication, Bob developed the model for the first rural training program in the United States. He is a pioneer who, as his colleague Dr. Justin Frederick said, “Saw the global vision of Graduate Medical Education for our communities.”

Dr. Maudlin is also characterized as a mentor, a stalwart champion for Graduate Medical Education, and a passionate advocate for creating residency programs to provide care in underserved communities. As Dr. Tanya Keeble, Program Director of the Psychiatry Residency Program recounts, “The psychiatry program never would have gotten off the

ground without Bob’s ability to develop critical community relationships and create a sustainable residency funding structure. As a new program director, he was an enormous support to me.”

Dr. Maudlin never wavered in his commitment to the growth of Graduate Medical Education, and he viewed his role at the Spokane Teaching Health Center as the perfect way to advance that goal. He was tremendously helpful in writing the initial grant needed to increase the primary care residency programs for the first time since the late 1990s. He served as the Designated Institutional Official and helped guide the Executive Director and the Board of Directors during the startup phase of this new venture. As Traci Couture Richmond, Executive Director for the Spokane Teaching Health Center, said, “Without Bob’s deep knowledge of the grant requirements, the ability to get needed information from the partners, and his vision for what the STHC could be, we wouldn’t be where we are today.”

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Dr. Maudlin on his exceptional career. Without his influence and passion for training residents, Spokane and the region at-large would not be able to successfully train 118 medical residents per year. As a result of Bob’s commitment to Graduate Medical Education, our health care system is stronger, and our community is a better place. I am grateful for his friendship since I was first elected to Congress, and I know his tremendous achievements and legacy will not soon be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF KENNETH QUIGLEY

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Kenneth “Ken” Quigley as he steps down from his role as president of Curry College.

Raised in Milton, Massachusetts, Ken graduated from Milton High School in 1975, before attending Boston College, where he received his bachelor’s degree from the Carroll School of Management in 1979. With a passion for education and learning, Ken continued his studies at Villanova University and completed his Juris Doctor in 1982. Ken additionally holds an honorary degree from Quincy College and was awarded the Boston College Alumni Achievement Award for Excellence in Education.

Ken first joined Curry College in 1985 as an adjunct professor. Ken then went on to become a professor of business management before being named Curry College’s 14th president in 1996. Throughout Ken’s 27-year tenure as president, student enrollment tripled, and the school added numerous undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Under Ken’s leadership, Curry College considerably grew its endowment and constructed several new residential and academic buildings.

Outside of his work as president, Ken is involved in a variety of programs and organizations across the South Shore and Cape Cod. Throughout his career, Ken has also served

as chair of the Board of Trustees of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, the Board of the Associated Independent Colleges and Universities of Massachusetts, and the South Shore Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, Ken has served as a member on the Board of Trustees at Xaverian Brothers High School and as an honorary director of the Cape Cod Baseball League.

After 27 years of leadership, Ken steps down from his role as president of Curry College on June 15, 2023. Ken's dedication to both the students and faculty of Curry College over the years serves as an example to all.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Kenneth Quigley, and I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing his career and commitment to the students of Curry College and the greater South Shore community.

HONORING ROBERT WOMBLE

HON. CHUCK EDWARDS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Robert Womble for his invaluable work as a Congressional Intern serving in my D.C. office. I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his hard work and recognize the meaningful contributions he made at the office this summer.

Robert Womble is from Bryson City, North Carolina. Robert is a rising senior at High Point University majoring in International Relations. He will graduate from High Point University in 2024. Robert has experience working for the High Point Office of Student life as a Resident Assistant and is extensively involved in volunteer work with his local church and public library.

Interns work with staff to serve constituents in North Carolina's 11th Congressional District. Robert was chosen from a competitive pool of applicants and exceeded every expectation.

It was a pleasure to work with Robert, and I am proud to have such an intelligent and ambitious intern representing my office. Robert exemplified the spirit of public service and represents the best that Western North Carolina has to offer. Congratulations to Robert on the successful completion of his internship.

RECOGNIZING PERRY FARM VILLAGE'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Perry Farm Village for 20 years of continued service and for their upcoming dedication ceremony on June 28, 2023, which launches their newest living space, The Birches. Perry Farm Village is a world-class senior living facility in Harbor Springs that has offered services and care to residents over the age of 55 for two decades. From in-house dining to a plethora of supportive services designed to make the transition from independent living to assisted living as seamless as possible, Perry Farm Village has had a

positive impact on many in Northern Michigan and will continue to do so for years to come.

Operated by Presbyterian Villages of Michigan (PVM), a well-respected non-profit with over 75 years of experience across the state, Perry Farm Village has been able to build and grow off the success of PVM and has become an invaluable resource for seniors and their families to rely on in times of need. Their experience in providing care, living assistance, and a loving and nurturing environment for seniors is unmatched in our state.

Perry Farm Village allows for new areas of care to be prioritized and individualized for each resident electing to reside in these spaces, especially with the opening of The Birches. Memory and Respite Care is the hallmark of The Birches, and it is heartening to see such devotion to seniors' wellbeing in all capacities. I appreciate the staff, volunteers, and everyone involved in making this facility a success and a living testament to the hard-working spirit of all Michiganders.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Perry Farm Village for 20 years of continued service to the residents of Harbor Springs and to congratulate them on the opening and dedication of their new living space, The Birches. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I wish everyone involved in Perry Farm Village and their history of successful service the best in their future endeavors.

