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House of Representatives

The House met at 2.p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 3, 2013.

I hereby appoint the Honorable STEVE WOMACK to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

We give You thanks, God of the universe, for giving us another day.

As the various Members of this people's House return, we ask Your blessing upon each as they resume the difficult responsibilities that await them. Give each the wisdom and good judgment needed to give credit to the office they have been honored by their constituencies to fill.

Bless the work of all who serve in their various capacities here in the United States Capitol.

Bless all those who visit the Capitol this day, be they American citizens or visitors or guests of our Nation. May they be inspired by this monument to the noble idea of human freedom and its guarantee by the democratic experiment that is the United States.

God, bless America, and may all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX 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.

GOD BLESS OUR TROOPS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, during the Memorial Day work period, I was grateful to participate on a congressional delegation visiting with servicemembers and our allies. We went to thank them, but the reality is our new greatest generation has inspired us.

We began at Pristina, Kosovo, where NATO personnel are nurturing a 5-year-old nation with a Muslim majority while respecting the rights of a Christian minority.

In Germany, we thanked the dedicated personnel of Landstuhl Regional Medical Center for lifesaving care of courageous warriors for freedom. At Kaiserslautern, the American City of Germany, we were reassured of Germany's appreciation of America's promoting peace through strength.

Across Afghanistan, we witnessed a developing civil society from the rubble of a Soviet occupation. Our heroic personnel have trained 352,000 Afghans into an effective force to protect the civilian population from cowardly terrorists.

To protect American families at home, we must deny safe havens from terrorists overseas.

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

AMNESTY IS NOT THE ANSWER

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, both the President and the Senate have immigration plans with a central component of amnesty for those who are in the country without the benefit of citizenship.

Past experience has shown us that amnesty hinders us from creating the actual solution to our problems. Remember Congress, in 1986, allowed amnesty during the Reagan administration. We were then promised solutions, but those have not been met.

But let's focus for just a minute on the reality and forget the rhetoric. Which country has been the most welcoming to new citizens? Which country has offered the oath of citizenship to more people who chose to legally enter that country? If you look at this chart, you see it on the far end. It's the United States of America, where, in 2010, 1 million new residents were offered the oath of citizenship. That's better than Turkey, better than Belgium, better than Germany.

Look, amnesty will not solve the problems of drug violence and firearms. In Texas, increased border patrol has been asked for but not delivered, and fencing along the southwest border has been canceled.

We already do a good job allowing new citizens into our country. Perhaps if we focus on securing our borders instead of rewarding or offering amnesty, some of the problems would become more manageable.

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STUDENT LOAN RATE HIKES

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, student loan interest rates are scheduled to double July 1 unless the President and Senate act now to remove politics from the rate-setting process.

No amount of White House campaigning will stop the increase. We have to work together. And that shouldn't be hard since House Republicans already share a great deal of common ground with President Obama's own interest rate proposal. He asked for a permanent solution to Washington's interest rate conundrum. He asked that the solution anchor rates in the market and away from election cycles and that it include protections for the most vulnerable. The Smarter Solutions for Students Act, passed by the House with bipartisan support, meets those criteria.

Our solution to stop rates from doubling provides a good starting point for Senate Democrats and President Obama to take action before July 1. The President must not cede this common ground to empty speeches and political posturing.

Let's build on the common ground to keep rates from doubling.

PRESIDENT'S COMPETENCY CALLED INTO QUESTION

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

Mr. BRIDENSTINE. Mr. Speaker, the President's Justice Department sold weapons to narcoterrorists south of our border who killed one of our finest.

The President's State Department lied about Benghazi with false information provided by the White House.

The President's Attorney General authorized spying on a Fox News journalist and his family for reporting on a North Korean nuclear test.

The President's Justice Department confiscated phone records of the Associated Press because they reported on a thwarted terrorist attack.

The President's Treasury Department uses the IRS to target political opposition.

The President's Health and Human Services Secretary pressures the insurance companies she is supposed to regulate to promote ObamaCare, which is the same law she uses to force citizens to pay for abortion-inducing drugs against their religious liberties.

Mr. Speaker, the President's dishonesty, incompetence, vengefulness, and lack of moral compass lead many to suggest that he is not fit to lead. The only problem is that his Vice President is equally unfit and even more embarrassing.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair advises Members to refrain from improper references to the President and Vice President.

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF TIANANMEN SQUARE

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

Mr. WOLF. Twenty-four years ago, peaceful, pro-democracy demonstrators gathered in Tiananmen Square were brutally crushed by the People's Liberation Army. The Chinese Government remains frightened by the spirit that animated that protest.

I will submit for the RECORD an article from today's Washington Post, which reported that:

> In the 2½ decades since the protests' violent end, China's government has largely scrubbed Tiananmen from history.

In 1991, Congressman CHRIS SMITH and I traveled to China where we visited Beijing Prison Number One, which housed approximately 40 Tiananmen Square protesters. While our request to visit the demonstrators was denied, we left with a pair of socks made by prisoners for export to the West.

The events of the past and the continued repression today are made worse by this administration's failure to prioritize human rights in our relationship with China.

Will President Obama even mention Tiananmen in his summit with the Chinese President this week, or will he abide by the censor's wishes and pretend it never happened?

□ 1410

IT'S 2013

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

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, it's 2013, and the world is full of successful women, women like my mother, who raised her two sons on her own while working at the Delta Faucet factory in Greensburg.

Some women, like my wife—a successful full-time lawyer and a successful full-time mother—balance career with family and still find time to celebrate good report cards, birthday parties, and family vacations.

Last week, a national debate broke out over reports that 4 out of 10 households now have women as the lead breadwinner. I live in and grew up in two such households.

Strong women are central to today's family, and that is a good thing. I look forward to a time when statistics about the success of women are no longer newsworthy.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Peter Szwec, Senior Systems Analyst, Office of the Legislative Counsel:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL,
Washington, DC, May 28, 2013.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally pursuant to rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives that I have been served with a subpoena, issued by the United States District Court for the District of Arizona, for witness testimony.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House, except to the extent that questions put to me seek information that is privileged.

Sincerely,

PETER SZWEC,
Senior System Analyst.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bill was signed by Speaker pro tempore WOLF on Friday, May 24, 2013:

H.R. 258, to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to fraudulent representations about having received military decorations or medals.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1602

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of New York) at 4 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Brian Pate, one of his secretaries.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

SAFEGUARDING AMERICA'S PHARMACEUTICALS ACT OF 2013

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1919) to amend the Federal Food,

Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1919

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.
Sec. 2. Pharmaceutical distribution supply chain.
Sec. 3. Enhanced drug distribution security.
Sec. 4. National standards for wholesale distributors.
Sec. 5. National licensure standards for third-party logistics providers.
Sec. 6. Penalties.
Sec. 7. Uniform national policy.
Sec. 8 Electronic labeling.

SEC. 2. PHARMACEUTICAL DISTRIBUTION SUPPLY CHAIN.

Chapter V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 351 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"Subchapter H—Pharmaceutical Distribution Supply Chain

"SEC. 581. DEFINITIONS.

''In this subchapter:

''(1) AUTHORIZED.—The term 'authorized' means—

''(A) in the case of a manufacturer or repackager, having a valid registration in accordance with section 510; and

''(B) in the case of a wholesale distributor, third-party logistics provider, or dispenser, licensed (as defined in this section).

''(2) DISPENSER.—The term 'dispenser'—

''(A) subject to subparagraph (C), means a retail pharmacy, hospital pharmacy, a group of chain pharmacies under common ownership and control, or any other person authorized by law to dispense or administer prescription drugs, to the extent such pharmacy, group, or person does not act as a wholesale distributor;

''(B) includes warehouses and distribution centers under common ownership or control of entities described in subparagraph (A) that are members of an affiliated group pursuant to section 1504(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, to the extent such warehouses and distribution centers do not act as a wholesale distributor; and

''(C) does not include a person who only dispenses prescription drug product to be used in animals in accordance with section 512(a)(5).

''(3) DISPOSITION.—The term 'disposition', with respect to a prescription drug product within the possession and control of an entity—

''(A) means the removal of such prescription drug product, or taking measures to prevent the introduction of such prescription drug product, from the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain; and

''(B) may include disposal, return of the prescription drug product for disposal, or other appropriate handling and other actions such as retaining a sample of the prescription drug product for additional physical examination or laboratory analysis by a manufacturer or regulatory or law enforcement agency.

''(4) DISTRIBUTE OR DISTRIBUTION.—The terms 'distribute' and 'distribution' mean the sale, purchase, trade, delivery, handling, or storage of a prescription drug product.

''(5) ILLEGITIMATE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—The term 'illegitimate prescription drug product' means a prescription drug product which a manufacturer has confirmed—

''(A) is counterfeit, diverted, or stolen;

''(B) is intentionally adulterated such that the prescription drug product would result in serious adverse health consequences or death to humans; or

''(C) is otherwise unfit for distribution such that the prescription drug product is reasonably likely to cause serious adverse human health consequences or death.

''(6) LICENSED.—The term 'licensed' means—

''(A) in the case of a wholesale distributor, having a valid license to make wholesale distributions consistent with the standards under section 583;

''(B) in the case of a third-party logistics provider, having a valid license to engage in the activities of a third-party logistics provider in accordance with section 584; and

''(C) in the case of a dispenser, having a valid license to dispense prescription drugs under State law.

''(7) MANUFACTURER.—The term 'manufacturer' means, with respect to a prescription drug product—

''(A) a person that holds an application approved under section 505 or a license issued under section 351 of the Public Health Service Act for such prescription drug product, or if such prescription drug product is not the subject of an approved application or license, the person who manufactured the prescription drug product;

''(B) a co-licensed partner of the person described in subparagraph (A) that obtains the prescription drug product directly from the person described in such subparagraph; or

''(C) a person that—

''(i) is a member of an affiliated group (as defined in section 1504(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) to which a person described in subparagraph (A) or (B) is also a member; and

''(ii) receives the prescription drug product directly from a person described in subparagraph (A) or (B).

''(8) PACKAGE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'package' means the smallest individual saleable unit of prescription drug product for distribution in interstate commerce by a manufacturer or repackager that is intended by the manufacturer for ultimate sale to the dispenser of such prescription drug product.

''(B) INDIVIDUAL SALEABLE UNIT.—The term 'individual saleable unit' means the smallest container of prescription drug product introduced into interstate commerce by the manufacturer or repackager that is intended by the manufacturer for individual sale to a dispenser.

''(9) PRESCRIPTION DRUG.—The term 'prescription drug' means a drug for human use subject to section 503(b)(1).

''(10) PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—The term 'prescription drug product' means a prescription drug in a finished dosage form for administration to a patient without substantial further manufacturing (such as capsules, tablets, and lyophilized prescription drug products before reconstitution).

''(11) PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT IDENTIFIER.—The term 'prescription drug product identifier' means a standardized graphic that—

''(A) includes the standardized numerical identifier, lot number, and expiration date of a prescription drug product; and

''(B) is in both human-readable form and on a machine-readable data carrier that conforms to the standards developed by a widely recognized international standards development organization.

''(12) QUARANTINE.—The term 'quarantine' means to store or identify a product, for the purpose of preventing distribution or transfer of the product, in a physically separate area clearly identified for such use, or through use of other procedures such as automated designation.

''(13) REPACKAGER.—The term 'repackager' means a person who owns or operates an establishment that repacks and relabels a prescription drug product or package for further sale or distribution.

''(14) RETURN.—The term 'return' means providing prescription drug product to the authorized trading partner or trading partners from which such prescription drug product was purchased or received, or to a returns processor for handling of such prescription drug product.

''(15) RETURNS PROCESSOR.—The terms 'returns processor' mean a person who owns or operates an establishment that provides for the disposition of or otherwise processes saleable and nonsaleable prescription drug product received from an authorized trading partner such that the prescription drug product may be processed for credit to the purchaser, manufacturer, seller, or disposed of for no further distribution.

''(16) SPECIFIC PATIENT NEED.—The term 'specific patient need'—

''(A) means with respect to the transfer of a prescription drug product from one pharmacy to another, to fill a prescription for an identified patient; and

''(B) does not include the transfer of a prescription drug product from one pharmacy to another for the purpose of increasing or replenishing stock in anticipation of a potential need.

''(17) STANDARDIZED NUMERICAL IDENTIFIER.—The term 'standardized numerical identifier' means a set of numbers or characters that—

''(A) is used to uniquely identify each package or homogenous case of the prescription drug product; and

''(B) is composed of the National Drug Code that corresponds to the specific prescription drug product (including the particular package configuration) combined with a unique alphanumeric serial number of up to 20 characters.

''(18) SUSPECT PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—The term 'suspect prescription drug product' means a prescription drug product for which there is reason to believe that such prescription drug product—

''(A) is potentially counterfeit, diverted, or stolen;

''(B) is potentially intentionally adulterated such that the prescription drug product would result in serious adverse health consequences or death to humans; or

''(C) appears otherwise unfit for distribution such that the prescription drug product would result in serious adverse health consequences or death to humans.

''(19) THIRD-PARTY LOGISTICS PROVIDER.—The term 'third-party logistics provider' means an entity that provides or coordinates warehousing, distribution, or other logistics services of a prescription drug product in interstate commerce on behalf of a manufacturer, wholesale distributor, or dispenser of a prescription drug product, but does not take ownership of the prescription drug product, nor have responsibility to direct the sale or disposition of, the prescription drug product.

''(20) TRADING PARTNER.—The term 'trading partner' means—

''(A) a manufacturer, repackager, wholesale distributor, or dispenser from whom a manufacturer, repackager, wholesale distributor, or dispenser accepts ownership of a prescription drug product or to whom a manufacturer, repackager, wholesale distributor,

or dispenser transfers ownership of a prescription drug product; or

''(B) a third-party logistics provider from whom a manufacturer, repackager, wholesale distributor, or dispenser accepts possession of a prescription drug product or to whom a manufacturer, repackager, wholesale distributor, or dispenser transfers possession of a prescription drug product.

''(21) TRANSACTION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'transaction' means the transfer in interstate commerce of prescription drug product between persons in which a change of ownership occurs.

''(B) EXEMPTIONS.—The term 'transaction' does not include—

''(i) intracompany distribution of any prescription drug product, including between members of an affiliated group (as defined in section 1504(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986);

''(ii) the distribution of a prescription drug product among hospitals or other health care entities that are under common control;

''(iii) the distribution of a prescription drug product for emergency medical reasons including a public health emergency declaration pursuant to section 319 of the Public Health Service Act, except that a drug shortage not caused by a public health emergency shall not constitute an emergency medical reason;

''(iv) the dispensing of a prescription drug product pursuant to a valid prescription executed in accordance with section 503(b)(1);

''(v) the distribution of prescription drug product samples by a manufacturer or a licensed wholesale distributor in accordance with section 503(d);

''(vi) the distribution of blood or blood components intended for transfusion;

''(vii) the distribution of minimal quantities of prescription drug product by a licensed retail pharmacy to a licensed practitioner for office use;

''(viii) the distribution of a prescription drug product by a charitable organization to a nonprofit affiliate of the organization to the extent otherwise permitted by law;

''(ix) the distribution of a prescription drug product pursuant to the sale or merger of a pharmacy or pharmacies or a wholesale distributor or wholesale distributors, except that any records required to be maintained for the prescription drug product shall be transferred to the new owner of the pharmacy or pharmacies or wholesale distributor or wholesale distributors;

''(x) the dispensing of a prescription drug product approved under section 512(b);

''(xi) the transfer of prescription drug products to or from any facility that is licensed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission or by a State pursuant to an agreement with such Commission under section 274 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2021);

''(xii) the distribution of a combination product that consists of—

''(I) a product comprised of two or more components that are each a drug, biological product, or device and that are physically, chemically, or otherwise combined or mixed and produced as a single entity;

''(II) two or more separate products packaged together in a single package or as a unit and comprised of a drug and device or a device and biological product; or

''(III) two or more finished devices plus one or more drug or biological products which are packaged together in a medical convenience kit described in clause (xiii);

''(xiii) the distribution of a medical convenience kit which is a collection of finished products (consisting of devices or drugs) assembled in kit form strictly for the convenience of the purchaser or user if—

''(I) the medical convenience kit is assembled in an establishment that is registered with the Food and Drug Administration as a medical device manufacturer;

''(II) the person who manufacturers the medical convenience kit purchased the prescription drug product directly from the manufacturer or from a wholesale distributor that purchased the prescription drug product directly from the manufacturer;

''(III) the person who manufacturers the medical convenience kit does not alter the primary container or label of the prescription drug product as purchased from the manufacturer or wholesale distributor;

''(IV) the medical convenience kit does not contain a controlled substance (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act); and

''(V) the prescription drug products contained in the medical convenience kit are—

''(aa) intravenous solutions intended for the replenishment of fluids and electrolytes;

''(bb) drugs intended to maintain the equilibrium of water and minerals in the body;

''(cc) drugs intended for irrigation or reconstitution;

''(dd) anesthetics;

''(ee) anticoagulants;

''(ff) vasopressors; or

''(gg) sympathicomimetics;

''(xiv) the distribution of an intravenous prescription drug product that, by its formulation, is intended for the replenishment of fluids and electrolytes (such as sodium, chloride, and potassium) or calories (such as dextrose and amino acids);

''(xv) the distribution of an intravenous prescription drug product used to maintain the equilibrium of water and minerals in the body, such as dialysis solutions;

''(xvi) the distribution of a prescription drug product that is intended for irrigation or reconstitution, or sterile water, whether intended for such purposes or for injection;

''(xvii) the distribution of compressed medical gas; or

''(xviii)(I) the distribution of a product by a dispenser, or a wholesale distributor acting at the direction of the dispenser, to a repackager registered under section 510 for the purpose of repackaging the drug for use by that dispenser or another health care entity that is under the dispenser's ownership or control, so long as the dispenser retains ownership of the prescription drug product; and

''(II) the saleable or nonsaleable return by such repackager of such prescription drug product.

''(C) COMPRESSED MEDICAL GAS.—For purposes of subparagraph (B)(xvii), the term 'compressed medical gas' means any substance in its gaseous or cryogenic liquid form that meets medical purity standards and has application in a medical or homecare environment, including oxygen and nitrous oxide.

''(22) TRANSACTION HISTORY.—The term 'transaction history' means a statement that—

''(A) includes the transaction information for each transaction conducted with respect to a prescription drug product beginning with the manufacturer or initial purchase distributor; and

''(B) is in paper or electronic form.

''(23) TRANSACTION INFORMATION.—The term 'transaction information' means—

''(A) the proprietary or established name or names of the prescription drug product;

''(B) the strength and dosage form of the prescription drug product;

''(C) the National Drug Code number of the prescription drug product;

''(D) the container size;

''(E) the number of containers;

''(F) the lot number of the prescription drug product;

''(G) the date of the transaction;

''(H) the business name and address of the person from whom ownership is being transferred; and

''(I) the business name and address of the person to whom ownership is being transferred.

''(24) TRANSACTION STATEMENT.—The 'transaction statement' is a statement, which states that the manufacturer, repackager, wholesale distributor, third-party logistics provider, or dispenser transferring ownership in a transaction—

''(A) is authorized;

''(B) received transaction information and a transaction statement as required under section 582 from the prior owner of the prescription drug product;

''(C) did not knowingly and intentionally ship an illegitimate prescription drug product;

''(D) did not knowingly and intentionally provide false transaction information; and

''(E) did not knowingly and intentionally alter the transaction history.

''(25) VERIFICATION AND VERIFY.—The terms 'verification' and 'verify'—

''(A) mean determining whether the prescription drug product identifier affixed to, or imprinted upon, a package or homogeneous case of the prescription drug product corresponds to the standardized numerical identifier or lot number, and expiration date assigned to the prescription drug product by the manufacturer or the repackager, as applicable; and

''(B) include making the determination under subparagraph (A) using human-readable or machine-readable methods.

''(26) WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTOR.—The term 'wholesale distributor'—

''(A) means a person engaged in wholesale distribution (as defined in section 583); and

''(B) excludes—

''(i) a manufacturer, a co-licensed partner of a manufacturer, or a third-party logistics provider, or a dispenser who does not engage in such wholesale distribution;

''(ii) a repackager engaged in such wholesale distribution; or

''(iii) the distribution of prescription drug product or an offer to distribute prescription drug product by an authorized repackager that has taken ownership or possession of the prescription drug product and repacked the prescription drug product in accordance with the requirements of section 582(e).