HONORING THE PATRIOTIC SERVICE AND SACRIFICES OF OUR FALLEN HEROES

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of the United States. From the icy waters of the Delaware River to the burning sands of the Middle East, our armed forces have continuously devoted themselves to the cause of freedom and liberty for all Americans and our allies.

Today, we take a moment to honor those who have given the last full measure of devotion that we might continue to proclaim the United States as the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave. Our warriors have ensured with their very blood that all Americans might live in peace and security. They have fought in the unforgiving trenches of Western Europe, stormed the beaches of Normandy, endured the harsh winters of Korea, and trudged through the jungles of Vietnam. Time and again, our veterans have shown we will meet any foe on land, sea, or in the air and we will prevail.

Our district is no stranger to heroes, with one of the finest examples of American bravery being First Lieutenant Audie Murphy. He remains the most decorated American Soldier in our nation's history, having received the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, two Silver Star Medals, three Bronze Stars, three Purple Hearts, and many other citations. Lt. Murphy hailed from Kingston, Texas in Hunt County. While he is a shining example of American heroism, this same spirit lives on in all who have heeded the call to serve their nation from the Fourth District.

I ask today that we all take a moment to recognize our veterans whose sacrifices have safeguarded the freedoms we cherish today. We will always remember their selfless acts of valor, and may God rest their souls.

RECOGNIZING EVERETT'S MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Everett Lions Club on their formal dedication of the statue, "Brothers of Honor" to memorialize Everett Medal of Honor recipients, Sergeant Ellis Weicht and Staff Sergeant Robert Hartsock.

The Everett Lions Club has continuously dedicated their efforts to ensuring the legacy of our American heroes is kept alive. With an unwavering focus on honoring those who served, and those who never returned home, the Lions Club has created a life-sized bronze monument to Medal of Honor recipients Sergeant Ellis and Staff Sergeant Robert Hartsock, for their valor in combat.

Sergeant Ellis Weicht received the Medal of Honor for his actions in Saint-Hippolyte, France on December 3, 1944—while commanding an assault against encamped enemy positions in the town, Sergeant Weicht drew enemy fire, and with disregard for his own safety, provided effective fire before being mortally wounded.

On February 23, 1969, Staff Sergeant Hartsock was serving with the 44th Infantry Platoon when the Dau Tieng Base Camp came under attack. During the attack, Staff Sergeant Hartsock led his men bravely, protecting the vital brigade tactical operations center and nearby prisoner compound. As an enemy fighter detonated a satchel charge, Staff Sergeant Hartsock, with no regard for his own safety, pulled the charge under himself in order to shield his fellow soldiers from the blast.

Both of these men gave their lives while working to save the lives of the men they served beside, and we owe them both a debt of gratitude that we can never fully repay.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I thank the Everett Lions Club for their dedication to honoring these men who, in the words of President Abraham Lincoln, have given "the last full measure of devotion."

RECOGNIZING RICHARD LIPSITZ, JR.

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend Richard Lipsitz, Jr., as he receives the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Western New York Area Labor Federation's Annual Award Dinner.

A steadfast champion for working men and women, Richard began his labor organizing career in 1973, and rose through the ranks at

SEIU and the Teamsters union, eventually leading Western New York's Area Labor Federation for a decade.

From picket lines to shop floors and from union halls to the halls of power, Richard has been a forceful voice for working men and women, always working to improve and defend workers' living standards and working conditions. As leader of the ALF, Richard repeatedly demonstrated his talent for building consensus among broad and diverse constituencies so that policymakers and the public at large would see what united the labor movement, not what could potentially divide it; this has led to real, tangible successes in public policy and organizing. His talent and diligence would make this difficult work of consensus-building look easy, though surely this was not always the case.

Richard remains a trusted and thoughtful advisor to labor leaders, elected officials and civic leaders in Western New York and far beyond. His crystal-clear insight, far-reaching perceptiveness and his deep understanding of labor, economics and government make that advice invaluable.

I am pleased to join the Western New York Area Labor Federation in thanking Richard Lipsitz for his lifetime of dedication to the cause of working men and women. We are all the better for his good work.

OPPOSING H.R. 277, "REGULATION FROM THE EXECUTIVE IN NEED OF SCRUTINY (REINS) ACT," AND H.R. 288 "THE SEPARATION OF POWERS RESTORATION ACT OF 2023"

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reassert my opposition to H.R. 277, the "Regulation from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act" and H.R. 288, "The Separation of Powers Restoration Act of 2023."

H.R. 277, the REINS Act, is a measure that has been offered by Republicans dating back to 2012, is and has always been a problematic bill that would restrict agency rulemaking procedures and undermine public health and safety.

Because it would require both houses of Congress to pass, and the President to sign, a joint resolution of approval for any major rule before they can take effect, this bill would effectively act as a chokehold on Federal agency rulemaking.

I, along with my colleagues, have attempted to address many of the ills these bills purport by offering common sense amendments that Republicans have continued to refuse any meaningful consideration.

My amendment to H.R. 277, listed on the Rules Committee roster as Amendment No. 30, would have exempted from the bill the congressional approval requirement for any proposed rule that is made to ensure the safety of products used or consumed by children under the age of 2.

Without such an amendment, the REINS Act cripples the Federal government's ability to protect our children and prioritize their safety.

As it stands, this bill has no exceptions or flexibility when it comes to pressing issues of public health and safety.