"SEC. 582. REQUIREMENTS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) COMPLIANCE REQUIRED.—An entity that is a manufacturer, repackager, wholesale distributor, third-party logistics provider, or dispenser shall comply with the requirements of this section. If an entity meets the definition of more than one of the entities referred to in the preceding sentence, such entity shall comply with all applicable requirements of this section, but shall not be required to comply with duplicative requirements.

''(2) STANDARDS.—The Secretary shall, in consultation with other appropriate Federal officials, manufacturers, repackagers, wholesale distributors, third-party logistics providers, and dispensers, establish, by regulation, standards for the exchange of transaction history and transaction statement (in paper or electronic form) for purposes of complying with this section. The standards established under this paragraph shall be in accordance with a form developed by a widely recognized international standards development organization. In establishing such standards, the Secretary shall consider the feasibility of establishing standardized documentation to be used by all members of the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain to convey the transaction history and transaction statement to the subsequent owner of

a prescription drug product. The Secretary shall publish such standards not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013.

''(3) WAIVERS, EXCEPTIONS, AND EXEMPTIONS.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013, the Secretary shall promulgate a regulation to—

''(A) establish a process by which the Secretary may grant, at the request of an authorized manufacturer, repackager, wholesale distributor, or dispenser, a waiver from any of the requirements of this section—

''(i) if the Secretary determines that such requirements would result in an undue economic hardship; or

''(ii) for emergency medical reasons, including a public health emergency declaration pursuant to section 319 of the Public Health Service Act;

''(B) establish a process, with respect to the prescription drug product identifier requirement under paragraph (2) of subsections (b), (c), (d), and (e) through which—

''(i) a manufacturer or repackager may request a waiver with respect to prescription drug products that are packaged in a container too small or otherwise unable to accommodate a label with sufficient space to bear the information required for compliance with such requirement; and

''(ii) the Secretary determines whether to waive such requirement; and

''(C) establish a process by which the Secretary may add the prescription drug products or transactions that are exempt from the requirements of this section.

''(4) GRANDFATHERED PERSONS AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013, the Secretary shall specify, by regulation, whether and under what circumstances the prescription drug product identifier requirement under paragraph (2) of subsections (b), (c), (d), and (e) shall apply to a prescription drug product that is in the supply chain or in a manufacturer's inventory on the date of the enactment of the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013.

''(B) THIRD-PARTY LOGISTICS PROVIDER LICENSES.—Until the date that is 1 year after the effective date of the third-party logistics provider licensing requirements under section 584, a third-party logistics provider shall be considered 'licensed' under section 581(6)(B) unless the Secretary has made a finding that the third-party logistics provider does not utilize good handling and distribution practices and publishes notice thereof.

''(C) LABEL CHANGES.—Changes made to package labels solely to incorporate the prescription drug product identifier may be submitted to the Secretary in the annual report of an establishment, in accordance with section 314.70(d) of chapter 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

''(b) MANUFACTURER REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT TRACING.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning not later than January 1, 2015, a manufacturer shall—

''(i) prior to, or at the time of, each transaction in which such manufacturer transfers ownership of a prescription drug product—

''(I) until the date than is 5 years after the date of the enactment of the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013, provide the subsequent owner with the transaction history and a transaction statement in a single document in paper or electronic form; and

''(II) on or after such date, provide the subsequent owner with the transaction history and a transaction statement in electronic form; and

''(ii) maintain the transaction information for each such transaction for not less than 3 years after the date of the transaction.

''(B) REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION.—Upon a request by the Secretary or other appropriate Federal or State official, in the event of a recall or for the purpose of investigating a suspect prescription drug product or an illegitimate prescription drug product, a manufacturer shall, not later than 2 business days after receiving the request or in such reasonable time as determined by the Secretary, provide to the Secretary or other official, the applicable transaction history and transaction statement for the prescription drug product.

''(2) PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT IDENTIFIER.—Beginning not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013, a manufacturer shall affix or imprint a prescription drug product identifier on each package and homogenous case of a prescription drug product intended to be introduced in a transaction. Such manufacturer shall maintain the information in the prescription drug product identifier for such prescription drug product for not less than 3 years after the date of the transaction.

''(3) AUTHORIZED TRADING PARTNERS.—Beginning not later than January 1, 2015, a manufacturer shall ensure that each of its trading partners is authorized.

''(4) LIST OF AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTORS OF RECORD.—Beginning not later than January 1, 2015, each manufacturer of a prescription drug shall—

''(A) maintain a list of the authorized distributors of record of such drug at the corporate offices of such manufacturer;

''(B) make such list publicly available, including placement on the Internet Website of such manufacturer; and

''(C) update such list not less than once per quarter.

''(5) VERIFICATION.—Beginning not later than January 1, 2015, a manufacturer shall implement systems and processes to enable the manufacturer to comply with the following requirements:

''(A) SUSPECT PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Upon making a determination that a prescription drug product in the possession or control of the manufacturer is a suspect prescription drug product, or upon receiving a request for verification from the Secretary that a prescription drug product within the possession or control of a manufacturer is a suspect prescription drug product, a manufacturer shall promptly conduct an investigation in coordination with trading partners, as applicable, to determine whether the prescription drug product is an illegitimate prescription drug product. Beginning not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013, such investigation shall include—

''(I) verifying the prescription drug product at the package level;

''(II) validating any applicable transaction history in the possession of the manufacturer; and

''(III) otherwise investigating to determine whether the prescription drug product is an illegitimate prescription drug product.

''(ii) CLEARED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—If the manufacturer determines that a suspect prescription drug product is not an illegitimate prescription drug product, the manufacturer shall promptly notify the Secretary of such determination and such prescription drug product may be further distributed.

''(iii) RECORDS.—A manufacturer shall keep records of its investigation of a suspect prescription drug product for not less than 3 years after the conclusion of the investigation.

''(B) ILLEGITIMATE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Upon determining that a prescription drug product in the possession or control of a manufacturer is an illegitimate prescription drug product, the manufacturer shall—

''(I) quarantine such prescription drug product from prescription drug product intended for distribution; and

''(II) provide for the disposition of the illegitimate prescription drug product.

''(ii) TRADING PARTNER.—Upon determining that a prescription drug product in the possession or control of a trading partner is an illegitimate prescription drug product, the manufacturer shall take reasonable steps to assist a trading partner to provide for the disposition of the illegitimate prescription drug product.

''(iii) MAKING A NOTIFICATION.—Upon determining that a prescription drug product in the possession or control of the manufacturer is an illegitimate prescription drug product, the manufacturer shall notify the Secretary of such determination not later than 24 hours after making such determination. The Secretary shall determine whether additional trading partner notification is appropriate.

''(iv) RESPONDING TO A NOTIFICATION.—Upon the receipt of a notification from the Secretary that a determination has been made that a prescription drug product is an illegitimate prescription drug product, a manufacturer shall—

''(I) identify all illegitimate prescription drug products that are subject to such notification and in the possession or control of the manufacturer, including any prescription drug product that is subsequently received; and

''(II) perform the activities described in clause (i).

''(v) RECORDS.—A manufacturer shall keep records of the disposition of an illegitimate prescription drug product for not less than 3 years after the conclusion of the disposition.

''(C) ELECTRONIC DATABASE.—A manufacturer may satisfy the requirements of this paragraph through the use of a secure electronic database developed and operated by the manufacturer or another entity. The owner of such database shall establish the requirements and processes to respond to requests and may provide for data access to other members of the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain, as appropriate. The development and operation of such a database shall not relieve a manufacturer of the requirement under this paragraph to respond to a verification request submitted by means other than a secure electronic database.

''(D) RETURNED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—Beginning not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013, upon receipt of a returned prescription drug product that the manufacturer intends to further distribute, before further distributing such prescription drug product, the manufacturer shall—

''(i) verify the prescription drug product identifier for each sealed homogeneous case of such prescription drug product; or

''(ii) if such prescription drug product is not in a sealed homogeneous case, verify the prescription drug product identifier on each package.

''(c) WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTOR REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT TRACING.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning not later than April 1, 2015, a wholesale distributor shall—

''(i) not accept ownership of a prescription drug product unless the previous owner prior to, or at the time of, the transaction provides the applicable transaction history and a transaction statement for the prescription drug product;

''(ii) subject to clause (iv), prior to, or at the time of, each transaction in which the wholesale distributor transfers ownership of a prescription drug product—

''(I) in the case that the wholesale distributor purchased the prescription drug product directly from the manufacturer, the exclusive distributor of the manufacturer, or a repackager that purchased directly from the manufacturer, provide the subsequent owner with transaction history and a transaction statement for the prescription drug product—

''(aa) if the subsequent owner is a dispenser, on a single document in paper or electronic form; or

''(bb) if the subsequent owner is a wholesale distributor, through any combination of self-generated paper, electronic data, or manufacturer-provided information on the product package;

''(II) in the case that the wholesale distributor did not purchase the prescription drug product as described in subclause (I)—

''(aa) provide the subsequent owner with the transaction history and a transaction statement beginning with the wholesale distributor that did so purchase the prescription drug product in paper or electronic form; or

''(bb) pursuant to a written agreement between the wholesale distributor and a dispenser, maintain the transaction history and transaction statement on behalf of the dispenser and if requested by the dispenser, provide the transaction history and transaction statement to the dispenser in paper or electronic form in a timely manner so as to permit the dispenser to comply with requests pursuant to subsection (d)(1)(D);

''(iii) maintain the transaction information for each transaction described in clauses (i) and (ii) for not less than 3 years after the transaction; and

''(iv) on or after the date that is 5 years after the date of the enactment of the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013, provide the transaction history and transaction statement in electronic form.

''(B) INCLUSION OF LOT NUMBER IN TRANSACTION HISTORY.—Until the date that is 5 years after the date of the enactment of the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013, the transaction history provided by a wholesale distributer under this paragraph shall not be required to include the lot number of the product or the initial date of the transaction from the manufacturer (as such terms are used in subparagraphs (F) and (G) of section 581(23)).

''(C) RETURNS EXCEPTION.—

''(i) SALEABLE RETURNS.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), a wholesale distributor may—

''(I) accept returned prescription drug product without a transaction history from a dispenser or repackager; and

''(II) distribute such returned prescription drug product with a transaction history that begins with the wholesale distributor that so accepted the returned product.

''(ii) NONSALEABLE RETURNS.—A wholesale distributor may return a nonsaleable prescription drug to the manufacturer or repackager, to the wholesale distributor from whom such prescription drug was purchased, or to a person acting on behalf of such a person, including a returns processor, without providing the information required under subparagraph (A).

''(D) REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION.—Upon a request by the Secretary or other appropriate Federal or State official, in the event of a recall or for the purpose of investigating a suspect prescription drug product or an illegitimate prescription drug product a wholesale distributor shall, not later than 2 business days after receiving the request or in such other reasonable time as determined by the Secretary, provide the applicable transaction history and transaction statements for the prescription drug product.

''(2) PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT IDENTIFIER.—Beginning not later than 7 years after the date of the enactment of the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013, a wholesale distributor may engage in transactions involving a prescription drug product only if such prescription drug product is encoded with a prescription drug product identifier, except as provided in subsection (a)(4).

''(3) AUTHORIZED TRADING PARTNERS.—Beginning not later than January 1, 2015, a wholesale distributor shall ensure that each of its trading partners is authorized.

''(4) VERIFICATION.—Beginning not later than April 1, 2015, a wholesale distributor shall implement systems to enable the wholesale distributor to comply with the following requirements:

''(A) SUSPECT PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Upon making a determination that a prescription drug product in the possession or control of the wholesale distributor is a suspect prescription drug product, or upon receiving a request for verification from the Secretary that a prescription drug product within the possession or control of a wholesale distributor is a suspect prescription drug product, a wholesale distributor shall promptly conduct an investigation to determine whether the prescription drug product is an illegitimate prescription drug product. Beginning not later than 7 years after the date of the enactment of the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013, such investigation shall include—

''(I) verifying a package of the prescription drug product;

''(II) validating any applicable transaction history in the possession of the wholesale distributor; and

''(III) otherwise investigating to determine whether the prescription drug product is an illegitimate prescription drug product.

''(ii) CLEARED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—If the wholesale distributor determines that a suspect prescription drug product is not an illegitimate prescription drug product, the wholesale distributor shall promptly notify the Secretary of such determination and such prescription drug product may be further distributed.

''(iii) RECORDS.—A wholesale distributor shall keep records of its investigation of a suspect prescription drug product for not less than 3 years after the conclusion of the investigation.

''(B) ILLEGITIMATE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Upon receiving notice that a manufacturer of a prescription drug product has determined that a prescription drug product in the possession or control of a wholesale distributor is an illegitimate prescription drug product, the wholesale distributor shall—

''(I) quarantine such prescription drug product within the possession or control of the wholesale distributor from prescription drug product intended for distribution; and

''(II) provide for the disposition of the illegitimate prescription drug product within the possession or control of the wholesale distributor.

''(ii) TRADING PARTNER.—Upon determining that a prescription drug product in the possession or control of a trading partner is an illegitimate prescription drug product, the wholesale distributor shall take reasonable steps to assist a trading partner to provide for the disposition of the illegitimate prescription drug product.

''(iii) MAKING A NOTIFICATION.—Upon determining that a prescription drug product in the possession or control of the wholesale distributor is an illegitimate prescription drug product, the wholesale distributor shall notify the Secretary of such determination not later than 24 hours after making such determination. The Secretary shall determine whether additional trading partner notification is appropriate.

''(iv) RESPONDING TO A NOTIFICATION.—Upon the receipt of a notification from the Secretary that a determination has been made that a prescription drug product is an illegitimate prescription drug product, a wholesale distributor shall—

''(I) identify all illegitimate prescription drug products subject to such notification that are in the possession or control of the wholesale distributor, including any such prescription drug product that is subsequently received; and

''(II) perform the activities described in clause (i).

''(v) RECORDS.—A wholesale distributor shall keep records of the disposition of an illegitimate prescription drug product for not less than 3 years after the conclusion of the disposition.

''(C) ELECTRONIC DATABASE.—A wholesale distributor may satisfy the requirements of this paragraph through the use of a secure electronic database developed and operated by the manufacturer or another entity. The owner of such database shall establish the requirements and processes to respond to requests and may provide for data access to other members of the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain, as appropriate. The development and operation of such a database shall not relieve a wholesale distributor of the requirement under this paragraph to respond to a verification request submitted by means other than a secure electronic database.

''(D) RETURNED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—Beginning not later than 7 years after the date of the enactment of the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013, upon receipt of a returned prescription drug product that the wholesale distributor intends to further distribute, before further distributing such prescription drug product, the wholesale distributor shall—

''(i) verify the prescription drug product identifier for each sealed homogeneous case of such prescription drug product; or

''(ii) if such prescription drug product is not in a sealed homogeneous case, verify the prescription drug product identifier on each package.

''(d) DISPENSER REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT TRACING.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning not later than July 1, 2015, a dispenser—

''(i) shall not accept ownership of a prescription drug product, unless the previous owner prior to, or at the time of, the transaction, provides transaction history and a transaction statement;

''(ii) prior to, or at the time of, each transaction in which the dispenser transfers ownership of a prescription drug product (but not including dispensing to a patient or returns) shall provide the subsequent owner with transaction history and a transaction statement for the prescription drug product,

except that the requirements of this clause shall not apply to sales by a dispenser to another dispenser to fulfill a specific patient need; and

''(iii) shall maintain transaction information for a period of not less than 3 years after the date of the transaction.

''(B) AGREEMENTS WITH THIRD PARTIES.—A dispenser may enter into a written agreement with a third party, including an authorized wholesale distributor, under which the third party confidentially maintains the transaction information required to be maintained under this subsection on behalf of the dispenser. If a dispenser enters into such an agreement, the dispenser shall maintain a copy of the written agreement.

''(C) RETURNS EXCEPTION.—

''(i) SALEABLE RETURNS.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A)(ii), a dispenser may return prescription drug product to the trading partner from which the dispenser obtained the prescription drug product without providing the information required under such subparagraph.

''(ii) NONSALEABLE RETURNS.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A)(ii), a dispenser may return a nonsaleable prescription drug to the manufacturer or repackager, to the wholesale distributor from whom such prescription drug was purchased, to a returns processor, or to a person acting on behalf of such persons without providing the information required under such subparagraph.

''(D) REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION.—Upon a request by the Secretary or other appropriate Federal or State official, in the event of a recall or for the purpose of investigating a suspect prescription drug product or an illegitimate prescription drug product—

''(i) a dispenser shall not later than 2 business days after receiving the request or in another such reasonable time as determined by the Secretary, provide the applicable transaction history and transaction statement which the dispenser received from the previous owner;

''(ii) the information provided by the dispenser under clause (i) is not required to include the lot number of the product, the initial date of the transaction, or the initial date of the shipment from the manufacturer unless such information was provided electronically by the previous owner, manufacturer, or wholesale distributor to the dispenser; and

''(iii) a dispenser may respond to the request by providing the paper documentation received from the previous owner or by providing electronic information.

''(2) PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT IDENTIFIER.—Beginning not later than 8 years after the date of the enactment of the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013, a dispenser may engage in transactions involving a prescription drug product only if such prescription drug product is encoded with a prescription drug product identifier, except as provided in subsection (a)(4).

''(3) AUTHORIZED TRADING PARTNERS.—Beginning not later than January 1, 2015, a dispenser shall ensure that each of its trading partners is authorized.

''(4) VERIFICATION.—Beginning not later than January 1, 2015, a dispenser shall implement systems to enable the dispenser to comply with the following requirements:

''(A) SUSPECT PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Upon making a determination that a prescription drug product in the possession or control of the dispenser is a suspect prescription drug product, or upon receiving a request for verification from the Secretary that a prescription drug product within the possession or control of a dispenser is a suspect prescription drug product, a dispenser shall promptly conduct an investigation to determine whether the prescription drug product is an illegitimate prescription drug product. Such investigation shall include—

''(I) verifying whether the lot number of a suspect prescription drug product corresponds with the lot number for such prescription drug product;

''(II) beginning 8 years after the date of the enactment of the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013, verifying that the product identifier of at least 3 packages or 10 percent of such suspect prescription drug product, whichever is greater, or all packages, if there are fewer than 3, corresponds with the prescription drug product identifier for such product;

''(III) validating any applicable transaction history in the possession of the dispenser; and

''(IV) otherwise investigating to determine whether the prescription drug product is an illegitimate prescription drug product.

''(ii) CLEARED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—If the dispenser makes the determination that a suspect prescription drug product is not an illegitimate prescription drug product, the dispenser shall promptly notify the Secretary of such determination and such prescription drug product may be further dispensed.

''(iii) RECORDS.—A dispenser shall keep records of its investigation of a suspect prescription drug product for not less than 3 years after the conclusion of the investigation.

''(B) ILLEGITIMATE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Upon receiving notice that a manufacturer of a prescription drug product has determined that a prescription drug product in the possession or control of a dispenser is an illegitimate prescription drug product, the dispenser shall—

''(I) quarantine such prescription drug product within the possession or control of the dispenser from prescription drug product intended for distribution; and

''(II) provide for the disposition of the illegitimate prescription drug product within the possession or control of the dispenser.

''(ii) TRADING PARTNERS.—Upon determining that a prescription drug product in the possession or control of a trading partner is an illegitimate prescription drug product, the dispenser shall take reasonable steps to assist a trading partner to provide for the disposition of the illegitimate prescription drug product.

''(iii) MAKING A NOTIFICATION.—Upon determining that a prescription drug product in the possession or control of the dispenser is an illegitimate prescription drug product, the dispenser shall notify the Secretary of such determination not later than 24 hours after making such determination. The Secretary shall determine whether additional trading partner notification is appropriate.

''(iv) RESPONDING TO A NOTIFICATION.—Upon the receipt of a notification from the Secretary that a determination has been made that a prescription drug product is an illegitimate prescription drug product, a dispenser shall—

''(I) identify all illegitimate prescription drug products that are subject to such notification and in the possession or control of the dispenser, including any such prescription drug product that is subsequently received; and

''(II) perform the activities described in clause (i).

''(v) RECORDS.—A dispenser shall keep records of the disposition of an illegitimate prescription drug product for not less than 3 years after the conclusion of the disposition.

''(C) ELECTRONIC DATABASE.—A dispenser may satisfy the requirements of this paragraph through the use of a secure electronic database developed and operated by the manufacturer or another entity. The owner of such database shall establish the requirements and processes to enable responding to requests and may provide for data access to other members of the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain, as appropriate. The development and operation of such a database shall not relieve a dispenser of the requirement under this paragraph to respond to a verification request submitted by means other than a secure electronic database.