It is deeply troubling that REINS Act will delay the implementation of integral new public health and safety safeguards, putting our children at risk.

As such, the REINS Act will ultimately fail to protect the public as it places an expertise-based process into the hands of the government, allowing the political games we have seen in the House this Congress to continue.

Because of the special vulnerability of young children and the distinct threat that the implementation of the REINS Act poses to the current regulatory process, I urge my colleagues to join me in opposition to H.R. 277.

H.R. 288, "The Separation of Powers Restoration Act of 2023" purports to address constitutional and statutory deficiencies in the judicial review of agency rulemaking.

Yet, this bill is a long-repeated effort to shift the scope and authority of judicial review of agency actions away from federal agencies by amending Section 706 of the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) to "require that courts decide all relevant questions of law, including all questions of the interpretation of constitutional, statutory, and regulatory provisions, on a de novo basis without deference to the agency that promulgated the final rule, unless otherwise expressly provided by statute.

Effectively, H.R. 288 would abolish judicial deference to agencies' statutory interpretations in federal rulemaking and create harmful and costly burdens to the administrative process.

Mr. Speaker, I am concerned about the ability for agencies to act in times of imminent need to protect citizens.

In particular, H.R. 288 would make sweeping and dangerous changes that would jeopardize the ability of the Department of Homeland Security to protect our nation in times of urgent and imminent need.

My amendment to H.R. 288 listed on the Rules Committee roster as Amendment No. 3, would have been a simple but necessary revision that would remedy this concern by excluding from the bill cases with rules made by the Secretary of Homeland Security and pertaining to any matter of national security.

As a Senior Member of the Homeland Security Committee, I understand the many challenges the Department of the Homeland Security (DHS) already faces and its critically important role in preventing terror threats and keeping Americans safe.

The Department is the first line of defense in protecting the nation and leading recovery efforts from all-hazards and threats which include everything from weapons of mass destruction to natural disasters.

We do not need to be reminded of the heightened state of security our nation is in and the ever-increasing demands imposed upon our government agencies tasked with keeping our borders and citizens safe.

Now is not the time to undermine or slow the ability of DHS and its ability to address growing threats and active acts of terrorism.

The overall mission of DHS is too critical and its functions indispensably essential, such that it would be impugned to do anything that will slow down the process that allows DHS to do its job.

Given the absence of my essential amendment and the fact that H.R. 288 would cripple Federal agency's ability to act in times of imminent need, I urge opposition to H.R. 288.

RECOGNIZING GENERAL JÓZEF HALLER'S "BLUE ARMY" VETERANS

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize General Józef Haller's "Blue Army" Veterans buried at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield, Michigan. Dressed in horizon blue uniforms, they valiantly served on the Western Front of World War I and in Poland's subsequent struggle for independence. These individuals deserve unwavering praise and respect for their sacrifices. We posthumously extend our gratitude to all buried at Sepulchre Cemetery and celebrate their legacy for generations to come.

Consisting of 24,000 Polish immigrants from the United States, many of the 68,000 total in the "Blue Army" concluded their service in the early 1920s and returned to the United States to further pursue the American Dream. Unfortunately, upon their return stateside, they did not receive the support and recognition they deserved. Many relied on charity in order to survive and could not find support from the United States or Polish governments. For this, I call on us all to come together and share a moment of well-deserved appreciation and thanks to those that had not been properly acknowledged during their lifetimes.

On June 17, 2023, we will show our respect with the placement of a monument and grave-stones in honor of those buried at Sepulchre Cemetery. Many families did not have the funds available to properly mark the graves of their loved ones, so to remedy this, the Polish Institute of Culture and Research has worked tirelessly to construct a monument and 60 gravestones to cement the memory of those buried.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize General Józef Haller's "Blue Army" Veterans and those buried at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. I also want to thank the Polish Institute of Culture and Research for their work and for honoring the lives and sacrifices of so many Polish Veterans. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I extend my gratitude to all members of the "Blue Army" and their families and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING RODNEY SMOLDON

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the great achievements and outstanding leadership of Rodney Smoldon, who will be retiring as Forest Supervisor for the Colville National Forest on June 30, 2023.

Rodney was born and raised in Eastern Washington. He graduated from Eastern Washington University in 1985 and has spent the last two decades managing the Colville National Forest, which covers 1.6 million acres and is known for its wild huckleberries, camping, hiking and horse trails, lakes, rivers, and some of the most exciting wildlife Mother Nature has to offer.

Throughout his career, Rodney served in a number of leadership roles in both California and Washington, including as a District Ranger on the Okanogan-Wenatchee, Plumas, and El Dorado National Forests. He returned to the Colville in 2008 as the Deputy Forest Supervisor and later became a Ranger. In 2015, he was named the Forest Supervisor for the entire Colville National Forest.

Rodney's tenure as Forest Supervisor was defined by leadership that made the Colville National Forest one of the most productive national forests in the country. He made it his mission to champion innovative conservation efforts and proactive forest management strategies in the hopes of unleashing economic opportunities for our rural communities and protecting the forest for generations to come.

And it worked. Rodney's innovative approach secured the A to Z Project, a public-private partnership where local communities, conservation groups, the recreational community, industry, and the forest service teamed up to proactively and collaboratively manage Colville National Forest. This project has been remarkably successful in mitigating wildfire risks in our community and serves as a national model for forest restoration that will improve our environment and the economy.

Rodney's passion for the land, the people, and the communities he serves is unmatched. His career of service is proof of that. He never stopped searching for new ways to increase the pace and scale of restoration, and he would always ask why or how we could do better. This results-driven mindset is what empowered our partnership to be so successful throughout the years.

Mr. Speaker, I will dearly miss working with my friend Rodney Smoldon when he retires at the end of the month, but I know the best is yet to come for him and his family. In honor of an illustrious career of dedicated service to the Colville National Forest and the entire Northeastern Washington community, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Rodney Smoldon on his retirement. We wish him the best as he embarks on his next adventure.

CELEBRATING THE EXPANSION OF
ROCKWALL HIGH SCHOOL

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the groundbreaking of Rockwall High School's newest Ninth Grade Center. Located in Rockwall, Texas, Rockwall High School operates as part of Rockwall Independent School District and has continuously prepared North Texas students for success.

Rockwall ISD's first documented schools date back to the late 1840's near Heath, Texas. Its first high school was founded in 1925, and the first superintendent was J.A. Wilkerson, who also served as a math teacher and football coach. In 1935, Rockwall ISD purchased its first school bus and began transporting students from nearby county schools.

Under Superintendent Wilkerson's leadership, Rockwall ISD constructed its first football stadium, now known as the Hobart Wisdom Field. Over thirty years later, the new Wilkerson-Sanders Memorial Stadium was

constructed in honor of Mr. Wilkerson and Harvey Sanders, a local businessman and longtime supporter.

Rockwall High School first opened in 1965 and has expanded its educational outreach over the years to local counties. The new Ninth Grade Center is expected to be completed by August 2024, and it will encompass state-of-the-art technology centers, lounge areas, and refreshing outdoor spaces to accommodate all students. I'm proud to represent such distinguished students, and I look forward to their continued growth and success.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize this historic expansion for the students, teachers, and staff of North Texas. Congratulations to Rockwall High School, and I wish all students an excellent school year.

OPPOSING H.R. 1615, THE "GAS STOVE PROTECTION AND FREEDOM ACT" AND H.R. 1640, THE "SAVE OUR STOVES ACT"

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 1615, the Gas Stove Protection and Freedom Act, and H.R. 1640, the Save Our Stoves Act. These bills are the latest Republican attempt to manufacture a crisis and reject commonsense rulemaking from the Biden administration. These bills are purposefully misleading and reject legitimate concerns about the threats gas stoves pose to our personal safety, public safety, and the energy efficiency of our homes.

Since 1972, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has worked with manufacturers to protect Americans from unsafe consumer products by issuing recalls, developing safety standards, and conducting research into product-related illness and injury. The CPSC does not have the authority to ban gas stoves, but they are obligated to ensure the gas stoves in our homes aren't hazardous for our health. For example, in December 2022, CPSC issued a recall on a specific gas stove product that was found to pose serious risk of injury or death from carbon monoxide poisoning. H.R. 1615 would prohibit CPSC from protecting consumers from a similar hazardous problem with gas stoves in the future. Why would we limit the CPSC's ability to issue recalls on products that will harm our families? Congress should be encouraging CPSC to explore all allegations that appliances or other consumer products are unsafe to children and adults and should give the CPSC more, not fewer, tools for eliminating or mitigating the safety risks they uncover.

Contrary to Republican talking points, the Biden administration is not coming to take your gas stove. That is simply untrue. The Department of Energy (DOE) does not have the authority to ban gas stoves or other appliances based on fuel sources, nor should it have the authority. The DOE is mandated by Congress to set energy efficiency standards for home appliances. As required, the Department issued new energy efficiency standards in February 2023. Nearly half of gas stoves on the market are already in compliance with the

new DOE energy efficiency standard, and the rule gives manufacturers three years to comply with the new standard. Yet H.R. 1640 goes further than just disapproving the new standard. The bill will also limit future rulemaking for energy efficient appliances. Mr. Speaker, why wouldn't we want more efficient appliances in the future?

Mr. Speaker, with these two bills, Republicans are completely disregarding legitimate concerns about the nitrogen dioxide emitted by gas stoves. Members of Congress should not be fearmongering nor hiding data on the health impacts of gas stoves. Americans should have access to the most up-to-date information on consumer products so they can make purchases that are right for them.

H.R. 1615 and H.R. 1640 should be rejected.

HONORING MANALAPAN TOWNSHIP

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Manalapan Township as they celebrate the 175th anniversary of the township's incorporation this week.

Previously a part of Freehold Township, in February of 1848, the New Jersey State Legislature founded Manalapan Township as a separate town, which is now part of New Jersey's 3rd District. The town received its name from Lenape Indian words "manel" for drinking and "paune" for bread, which meant good land to settle upon for Indigenous peoples. Manalapan originated as a rural farm town within our state, and over many years, held a major role within the agricultural industry, growing grains and a wide variety of vegetables.

During the American Revolution, Manalapan served as a crossroad for one of the sites of the Battle of Monmouth, which occurred on June 28, 1778 and involved 30,000 British and Continental troops. On the 200th anniversary of the Battle, in 1978, the State of New Jersey opened the 1,520 acre Monmouth Battlefield State Park, a majority of which is in Manalapan Township. Every year to commemorate the occasion, the town also holds a reenactment of the Battle, which was a notable part of the Revolution.