''(e) REPACKAGER REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT TRACING.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning not later than April 1, 2015, with respect to a prescription drug product received by a repackager from a wholesale distributor, and beginning not later than January 1, 2015, with respect to any other prescription drug product, a repackager shall—

''(i) not accept ownership of a prescription drug product unless the previous owner, prior to, or at the time of, the transaction, provides transaction history and a transaction statement for the prescription drug product;

''(ii) prior to, or at the time of, each transaction in which the repackager transfers ownership of a prescription drug product, provide the subsequent owner with transaction history and a transaction statement;

''(iii) maintain the transaction information for each transaction described in clause (i) or (ii) for not less than 3 years after the transaction; and

''(iv) maintain records that allow the repackager to associate the prescription drug product identifier the repackager affixes or imprints with the prescription drug product identifier assigned by the original manufacturer of the prescription drug product.

''(B) RETURNS EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A)(ii), a repackager may return prescription drug product to the trading partner from whom the repackager obtained the prescription drug product without providing the information required under such subparagraph.

''(C) REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION.—Upon a request by the Secretary or other appropriate Federal or State official, in the event of a recall or for the purpose of investigating a suspect prescription drug product or an illegitimate prescription drug product, a repackager shall, not later than 2 business days after receiving the request or in such other reasonable time as determined by the Secretary, provide the applicable transaction history and transaction statement for the prescription drug product.

''(2) PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT IDENTIFIER.—Beginning not later than 6 years after the date of the enactment of the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013, a repackager—

''(A) shall affix or imprint a prescription drug product identifier to each package and homogenous case of prescription drug product intended to be introduced in a transaction;

''(B) shall maintain the prescription drug product identifier for such prescription drug product for not less than 3 years after the date of the transaction; and

''(C) may engage in transactions involving a prescription drug product only if such prescription drug product is encoded with a prescription drug product identifier except as provided in subsection (a)(4).

''(3) AUTHORIZED TRADING PARTNERS.—Beginning on January 1, 2015, a repackager shall ensure that each of its trading partners is authorized.

''(4) VERIFICATION.—Beginning not later than January 1, 2015, a repackager shall implement systems to enable the repackager to comply with the following requirements:

''(A) SUSPECT PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Upon making a determination that a prescription drug product in the possession or control of the repackager is a suspect prescription drug product, or upon receiving a request for verification from the Secretary that a prescription drug product within the possession or control of a repackager is a suspect prescription drug product, a repackager shall promptly conduct an investigation to determine whether the prescription drug product is an illegitimate prescription drug product, including—

''(I) beginning not later than 6 years after the date of the enactment of the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013, verifying the prescription drug product at the package level;

''(II) validating any applicable transaction information in the possession of the repackager; and

''(III) otherwise investigating to determine whether the prescription drug product is an illegitimate prescription drug product.

''(ii) CLEARED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—If the repackager determines that a suspect prescription drug product is not an illegitimate prescription drug product, the repackager shall promptly notify the Secretary of such determination and such prescription drug product may be further distributed.

''(iii) RECORDS.—A repackager shall keep records of its investigation of a suspect prescription drug product for not less than 3 years after the conclusion of the investigation.

''(B) ILLEGITIMATE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Upon receiving notice that a manufacturer of a prescription drug product has determined that a prescription drug product in the possession or control of a repackager is an illegitimate prescription drug product, the repackager shall—

''(I) quarantine such prescription drug product within the possession or control of the repackager from prescription drug product intended for distribution; and

''(II) provide for the disposition of the illegitimate prescription drug product within the possession or control of the repackager.

''(ii) TRADING PARTNER.—Upon determining that a prescription drug product in the possession or control of a trading partner is an illegitimate prescription drug product, the repackagers shall take reasonable steps to assist the trading partner to provide for the disposition of the illegitimate prescription drug product.

''(iii) MAKING A NOTIFICATION.—Upon determining that a prescription drug product in the possession or control of the repackager is an illegitimate prescription drug product, the repackager shall notify the Secretary of such determination not later than 24 hours after making such determination. The Secretary shall determine whether additional trading partner notification is appropriate.

''(iv) RESPONDING TO A NOTIFICATION.—Upon the receipt of a notification from the Secretary that a determination has been made that a prescription drug product is an illegitimate prescription drug product, a repackager shall—

''(I) identify all illegitimate prescription drug products that are subject to such notification and in the possession or control of the repackager, including any such prescription drug product that is subsequently received; and

''(II) perform the activities described in clause (i).

''(v) RECORDS.—A repackager shall keep records of the disposition of an illegitimate prescription drug product for not less than 3 years after the conclusion of the disposition.

''(C) ELECTRONIC DATABASE.—A repackager may satisfy the requirements of this paragraph through the use of a secure electronic database developed and operated by the manufacturer or another entity. The owner of such database shall establish the requirements and processes to respond to requests and may provide for data access to other members of the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain, as appropriate. The development and operation of such a database shall not relieve a repackager of the requirement under this paragraph to respond to a verification request submitted by means other than a secure electronic database.

''(D) RETURNED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—Beginning not later than 6 years after the date of the enactment of the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013, upon receipt of a returned prescription drug product that the repackager intends to further distribute, before further distributing such prescription drug product, the repackager shall—

''(i) verify the prescription drug product identifier for each sealed homogeneous case of such prescription drug product; or

''(ii) if such prescription drug product is not in a sealed homogeneous case, verify the prescription drug product identifier on each package.

''(f) THIRD-PARTY LOGISTICS PROVIDER REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) AUTHORIZED TRADING PARTNERS.—Beginning on January 1, 2015, a third-party logistics provider shall ensure that each of its trading partners is authorized.

''(2) VERIFICATION.—Beginning not later than January 1, 2015, a third-party logistics provider shall implement systems to enable the third-party logistics provider to comply with the following requirements:

''(A) SUSPECT PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Upon making a determination that a prescription drug product in the possession or control of a third-party logistics provider is a suspect prescription drug product, a third-party logistics provider shall promptly notify the owner of such prescription drug product of the need to conduct an investigation to determine whether the prescription drug product is an illegitimate prescription drug product.

''(ii) CLEARED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—If the owner of the prescription drug product notifies the third-party logistics provider of the determination that a suspect prescription drug product is not an illegitimate prescription drug product, such prescription drug product may be further distributed.

''(iii) RECORDS.—A third-party logistics provider shall keep records of the activities described in clauses (i) and (ii) with respect to a suspect prescription drug product for not less than 3 years after the conclusion of the investigation.

''(B) ILLEGITIMATE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Upon receiving notice that a manufacturer of a prescription drug product has determined that a prescription drug product in the possession or control of a third-party logistics provider is an illegitimate prescription drug product, the third-party logistics provider shall—

''(I) quarantine such prescription drug product within the possession or control of the third-party logistics provider from prescription drug product intended for distribution;

''(II) promptly notify the owner of such prescription drug product of the need to provide for the disposition of such prescription drug product; and

''(III) promptly transfer possession of the prescription drug product to the owner of such prescription drug product to provide for the disposition of the prescription drug product.

''(ii) MAKING A NOTIFICATION.—Upon determining that a prescription drug product in the possession or control of the third-party logistics provider is an illegitimate prescription drug product, the third-party logistics provider shall notify the Secretary not later than 24 hours after making such determination. The Secretary shall determine whether additional trading partner notification is appropriate.

''(iii) RESPONDING TO A NOTIFICATION.—Upon the receipt of a notification from the Secretary, a third-party logistics provider shall—

''(I) identify all illegitimate prescription drug products subject to such notification that are in the possession or control of the third-party logistics provider, including any such prescription drug product that is subsequently received; and

''(II) perform the activities described in clause (i).

''(iv) RECORDS.—A third-party logistics provider shall keep records of the activities described in clauses (i) and (ii) with respect to an illegitimate prescription drug product for not less than 3 years after the conclusion of the disposition.

''(g) DROP SHIPMENTS.—This section does not apply to any entity, notwithstanding its status as a wholesale distributor or repackager, or other status that is not involved in the physical handling, distribution, or storage of a prescription drug product. For purposes of this subsection, facilitating the distribution of a prescription drug product by providing various administrative services, including processing of orders and payments, shall not, by itself, be construed as being involved in the handling, distribution, or storage of a prescription drug product.''.

SEC. 3. ENHANCED DRUG DISTRIBUTION SECURITY.

(a) PILOT PROJECTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish one or more pilot projects in coordination with manufacturers, repackagers, wholesale distributors, third-party logistics providers, and dispensers to explore and evaluate methods to enhance the safety and security of the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain.

(2) CONTENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ensure that the pilot projects under paragraph (1) collectively—

(i) reflect the diversity of the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain; and

(ii) include participants representative of every sector within the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain, including participants representative of small businesses.

(B) PROJECT DESIGN.—The pilot projects shall be designed to—

(i) utilize the prescription drug product identifier for tracing of a prescription drug product, which utilization may include—

(I) verification of the prescription drug product identifier of a prescription drug product; and

(II) the use of aggregation and inference;

(ii) improve the technical capabilities of each sector within the pharmaceutical supply chain to comply with systems and processes needed to utilize the prescription drug product identifiers to enhance tracing of a prescription drug product; and

(iii) conduct such other activities as the Secretary determines appropriate to explore and evaluate methods to enhance the safety

and security of the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain.

(b) PUBLIC MEETINGS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, and at least every 6 months thereafter until the submission of the report required by subsection (e)(2), the Secretary shall hold a public meeting to enhance the safety and security of the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain. In conducting such meetings, the Secretary shall take all measures reasonable and practicable to ensure the protection of confidential commercial information and trade secrets.

(2) CONTENT.—In conducting meetings under this subsection, the Secretary shall seek to address, in at least one such meeting, each of the following topics:

(A) Best practices in each of the sectors within the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain to implement the requirements of section 582 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as added by section 2.

(B) The costs and benefits of implementation of such section 582, including the impact on each pharmaceutical distribution supply chain sector and on public health.

(C) Whether additional electronic traceability requirements, including tracing of prescription drug product at the package level, are feasible, cost effective, overly burdensome on small businesses, and needed to protect public health.

(D) The systems and processes needed to utilize the prescription drug product identifiers to enhance tracing of prescription drug product at the package level, including allowing for verification, aggregation, and inference by each sector within the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain for cases, pallets, totes, and other containers of aggregated prescription drug product as necessary.

(E) The technical capabilities and legal authorities, if any, needed to establish an electronic system that provides for enhanced tracing of prescription drug product at the package level.

(F) The impact that the requirements, systems, processes, capabilities, and legal authorities referred to in subparagraphs (C), (D), and (E) would have on patient safety, the drug supply, cost and regulatory burden, the timeliness of patient access to prescription drugs, and small businesses.

(c) STUDY OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL DISTRIBUTION SUPPLY CHAIN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study to examine implementation of the requirements established under subchapter H of chapter V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as added by section 2, in order to inform the regulations promulgated under this section.

(2) CONSIDERATION.—In conducting the study under this subsection, the Comptroller General shall provide for stakeholder input and shall consider the following:

(A) The implementation of the requirements established under such subchapter H with respect to—

(i) the ability of the health care system collectively to maintain patient access to medicines;

(ii) the scalability of such requirements, including with respect to prescription drug product lines; and

(iii) the capability of different sectors within the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain, including small businesses, to affix and utilize the prescription drug product identifier.

(B) The need for additional legal authorities and activities to address additional gaps in the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain, if any, after the implementation of the requirements established under such subchapter H with respect to—

(i) the systems and processes needed to enhance tracing of prescription drug product at the package level, including the use and evaluation of verification, aggregation, and inference by each sector within the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain as necessary;

(ii) the impact, feasibility, and cost effectiveness that additional requirements pursuant to this section would have on each pharmaceutical distribution supply chain sector and the public health; and

(iii) the systems and processes needed to enhance interoperability among trading partners.

(C) Risks to the security and privacy of data collected, maintained, or exchanged pursuant to the requirements established under such subchapter H.

(d) SMALL DISPENSERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall enter into a contract with a private, independent consulting firm with relevant expertise to conduct a technology and software study on the feasibility of dispensers that have 25 or fewer full-time employees conducting interoperable, electronic tracing of prescription drug products at the package level.

(2) CONDITION.—As a condition of the award of a contract under paragraph (1), the private independent consulting firm awarded such contract shall agree to consult with dispensers that have 25 or fewer full-time employees when conducting the study under such subparagraph.

(3) STUDY CONTENT.—The study conducted under paragraph (1) shall assess whether, with respect to conducting interoperable, electronic tracing of prescription drug products at the package level, the necessary hardware and software—

(A) is readily accessible to such dispensers;

(B) is not prohibitively expensive to obtain, install, and maintain for such dispensers; and

(C) can be integrated into business practices, such as interoperability with wholesale distributors, for such dispensers.

(4) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall publish—

(A) the statement of work for the study conducted under paragraph (1) for public comment not later than 30 days before commencing the study; and

(B) the final version of such study for public comment not later than 30 days after such study is completed.

(5) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the study conducted under paragraph (1) is completed, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, a report on the findings of the study and any recommendations to improve the technology and software available to small dispensers for purposes of conducting electronic, interoperable tracing of prescription drug products at the package level.

(6) PUBLIC MEETING.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the study conducted under paragraph (1) is completed, the Secretary shall hold a public meeting at which members of the public, including stakeholders, may present their views on the study.

(e) REPORTS.—

(1) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 12 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a report on the results of the study conducted under subsection (c).

(2) FDA REPORT.—Not later than 12 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a report on the results of the pilot program conducted under subsection (a), taking into consideration—

(A) the comments received during the public meetings conducted under subsection (b); and

(B) the results of the study conducted, and the public comments received during the public meeting held, under subsection (d).

(f) ESTABLISHMENT OF ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, including the amendments made by this Act, not earlier than January 1, 2027, and not later than March 1, 2027, the Secretary shall issue proposed regulations that establish additional requirements to prevent a suspect product, illegitimate product, or a product that is counterfeit, stolen, diverted, or otherwise unfit for distribution from entering into or being further distributed in the supply chain, including—

(A) requirements related to the use of interoperable electronic systems and technologies for enhanced tracing of prescription drug product at the package level, which may include verification of the prescription drug product identifier of a package of prescription drug product and enhanced verification of saleable returns;

(B) requirements related to the use of additional prescription drug product identifiers or prescription drug product identifier technology that meet the standards developed under section 582(a)(2) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as added by section 2;

(C) requirements related to the use of aggregation, inference, and other methods, which shall permit the use of aggregation and inference for cases, pallets, totes, and other containers of aggregated prescription drug products by each sector of the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain, if determined to be necessary components of the systems and technologies referred to in subparagraph (A); and

(D) other data transmission and maintenance requirements and interoperability standards.

(2) FLEXIBILITY.—The requirements described in paragraph (1) shall provide for flexibility for a member of the pharmaceutical supply chain, by—

(A) with respect to dispensers, allowing a dispenser to enter into a written agreement with a third party, including an authorized wholesale distributor, under which—

(i) the third party confidentially maintains any information required to be maintained under such requirements for the dispenser; and

(ii) the dispenser maintains a copy of the written agreement and is not relieved of the other obligations of the dispenser under such requirements;

(B) establishing a process by which an authorized manufacturer, repackager, wholesale distributor, or dispenser may request a waiver from any such requirements if the Secretary determines that such requirements would result in an undue economic hardship on the manufacturer, wholesale distributor, or dispenser;

(C) not requiring the adoption of specific business systems by a member of the pharmaceutical supply chain for the maintenance and transmission of prescription drug product tracing data; and

(D) prescribing alternative methods of compliance for small businesses, as specified in paragraph (4).

(3) CONSIDERATIONS.—In issuing proposed regulations under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall consider—

(A) the results of, and public comments resulting from, the pilot project conducted under subsection (a);

(B) the public meetings held under subsection (b) and public comments from such meetings;

(C) the studies conducted under subsections (c) and (d);

(D) the reports submitted under subsection (e);

(E) the public health benefits of such regulations compared with the cost of compliance with the requirements contained in such regulations, including with respect to entities of varying sizes and capabilities; and

(F) the diversity of the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain by providing appropriate flexibility for each sector in the supply chain, including small businesses.

(4) SMALL BUSINESS PROTECTION.—The Secretary, taking into consideration the study conducted under paragraph (d), shall, if the Secretary determines that the requirements established pursuant to paragraph (1) would result in an undue economic hardship on small businesses, provide for alternative methods of compliance with any such requirement by small businesses, including—

(A) establishing timelines for such compliance (including compliance by dispensers with 25 or fewer full-time employees) that do not impose undue economic hardship for small businesses, including dispensers with respect to which the study concluded has insufficient hardware and software to conduct interoperable, electronic tracing of prescription drug products at the package level; and

(B) establishing a process by which a dispenser may request a waiver from any such requirement.

(5) REGULATIONS.—In issuing regulations to carry out this subsection, the Secretary shall—

(A) issue a notice of proposed rulemaking that includes a copy of the proposed rule;

(B) provide for a period of not less than 60 days for comments on the proposed rule; and

(C) provide for an effective date of the final rule that is 2 years after the date on which such final rule is published.

(6) SUNSET.—The requirements regarding the provision and receipt of transaction history and transaction statements under section 582 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as added by section 2, shall cease to be effective on the date on which the regulations issued under this section are fully implemented.

(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The terms defined in section 581 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as added by section 2, shall have the same meanings in this section as such terms are given in such section 581.

(2) The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Commissioner of Food and Drugs.

SEC. 4. NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTORS.

(a) STANDARDS.—Chapter V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 351 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 503 (21 U.S.C. 353), by striking ''(e)(1)(A)'' and all that follows through ''(3) For the purposes of this subsection and subsection (d)—'' and inserting the following:

''(e) For purposes of subsection (d)—'';

(2) in section 503(e) (21 U.S.C. 353(e)), by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively; and

(3) in subchapter H, as added by section 2, by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 583. NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTORS.

''(a) STANDARDS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish, by regulation, standards for the licensing of persons that make wholesale distributions.

''(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The standards under paragraph (1) shall, with respect to wholesale distributions, include requirements for—

''(A) the storage and handling of drugs subject to section 503(b)(1), including facility requirements;

''(B) the establishment and maintenance of records of the distributions of such drugs;

''(C) the furnishing of a bond or other equivalent means of security in accordance with paragraph (3);

''(D) mandatory background checks and fingerprinting of facility managers or designated representatives;

''(E) the establishment and implementation of qualifications for key personnel;

''(F) the mandatory physical inspection of any facility to be used in wholesale distribution within a reasonable timeframe from the initial application for licensure of the wholesale distributor; and

''(G) in accordance with paragraph (5), the prohibition of certain persons from engaging in wholesale distribution.

''(3) BOND OR OTHER SECURITY.—The requirements under paragraph (2)(C) shall provide for the following:

''(A) An applicant that is not a government-owned-and-operated wholesale distributor, for the issuance or renewal of a wholesale distributor license, shall submit a surety bond of $100,000 or other equivalent means of security acceptable to the applicable licensing authority.

''(B) For purposes of subparagraph (A), the applicable licensing authority may accept a surety bond of less than $100,000 if the annual gross receipts of the previous tax year for the wholesale distributor is $10,000,000 or less, in which case the surety bond may not be less than $25,000.

''(C) If a wholesale distributor can provide evidence that it possesses the required bond in a State, the requirement for a bond in another State is waived.

''(4) INSPECTIONS.—To satisfy the inspection requirement under paragraph (2)(F), the Secretary may conduct the inspection, or may accept an inspection by—

''(A) the government of the State in which the facility is located; or

''(B) a third-party accreditation or inspection service approved by the Secretary.

''(5) PROHIBITED PERSONS.—The requirements under paragraph (2) shall include requirements to prohibit a person from receiving or maintaining licensure for wholesale distribution if the person—

''(A) has been convicted of—

''(i) any felony for conduct relating to wholesale distribution;

''(ii) any felony violation of section 301(i) or 301(k); or

''(iii) any felony violation of section 1365 of title 18, United States Code, relating to prescription drug product tampering; or

''(B) has engaged in a pattern of violating the requirements of this section that presents a threat of serious adverse health consequences or death to humans.

''(b) REPORTING BY LICENSED WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTORS.—

''(1) ANNUAL REPORT.—Beginning not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section, each person engaged in wholesale distribution in interstate commerce shall submit on an annual basis, and update as necessary, a report to the Secretary including—

''(A) the wholesale distributor's name;

''(B) the wholesale distributor's address;

''(C) a listing of each State in which the wholesale distributor is licensed for wholesale distribution; and

''(D) any disciplinary actions taken by a State, the Federal Government, or a foreign government during the reporting period against the wholesale distributor.

''(2) POSTING ON INTERNET.—The Secretary shall post on the public Internet Website of the Food and Drug Administration the name of each wholesale distributor, and the State in which each such distributor is licensed, based on reports under paragraph (1).

''(c) PRESERVATION OF STATE AUTHORITY.—This subchapter does not prohibit a State from—

''(1) licensing wholesale distributors for the conduct of wholesale distribution activities in the State in accordance with this subchapter; and

''(2) collecting fees from wholesale distributors in connection with such licensing, so long as the State does not require such licensure to the extent to which an entity is engaged in third-party logistics provider activities.

''(d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term 'wholesale distribution' means the distribution of a drug subject to section 503(b)(1) to a person other than a consumer or patient, but does not include—

''(1) intracompany distribution of any drug between members of an affiliated group (as defined in section 1504(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986);

''(2) the distribution of a drug, or an offer to distribute a drug among hospitals or other health care entities which are under common control;

''(3) the distribution of a drug or an offer to distribute a drug for emergency medical reasons, including a public health emergency declaration pursuant to section 319 of the Public Health Service Act, except that a drug shortage not caused by a public health emergency shall not constitute such an emergency medical reason;

''(4) dispensing of a drug pursuant to a valid prescription executed in accordance with subsection 503(b)(1);

''(5) the distribution of minimal quantities of drug by a licensed retail pharmacy to a licensed practitioner for office use;

''(6) the distribution of a drug or an offer to distribute a drug by a charitable organization to a nonprofit affiliate of the organization to the extent otherwise permitted by law;

''(7) the purchase or other acquisition by a dispenser, hospital, or other health care entity of a drug for use by such dispenser, hospital, or other health care entity;

''(8) the distribution of a drug by the manufacturer of such drug;

''(9) the receipt or transfer of a drug by an authorized third-party logistics provider provided that such third-party logistics provider does not take ownership of the drug;

''(10) the transport of a drug by a common carrier, provided that the common carrier does not take ownership of the drug;

''(11) the distribution of a drug, or an offer to distribute a drug, by an authorized repackager that has taken ownership of the drug and repacked it in accordance with section 582(e);

''(12) saleable drug returns when conducted by a dispenser in accordance with section 203.23 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation);

''(13) the distribution of a combination prescription drug product described in section 581(20)(B)(xii);

''(14) the distribution of a medical convenience kit described in section 581(21)(B)(xiii);

''(15) the distribution of an intravenous drug that, by its formulation, is intended for the replenishment of fluids and electrolytes (such as sodium, chloride, and potassium) or calories (such as dextrose and amino acids);

''(16) the distribution of an intravenous drug used to maintain the equilibrium of water and minerals in the body, such as dialysis solutions;

''(17) the distribution of a drug that is intended for irrigation or reconstitution, or sterile water, whether intended for such purposes or for injection;

''(18) the distribution of compressed medical gas (as defined in section 581(21)(C));

''(19) facilitating the distribution of a prescription drug product by providing administrative services, such as processing of orders and payments, without physical handling, distribution, or storage of a prescription drug product; or

''(20)(A) the distribution of a product by a dispenser, or a wholesale distributor acting at the direction of the dispenser, to a repackager registered under section 510 for the purpose of repackaging the drug for use by that dispenser or another health care entity that is under the dispenser's ownership or control, so long as the dispenser retains ownership of the prescription drug product; and

''(B) the saleable or nonsaleable return by such repackager of such prescription drug product.

''(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The standards required by subsection (a) shall take effect not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this section. The Secretary shall issue the regulations required by subsection (a) not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 804(a)(5)(A) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 384(a)(5)(A)) is amended by striking ''503(e)(2)(A)'' and inserting ''583(a)''.

SEC. 5. NATIONAL LICENSURE STANDARDS FOR THIRD-PARTY LOGISTICS PROVIDERS.

Subchapter H of chapter V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as amended by section 4, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 584. NATIONAL LICENSURE STANDARDS FOR THIRD-PARTY LOGISTICS PROVIDERS.

''(a) LICENSE REQUIREMENT.—No facility may engage in the activities of a third-party logistics provider in any State unless—

''(1) the facility is licensed—

''(A) by the State from which the drug is distributed by the third-party logistics provider in accordance with a qualified licensing program, if the State has such a program; or

''(B) by the Secretary under this section, if the State from which the drug is distributed does not have such a program; and

''(2) if the drug is distributed interstate and the facility is not licensed by the Secretary under paragraph (1)(B), registers with the State into which the drug is distributed if such State requires such registration.

''(b) REPORTING BY LICENSED THIRD-PARTY LOGISTICS PROVIDERS.—

''(1) ANNUAL REPORT.—Beginning not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section, each facility engaged in the activities of a third-party logistics provider shall submit on an annual basis, and update as necessary, a report to the Secretary including—

''(A) the facility's name;

''(B) the facility's address;

''(C) a listing of each jurisdiction (whether State or Federal) in which the facility is licensed for third-party logistics provider activities; and

''(D) any disciplinary actions taken by a State or Federal licensing authority during the reporting period against the facility.

''(2) POSTING ON INTERNET.—The Secretary shall post on the public Internet Website of the Food and Drug Administration the name of each third-party logistics provider, and each jurisdiction (whether State or Federal) in which the provider is licensed, based on reports under paragraph (1).

''(c) PRESERVATION OF STATE AUTHORITY.—This subchapter does not prohibit a State from—

''(1) licensing third-party logistic providers for the conduct of third-party logistics provider activities in the State in accordance with this subchapter; and

''(2) collecting fees from third-party logistics providers in connection with such licensing,

so long as the State does not require such licensure to the extent to which an entity is engaged in wholesale distribution.

''(d) COSTS.—

''(1) AUTHORIZED LICENSURE FEES.—In the case of a facility engaging in the activities of a third-party logistics provider licensed by the Secretary under this section, the Secretary may assess and collect a reasonable fee in an amount equal to the costs to the Federal Government of establishing and administering the licensure program established, and conducting period inspections, under this section.

''(2) ADJUSTMENT.—The Secretary shall adjust the amount of the fee under paragraph (1) on an annual basis, if necessary, to generate an amount of revenue equal to the costs referred to in such paragraph.

''(3) AVAILABILITY.—Fees assessed and collected under this subsection shall be available for obligation only to the extent and in the amount provided in advance in appropriations Acts. Such fees shall remain available until expended.

''(e) LICENSE REGULATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish, by regulation, standards, terms, and conditions for licensing persons to engage in third-party logistics provider activities.

''(2) CONTENT.—The regulations under paragraph (1) shall—

''(A) include standards relating to eligibility for, and revocation and reissuance of, licenses;

''(B) establish a process by which the applicable licensing authority will, upon request by a third-party logistics provider that is accredited by a third-party accreditation program approved by the Secretary, issue a license to the provider;

''(C) establish a process by which the Secretary shall issue a license to a third-party logistics provider if the Secretary is not able to approve a third-party accreditation program because no such program meets the Secretary's requirements necessary for approval of such a third-party accreditation program;

''(D) require that the third-party logistics provider comply with storage practices, as determined by the Secretary, at the provider's facilities, including—

''(i) maintaining access to warehouse space of suitable size to facilitate safe operations, including a suitable area to quarantine suspect prescription drug product;

''(ii) maintaining adequate security; and

''(iii) having written policies and procedures to—

''(I) address receipt, security, storage, inventory, shipment, and distribution of a prescription drug product;

''(II) identify, record, and report confirmed losses or thefts in the United States;

''(III) correct errors and inaccuracies in inventories;

''(IV) provide support for manufacturer recalls;

''(V) prepare for, protect against, and address any reasonably foreseeable crisis that affects security or operation at the facility, such as a strike, fire, or flood;

''(VI) ensure that any expired prescription drug product is segregated from other prescription drug products and returned to the manufacturer or repackager or destroyed;

''(VII) maintain the capability to electronically trace the receipt and outbound distribution of a prescription drug product, and supplies and records of inventory; and

''(VIII) quarantine or destroy a suspect prescription drug product if directed to do so by the respective manufacturer, wholesale distributor, dispenser, or an authorized government agency;

''(E) provide for periodic inspection, as determined by the Secretary, of such facility warehouse space to ensure compliance with this section;

''(F) prohibit a facility from having as a manager or designated representative anyone convicted of any felony violation of section 301(i) or 301(k) or any felony violation of section 1365 of title 18, United States Code, relating to prescription drug product tampering;

''(G) perform mandatory background checks of the provider's facility managers or designated representatives of such managers;

''(H) require a third-party logistics provider to provide to the applicable licensing authority, upon the authority's request, a list of all prescription drug product manufacturers, wholesale distributors, and dispensers for whom the third-party logistics provider provides services at the provider's facilities; and

''(I) include procedures under which any third-party logistics provider license—

''(i) will expire on the date that is 3 years after issuance of the license; and

''(ii) may be renewed for additional 3-year periods.

''(f) VALIDITY OF LICENSE.—A license issued under this section shall remain valid as long as such third-party logistics provider remains accredited by the Secretary, subject to renewal under subsection (d). If the Secretary finds that the third-party accreditation program demonstrates that all applicable requirements for licensure under this section are met, the Secretary shall issue a license under this section to a third-party logistics provider receiving accreditation.

''(g) QUALIFIED LICENSING PROGRAM DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'qualified licensing program' means a program meeting the requirements of this section and the regulations thereunder.

''(h) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The requirements of this section shall take effect not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section. The Secretary shall issue the regulations required by subsection (d) not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this section.''.

SEC. 6. PENALTIES.

(a) PROHIBITED ACTS.—Section 301(t) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 331(t)) is amended by striking ''or the distribution of drugs in violation of section 503(e) or the failure to otherwise comply with the requirements of section 503(e)'' and inserting ''the failure to comply with any requirement of section 582, engaging in the wholesale distribution of a drug in violation of section 583 or the failure to otherwise comply with the requirements of section 583, or engaging in the activities of a third-party logistics provider in violation of section 584 or the failure to otherwise comply with the requirements of section 584''.

(b) ENHANCED PENALTY FOR KNOWING UNLICENSED ACTIVITIES.—Section 303(b)(1)(D) of

the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 333(b)(1)(D)) is amended by striking ''503(e)(2)(A)'' and inserting ''583 or 584''.

(c) MISBRANDING.—Section 502 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 352) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(bb) If it is a drug and it fails to bear a prescription drug product identifier as required by section 582.''.

SEC. 7. UNIFORM NATIONAL POLICY.

Subchapter H of chapter V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as amended by section 5, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 585. UNIFORM NATIONAL POLICY.

''(a) PREEMPTION OF STATE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT TRACING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—Beginning on the date of the enactment of the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013, no State or political subdivision of a State may establish or continue in effect any requirements for tracing drugs through the distribution system (including any requirements with respect to paper or electronic pedigrees, track and trace, statements of distribution history, transaction history, or transaction statements, or verification, investigation, disposition, alerts, or recordkeeping relating to the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain system) that—

''(1) are inconsistent with, more stringent than, or in addition to any requirements applicable under this Act; or

''(2) are inconsistent with any applicable waiver, exception, or exemption issued by the Secretary under section 582(a).

''(b) STANDARDS OR LICENSURE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date of the enactment of Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013, no State or political subdivision of a State may establish or continue any standards, requirements, or regulations with respect to wholesale drug distributor or third-party logistics provider licensure which are inconsistent with, less stringent than, in addition to, or more stringent than, the standards and requirements under this Act.

''(2) LICENSING FEES.—Paragraph (1) does not affect the authority of a State to collect fees from wholesale drug distributors or third-party logistics providers in connection with State licensing under section 583 or 584 pursuant to a licensing program meeting the requirements of such sections.

''(3) ENFORCEMENT, SUSPENSION, AND REVOCATION OF LICENSES.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a State—

''(A) may take administrative action, including fines, to enforce a licensure requirement promulgated by the State in accordance with this Act;

''(B) may provide for the suspension or revocation of licenses issued by the State for violations of the laws of such State;

''(C) upon conviction of a person for a violation of Federal, State, or local controlled substance laws or regulations, may provide for fines, imprisonment, or civil penalties; and

''(D) may regulate activities of entities licensed pursuant to section 583 or 584 in a manner that is consistent with the provisions of this subchapter.''.

SEC. 8. ELECTRONIC LABELING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 502(f) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 352(f)) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''Required labeling (other than immediate container or carton labels) that is intended for use by a physician, a pharmacist, or another health care professional, and that provides directions for human use of a drug subject to section 503(b)(1), may (except as necessary to mitigate a safety risk, as specified by the Secretary in regulation) be made available by electronic means instead of paper form, provided that such labeling complies with all applicable requirements of law, the manufacturer or distributor, as applicable, affords health care professionals and authorized dispensers (as defined in section 581) the opportunity to request the labeling in paper form, and after such a request the manufacturer or distributor promptly provides the requested information without additional cost.''.

(b) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall promulgate regulations implementing the amendment made by subsection (a).

(c) APPLICATION.—The last sentence of section 502(f) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 352(f)), as added by subsection (a), shall apply beginning on the earlier of—

(1) the effective date of final regulations promulgated under subsection (b); or

(2) the day that is 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) and the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous matters in the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 1919, the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013. This legislation is the culmination of many years of hard work by legislators and stakeholders alike, and I'm honored to have introduced this legislation, along with Congressman MATHESON.

This is an issue that was brought to my attention when I was first elected to Congress 5½ years ago by concerned stakeholders in Ohio, and I am pleased that the legislation is being considered on the House floor today. Securing our Nation's pharmaceutical supply chain is an extremely important issue, and passage of this bill will be an important step forward to protecting America's families.

The pharmaceutical supply chain touches every part of the health care system, and it is imperative that we get the structure and segments of it connected in a safe, secure, and effective manner that provides the best protection for patients.

H.R. 1919 will make improvements to the current supply chain while providing a clear path for industry stakeholders towards enhanced supply chain protections.

Pharmaceutical distribution occurs nationwide, and it is estimated that within the United States there are more than 4 billion prescriptions filled each year. By replacing the current patchwork of multiple State laws with a uniform national standard, we improve safety, eliminate duplicative regulations, and create certainty for all members of the pharmaceutical supply chain.

When anyone takes a prescribed medication, he or she should have full confidence that the medication is as prescribed and will do no harm. It is of utmost importance that we implement commonsense solutions to safeguard our distribution supply chain against counterfeit and adulterated drugs, as well as improve security and integrity throughout the supply chain. This legislation is an important step forward to ensure greater patient safety for all Americans.

I was pleased to receive a support letter for H.R. 1919 from the United States Deputy Sheriffs' Association, which also recognizes that a national system will help curb criminal activity surrounding prescription drug diversion and criminal counterfeiting.

In the letter, it discusses how a national system could deter opportunists' ability to focus their efforts on differing State laws, or those States that have no laws or regulations, thereby allowing for criminal infiltration.

Specifically, the letter states that ''tracking packages destined for patients is a good defense against criminals who would profit from contaminating or stealing those medicines, and put patients at risk.''

To protect patient safety, this bill would replace multiple State laws and create a uniform national standard for securing the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain, thereby preventing duplicative State and Federal requirements.

It would increase security of the supply chain by establishing tracing requirements for manufacturers, wholesale distributors, pharmacies, and repackagers based on changes in ownership.

The bill also establishes a collaborative, transparent process between the Food and Drug Administration and stakeholders to study ways to even further secure the pharmaceutical supply chain.

Finally, the bill puts in place a requirement for the FDA to issue proposed regulations on unit-level traceability. The timeline put forth in this bill for all those steps is reasonable and will allow enough time for stakeholders to comply with these new national standards and ensure that, through feedback from these same stakeholders, phase two is done efficiently and correctly.

As I stated earlier, this issue has been worked on for many years, and setting up a track and trace process is complicated.

Chairman UPTON, I appreciate your leadership in moving the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act to the floor today. We made a number of changes in the Energy and Commerce

Committee to improve the language of the bill as we work to create a safer pharmaceutical distribution system to protect against the threat of counterfeit drugs.

This is a highly complex area, and I understand that additional changes were made to the language in the version we are considering today. Further changes are necessary to ensure that the wholesale distribution system meets the highest standards of safety and consumer protection. In order to achieve those high standards, I am committed to ensuring that language is included in the conference report brought back to the House that establishes a direct purchase pedigree for those wholesalers who only purchase pharmaceuticals directly from the manufacturers.

I know you share my goal of creating the strongest supply chain system, and I look forward to working with you as we move forward.

There has been much work done on this issue over the many years, and I am appreciative of all the input I have received on this bill from stakeholders and interested parties. And I again want to specifically thank Chairman UPTON and Subcommittee Chairman PITTS for all their assistance in advancing this legislation. I urge full support of my colleagues for H.R. 1919.

I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1610

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to discuss a number of concerns I have about H.R. 1919, the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013. It's a bill designed to improve the integrity of our drug supply chain. Unfortunately, this bill falls far short of achieving that goal.

Throughout last year, Members on a bipartisan, bicameral basis engaged in extensive discussions on legislation to protect our drug supply chain. During those months of discussion last year—and at the Health Subcommittee's hearing this past April—we repeatedly heard loud and clear from FDA, the National Boards of Pharmacy, and many others, that if we want a secure drug supply chain, we will ultimately need an electronic interoperable system that tracks each package of drugs at the unit level and that involves the entire supply chain. This kind of system would enable us to identify illegitimate product in real-time and prevent it from ending up in patients' hands. We also heard repeatedly that creating this kind of system is doable. Unfortunately, the bill we are considering today will not create that kind of system. The bill does not require the establishment of an electronic, interoperable unit-level system.

By 2027, 14 years from now, FDA will be required to issue proposed regulations for such a system. But there's no requirement that these regulations ever be finalized. And if they are ever finalized, they cannot go into effect for at least 2 more years. Almost certainly we are looking at 2030 or beyond under this proposed legislation; and, in fact, it may never be done.

This bill also has a number of additional deficiencies. It fails to adequately address the potential for bad actors to introduce illegitimate product into the supply chain through supposed returns from pharmacies to wholesale distributors. In the meantime, it will prevent States from responding to particular needs they may have in regulating their wholesale distributors, and it preempts important existing State safeguards against the entry into the supply chain of unsafe counterfeit drugs before any adequate substitute will be in place.

Two weeks ago, Mr. Speaker, the Senate HELP Committee unanimously approved a bill sponsored by Senators BURR, BENNET, HARKIN, and ALEXANDER that requires the establishment of a unit-level, electronic, interoperable system within 10 years and is not dependent upon FDA issuing regulations. But the Senate bill still provides plenty of notice, input, and guidance for industry stakeholders. FDA is required to hold public meetings, one or more pilot projects, and to issue draft and final guidances and, as needed, regulations. Because they will not be able to delay or prevent implementation of the system, stakeholders will have the incentive to work with FDA to see that the guidances and any needed regulations are developed and released.

Our fundamental goal in establishing a Federal system should be to prevent Americans from being harmed by counterfeit and substandard medicines. If we cannot assure the public that legislation will establish a system that will protect them and that will do so by a date certain, then, in my view, it's not worth doing. The House bill needs significant improvement as it moves forward if our goal is to enact legislation that will truly protect the American public.

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

Mr. LATTA. I yield 2 minutes to the chairman of the full committee, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON).

Mr. UPTON. Certainly, this afternoon I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1919, the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceutical Act of 2013. I want to thank the bill's authors, including Mr. LATTA, for their bipartisan leadership on this very important issue.

This bill strengthens the prescription drug supply chain in order to protect American families against counterfeit drugs. The bill also would help prevent increases in drug prices, avoid additional drug shortages, and literally eliminate hundreds of millions of dollars worth of duplicative government red tape on American businesses that is harming job growth.

As Mr. LATTA said, supporters of the Federal track and trace legislation include the U.S. Deputy Sheriffs' Association and also those in the supply chain, including the National Community Pharmacists Association. According to the CBO, the bill would reduce the deficit by $24 million.

Last Congress, we spent a significant amount of time working on this very important issue as we successfully moved the Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act through the legislative process, and our efforts continued beyond enactment and into the 113th Congress. During that entire process, we also sought input from stakeholders like Pfizer and Perrigo, in my district in Michigan, as well as our smaller pharmacies, too. This hard work allowed us to better understand the issue, and this bill reflects that understanding.