Throughout these major events, the town has grown past its original humble beginnings. With only 1,910 people calling it home at the time of its incorporation, Manalapan quickly rose to have the population of over 39,000 residents that exists today. Known by many as a safe community with many local draws like excellent schools and convenient access to metropolitan areas, the town has become a destination for many families to build their lives and have a place to call home.

We are proud to celebrate the accomplishments of Manalapan Township over the course of their 175-year history. I look forward to all they will continue to accomplish and many more years of notable milestones.

HONORING RACHEL LEPINE

HON. CHUCK EDWARDS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Rachel Lepine for her invaluable work as a Congressional Intern serving in my D.C. office. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her hard work and recognize the meaningful contributions she made at the office this summer.

Rachel Lepine is from Hendersonville, North Carolina. Rachel graduated from the Honors College at Western Carolina University in December 2022 with a Bachelor of Science in Political Science and minor in Journalism. Rachel previously completed a successful internship for the City of Hendersonville in communications and was an Undergraduate Research Associate at Western Carolina University.

Interns work with staff to serve constituents in North Carolina's 11th Congressional District. Rachel was chosen from a competitive pool of applicants and exceeded every expectation.

It was a pleasure to work with Rachel. and I am proud to have such an intelligent and ambitious intern representing my office. Rachel exemplified the spirit of public service and represents the best that Western North Carolina has to offer. Congratulations to Rachel on the successful completion of her internship.

CELEBRATING THE EXPANSION OF
ROCKWALL-HEATH HIGH SCHOOL**HON. PAT FALLON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the groundbreaking of Rockwall-Heath High School's newest Ninth Grade Center. Located in Heath, Texas, Rockwall-Heath High School operates as part of Rockwall Independent School District and has continuously prepared North Texas students for success.

Rockwall ISD's first documented schools date back to the late 1840's near Heath, Texas. Its first high school was founded in 1925, and the first superintendent was J.A. Wilkerson, who also served as a math teacher and football coach. In 1935, Rockwall ISD purchased its first school bus and began transporting students from nearby county schools.

Under Superintendent Wilkerson's leadership, Rockwall ISD constructed its first football stadium, now known as the Hobart Wisdom Field. Over thirty years later, the new Wilkerson-Sanders Memorial Stadium was constructed in honor of Mr. Wilkerson and Harvey Sanders, a local businessman and longtime supporter.

Rockwall-Heath High School first opened in 2005 and has expanded its educational outreach over the years to local counties. The new Ninth Grade Center is expected to be completed by August 2024, and it will encompass state-of-the-art technology centers, lounge areas, and refreshing outdoor spaces to accommodate all students. I'm proud to represent such distinguished students, and I look forward to their continued growth and success.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize this historic expansion for the students, teachers, and staff of North Texas. Congratulations to Rockwall-Heath High School, and I wish all students an excellent school year.

RECOGNIZING THE JOB WINSLOW
CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL SO-
CIETY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF
THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**HON. JACK BERGMAN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the Job Winslow Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR). Located in Traverse City, the chapter was initially organized and chartered in 1914. It was named in honor of Job Winslow, a Veteran of the Revolutionary War from Dighton, Massachusetts. He was a soldier, patriot, and loving father to his daughter, Elida Jane Winslow Lind, who resided in the Traverse City area. As Michiganders, we extend our utmost gratitude to the Winslow Family and offer best wishes to the members of the chapter for their Commemorative Marker Ceremony, held on June 17, 2023.

The NSDAR boasts over 50 chapters in Michigan alone and has connected with countless members throughout their time in our state. They offer programs to their local community, schools, Veterans, and military personnel, which throughout the chapter's 109-year history has emphasized health, structural support systems, and other lifeline resources.

On June 17, 2023, members of the chapter, their families, and other attendees will gather at Oakwood Cemetery to bestow a well-deserved plaque upon Elida Jane Winslow Lind's grave, honoring the legacy of both Elida and her father.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the Job Winslow Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution and I wish them well for their Commemorative Marker Ceremony on June 17, 2023. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I extend my appreciation to all involved in the NSDAR and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

OPPOSING H.R. 1615, THE "GAS
STOVE PROTECTION OF FREE-
DOM ACT" AND H.R. 1640, THE
"SAVE OUR GAS STOVES ACT"**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to speak in opposition to the proposed legislation, H.R. 1615, the Gas Stove Protection Freedom Act and H.R. 1640, the Save our Gas Stoves Act.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is responsible for protecting children and other consumers from unreasonable risk of injury or death from consumer products.

The CPSC carries out its mission by investigating allegations that consumer products pose an unreasonable safety risk, working with industry to develop voluntary product safety standards, issuing, and enforcing mandatory standards on hazardous consumer products, and recalling unsafe consumer products or arranging for their repair.

The CPSC has a history of protecting children and adults from safety risks across a wide range of products, including removing hazardous infant sleep products from the market, adopting corded window coverings standards to prevent strangulation of children, and working with industry to reduce the risk of fires from micro mobility devices like hoverboards and e-scooters.

Republicans are deliberately misleading the American public with this legislation, which is designed to scare consumers and, unfortunately, Republicans are ignoring the reasonable steps the CPSC has taken to study and address the hazards posed to our children by gas stove emissions.

Legitimate concerns have been raised about the health impact, particularly on children, of the nitrogen dioxide emitted by gas stoves.

Observational studies have found that children living in households that use gas stoves are 42 percent more likely to have asthma.

In December 2022, CPSC issued a recall on a specific gas stove product that was found to be a serious risk of injury or death from carbon monoxide poisoning.

H.R. 1615 would prohibit CPSC from using its rulemaking authority to ban all such hazardous products to protect to Americans.

As the Chairman of the CPSC explained earlier this year, the Commission does not have a proceeding to ban gas stoves but is researching gas stoves and exploring ways to address health risks.

The Republicans' bill peddles the lie that the Biden Administration is attempting to ban gas stoves, but the facts simply are not on their side.

H.R. 1615 will stifle scientific investigation into health hazards and create bad precedent when it comes to protecting our children from health and safety hazards.

Protecting and improving the health and well-being of our children should not be a partisan issue.

On a bipartisan basis, we should be encouraging the CPSC to explore all allegations that appliances or other consumer products put our children's health at risk and give the CPSC more, not fewer, tools for eliminating or mitigating safety risks they uncover.

It is unconscionable to limit the CPSC's options for addressing the potential risks of gas stoves—a product found in homes across America—before the CPSC has fully explored the risks posed by gas stoves and potential solutions.

Efficiency standards are not bans.

Republicans are deliberately misleading the American public to prevent the Department of Energy (DOE) from fulfilling its statutory obligations and finalizing an efficiency standard that will save consumers money.

H.R. 1640 prohibits the Secretary of Energy from finalizing or enforcing a February 2023 proposed rule that would improve the efficiency of electric and gas stoves, ultimately saving families money on their energy bills.

The Republicans' bill simply peddles the lie that the Biden Administration is attempting to

ban gas stoves, but the facts simply are not on their side.

DOE cannot ban gas stoves. DOE is simply proceeding with a Congressionally mandated efficiency standard.

The proposed efficiency standard will save Americans money through lower energy bills while cutting harmful indoor air pollution that disproportionately impacts children's health.

DOE's proposed rule is one of their statutorily required standards—and it follows years of inaction and missed statutorily mandated standards deadlines by the Trump Administration.

In the Fall of 2020, multiple organizations and states filed lawsuits asserting Trump's DOE was in violation of deadlines for the review of 25 of its energy conservation standards.

This Republican bill doubles down on that legacy by obstructing DOE from doing what Congress and a court settlement have required it to do.

Republicans' fearmongering over gas stoves is nothing more than a cheap political stunt designed to scare consumers and protect their fossil fuel friends.

H.R. 1640 prioritizes profits for Big Oil and Gas over the health and economic well-being of everyday Americans.

Efficiency standards save Americans money, while the Republicans' bill will only increase energy costs for Americans and pad the pockets of their fossil fuel friends.

Republicans' scare tactics include pushing a false narrative about how "96 percent of gas stoves on the market don't meet the proposed standard."

This is simply not true.

This deliberate fearmongering is the result of Republicans purposefully misrepresenting DOE data to serve their own political goals.

The statistic Republicans are referencing comes from a DOE test of high-end models that they anticipated would not meet the standard. The test, by design, was not representative of the entire market.

The truth is, nearly half of products on the market today are already in compliance with the proposed rule, including all entry level models.

In a testament to just how far Republicans are willing to go to prop up their polluter friends, H.R. 1640 goes beyond an amendment offered by Rep. PALMER (R-AL) that was added to H.R. 1 by significantly limiting future DOE rulemaking.

This bill does not include a sunset clause—it could forever limit DOE from taking substantive action to improve the energy efficiency of Americans' cooktops.

While the Palmer Amendment would prevent DOE from moving forward with one standard related to cooktop efficiency, H.R. 1640 goes even further by amending the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to restrict DOE from taking similar action in the future.

This bill sets a bad precedent that polluters could seek to exploit.

DOE is already prohibited from banning products based on their fuel source, but H.R. 1640 adds yet another hurdle: it requires DOE to prove that a conservation standard is not likely to result in the unavailability of a product based on the fuel it consumes.

This added condition could significantly weaken and slow down DOE's ability to issue future energy conservation standards.

DOE's proposed energy efficiency standard for gas and electric stoves is smart, common-sense policy that would cut pollution, improve Americans' health, and lower energy bills. And it can be achieved using readily available design changes.

DOE's commonsense proposal will benefit Americans' health and pocketbooks.

DOE estimates the proposal will: Save consumers as much as \$1.71 billion and slash nearly 22 million metric tons of carbon dioxide and 245 thousand tons of methane.

These benefits would come without imposing any undue burdens on manufacturers.

DOE's proposed rule gives manufacturers three years after the date of the rule's publication to comply.

Nearly half of products on the market today are already in compliance with the proposed rule, and there are readily available design changes available for those that don't.

Energy efficiency standards are popular: three out of five Americans support stricter energy efficiency standards for appliances and buildings.

It is time we stop the negativity and counter-productive efforts that are ripping apart our country, and to instead focus on coming together to work towards sensible and effective solutions that can work for the betterment and growth of our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK T. McHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mr. McHENRY. Mr. Speaker, due to an illness, I was unable to attend votes on June 14, 2023.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 257; YEA on Roll Call No. 258; NAY on Roll Call No. 259; NAY on Roll Call No. 260; NAY on Roll Call No. 261; YEA on Roll Call No. 262; YEA on Roll Call No. 263; NAY on Roll Call No. 264; YEA on Roll Call No. 265; NAY on Roll Call No. 266; NAY on Roll Call No. 267; YEA on Roll Call No. 268; and NAY on Roll Call No. 269.