At the Energy and Commerce Committee, we held a legislative hearing on the bill last April. We approved the bill in both subcommittee and full committee by voice vote. We certainly did have a spirited debate at the committee, but we stand here united in our belief that the prescription drug supply chain has to be strengthened.

We look forward to working with our Senate colleagues on H.R. 1919 on a bipartisan basis to improve the bill, including how it addresses issues related to wholesale distributors during phase one. Because of the hard work that has already been put in on this issue and the importance of protecting our Nation's families from counterfeit drugs, I am hopeful we can get a product to the President's desk by the August recess.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MATHESON), one of the original sponsors of this legislation.

Mr. MATHESON. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank Mr. LATTA for his work on this issue as well.

This bill before us today is a product of several years of collaboration. It's a really complicated issue, and it's important that you have a lot of collaboration to address something of this complexity.

This legislation that Mr. LATTA and I have introduced together will provide what I think are important steps for the security of our prescription drug supply chain from counterfeiters and other bad actors. We've seen in recent press reports about fake drugs slipping into the supply chain, so the threat of counterfeit drugs is a growing problem in this country. In fact, when you think about it, the counterfeit drug trade may be a more lucrative opportunity than the illegal drug trade, since the United States, overall, spends roughly $325 billion a year on prescription drugs. This bill is an effort to try to keep those bad actors from entering the drug supply.

Since we've had some of these problems, some States have, rightly, tried to take action to deal with this. What this legislation is going to do, however,

is establish more of a national standard to create some certainty for everyone in the supply chain so there's an opportunity to work effectively in a national way. Without such action, everyone in the supply chain could be forced to comply with a never-ending patchwork of different and complex State laws. That patchwork will force stakeholders to step up multiple State systems, and it could still open the door for bad actors to exploit security gaps through some States that may have weaker laws.

This bill also establishes a collaborative process between the FDA and the industry in establishing protocols for unit-level traceability. The bill stipulates the FDA will hold regular meetings and conduct pilot programs with stakeholders to better inform the agency as to the feasibility of unit-level traceability and the processes needed to achieve that goal. This is critical to ensure that the unit-level traceability regulation is achievable, does not increase prescription drug costs for consumers, and ultimately protects patients from counterfeit and adulterated prescription drug products. What we do not want to see are regulations that are not technologically achievable by industry stakeholders, causing a delay in implementation, as we've seen in some States' circumstances.

□ 1620

Now, there's no question that this legislation has been an effort of several years, and there's still perhaps some work to be done. I'm hopeful that as this legislation moves through the process, as the House and the Senate go to conference, that there are some other outstanding issues that can be addressed and we can build even greater consensus as we go to a final product that goes to the President's desk.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS), the chairman of the subcommittee.

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, the bill before us today is important and necessary legislation to strengthen the prescription drug supply chain and to provide greater safety for our Nation's patients.

Safeguarding our prescription drug supply chain is important to protect against counterfeit drugs. It is necessary to help prevent increases in drug prices while also ensuring adequate supplies of much-needed prescription drugs. Equally important, H.R. 1919 includes reforms that will eliminate hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of duplicative government red tape on American drug manufacturers, wholesale distributors, and pharmacies.

Sadly, counterfeit prescription drugs have proven to be a lucrative business, with many of these illegal counterfeit drugs finding their way to some of our sickest patients, including those with cancer.

Additionally, some States have taken draconian actions to safeguard their prescription drug supply chain, but many of these steps will force small and large businesses to implement costly and indefensible electronic systems for tracking such drugs at the unit level.

After hearings in the Health Subcommittee of the Energy and Commerce Committee, which I chair, we heard that a more feasible and practical solution to this serious problem is attainable, and those provisions are included in H.R. 1919.

Mr. Speaker, by approving this legislation, we will be saving our Nation's businesses millions of dollars, protecting our patients from counterfeit drugs, and securing our drug supply chain in a reasonable, commonsense way.

I urge all my colleagues to support this bill and vote for H.R. 1919.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to yield 3 minutes at this time to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) to speak on this legislation.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. First, let me thank Mr. WAXMAN for yielding time and thank him for his extraordinary leadership on our committee. Let me also thank Mr. LATTA and Mr. MATHESON for working together to try to get this legislation to the floor today.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1919 and urge its passage. Since the Prescription Drug Marketing Act was signed into law some 25 years ago, a patchwork of varying State pedigree laws has evolved, leaving our drug supply chain very vulnerable. Resources should focus on up-to-date and adaptable technology using global serialization standards.

In the past 25 years, industry stakeholders have been unable to agree on a uniform Federal solution, but today I'm happy to report that it does exist. The fact that so many members of the industry have finally come together to embrace new, commonsense regulations speaks to the importance of getting this done soon.

If we fail to enact drug distribution safety legislation soon, my fear is, Mr. Speaker, that we will miss the opportunity to significantly enhance patient safety for all Americans.

The House bill has improved since its introduction. And while I strongly support some of the provisions in the Senate companion bill, including a date certain to reach unit-level tracking, the House bill represents a good step forward and advances the ball toward one ultimate goal. Hopefully, some of these concerns can be addressed in conference.

My constituents, like all of yours, deserve to know that the prescription drugs that they use to treat diabetes, high blood pressure, and heart disease are not stolen, misbranded, or counterfeited. This bill—and the Senate counterpart—addresses the very real concerns that spurred the introduction of this legislation.

While the House bill isn't everything many of us want it to be—and Mr. WAXMAN spoke to that earlier—I am hopeful that once the House and Senate bills move to conference, we will see a final version that will protect consumers and better protect the prescription drug supply chain.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues today in the Senate to proceed with deliberate and swift action so that we can pass a workable solution as soon as possible so as to better protect the American people.

I ask my colleagues to support H.R. 1919.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS).

Mr. BURGESS. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

You know, the United States has the best drug supply chain in the world, but it faces attack each and every day by counterfeiters, thieves, and rogue distributors.

Most Americans would just assume that their prescription drugs that they buy in their drugstore have been tracked rigorously from manufacturer to retail, but that assumption could not be more wrong. In fact, current law leaves a great deal of leeway for counterfeit medications to enter the market, and the punishment for those counterfeiting prescription medication is oftentimes far from adequate. From fake flu vaccines to fake cancer drugs, counterfeit medications have been manufactured and allowed to enter the supply chain and in some cases, unfortunately, even administered to unsuspecting patients. The United States may be the most secure, but we are still at risk.

I believe we have a bill before us today that is guided by the strong principles of patient safety and supply chain integrity. The bill is flexible and does not seek to overly burden States, suppliers, or small businesses. Maintaining the integrity of the United States' prescription drug supply is a compelling national priority.

I want to congratulate Mr. LATTA and Mr. MATHESON, as well as Chairman UPTON and Ranking Member DINGELL, for their leadership on the issue. I appreciate you allowing me to be involved in the development of this bill. I think it is a testament to all the hard work done, including that by our committee staff, Clay Alspach and Paul Edattel, and my personal staff, J.P. Paluskievicz.

I urge my colleagues to support this.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, at this time I wish to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Maine (Mr. MICHAUD).

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express opposition to H.R. 1919.

Specifically, I rise to express concern with section 8 of this bill, which allows prescription drug labeling for physicians, pharmacists, and other health

care professionals to be provided solely by electronic means.

This provision is flawed on multiple levels. First, Internet access in rural States like mine can often be intermittent at best. In an area with low Internet connectivity or reliability, health care providers would not automatically have the necessary information about the drugs to make sure that they're being administered and prescribed appropriately. This is even true in areas that have good Internet connectivity, but may have been hit by a natural disaster like Hurricane Sandy.

Second, eliminating the paper labeling requirement will have repercussions for the industry that it supports. There are more than 10,000 jobs nationwide associated with the printing of this sensitive information.

In Maine, the paper industry supports 7,000 workers, including hundreds in the pharmaceutical paper industry. These workers are part of an important industry that keeps health care professionals, dispensers, and consumers informed about their drugs. Section 8 would jeopardize the jobs of more than 1,000 Mainers.

Finally, legislation passed during the 112th Congress required GAO to conduct a study of the advantages and risks of electronic-only labeling of pharmaceuticals. This study is due to be released next month. Passing this legislation that preempts the finding of this study is bad policy. So I would urge my colleagues to support informed health care professionals and consumers and to fight for more than 10,000 manufacturing jobs across the country. So I would urge a ''no'' vote on H.R. 1919.

Mr. WAXMAN. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MICHAUD. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. WAXMAN. I thank you for yielding to me.

You're raising issues that I don't think were really brought to our attention when we were considering the legislation, and I want to look it over carefully.

But I think you raise an interesting point; and as we go into the conference after this bill is passed, I want to pledge to you that I will continue to review this issue with you and others to see what the merits would be of whether this provision should continue in the bill.

I talked to Chairman UPTON, who told me that he would continue to review the issue as well.

Mr. LATTA. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MICHAUD. I yield to the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. LATTA. I thank the gentleman.

As we discussed a little earlier, I will be happy to continue discussing this with you.

Mr. MICHAUD. I thank both gentlemen for your willingness to look at section 8 more closely.

□ 1630

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MCKINLEY).

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1919.

Let me bring attention to a provision in the bill that we were just discussing about electronic distribution of prescription information for health care professionals and pharmacists. Industry and the FDA have been in discussions for years about eliminating the paper attached to bottles of prescription drugs.

Let me show you this. This is what we are talking about—this wad of paper on the top of a prescription bottle. It's a folded up piece of paper. It can be in three and four parts. This is not an efficient way to distribute critical information about prescription drugs. Eliminating this wad of paper would save the consumers millions of dollars in printing and shipping costs.

The House committee recognized the need to allow pharmacists the option of electronic or paper copies, because some rural pharmacies may not have Internet capabilities. Unfortunately, this labeling provision is not in the Senate bill.

So, as the process moves forward into conference, this labeling provision needs to be retained so that we have a final product that assures patient safety and provides uniform national standards to strengthen the national drug supply chain.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and the labeling provision.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for the record three letters from the California State Board of Pharmacy and four letters from dozens of organizations representing consumers, patients, physicians, researchers, and public health advocates. These letters raise serious concerns with H.R. 1919, the track and trace legislation before us today.

I would like to read a few sentences from just one of the letters:

> We are concerned that the legislation as currently written does not contain the minimum safeguards to keep unsafe medicines from reaching patients. The subcommittee's proposal does not create a clear path forward to a meaningful unit-level traceability system. Furthermore, the proposed legislation would eliminate all existing State drug pedigree laws—which provide essential patient safety protections as well as major tools for law enforcement. The bill would leave the U.S. pharmaceutical supply unprotected for a full 2 years before introducing even limited traceability requirements.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to read these letters carefully. They provide a detailed critique of the legislation and offer suggestions on how to fix it. I hope we can improve this bill as it moves forward through the legislative process.

COMMENTS OF THE PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS TO HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE ON H.R. 1919—PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE DRUG DISTRIBUTION SECURITY, MAY 14, 2013

DEAR CHAIRMAN UPTON AND RANKING MEMBER WAXMAN: Thank you for your ongoing interest in measures to secure the drug distribution system in the United States.

We have reviewed H.R. 1919, the legislative proposal that will be considered by the Committee on Energy and Commerce on May 15. As currently drafted, this legislation does not establish meaningful patient protections and does not justify the preemption of state laws. The legislation continues to provide no guarantee that there will be a national drug distribution security system that will involve all members of the supply chain and will track drugs at the unit level within a reasonable time frame.

This bill does not require a proposed regulation until 2027, and does not set a timeline for a final rule. The soonest an enhanced distribution security system could possibly be in place is 2029—assuming FDA could propose and finalize the regulations in one year. This prolonged timeline will eradicate momentum in the supply chain towards unit-level traceability, will halt progress on serialization and data sharing system development, and will seriously undermine investments already being made by stakeholders. We urge the committee to amend this legislation to establish a clear path to a unit-level traceability system, as called for by a majority of the witnesses who testified at your April 25th hearing.

Pharmaceutical manufacturers are already making investments in drug serialization technology. To justify the expense—and the preemption of strong state laws—it is essential that any federal law establish meaningful patient protections through use of this technology. Legislation must achieve the following within a reasonable time frame:

Participation of all members of the supply chain

Traceability of drugs at the package/unit level, and

Routine checking of drug serial numbers.

We attach herewith our comments on the proposed legislation considered by the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health on May 8, 2013.

CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY,
Sacramento, CA, May 28, 2013.

Re Federal efforts to secure drug distribution security

Hon. HENRY WAXMAN,
Ranking Member, Energy and Commerce Committee.

Hon. FRANK PALLONE, Jr.,
Ranking Member, Health Subcommittee, Energy and Commerce Committee.

DEAR MR. WAXMAN AND MR. PALLONE: I write on behalf of the California State Board of Pharmacy (Board). We appreciate this opportunity to submit our written comments on H.R. 1919, titled the ''Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013.'' Our comments pertain to H.R. 1919 as it was reported out of the Energy & Commerce Committee on or about May 15, 2013. We write to express our concern that this bill, as currently drafted, does not do enough to promise an increase in the security of the drug distribution supply chain, while at the same time preempting the California pedigree law and tying the hands of states like California to regulate wholesalers.

We want to first thank you and the bill's authors and co-sponsors for acknowledging and taking on the challenge of increasing drug supply chain security. We understand

that it is not an easy task to balance the need for increased security against a desire to avoid adding unnecessary costs and possible interruptions to the supply chain. We also recognize and appreciate just how much effort has gone into the bipartisan and bicameral effort to reach agreement on legislation necessary to achieve needed improvements in drug supply chain security. Finally, we agree that it would be ideal for the subject of supply chain security to have a federal legislative solution, as this is a subject that would be more ideally regulated at the federal level than by the states.

However, we believe H.R. 1919 does not promise the kind of robust supply chain security that is necessary to ensure adequate patient protection, and is not an adequate replacement for the California pedigree law that, absent this bill, will go into effect beginning in 2015. Our reasons for this are various; many of these have been covered in our comments on prior legislative drafts. In the interest of brevity, and because we want to get these comments to you in time for them to be considered along with any action that might be taken on H.R. 1919, we will keep this iteration of our comments relatively succinct. Please find enclosed our letters dated April 26, 2013, on the draft of the bipartisan Senate bill released for comment at that time (since introduced in much the same form as S. 957, and combined with S. 959), and November 7, 2012, on the bicameral DDS Draft that was at that time sent out for comment, which we hereby incorporate by reference.

In brief, our primary though by no means only objection to this draft is that it promises no certainty that we will ever see the end-to-end, full participation, electronic track-and-trace system monitoring drug distribution security at the unit (package) level, with trading partner verification and validation and the resulting protections against counterfeit and adulterated products, that has been the recommendation of the FDA since its Counterfeit Drug Task Force convened in 2004. This bill leaves the development of any such system to some future rulemaking, to be published no sooner than 2027, effective 2 years later, and even then this legislation requires no particular outcome of such rulemaking. We have no confidence, given the history of the Prescription Drug Marketing Act of 1987 (PDMA), that this deferral will result in any increase in security. While we have also expressed concern (see April 26, 2013 comments) that Section 3 of the Senate draft should be improved and strengthened, and that it should not take an additional 10 years to get to the system outlined in that section, we far prefer the relative certainty of the Senate model to this draft. There has already been substantial agreement that a uniform track-and-trace infrastructure is needed to ensure supply chain security, and many participants in the supply chain are already well on their way to implementing that infrastructure to comply with the California timeline. We believe that without placing a definite outcome and a date certain into the legislation, all of that momentum will be lost and all of that industry investment will be wasted. We believe the public deserves a robust supply chain security system, and we further believe that the industry needs the certainty of firm deadlines and objectives in order to adequately plan their capital investments.

Of nearly co-equal importance, we also object, for many of the same reasons stated in our November 7, 2012 letter, to the language in Section 585, subdivision (b) (and/or elsewhere), that has the effect of making the proposed national wholesaler licensure standards both a ''floor'' and a ''ceiling'' on the independent authority of states to regulate wholesalers. We support national minimum standards for wholesalers, and also support federal licensure of distributors in states that do not provide such licensure. But we strongly believe that states should remain able to enact and enforce state-specific provisions that go above and beyond national minimums, to respond to more local issues and also to later developments requiring more immediate action. We are happy to work with you further on this topic, and to share examples of why we believe it is so crucial for states to retain flexibility and additional authority with regard to regulating wholesalers.

One such example would be the difficulty experienced in California and other states over the last few years with ''gray market'' purchase and re-sale practices by (secondary) wholesalers. California has seen a dramatic uptick in re-sales of drugs that are in short supply, as wholesalers and their trading partners evade typical drug shortage allocations by purchasing from pharmacies who become de facto ''purchasing agents'' for the secondary wholesalers, acquiring drugs from a primary wholesaler for the purposes of resale to the secondary wholesaler, which in turn re-sells the drugs to another secondary wholesaler or to an end user. These practices can result in further increases in the already-increased prices of shortage drugs, in further distortions in supply, and in supply chain vulnerabilities from the multiple purchases/re-sales. Some of these problems have been documented in a bicameral investigation report by Senators Rockefeller and Harkin, and by Representative Cummings, which addressed the problem and possible solutions. A copy of this report is available at http://cummings.house.gov/cummings-releases-joint-report-gray-market-drug-companies. This kind of unexpected and unprecedented conduct by wholesalers presents a new challenge that has not been anticipated by previous licensing schemes (or the framework in the present draft). California and other states will have to devise new regulatory language that is able to better handle these kinds of market innovations. We must retain the flexibility to do so, and to add to the federal minimums when these kinds of situations come up. Under the language of H.R. 1919, we will not have the necessary flexibility and authority to do so.

CONCLUSION

For these reasons, as well as those spelled out in more detail in the enclosed letters, we cannot support the current draft of H.R. 1919, although we believe and reiterate that a federal model is ideal. We do not believe that additional drug security can await the possible development of future standards some 14 or more years after enactment. We believe the security of the drug supply and the public's trust in that drug supply are threatened, and any further delay simply adds to the scope of these threats..

We also believe that the endpoint should be a national end-to-end track-and-trace system that is worthy of any additional delay, and adequate to replace the California model. We believe the necessary components of any such system include: participation by all industry partners; in passing and receiving electronic drug ''pedigree''/chain-of-custody data as to all prescription drugs; to which data all shipments and deliveries are validated; by tracking and validating shipments at the (saleable) unit level at each stage of distribution. We believe this proposal fails to fully articulate the system first envisioned by the FDA.

Finally, we remain concerned that the hands of California and other states with robust programs to license and regulate wholesale distributors will be tied by the national licensure standards section(s) of the bill. We would encourage you to adopt a model wherein the federal legistaltion sets a floor for wholesaler licensure standards (and provides for federal licensure where states do not offer same) but not a ceiling.

We again commend you for your leadership on these vital issues of national security. Thank you also for your willingness to hear our input. We look forward to our continuing work together to secure the nation's drug supply. Please feel free to contact the Board any time if we can be of assistance.

The best ways to reach me are on my cell phone or by email. You may also communicate with the Board's Executive Officer, Virginia Herold, by telephone or by email.

Thank you again for your efforts. We are grateful to all of you, and hopeful that we are nearing a strong federal system for regaining a strong pharmaceutical supply.

Sincerely,

STANLEY C. WEISSER, R.PH.,
President, California State Board of Pharmacy.

Enclosures: April 26, 2013 Board comment letter, November 7, 2012 Board comment letter.

NATIONAL RESEARCH CENTER FOR WOMEN & FAMILIES, THE TMJ ASSOCIATION, WOODYMATTERS,

May 7, 2013

Re Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee markup to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain

Hon. FRED UPTON,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce, Committee on Energy and Commerce, Washington, DC.
Hon. HENRY WAXMAN,
Ranking Member, Committee on Energy and Commerce, Health Committee on Energy and Commerce, Washington, DC.
Hon. JOSEPH R. PITTS,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Health, Committee on Energy and Commerce, Washington, DC.
Hon. FRANK PALLONE,
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Committee on Energy and Commerce, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN UPTON, CHAIRMAN PITTS, RANKING MEMBER WAXMAN, AND RANKING MEMBER PALLONE: Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the pharmaceutical supply chain legislation being marked up on May 7 and May 8.

We are writing on behalf of consumers, patients, scientists, and public health advocates to express our strong support for a drug distribution system that will protect patients and the public's health from unsafe medicines. The ongoing threat to the U.S. drug supply must be addressed through a strong national serialization and traceability system to track and authenticate medicines at the unit level. Without such a system to track and authenticate drugs at the unit level as they move from manufacturer to wholesaler to pharmacy to patient, the public's health continues to be placed at risk from unsafe or counterfeit medicines.

The Subcommittee on Health's proposed legislation, as currently written, lacks necessary and clearly defined elements to guarantee a unit-level serialization and traceability system in a timely manner. This is a serious patient safety concern, and must be rectified. The proposed legislation would also eliminate all existing state drug pedigree laws—major tools for law enforcement—and would leave the U.S. pharmaceutical supply unprotected for a full two years before putting a limited system in place.

We do not support a federal law that preempts existing strong state laws. The federal

law should be a floor, not a ceiling. Any federal law must create a system that includes the following elements within a timely manner:

PARTICIPATION OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE SUPPLY CHAIN

We need full participation of all supply chain stakeholders in a unit-level serialization and traceability system to protect the integrity of the supply chain. Pharmacies are the last step in drug distribution before medicine reaches a patient and are essential for ensuring pharmaceutical integrity.

TRACEABILITY OF DRUGS AT THE SMALLEST SALEABLE UNIT LEVEL

The legislation needs to create a clear, assured path to a unit-level traceability system. The proposal takes away strong existing state drug pedigree requirements, and does not replace them with assurances that unit-level traceability will be achieved. The legislation's requirement for numerous studies and meetings and lack of requirement for a final rule will create years of regulatory uncertainty and will not protect the public's health.

ROUTINE CHECKING AND VERIFICATION OF DRUG SERIAL NUMBERS

The legislation calls for limited verification under an interim system, and does not create a meaningful framework to achieve enhanced verification. A robust system should include proactive verification of drug units in order to prevent stolen and counterfeit drugs that are being distributed as legitimate pharmaceutical products from entering the supply chain.

The risk of counterfeit and diverted medicines in the U.S. drug supply has not abated over the years. The Food and Drug Administration announced three times in the past year that it had discovered counterfeit Avastin—a critical drug used to treat several types of advanced cancer—in the United States. The FDA issued letters to clinical practices in California, Texas, and Illinois warning that they may have knowingly or unknowingly purchased and administered treatments missing active ingredients to cancer patients.

In 2012 in New York, 48 individuals were charged in a huge criminal diversion and fraud scheme to buy prescription drugs ''on the street,'' re-package or re-label them and sell them back into distribution through licensed pharmaceutical wholesalers, who in turn sold the drugs to pharmacies. These ''recycled'' medicines put patients at risk of contaminated or compromised drugs. In addition, authorities estimated the large-scale drug diversion scheme cost the New York state Medicaid program $500 billion. Similar schemes in other states are well documented, including one in Tennessee earlier this year that cost the state Medicaid program more than $58 million.

These incidents represent an unacceptable risk to patients. We urge the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health to consider a strong unit-level serialization and traceability framework that appropriately secures and protects the distribution of medicines in the U.S. in a timely fashion.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

NATIONAL RESEARCH CENTER FOR WOMEN & FAMILIES.
THE TMJ ASSOCIATION.
WOODYMATTERS.

CANCER LEADERSHIP COUNCIL,
Washington, DC, May 14, 2013.

Hon. FRED UPTON,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.
Hon. JOSEPH PITTS,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Health, Committee on Energy and Commerce, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.
Hon. HENRY WAXMAN,
Ranking Member, Committee on Energy and Commerce, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.
Hon. FRANK PALLONE,
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Health, Committee on Energy and Commerce, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN UPTON, RANKING MEMBER WAXMAN, CHAIRMAN PITTS, AND RANKING MEMBER PALLONE: The undersigned organizations representing cancer patients, physicians, and researchers are writing in support of efforts to develop legislation to protect the security of the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain.

Cancer patients and physicians have experienced the adverse effects of disruptions in the supply chain and the counterfeiting of cancer drugs, occurrences which can compromise the quality of care they receive and the effectiveness of their treatments. Patients and their physicians must be able to trust that the drugs they prescribe and receive are consistent with their labeling. In the past, cancer patients have received counterfeit drugs that were ineffective. In those circumstances, cancer patients were harmed by time wasted receiving therapies that provided no medical benefit.

As you continue your work on supply chain protections, we urge that you develop a supply chain protection system that: Includes participation by all those involved in the supply chain; requires traceability of drugs at the smallest unit level; and facilitates routine verification of drug serial numbers.

We also urge that existing state drug pedigree laws not be preempted until a strong national system is implemented. Eliminating state protections without a national system to replace them would not be in the best interest of cancer patients and other Americans who trust that the medications they are prescribed are safe and effective.

We understand that developing a strong supply chain protection system will be accompanied by some costs. However, the health care system and patients are already bearing the costs associated with diversion and counterfeiting. Diversion schemes can cost health care payers significant sums. Money is wasted on counterfeit medicines, and additional resources must be spent on the therapies that patients may need to address the harm and/or lack of effectiveness of counterfeit drugs. Companies that have been victims to counterfeiting or diversion may bear significant costs as a result. Finally, the human costs of counterfeiting and diversion are great, as patients may be harmed by unsafe or ineffective medications.

We commend your commitment to addressing the safety of the pharmaceutical distribution system and urge you to develop protections that are adequate to meet the needs of cancer patients and their physicians.

Sincerely,
Cancer Leadership Council:

American Society for Radiation Oncology
Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network
The Children's Cause for Cancer Advocacy
Coalition of Cancer Cooperative Groups
Fight Colorectal Cancer
International Myeloma Foundation
Kidney Cancer Association
Lymphoma Research Foundation
National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship
National Lung Cancer Partnership
Ovarian Cancer National Alliance
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network
Prevent Cancer Foundation
Sarcoma Foundation of America
Susan G. Komen for the Cure Advocacy Alliance

MAY 7, 2013.

Re Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee markup to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain

Hon. JOSEPH R. PITTS,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Health, Committee on Energy and Commerce, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.
Hon. FRANK PALLONE,
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Health, Committee on Energy and Commerce, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN PITTS AND RANKING MEMBER PALLONE: We, the undersigned, thank the Health Subcommittee for the opportunity to provide feedback on the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain legislation being marked up on May 8.

On behalf of millions of consumers, patients, and public health advocates, we write in support of a strong national unit-level serialization and traceability system to secure the U.S. pharmaceutical supply. Without such a system to track and authenticate drugs at the unit level as they move from manufacturer to wholesaler to pharmacy to patient, the public's health continues to be placed at risk from diverted or counterfeit medicines.

We are concerned that the legislation as currently written does not contain the minimum safeguards to keep unsafe medicines from reaching patients. The Subcommittee's proposal does not create a clear path forward to a meaningful unit-level traceability system. Furthermore, the proposed legislation would eliminate all existing state drug pedigree laws—which provide essential patient safety protections as well as major tools for law enforcement. The bill would leave the U.S. pharmaceutical supply unprotected for a full two years before introducing even limited traceability requirements.

In order to justify the preemption of existing strong state laws, it is essential that any federal law create a system that includes the following elements within a reasonable time frame: (1) Participation of all members of the supply chain; (2) Traceability of drugs at the smallest saleable unit level; (3) Routine checking and verification of drug serial numbers.

As we have seen over the last several years, the risk of counterfeit and diverted medicines in the U.S. drug supply is real. The Food and Drug Administration announced three times over the past year that it had discovered counterfeit Avastin—a critical drug used to treat several types of cancer—in the United States. The FDA issued letters to clinical practices in California, Texas, and Illinois warning that they may have knowingly or unknowingly purchased and administered treatments missing active ingredients to cancer patients.

Last year the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York charged 48 individuals in a large-scale criminal diversion scheme to buy prescription drugs ''on the street'', re-package and/or re-label them and sell them back into distribution through licensed pharmaceutical wholesalers, who in turn sold the drugs to pharmacies. The scheme included medicines for HIV/AIDS, schizophrenia, and asthma, some of which

were stored under unsafe conditions, or removed from their original packaging and mixed with other medication. Patients receiving these ''recycled'' medicines were at risk of contaminated or compromised drugs. Authorities estimate the large-scale drug diversion scheme cost the New York state Medicaid program almost half-billion dollars. Similar schemes in other states are well documented, including one in Tennessee earlier this year that cost the state Medicaid program more than $58 million.

In light of this ongoing and unacceptable risk to patients we urge the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health to consider a strong unit-level serialization and traceability framework that appropriately secures and protects the distribution of medicines in the U.S. in a timely fashion. Thank you again for your work on this important issue.

American Public Health Association (APHA)
American Medical Women's Association
Annie Appleseed Project
Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network
Community Catalyst
Consumers Union
Fight Colorectal Cancer
International Myeloma Foundation
Lymphoma Research Foundation
National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)
National Women's Health Network
Ovarian Cancer National Alliance
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network
Susan G. Komen
Trust for America's Health
U.S. PIRG

I would like to ask the gentleman from Ohio how many speakers he has?

Mr. LATTA. We have none.

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

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, we have no further speakers. I ask for support for the bill, and yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1919, the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013. The American people deserve peace of mind in knowing the pharmaceuticals they take every day are safe and have not been stolen, misbranded, or counterfeited. In last year's Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act, we took important steps to secure the upstream supply chain by ensuring FDA has accurate information about who is manufacturing and importing drugs, as well as requiring manufacturers to notify FDA if their pharmaceuticals may cause injury or death or have been stolen or counterfeited. That was a good first step, but now Congress must act to secure our downstream drug supply chain.

A strong, national track-and-trace system for our pharmaceutical supply chain will help improve public health and protect the American people from harm. We have seen far too many examples of counterfeit or unsafe pharmaceuticals entering the supply chain and ultimately ending up in the hands of patients. Now is the time to act and implement a system to trace pharmaceuticals as they move through the supply chain to prevent this from ever happening again. This system must be fair, feasible, and provide certainty to industry as to what is required of it. If done properly, a strong track-and-trace system will protect our pharmaceuticals from tampering and ensure their safety for patient use.

I want to thank my friends, Mr. MATHESON and Mr. LATTA, for their hard work on this important issue. I am the first to admit that this is not a perfect bill, and we have more work ahead of us. I also want to acknowledge the concerns of my friend and colleague from Maine, Mr. MICHAUD, about e-labeling. I commit to working with him to address this issue of great importance and ask that my colleagues do the same.

The Senate has also made real, bipartisan progress on this issue and taken a slightly different approach. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation today to move the process forward on this matter. Congress has a clear opportunity to pass a bill with major benefits for the American people and must avail itself of the opportunity. I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle and both sides of Capitol Hill to send a strong, bi-partisan bill to President Obama.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, drug distribution security is critical to public health and safety, and I strongly support taking steps to ensure that the final pharmaceutical products patients receive are safe and effective. Although the bill before us today, H.R. 1919, the ''Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act,'' is well-intentioned, I have a number of concerns and believe the bill must be strengthened before it becomes law in order to truly protect the American people.

There is widespread agreement that the best way to protect the supply chain is to establish a unit-level, interoperable system that involves all members of the supply chain. However, under H.R. 1919, there is no assurance that an effective system for tracking and tracing drugs will ultimately be put into place. The bill only calls on FDA to issue proposed regulations—there is no requirement for final regulations.

In order to protect the drug supply chain, it is also important to ensure that unused drugs that are returned to the previous supplier and then re-enter the supply chain are just as safe as drugs going through the chain for the first time. I am concerned that the provisions in H.R. 1919, which allow the wholesaler to begin a new transaction history when it sells a returned product, create the potential for entry of illegitimate product into the system.

While I am pleased that H.R. 1919 sets national standards for the licensing of wholesale distributors, I am concerned that these standards preempt all state laws, effectively preventing states from having stronger licensing standards if they deem it necessary in their unique circumstance. National licensing standards should act as a floor defining what states must require, not as a floor and a ceiling.

I am also concerned that if H.R. 1919 becomes law, there will be a significant gap in the current level of information about a drug's path through the supply chain. H.R. 1919 preempts all state requirements regarding drug tracing on the date of enactment, but the new federal standards do not go into effect until 2015. This leaves a potentially-long window open for counterfeit or substandard products to enter the supply chain and reach customers.

It is crucial that if we are going to preempt state efforts, we must have a strong federal standard. This standard should serve as a true building block to tracking drugs at the unit level, so that each and every product is authenticated at the lowest unit of sale before they reach patients, and counterfeit or contaminated products are kept out of the drug supply chain or quickly eliminated from it. Unfortunately, H.R. 1919 does not meet these goals.

While I do not want to stop this process from moving forward, I remain concerned about the provisions in H.R. 1919 and look forward to conference with the Senate to strengthen the bill and, ultimately, enacting legislation that will truly protect the nation's drug supply.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, as the House considers H.R. 1919, the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013, I would like to voice my specific concerns with one provision within the legislation. While the underlying bill seeks to address the issue of preventing counterfeit drugs from reaching consumers, and improving national regulatory standards for pharmaceuticals, Section 8 of the proposed legislation instead mandates an electronic labeling requirement for pharmaceuticals. This serves to eliminate hard copy professional literature, and transition exclusively to electronic only literature. Based on legislation passed by Congress in 2012, GAO was tasked with studying the issue of e-labeling. This study is expected to be issued in July of this year. I urge my colleagues to carefully consider the potential ramifications of exclusive electronic labeling, and be cautious about any premature legislative action on this issue until the GAO report is released. The findings of this Congressionally mandated study should be deliberated before making a change that has the potential to impact consumers and providers.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1919, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANIMAL DRUG AND ANIMAL GENERIC DRUG USER FEE REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2013

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 622) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to reauthorize user fee programs relating to new animal drugs and generic new animal drugs.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 622

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 ''Animal Drug and Animal Generic Drug User Fee Reauthorization Act of 2013''.

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS; REFERENCES IN ACT.

(a) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.
Sec. 2. Table of contents; references in Act.

TITLE I—FEES RELATING TO ANIMAL DRUGS

Sec. 101. Short title; finding.
Sec. 102. Definitions.
Sec. 103. Authority to assess and use animal drug fees.

Sec. 104. Reauthorization; reporting requirements.
Sec. 105. Savings clause.
Sec. 106. Effective date.
Sec. 107. Sunset dates.
TITLE II—FEES RELATING TO GENERIC ANIMAL DRUGS
Sec. 201. Short title; finding.
Sec. 202. Authority to assess and use generic new animal drug fees.
Sec. 203. Reauthorization; reporting requirements.
Sec. 204. Savings clause.
Sec. 205. Effective date.
Sec. 206. Sunset dates.

(b) REFERENCES IN ACT.—Except as otherwise specified, amendments made by this Act to a section or other provision of law are amendments to such section or other provision of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.).

TITLE I—FEES RELATING TO ANIMAL DRUGS

SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE; FINDING.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the ''Animal Drug User Fee Amendments of 2013''.

(b) FINDING.—Congress finds that the fees authorized by the amendments made in this title will be dedicated toward expediting the animal drug development process and the review of new and supplemental animal drug applications and investigational animal drug submissions as set forth in the goals identified, for purposes of part 4 of subchapter C of chapter VII of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, in the letters from the Secretary of Health and Human Services to the Chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Chairman of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate as set forth in the Congressional Record.

SEC. 102. DEFINITIONS.

Section 739 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–11) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 739. DEFINITIONS.

''For purposes of this part:

''(1) The term 'animal drug application' means an application for approval of any new animal drug submitted under section 512(b)(1). Such term does not include either a new animal drug application submitted under section 512(b)(2) or a supplemental animal drug application.

''(2) The term 'supplemental animal drug application' means—

''(A) a request to the Secretary to approve a change in an animal drug application which has been approved; or

''(B) a request to the Secretary to approve a change to an application approved under section 512(c)(2) for which data with respect to safety or effectiveness are required.

''(3) The term 'animal drug product' means each specific strength or potency of a particular active ingredient or ingredients in final dosage form marketed by a particular manufacturer or distributor, which is uniquely identified by the labeler code and product code portions of the national drug code, and for which an animal drug application or a supplemental animal drug application has been approved.

''(4) The term 'animal drug establishment' means a foreign or domestic place of business which is at one general physical location consisting of one or more buildings all of which are within 5 miles of each other, at which one or more animal drug products are manufactured in final dosage form.

''(5) The term 'investigational animal drug submission' means—

''(A) the filing of a claim for an investigational exemption under section 512(j) for a new animal drug intended to be the subject of an animal drug application or a supplemental animal drug application; or

''(B) the submission of information for the purpose of enabling the Secretary to evaluate the safety or effectiveness of an animal drug application or supplemental animal drug application in the event of their filing.

''(6) The term 'animal drug sponsor' means either an applicant named in an animal drug application that has not been withdrawn by the applicant and for which approval has not been withdrawn by the Secretary, or a person who has submitted an investigational animal drug submission that has not been terminated or otherwise rendered inactive by the Secretary.

''(7) The term 'final dosage form' means, with respect to an animal drug product, a finished dosage form which is approved for administration to an animal without substantial further manufacturing. Such term includes animal drug products intended for mixing in animal feeds.

''(8) The term 'process for the review of animal drug applications' means the following activities of the Secretary with respect to the review of animal drug applications, supplemental animal drug applications, and investigational animal drug submissions:

''(A) The activities necessary for the review of animal drug applications, supplemental animal drug applications, and investigational animal drug submissions.

''(B) The issuance of action letters which approve animal drug applications or supplemental animal drug applications or which set forth in detail the specific deficiencies in animal drug applications, supplemental animal drug applications, or investigational animal drug submissions and, where appropriate, the actions necessary to place such applications, supplements or submissions in condition for approval.

''(C) The inspection of animal drug establishments and other facilities undertaken as part of the Secretary's review of pending animal drug applications, supplemental animal drug applications, and investigational animal drug submissions.

''(D) Monitoring of research conducted in connection with the review of animal drug applications, supplemental animal drug applications, and investigational animal drug submissions.

''(E) The development of regulations and policy related to the review of animal drug applications, supplemental animal drug applications, and investigational animal drug submissions.

''(F) Development of standards for products subject to review.

''(G) Meetings between the agency and the animal drug sponsor.

''(H) Review of advertising and labeling prior to approval of an animal drug application or supplemental animal drug application, but not after such application has been approved.

''(9) The term 'costs of resources allocated for the process for the review of animal drug applications' means the expenses in connection with the process for the review of animal drug applications for—

''(A) officers and employees of the Food and Drug Administration, contractors of the Food and Drug Administration, advisory committees consulted with respect to the review of specific animal drug applications, supplemental animal drug applications, or investigational animal drug submissions, and costs related to such officers, employees, committees, and contractors, including costs for travel, education, and recruitment and other personnel activities;

''(B) management of information and the acquisition, maintenance, and repair of computer resources;

''(C) leasing, maintenance, renovation, and repair of facilities and acquisition, maintenance, and repair of fixtures, furniture, scientific equipment, and other necessary materials and supplies; and

''(D) collecting fees under section 740 and accounting for resources allocated for the review of animal drug applications, supplemental animal drug applications, and investigational animal drug submissions.

''(10) The term 'adjustment factor' applicable to a fiscal year refers to the formula set forth in section 735(8) with the base or comparator month being October 2002.

''(11) The term 'person' includes an affiliate thereof.

''(12) The term 'affiliate' refers to the definition set forth in section 735(11).''.

SEC. 103. AUTHORITY TO ASSESS AND USE ANIMAL DRUG FEES.

Section 740 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–12) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 740. AUTHORITY TO ASSESS AND USE ANIMAL DRUG FEES.

''(a) TYPES OF FEES.—Beginning in fiscal year 2004, the Secretary shall assess and collect fees in accordance with this section as follows:

''(1) ANIMAL DRUG APPLICATION AND SUPPLEMENT FEE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each person that submits, on or after September 1, 2003, an animal drug application or a supplemental animal drug application shall be subject to a fee as follows:

''(i) A fee established in subsection (c) for an animal drug application, except an animal drug application subject to the criteria set forth in section 512(d)(4).

''(ii) A fee established in subsection (c), in an amount that is equal to 50 percent of the amount of the fee under clause (i), for—

''(I) a supplemental animal drug application for which safety or effectiveness data are required; and

''(II) an animal drug application subject to the criteria set forth in section 512(d)(4).

''(B) PAYMENT.—The fee required by subparagraph (A) shall be due upon submission of the animal drug application or supplemental animal drug application.

''(C) EXCEPTION FOR PREVIOUSLY FILED APPLICATION OR SUPPLEMENT.—If an animal drug application or a supplemental animal drug application was submitted by a person that paid the fee for such application or supplement, was accepted for filing, and was not approved or was withdrawn (without a waiver or refund), the submission of an animal drug application or a supplemental animal drug application for the same product by the same person (or the person's licensee, assignee, or successor) shall not be subject to a fee under subparagraph (A).