RECOGNIZING BRIAN KEITH

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize Battalion Chief Brian Keith for his 24 years of service with the Dearborn Fire Department in Michigan's 12th District Strong.

Battalion Chief Keith began his career as a firefighter with the Dearborn Fire Department in 1999. Over the past 24 years, he has served in numerous roles and has remained steadfast in his commitment to service and keeping our communities safe. Battalion Chief Keith has been recognized many times over the course of his career in Dearborn for his exemplary record, including lifesaving, valor and for his military service. He has also been awarded the esteemed John D. Dingell Medal of Freedom Memorial Commendation in 2019.

Please join me in recognizing Battalion Chief Brian Keith for his 24 years of out-

standing service to the people of Dearborn in Michigan's 12th District Strong as we wish him well in his retirement.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF JOE BARRON

HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Joe Barron on his retirement from Kennywood, an amusement park in West Mifflin, Pennsylvania, where he worked for over 50 years.

In 1972, Mr. Barron began working in the games department at Kennywood at 16 years old. Two years later, Joe met a new hire, Peggy, while staffing a Skee-Ball machine. She would later become his wife.

Joe's distinguished career at Kennywood included rising to Human Resources Director in the personnel department and serving as Human Resources Chairman of the International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions for years.

For 51 years, nearly every employee hired at Kennywood has had the pleasure of working alongside Mr. Barron, including his own children—and me as a teenager. As the years and management changed, Joe remained a staple at the park, driving to preserve the park's status and cultural significance to the greater Pittsburgh area. His deep respect and interest in the lives of the park's staff undoubtedly fostered the family-friendly atmosphere experienced by his colleagues and all who visit the park. Kennywood will sorely miss Joe's leadership and kind-spiritedness.

Mr. Speaker, Joe Barron's innumerable contributions to the success of Kennywood and its staff are an inspiring example of the rewards of hard work, dedication to one's profession, and service to others. On behalf of Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District, I congratulate Mr. Barron on his retirement and wish him continued success in the next chapter of his life.

RECOGNIZING U.S. COAST GUARD SECTOR SAULT SAINTE MARIE

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Captain Anthony R. Jones and Captain James R. Bendle of U.S. Coast Guard Sector Sault Sainte Marie. Captain Jones will be relieved by Captain Bendle on Friday, June 23, at their Change of Command Ceremony. Since beginning his time as Sector Commander of USCG Sector Sault Sainte Marie in July of 2020, Captain Jones has overseen and protected over 1,850 miles of shoreline and 560 miles of border between the United States and Canada. His expertise and exceptional work over the past few years have allowed the station to navigate everchanging weather, obstacles, and needs from the public—and for that I am grateful.

Leading more than 750 active duty, reserve, civilian, and supplemental personnel, Captain

Jones and his colleagues have cultivated a truly strong and capable team in Michigan's First District, one that performs lifesaving services across Northern Michigan and the Midwest. Captain Jones's time as Sector Commander has certainly brought with it times of great stress and gravity, but his spirit and determination to serve our nation's citizens has remained unbroken.

His successor, Captain Bendle, will soon be assuming his position and taking responsibility for the Sector's personnel, as well as their 23 watercrafts distributed across their seven stations. The various challenges that he will face will certainly be a little easier to overcome, thanks to the example of Captain Jones.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Captain Anthony R. Jones for his exceptional

work as Sector Commander of USCG Sector Sault Sainte Marie and Captain James R. Bendle for being selected to replace him during their Change of Command Ceremony being held on June 23, 2023. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I extend my gratitude to Captain Jones, Captain Bendle, and their families, and wish them the best in their future endeavors.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2105–S2128

Measures Introduced: Forty-one bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2003–2043, and S. Res. 254–257. **Pages S2122–23**

Measures Passed:

Father's Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 256, recognizing Father's Day and the role of father engagement in improving the overall health and life outcomes for both the mother and baby. **Page S2128**

Glioblastoma Awareness Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 257, designating July 19, 2023, as "Glioblastoma Awareness Day". **Pages S2127–28**

Merle Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Natasha C. Merle, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York. **Page S2115**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Julie Rikelman, of Massachusetts, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit. **Page S2115**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S2115**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S2115**

Chile Tax Convention Treaty—Cloture: Senate began consideration of Treaty Doc. 112–8, the Convention between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Chile for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital, signed in Washington on February 4, 2010, with a Protocol signed the same day, as corrected by exchanges of notes effected February 25, 2011, and February 10 and 21, 2012, and a related agreement effected by exchange of notes (the "related Agreement") on February 4, 2010. **Pages S2115–16**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the treaty, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Natasha C. Merle, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York. **Page S2116**

Prior to the consideration of this treaty, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S2115**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the treaty. **Page S2115**

Rikelman Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Julie Rikelman, of Massachusetts, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit. **Pages S2117–18**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 53 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 165), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S2117**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 3 p.m., on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, Senate resume consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, and that all time be considered expired at 5:30 p.m.; and that the motions to invoke cloture filed during today's session of Thursday, June 15, 2023, ripen on Wednesday, June 21, 2023. **Page S2128**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 50 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. EX. 164), Nusrat Jahan Choudhury, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York. **Pages S2106–09**