''(D) REFUND OF FEE IF APPLICATION REFUSED FOR FILING.—The Secretary shall refund 75 percent of the fee paid under subparagraph (B) for any animal drug application or supplemental animal drug application which is refused for filing.

''(E) REFUND OF FEE IF APPLICATION WITHDRAWN.—If an animal drug application or a supplemental animal drug application is withdrawn after the application or supplement was filed, the Secretary may refund the fee or portion of the fee paid under subparagraph (B) if no substantial work was performed on the application or supplement after the application or supplement was filed. The Secretary shall have the sole discretion to refund the fee under this paragraph. A determination by the Secretary concerning a refund under this paragraph shall not be reviewable.

''(2) ANIMAL DRUG PRODUCT FEE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each person—

''(i) who is named as the applicant in an animal drug application or supplemental animal drug application for an animal drug product which has been submitted for listing under section 510; and

''(ii) who, after September 1, 2003, had pending before the Secretary an animal drug application or supplemental animal drug application,

shall pay for each such animal drug product the annual fee established in subsection (c).

''(B) PAYMENT; FEE DUE DATE.—Such fee shall be payable for the fiscal year in which the animal drug product is first submitted for listing under section 510, or is submitted for relisting under section 510 if the animal drug product has been withdrawn from listing and relisted. After such fee is paid for that fiscal year, such fee shall be due each subsequent fiscal year that the product remains listed, upon the later of—

''(i) the first business day after the date of enactment of an appropriations Act providing for the collection and obligation of fees for such fiscal year under this section; or

''(ii) January 31 of each year.

''(C) LIMITATION.—Such fee shall be paid only once for each animal drug product for a fiscal year in which the fee is payable.

''(3) ANIMAL DRUG ESTABLISHMENT FEE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each person—

''(i) who owns or operates, directly or through an affiliate, an animal drug establishment;

''(ii) who is named as the applicant in an animal drug application or supplemental animal drug application for an animal drug product which has been submitted for listing under section 510; and

''(iii) who, after September 1, 2003, had pending before the Secretary an animal drug application or supplemental animal drug application,

shall be assessed an annual establishment fee as established in subsection (c) for each animal drug establishment listed in its approved animal drug application as an establishment that manufactures the animal drug product named in the application.

''(B) PAYMENT; FEE DUE DATE.—The annual establishment fee shall be assessed in each fiscal year in which the animal drug product named in the application is assessed a fee under paragraph (2) unless the animal drug establishment listed in the application does not engage in the manufacture of the animal drug product during the fiscal year. The fee under this paragraph for a fiscal year shall be due upon the later of—

''(i) the first business day after the date of enactment of an appropriations Act providing for the collection and obligation of fees for such fiscal year under this section; or

''(ii) January 31 of each year.

''(C) LIMITATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—An establishment shall be assessed only one fee per fiscal year under this section, subject to clause (ii).

''(ii) CERTAIN MANUFACTURERS.—If a single establishment manufactures both animal drug products and prescription drug products, as defined in section 735(3), such establishment shall be assessed both the animal drug establishment fee and the prescription drug establishment fee, as set forth in section 736(a)(2), within a single fiscal year.

''(4) ANIMAL DRUG SPONSOR FEE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each person—

''(i) who meets the definition of an animal drug sponsor within a fiscal year; and

''(ii) who, after September 1, 2003, had pending before the Secretary an animal drug application, a supplemental animal drug application, or an investigational animal drug submission,

shall be assessed an annual sponsor fee as established under subsection (c).

''(B) PAYMENT; FEE DUE DATE.—The fee under this paragraph for a fiscal year shall be due upon the later of—

''(i) the first business day after the date of enactment of an appropriations Act providing for the collection and obligation of fees for such fiscal year under this section; or

''(ii) January 31 of each year.

''(C) LIMITATION.—Each animal drug sponsor shall pay only one such fee each fiscal year.

''(b) FEE REVENUE AMOUNTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsections (c), (d), (f), and (g)—

''(A) for fiscal year 2014, the fees required under subsection (a) shall be established to generate a total revenue amount of $23,600,000; and

''(B) for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2018, the fees required under subsection (a) shall be established to generate a total revenue amount of $21,600,000.

''(2) TYPES OF FEES.—Of the total revenue amount determined for a fiscal year under paragraph (1)—

''(A) 20 percent shall be derived from fees under subsection (a)(1) (relating to animal drug applications and supplements);

''(B) 27 percent shall be derived from fees under subsection (a)(2) (relating to animal drug products);

''(C) 26 percent shall be derived from fees under subsection (a)(3) (relating to animal drug establishments); and

''(D) 27 percent shall be derived from fees under subsection (a)(4) (relating to animal drug sponsors).

''(c) ANNUAL FEE SETTING; ADJUSTMENTS.—

''(1) ANNUAL FEE SETTING.—The Secretary shall establish, 60 days before the start of each fiscal year beginning after September 30, 2003, for that fiscal year, animal drug application fees, supplemental animal drug application fees, animal drug sponsor fees, animal drug establishment fees, and animal drug product fees based on the revenue amounts established under subsection (b) and the adjustments provided under this subsection.

''(2) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—For fiscal year 2015 and subsequent fiscal years, the revenue amounts established in subsection (b) shall be adjusted by the Secretary by notice, published in the Federal Register, for a fiscal year, by an amount equal to the sum of—

''(A) one;

''(B) the average annual percent change in the cost, per full-time equivalent position of the Food and Drug Administration, of all personnel compensation and benefits paid with respect to such positions for the first 3 of the preceding 4 fiscal years for which data are available, multiplied by the average proportion of personnel compensation and benefits costs to total Food and Drug Administration costs for the first 3 years of the preceding 4 fiscal years for which data are available; and

''(C) the average annual percent change that occurred in the Consumer Price Index for urban consumers (Washington-Baltimore, DC–MD–VA–WV; not seasonally adjusted; all items less food and energy; annual index) for the first 3 years of the preceding 4 years for which data are available multiplied by the average proportion of all costs other than personnel compensation and benefits costs to total Food and Drug Administration costs for the first 3 years of the preceding 4 fiscal years for which data are available.

The adjustment made each fiscal year under this paragraph shall be added on a compounded basis to the sum of all adjustments made each fiscal year after fiscal year 2014 under this paragraph.

''(3) WORKLOAD ADJUSTMENT.—For fiscal year 2015 and subsequent fiscal years, after the revenue amounts established in subsection (b) are adjusted for inflation in accordance with paragraph (2), the revenue amounts shall be further adjusted for such fiscal year to reflect changes in the workload of the Secretary for the process for the review of animal drug applications. With respect to such adjustment—

''(A) such adjustment shall be determined by the Secretary based on a weighted average of the change in the total number of animal drug applications, supplemental animal drug applications for which data with respect to safety or effectiveness are required, manufacturing supplemental animal drug applications, investigational animal drug study submissions, and investigational animal drug protocol submissions submitted to the Secretary;

''(B) the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register the fees resulting from such adjustment and the supporting methodologies; and

''(C) under no circumstances shall such adjustment result in fee revenues for a fiscal year that are less than the fee revenues for that fiscal year established in subsection (b), as adjusted for inflation under paragraph (2).

''(4) FINAL YEAR ADJUSTMENT.—For fiscal year 2018, the Secretary may, in addition to other adjustments under this subsection, further increase the fees under this section, if such an adjustment is necessary, to provide for up to 3 months of operating reserves of carryover user fees for the process for the review of animal drug applications for the first 3 months of fiscal year 2019. If the Food and Drug Administration has carryover balances for the process for the review of animal drug applications in excess of 3 months of such operating reserves, then this adjustment will not be made. If this adjustment is necessary, then the rationale for the amount of the increase shall be contained in the annual notice setting fees for fiscal year 2018.

''(5) LIMIT.—The total amount of fees charged, as adjusted under this subsection, for a fiscal year may not exceed the total costs for such fiscal year for the resources allocated for the process for the review of animal drug applications.

''(d) FEE WAIVER OR REDUCTION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall grant a waiver from or a reduction of one or more fees assessed under subsection (a) where the Secretary finds that—

''(A) the assessment of the fee would present a significant barrier to innovation because of limited resources available to such person or other circumstances;

''(B) the fees to be paid by such person will exceed the anticipated present and future costs incurred by the Secretary in conducting the process for the review of animal drug applications for such person;

''(C) the animal drug application or supplemental animal drug application is intended solely to provide for use of the animal drug in—

''(i) a Type B medicated feed (as defined in section 558.3(b)(3) of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation)) intended for use in the manufacture of Type C free-choice medicated feeds; or

''(ii) a Type C free-choice medicated feed (as defined in section 558.3(b)(4) of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation));

''(D) the animal drug application or supplemental animal drug application is intended solely to provide for a minor use or minor species indication; or

''(E) the sponsor involved is a small business submitting its first animal drug application to the Secretary for review.

''(2) USE OF STANDARD COSTS.—In making the finding in paragraph (1)(B), the Secretary may use standard costs.

''(3) RULES FOR SMALL BUSINESSES.—

''(A) DEFINITION.—In paragraph (1)(E), the term 'small business' means an entity that has fewer than 500 employees, including employees of affiliates.

''(B) WAIVER OF APPLICATION FEE.—The Secretary shall waive under paragraph (1)(E) the application fee for the first animal drug application that a small business or its affiliate submits to the Secretary for review. After a small business or its affiliate is granted such a waiver, the small business or its affiliate shall pay application fees for all subsequent animal drug applications and supplemental animal drug applications for which safety or effectiveness data are required in the same manner as an entity that does not qualify as a small business.

''(C) CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall require any person who applies for a waiver under paragraph (1)(E) to certify their qualification for the waiver. The Secretary shall periodically publish in the Federal Register a list of persons making such certifications.

''(e) EFFECT OF FAILURE TO PAY FEES.—An animal drug application or supplemental animal drug application submitted by a person subject to fees under subsection (a) shall be considered incomplete and shall not be accepted for filing by the Secretary until all fees owed by such person have been paid. An investigational animal drug submission under section 739(5)(B) that is submitted by a person subject to fees under subsection (a) shall be considered incomplete and shall not be accepted for review by the Secretary until all fees owed by such person have been paid. The Secretary may discontinue review of any animal drug application, supplemental animal drug application or investigational animal drug submission from a person if such person has not submitted for payment all fees owed under this section by 30 days after the date upon which they are due.

''(f) ASSESSMENT OF FEES.—

''(1) LIMITATION.—Fees may not be assessed under subsection (a) for a fiscal year beginning after fiscal year 2003 unless appropriations for salaries and expenses of the Food and Drug Administration for such fiscal year (excluding the amount of fees appropriated for such fiscal year) are equal to or greater than the amount of appropriations for the salaries and expenses of the Food and Drug Administration for the fiscal year 2003 (excluding the amount of fees appropriated for such fiscal year) multiplied by the adjustment factor applicable to the fiscal year involved.

''(2) AUTHORITY.—If the Secretary does not assess fees under subsection (a) during any portion of a fiscal year because of paragraph (1) and if at a later date in such fiscal year the Secretary may assess such fees, the Secretary may assess and collect such fees, without any modification in the rate, for animal drug applications, supplemental animal drug applications, investigational animal drug submissions, animal drug sponsors, animal drug establishments and animal drug products at any time in such fiscal year notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) relating to the date fees are to be paid.

''(g) CREDITING AND AVAILABILITY OF FEES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2)(C), fees authorized under subsection (a) shall be collected and available for obligation only to the extent and in the amount provided in advance in appropriations Acts. Such fees are authorized to be appropriated to remain available until expended. Such sums as may be necessary may be transferred from the Food and Drug Administration salaries and expenses appropriation account without fiscal year limitation to such appropriation account for salary and expenses with such fiscal year limitation. The sums transferred shall be available solely for the process for the review of animal drug applications.

''(2) COLLECTIONS AND APPROPRIATION ACTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The fees authorized by this section—

''(i) subject to subparagraph (C), shall be collected and available in each fiscal year in an amount not to exceed the amount specified in appropriation Acts, or otherwise made available for obligation for such fiscal year, and

''(ii) shall be available to defray increases in the costs of the resources allocated for the process for the review of animal drug applications (including increases in such costs for an additional number of full-time equivalent positions in the Department of Health and Human Services to be engaged in such process) over such costs, excluding costs paid from fees collected under this section, for fiscal year 2003 multiplied by the adjustment factor.

''(B) COMPLIANCE.—The Secretary shall be considered to have met the requirements of subparagraph (A)(ii) in any fiscal year if the costs funded by appropriations and allocated for the process for the review of animal drug applications—

''(i) are not more than 3 percent below the level specified in subparagraph (A)(ii); or

''(ii)(I) are more than 3 percent below the level specified in subparagraph (A)(ii), and fees assessed for the fiscal year following the subsequent fiscal year are decreased by the amount in excess of 3 percent by which such costs fell below the level specified in subparagraph (A)(ii); and

''(II) such costs are not more than 5 percent below the level specified in subparagraph (A)(ii).

''(C) PROVISION FOR EARLY PAYMENTS.—Payment of fees authorized under this section for a fiscal year, prior to the due date for such fees, may be accepted by the Secretary in accordance with authority provided in advance in a prior year appropriations Act.

''(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2018, there is authorized to be appropriated for fees under this section an amount equal to the total revenue amount determined under subsection (b) for the fiscal year, as adjusted or otherwise affected under subsection (c) and paragraph (4).

''(4) OFFSET OF OVERCOLLECTIONS; RECOVERY OF COLLECTION SHORTFALLS.—

''(A) OFFSET OF OVERCOLLECTIONS.—If the sum of the cumulative amount of fees collected under this section for fiscal years 2014 through 2016 and the amount of fees estimated to be collected under this section for fiscal year 2017 (including any increased fee collections attributable to subparagraph (B)), exceeds the cumulative amount appropriated pursuant to paragraph (3) for the fiscal years 2014 through 2017, the excess amount shall be credited to the appropriation account of the Food and Drug Administration as provided in paragraph (1), and shall be subtracted from the amount of fees that would otherwise be authorized to be collected under this section pursuant to appropriation Acts for fiscal year 2018.

''(B) RECOVERY OF COLLECTION SHORTFALLS.—

''(i) FISCAL YEAR 2016.—For fiscal year 2016, the amount of fees otherwise authorized to be collected under this section shall be increased by the amount, if any, by which the amount collected under this section and appropriated for fiscal year 2014 falls below the amount of fees authorized for fiscal year 2014 under paragraph (3).

''(ii) FISCAL YEAR 2017.—For fiscal year 2017, the amount of fees otherwise authorized to be collected under this section shall be increased by the amount, if any, by which the amount collected under this section and appropriated for fiscal year 2015 falls below the amount of fees authorized for fiscal year 2015 under paragraph (3).

''(iii) FISCAL YEAR 2018.—For fiscal year 2018, the amount of fees otherwise authorized to be collected under this section (including any reduction in the authorized amount under subparagraph (A)), shall be increased by the cumulative amount, if any, by which the amount collected under this section and appropriated for fiscal years 2016 and 2017 (including estimated collections for fiscal year 2017) falls below the cumulative amount of fees authorized under paragraph (3) for fiscal years 2016 and 2017.

''(h) COLLECTION OF UNPAID FEES.—In any case where the Secretary does not receive payment of a fee assessed under subsection (a) within 30 days after it is due, such fee shall be treated as a claim of the United States Government subject to subchapter II of chapter 37 of title 31, United States Code.

''(i) WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR WAIVERS, REDUCTIONS, AND REFUNDS.—To qualify for consideration for a waiver or reduction under subsection (d), or for a refund of any fee collected in accordance with subsection (a), a person shall submit to the Secretary a written request for such waiver, reduction, or refund not later than 180 days after such fee is due.

''(j) CONSTRUCTION.—This section may not be construed to require that the number of full-time equivalent positions in the Department of Health and Human Services, for officers, employees, and advisory committees not engaged in the process of the review of animal drug applications, be reduced to offset the number of officers, employees, and advisory committees so engaged.

''(k) ABBREVIATED NEW ANIMAL DRUG APPLICATIONS.—The Secretary shall—

''(1) to the extent practicable, segregate the review of abbreviated new animal drug applications from the process for the review of animal drug applications; and

''(2) adopt other administrative procedures to ensure that review times of abbreviated new animal drug applications do not increase from their current level due to activities under the user fee program.''.

SEC. 104. REAUTHORIZATION; REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

Section 740A of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–13) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 740A. REAUTHORIZATION; REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

''(a) PERFORMANCE REPORT.—Beginning with fiscal year 2014, not later than 120 days after the end of each fiscal year during which fees are collected under this part, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report concerning the progress of the Food and Drug Administration in achieving the goals identified in the letters described in section 101(b) of the Animal Drug User Fee Amendments of 2013 toward expediting the animal drug development process and the review of the new and supplemental animal drug applications and investigational animal drug submissions during such fiscal year, the future plans of the Food and Drug Administration for meeting the goals, the review times for abbreviated new animal drug applications, and the

administrative procedures adopted by the Food and Drug Administration to ensure that review times for abbreviated new animal drug applications are not increased from their current level due to activities under the user fee program.

''(b) FISCAL REPORT.—Beginning with fiscal year 2014, not later than 120 days after the end of each fiscal year during which fees are collected under this part, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report on the implementation of the authority for such fees during such fiscal year and the use, by the Food and Drug Administration, of the fees collected during such fiscal year for which the report is made.

''(c) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary shall make the reports required under subsections (a) and (b) available to the public on the Internet Web site of the Food and Drug Administration.

''(d) REAUTHORIZATION.—

''(1) CONSULTATION.—In developing recommendations to present to the Congress with respect to the goals, and plans for meeting the goals, for the process for the review of animal drug applications for the first 5 fiscal years after fiscal year 2018, and for the reauthorization of this part for such fiscal years, the Secretary shall consult with—

''(A) the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;

''(B) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives;

''(C) scientific and academic experts;

''(D) veterinary professionals;

''(E) representatives of patient and consumer advocacy groups; and

''(F) the regulated industry.

''(2) PRIOR PUBLIC INPUT.—Prior to beginning negotiations with the regulated industry on the reauthorization of this part, the Secretary shall—

''(A) publish a notice in the Federal Register requesting public input on the reauthorization;

''(B) hold a public meeting at which the public may present its views on the reauthorization, including specific suggestions for changes to the goals referred to in subsection (a);

''(C) provide a period of 30 days after the public meeting to obtain written comments from the public suggesting changes to this part; and

''(D) publish the comments on the Food and Drug Administration's Internet Web site.

''(3) PERIODIC CONSULTATION.—Not less frequently than once every 4 months during negotiations with the regulated industry, the Secretary shall hold discussions with representatives of veterinary, patient, and consumer advocacy groups to continue discussions of their views on the reauthorization and their suggestions for changes to this part as expressed under paragraph (2).

''(4) PUBLIC REVIEW OF RECOMMENDATIONS.—After negotiations with the regulated industry, the Secretary shall—

''(A) present the recommendations developed under paragraph (1) to the Congressional committees specified in such paragraph;

''(B) publish such recommendations in the Federal Register;

''(C) provide for a period of 30 days for the public to provide written comments on such recommendations;

''(D) hold a meeting at which the public may present its views on such recommendations; and

''(E) after consideration of such public views and comments, revise such recommendations as necessary.

''(5) TRANSMITTAL OF RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than January 15, 2018, the Secretary shall transmit to Congress the revised recommendations under paragraph (4) a summary of the views and comments received under such paragraph, and any changes made to the recommendations in response to such views and comments.

''(6) MINUTES OF NEGOTIATION MEETINGS.—

''(A) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—Before presenting the recommendations developed under paragraphs (1) through (5) to Congress, the Secretary shall make publicly available, on the Internet Web site of the Food and Drug Administration, minutes of all negotiation meetings conducted under this subsection between the Food and Drug Administration and the regulated industry.

''(B) CONTENT.—The minutes described under subparagraph (A) shall summarize any substantive proposal made by any party to the negotiations as well as significant controversies or differences of opinion during the negotiations and their resolution.''.

SEC. 105. SAVINGS CLAUSE.

Notwithstanding the amendments made by this title, part 4 of subchapter C of chapter VII of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–11 et seq.), as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this title, shall continue to be in effect with respect to animal drug applications and supplemental animal drug applications (as defined in such part as of such day) that on or after October 1, 2008, but before October 1, 2013, were accepted by the Food and Drug Administration for filing with respect to assessing and collecting any fee required by such part for a fiscal year prior to fiscal year 2014.