Messages from the House: **Page S2122**

Measures Referred: **Page S2122**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Pages S2105, S2122**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2123–24**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2124–27**

Additional Statements: Pages S2121–22
Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S2127
Privileges of the Floor: Page S2127
Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—165) Pages S2109, S2117

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 3:02 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Friday, June 16, 2023. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2128.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

IMPACTS OF PLASTIC PRODUCTION AND DISPOSAL

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Chemical Safety, Waste Management, Environmental Justice, and Regulatory Oversight concluded a hearing to examine the impacts of plastic production and disposal on environmental justice communities, after receiving testimony from Sharon Lavigne, Rise St. James, Berkeley, California; Angelle Bradford, Sierra Club Delta Chapter, New Orleans, Louisiana; Chris Tandazo, New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance, Summit; Donna Jackson, Project 21, Kensington, Maryland; and Kevin Sunday, Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry, Harrisburg.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

S. 133, to extend the National Alzheimer's Project, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 134, to require an annual budget estimate for the initiatives of the National Institutes of Health pursuant to reports and recommendations made under the National Alzheimer's Project Act;

S. 265, to reauthorize the rural emergency medical service training and equipment assistance program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1844, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to reauthorize user fee programs relating to new animal drugs and generic new animal drugs, with an amendment;

S. 1852, to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a sickle cell disease prevention and treatment demonstration program; and

S. 1855, to reauthorize the Special Diabetes Program for Type 1 Diabetes and the Special Diabetes Program for Indians.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 1094, to provide a temporary safe harbor for publishers of online content to collectively negotiate with dominant online platforms regarding the terms on which content may be distributed.

PLANNING FOR EMERGENCIES

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine planning for older Americans and people with disabilities in all phases of emergencies, after receiving testimony from DeeDee Bennett Gayle, State University of New York, Albany; Jonathan M. Bydlak, R Street Institute, Washington, D.C.; Mahshid Abir, The RAND Corporation, Ann Arbor, Michigan; and Annie Lloyd, Darlington, Pennsylvania.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 55 public bills, H.R. 16, 4141–4194; and 10 resolutions, H.J. Res. 74–75; and H. Res. 512–519, were introduced. Pages H2956–59

Additional Cosponsors: Pages H2961–62

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Deacon Dan S. Borné, Diocese of Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Page H2937

Recess: The House recessed at 9:54 a.m. and reconvened at 10:01 a.m. Page H2944

Separation of Powers Restoration Act of 2023: The House passed H.R. 288, to amend title 5, United States Code, to clarify the nature of judicial review of agency interpretations of statutory and regulatory provisions, by a yea-and-nay vote of 220 yeas to 211 nays, Roll No. 271. Pages H2944–45

Rejected the Dean motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary, by a yea-and-nay vote of 210 yeas to 220 nays, Roll No. 270.

Pages H2944–45

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118–7 shall be considered as adopted, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill.

Pages H2938–44

Agreed to:

Hageman amendment (No. 1 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–108) that subjects interpretative rules, general statements of policy, and all other agency guidance to de novo judicial review.

Pages H2942–44

H. Res. 495, the rule providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 44), providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 277), (H.R. 288), (H.R. 1615), and (H.R. 1640) was agreed to Tuesday, June 13th.

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. tomorrow, June 16th, and further when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at noon on Tuesday, June 20th for Morning Hour debate.

Page H2945

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2944–45 and H2945.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Appropriations: Full Committee concluded a markup on the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies FY 2024 Appropriations Bill; and the Report on the Interim Suballocation of the Budget Allocations for FY 2024. The Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies FY 2024 Appropriations Bill and the Report on the Interim Suballocation of the Budget Allocations for FY 2024 were ordered reported, as amended.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies held a markup on the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies FY 2024 Appropriations Bill. The Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies FY

2024 Appropriations Bill was forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a markup on the Subcommittee on Defense Appropriations FY 2024 Appropriations Bill. The Subcommittee on Defense Appropriations FY 2024 Appropriations Bill was forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment. This markup was closed.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 3397, to require the Director of the Bureau of Land Management to withdraw a rule of the Bureau of Land Management relating to conservation and landscape health. Testimony was heard from Representative Curtis; Kristi Noem, Governor, South Dakota; Mark Gordon, Governor, Wyoming; Nada Wolff Culver, Principal Deputy Director, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; Kathy Chandler-Henry, Chair, Board of Commissioners, Eagle County, Colorado; and a public witness.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee concluded a markup on H.R. 2980, the “DOE and NSF Interagency Research Act”; H.R. 2988, the “DOE and NASA Interagency Research Coordination Act”; and H.R. 3559, the “FAA Research and Development Act of 2023”. H.R. 2980, H.R. 2988, and H.R. 3559 were ordered reported, as amended.

BUSINESS MEETING

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on National Intelligence Enterprise held a business meeting on the Subcommittee Chairman’s mark on legislation related to the FY24 Intelligence Authorization Act. The Subcommittee Chairman’s mark on legislation related to the FY24 Intelligence Authorization Act was agreed to. This meeting was closed.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D569)

S. 777, to increase, effective as of December 1, 2023, the rates of compensation for veterans with

service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans. Signed on June 14, 2023. (Public Law 118–6)

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY,
JUNE 16, 2023**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Friday, June 16

Senate Chamber

Program for Friday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 p.m., Friday, June 16

House Chamber

Program for Friday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 2 p.m.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

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