SEC. 106. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this title shall take effect on October 1, 2013, or the date of enactment of this Act, whichever is later, except that fees under part 4 of subchapter C of chapter VII of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as amended by this title, shall be assessed for all animal drug applications and supplemental animal drug applications received on or after October 1, 2013, regardless of the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 107. SUNSET DATES.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Section 740 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–12) shall cease to be effective October 1, 2018.

(b) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 740A of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–13) shall cease to be effective January 31, 2019.

(c) PREVIOUS SUNSET PROVISION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 108 of the Animal Drug User Fee Amendments of 2008 (Public Law 110–316) is repealed.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The Animal Drug User Fee Amendments of 2008 (Public Law 110–316) is amended in the table of contents in section 1, by striking the item relating to section 108.

(d) TECHNICAL CLARIFICATION.—Effective November 18, 2003, section 5 of the Animal Drug User Fee Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–130) is repealed.

TITLE II—FEES RELATING TO GENERIC ANIMAL DRUGS

SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE; FINDING.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the ''Animal Generic Drug User Fee Amendments of 2013''.

(b) FINDING.—The fees authorized by this title will be dedicated toward expediting the generic new animal drug development process and the review of abbreviated applications for generic new animal drugs, supplemental abbreviated applications for generic new animal drugs, and investigational submissions for generic new animal drugs as set forth in the goals identified in the letters from the Secretary of Health and Human Services to the Chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Chairman of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate as set forth in the Congressional Record.

SEC. 202. AUTHORITY TO ASSESS AND USE GENERIC NEW ANIMAL DRUG FEES.

Section 741 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–21) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 741. AUTHORITY TO ASSESS AND USE GENERIC NEW ANIMAL DRUG FEES.

''(a) TYPES OF FEES.—Beginning with respect to fiscal year 2009, the Secretary shall assess and collect fees in accordance with this section as follows:

''(1) ABBREVIATED APPLICATION FEE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each person that submits, on or after July 1, 2008, an abbreviated application for a generic new animal drug shall be subject to a fee as established in subsection (c) for such an application.

''(B) PAYMENT.—The fee required by subparagraph (A) shall be due upon submission of the abbreviated application.

''(C) EXCEPTIONS.—

''(i) PREVIOUSLY FILED APPLICATION.—If an abbreviated application was submitted by a person that paid the fee for such application, was accepted for filing, and was not approved or was withdrawn (without a waiver or refund), the submission of an abbreviated application for the same product by the same person (or the person's licensee, assignee, or successor) shall not be subject to a fee under subparagraph (A).

''(ii) CERTAIN ABBREVIATED APPLICATIONS INVOLVING COMBINATION ANIMAL DRUGS.—An abbreviated application which is subject to the criteria in section 512(d)(4) and submitted on or after October 1, 2013 shall be subject to a fee equal to 50 percent of the amount of the abbreviated application fee established in subsection (c).

''(D) REFUND OF FEE IF APPLICATION REFUSED FOR FILING.—The Secretary shall refund 75 percent of the fee paid under subparagraph (B) for any abbreviated application which is refused for filing.

''(E) REFUND OF FEE IF APPLICATION WITHDRAWN.—If an abbreviated application is withdrawn after the application was filed, the Secretary may refund the fee or portion of the fee paid under subparagraph (B) if no substantial work was performed on the application after the application was filed. The Secretary shall have the sole discretion to refund the fee under this subparagraph. A determination by the Secretary concerning a refund under this subparagraph shall not be reviewable.

''(2) GENERIC NEW ANIMAL DRUG PRODUCT FEE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each person—

''(i) who is named as the applicant in an abbreviated application or supplemental abbreviated application for a generic new animal drug product which has been submitted for listing under section 510; and

''(ii) who, after September 1, 2008, had pending before the Secretary an abbreviated application or supplemental abbreviated application,

shall pay for each such generic new animal drug product the annual fee established in subsection (c).

''(B) PAYMENT; FEE DUE DATE.—Such fee shall be payable for the fiscal year in which the generic new animal drug product is first submitted for listing under section 510, or is submitted for relisting under section 510 if the generic new animal drug product has been withdrawn from listing and relisted. After such fee is paid for that fiscal year,

such fee shall be due each subsequent fiscal year that the product remains listed, upon the later of—

''(i) the first business day after the date of enactment of an appropriations Act providing for the collection and obligation of fees for such fiscal year under this section; or

''(ii) January 31 of each year.

''(C) LIMITATION.—Such fee shall be paid only once for each generic new animal drug product for a fiscal year in which the fee is payable.

''(3) GENERIC NEW ANIMAL DRUG SPONSOR FEE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each person—

''(i) who meets the definition of a generic new animal drug sponsor within a fiscal year; and

''(ii) who, after September 1, 2008, had pending before the Secretary an abbreviated application, a supplemental abbreviated application, or an investigational submission, shall be assessed an annual generic new animal drug sponsor fee as established under subsection (c).

''(B) PAYMENT; FEE DUE DATE.—Such fee shall be due each fiscal year upon the later of—

''(i) the first business day after the date of enactment of an appropriations Act providing for the collection and obligation of fees for such fiscal year under this section; or

''(ii) January 31 of each year.

''(C) AMOUNT OF FEE.—Each generic new animal drug sponsor shall pay only 1 such fee each fiscal year, as follows:

''(i) 100 percent of the amount of the generic new animal drug sponsor fee published for that fiscal year under subsection (c) for an applicant with more than 6 approved abbreviated applications.

''(ii) 75 percent of the amount of the generic new animal drug sponsor fee published for that fiscal year under subsection (c) for an applicant with more than 1 and fewer than 7 approved abbreviated applications.

''(iii) 50 percent of the amount of the generic new animal drug sponsor fee published for that fiscal year under subsection (c) for an applicant with 1 or fewer approved abbreviated applications.

''(b) FEE AMOUNTS.—Subject to subsections (c), (d), (f), and (g), the fees required under subsection (a) shall be established to generate fee revenue amounts as follows:

''(1) TOTAL FEE REVENUES FOR APPLICATION FEES.—The total fee revenues to be collected in abbreviated application fees under subsection (a)(1) shall be $1,832,000 for fiscal year 2014, $1,736,000 for fiscal year 2015, $1,857,000 for fiscal year 2016, $1,984,000 for fiscal year 2017, and $2,117,000 for fiscal year 2018.

''(2) TOTAL FEE REVENUES FOR PRODUCT FEES.—The total fee revenues to be collected in generic new animal drug product fees under subsection (a)(2) shall be $2,748,000 for fiscal year 2014, $2,604,000 for fiscal year 2015, $2,786,000 for fiscal year 2016, $2,976,000 for fiscal year 2017, and $3,175,000 for fiscal year 2018.

''(3) TOTAL FEE REVENUES FOR SPONSOR FEES.—The total fee revenues to be collected in generic new animal drug sponsor fees under subsection (a)(3) shall be $2,748,000 for fiscal year 2014, $2,604,000 for fiscal year 2015, $2,786,000 for fiscal year 2016, $2,976,000 for fiscal year 2017, and $3,175,000 for fiscal year 2018.

''(c) ANNUAL FEE SETTING; ADJUSTMENTS.—

''(1) ANNUAL FEE SETTING.—The Secretary shall establish, 60 days before the start of each fiscal year beginning after September 30, 2008, for that fiscal year, abbreviated application fees, generic new animal drug sponsor fees, and generic new animal drug product fees, based on the revenue amounts established under subsection (b) and the adjustments provided under this subsection.

''(2) WORKLOAD ADJUSTMENT.—The fee revenues shall be adjusted each fiscal year after fiscal year 2014 to reflect changes in review workload. With respect to such adjustment:

''(A) This adjustment shall be determined by the Secretary based on a weighted average of the change in the total number of abbreviated applications for generic new animal drugs, manufacturing supplemental abbreviated applications for generic new animal drugs, investigational generic new animal drug study submissions, and investigational generic new animal drug protocol submissions submitted to the Secretary. The Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register the fees resulting from this adjustment and the supporting methodologies.

''(B) Under no circumstances shall this workload adjustment result in fee revenues for a fiscal year that are less than the fee revenues for that fiscal year established in subsection (b).

''(3) FINAL YEAR ADJUSTMENT.—For fiscal year 2018, the Secretary may, in addition to other adjustments under this subsection, further increase the fees under this section, if such an adjustment is necessary, to provide for up to 3 months of operating reserves of carryover user fees for the process for the review of abbreviated applications for generic new animal drugs for the first 3 months of fiscal year 2019. If the Food and Drug Administration has carryover balances for the process for the review of abbreviated applications for generic new animal drugs in excess of 3 months of such operating reserves, then this adjustment shall not be made. If this adjustment is necessary, then the rationale for the amount of the increase shall be contained in the annual notice setting fees for fiscal year 2018.

''(4) LIMIT.—The total amount of fees charged, as adjusted under this subsection, for a fiscal year may not exceed the total costs for such fiscal year for the resources allocated for the process for the review of abbreviated applications for generic new animal drugs.

''(d) FEE WAIVER OR REDUCTION.—The Secretary shall grant a waiver from or a reduction of 1 or more fees assessed under subsection (a) where the Secretary finds that the generic new animal drug is intended solely to provide for a minor use or minor species indication.

''(e) EFFECT OF FAILURE TO PAY FEES.—An abbreviated application for a generic new animal drug submitted by a person subject to fees under subsection (a) shall be considered incomplete and shall not be accepted for filing by the Secretary until all fees owed by such person have been paid. An investigational submission for a generic new animal drug that is submitted by a person subject to fees under subsection (a) shall be considered incomplete and shall not be accepted for review by the Secretary until all fees owed by such person have been paid. The Secretary may discontinue review of any abbreviated application for a generic new animal drug, supplemental abbreviated application for a generic new animal drug, or investigational submission for a generic new animal drug from a person if such person has not submitted for payment all fees owed under this section by 30 days after the date upon which they are due.

''(f) ASSESSMENT OF FEES.—

''(1) LIMITATION.—Fees may not be assessed under subsection (a) for a fiscal year beginning after fiscal year 2008 unless appropriations for salaries and expenses of the Food and Drug Administration for such fiscal year (excluding the amount of fees appropriated for such fiscal year) are equal to or greater than the amount of appropriations for the salaries and expenses of the Food and Drug Administration for the fiscal year 2003 (excluding the amount of fees appropriated for such fiscal year) multiplied by the adjustment factor applicable to the fiscal year involved.

''(2) AUTHORITY.—If the Secretary does not assess fees under subsection (a) during any portion of a fiscal year because of paragraph (1) and if at a later date in such fiscal year the Secretary may assess such fees, the Secretary may assess and collect such fees, without any modification in the rate, for abbreviated applications, generic new animal drug sponsors, and generic new animal drug products at any time in such fiscal year notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) relating to the date fees are to be paid.

''(g) CREDITING AND AVAILABILITY OF FEES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2)(C), fees authorized under subsection (a) shall be collected and available for obligation only to the extent and in the amount provided in advance in appropriations Acts. Such fees are authorized to be appropriated to remain available until expended. Such sums as may be necessary may be transferred from the Food and Drug Administration salaries and expenses appropriation account without fiscal year limitation to such appropriation account for salary and expenses with such fiscal year limitation. The sums transferred shall be available solely for the process for the review of abbreviated applications for generic new animal drugs.

''(2) COLLECTIONS AND APPROPRIATION ACTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The fees authorized by this section—

''(i) subject to subparagraph (C), shall be collected and available in each fiscal year in an amount not to exceed the amount specified in appropriation Acts, or otherwise made available for obligation for such fiscal year; and

''(ii) shall be available to defray increases in the costs of the resources allocated for the process for the review of abbreviated applications for generic new animal drugs (including increases in such costs for an additional number of full-time equivalent positions in the Department of Health and Human Services to be engaged in such process) over such costs, excluding costs paid from fees collected under this section, for fiscal year 2008 multiplied by the adjustment factor.

''(B) COMPLIANCE.—The Secretary shall be considered to have met the requirements of subparagraph (A)(ii) in any fiscal year if the costs funded by appropriations and allocated for the process for the review of abbreviated applications for generic new animal drugs—

''(i) are not more than 3 percent below the level specified in subparagraph (A)(ii); or

''(ii)(I) are more than 3 percent below the level specified in subparagraph (A)(ii), and fees assessed for the fiscal year following the subsequent fiscal year are decreased by the amount in excess of 3 percent by which such costs fell below the level specified in subparagraph (A)(ii); and

''(II) such costs are not more than 5 percent below the level specified in subparagraph (A)(ii).

''(C) PROVISION FOR EARLY PAYMENTS.—Payment of fees authorized under this section for a fiscal year, prior to the due date for such fees, may be accepted by the Secretary in accordance with authority provided in advance in a prior year appropriations Act.

''(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated for fees under this section—

''(A) $7,328,000 for fiscal year 2014;

''(B) $6,944,000 for fiscal year 2015;

''(C) $7,429,000 for fiscal year 2016;

''(D) $7,936,000 for fiscal year 2017; and

''(E) $8,467,000 for fiscal year 2018;

as adjusted to reflect adjustments in the total fee revenues made under this section and changes in the total amounts collected by abbreviated application fees, generic new animal drug sponsor fees, and generic new animal drug product fees.

''(4) OFFSET.—If the sum of the cumulative amount of fees collected under this section for the fiscal years 2014 through 2016 and the amount of fees estimated to be collected under this section for fiscal year 2017 exceeds the cumulative amount appropriated under paragraph (3) for the fiscal years 2014 through 2017, the excess amount shall be credited to the appropriation account of the Food and Drug Administration as provided in paragraph (1), and shall be subtracted from the amount of fees that would otherwise be authorized to be collected under this section pursuant to appropriation Acts for fiscal year 2018.

''(h) COLLECTION OF UNPAID FEES.—In any case where the Secretary does not receive payment of a fee assessed under subsection (a) within 30 days after it is due, such fee shall be treated as a claim of the United States Government subject to subchapter II of chapter 37 of title 31, United States Code.

''(i) WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR WAIVERS, REDUCTIONS, AND REFUNDS.—To qualify for consideration for a waiver or reduction under subsection (d), or for a refund of any fee collected in accordance with subsection (a), a person shall submit to the Secretary a written request for such waiver, reduction, or refund not later than 180 days after such fee is due.

''(j) CONSTRUCTION.—This section may not be construed to require that the number of full-time equivalent positions in the Department of Health and Human Services, for officers, employees, and advisory committees not engaged in the process of the review of abbreviated applications for generic new animal drugs, be reduced to offset the number of officers, employees, and advisory committees so engaged.

''(k) DEFINITIONS.—In this section and section 742:

''(1) ABBREVIATED APPLICATION FOR A GENERIC NEW ANIMAL DRUG.—The terms 'abbreviated application for a generic new animal drug' and 'abbreviated application' mean an abbreviated application for the approval of any generic new animal drug submitted under section 512(b)(2). Such term does not include a supplemental abbreviated application for a generic new animal drug.

''(2) ADJUSTMENT FACTOR.—The term 'adjustment factor' applicable to a fiscal year is the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (all items; United States city average) for October of the preceding fiscal year divided by—

''(A) for purposes of subsection (f)(1), such Index for October 2002; and

''(B) for purposes of subsection (g)(2)(A)(ii), such Index for October 2007.

''(3) COSTS OF RESOURCES ALLOCATED FOR THE PROCESS FOR THE REVIEW OF ABBREVIATED APPLICATIONS FOR GENERIC NEW ANIMAL DRUGS.—The term 'costs of resources allocated for the process for the review of abbreviated applications for generic new animal drugs' means the expenses in connection with the process for the review of abbreviated applications for generic new animal drugs for—

''(A) officers and employees of the Food and Drug Administration, contractors of the Food and Drug Administration, advisory committees consulted with respect to the review of specific abbreviated applications, supplemental abbreviated applications, or investigational submissions, and costs related to such officers, employees, committees, and contractors, including costs for travel, education, and recruitment and other personnel activities;

''(B) management of information, and the acquisition, maintenance, and repair of computer resources;

''(C) leasing, maintenance, renovation, and repair of facilities and acquisition, maintenance, and repair of fixtures, furniture, scientific equipment, and other necessary materials and supplies; and

''(D) collecting fees under this section and accounting for resources allocated for the review of abbreviated applications, supplemental abbreviated applications, and investigational submissions.

''(4) FINAL DOSAGE FORM.—The term 'final dosage form' means, with respect to a generic new animal drug product, a finished dosage form which is approved for administration to an animal without substantial further manufacturing. Such term includes generic new animal drug products intended for mixing in animal feeds.

''(5) GENERIC NEW ANIMAL DRUG.—The term 'generic new animal drug' means a new animal drug that is the subject of an abbreviated application.

''(6) GENERIC NEW ANIMAL DRUG PRODUCT.—The term 'generic new animal drug product' means each specific strength or potency of a particular active ingredient or ingredients in final dosage form marketed by a particular manufacturer or distributor, which is uniquely identified by the labeler code and product code portions of the national drug code, and for which an abbreviated application for a generic new animal drug or a supplemental abbreviated application has been approved.

''(7) GENERIC NEW ANIMAL DRUG SPONSOR.—The term 'generic new animal drug sponsor' means either an applicant named in an abbreviated application for a generic new animal drug that has not been withdrawn by the applicant and for which approval has not been withdrawn by the Secretary, or a person who has submitted an investigational submission for a generic new animal drug that has not been terminated or otherwise rendered inactive by the Secretary.

''(8) INVESTIGATIONAL SUBMISSION FOR A GENERIC NEW ANIMAL DRUG.—The terms 'investigational submission for a generic new animal drug' and 'investigational submission' mean—

''(A) the filing of a claim for an investigational exemption under section 512(j) for a generic new animal drug intended to be the subject of an abbreviated application or a supplemental abbreviated application; or

''(B) the submission of information for the purpose of enabling the Secretary to evaluate the safety or effectiveness of a generic new animal drug in the event of the filing of an abbreviated application or supplemental abbreviated application for such drug.

''(9) PERSON.—The term 'person' includes an affiliate thereof (as such term is defined in section 735(11)).

''(10) PROCESS FOR THE REVIEW OF ABBREVIATED APPLICATIONS FOR GENERIC NEW ANIMAL DRUGS.—The term 'process for the review of abbreviated applications for generic new animal drugs' means the following activities of the Secretary with respect to the review of abbreviated applications, supplemental abbreviated applications, and investigational submissions:

''(A) The activities necessary for the review of abbreviated applications, supplemental abbreviated applications, and investigational submissions.

''(B) The issuance of action letters which approve abbreviated applications or supplemental abbreviated applications or which set forth in detail the specific deficiencies in abbreviated applications, supplemental abbreviated applications, or investigational submissions and, where appropriate, the actions necessary to place such applications, supplemental applications, or submissions in condition for approval.

''(C) The inspection of generic new animal drug establishments and other facilities undertaken as part of the Secretary's review of pending abbreviated applications, supplemental abbreviated applications, and investigational submissions.

''(D) Monitoring of research conducted in connection with the review of abbreviated applications, supplemental abbreviated applications, and investigational submissions.

''(E) The development of regulations and policy related to the review of abbreviated applications, supplemental abbreviated applications, and investigational submissions.

''(F) Development of standards for products subject to review.

''(G) Meetings between the agency and the generic new animal drug sponsor.

''(H) Review of advertising and labeling prior to approval of an abbreviated application or supplemental abbreviated application, but not after such application has been approved.

''(11) SUPPLEMENTAL ABBREVIATED APPLICATION FOR GENERIC NEW ANIMAL DRUG.—The terms 'supplemental abbreviated application for a generic new animal drug' and 'supplemental abbreviated application' mean a request to the Secretary to approve a change in an approved abbreviated application.''.

SEC. 203. REAUTHORIZATION; REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

Section 742 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–22) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 742. REAUTHORIZATION; REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

''(a) PERFORMANCE REPORTS.—Beginning with fiscal year 2014, not later than 120 days after the end of each fiscal year during which fees are collected under this part, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report concerning the progress of the Food and Drug Administration in achieving the goals identified in the letters described in section 201(b) of the Animal Generic Drug User Fee Amendments of 2013 toward expediting the generic new animal drug development process and the review of abbreviated applications for generic new animal drugs, supplemental abbreviated applications for generic new animal drugs, and investigational submissions for generic new animal drugs during such fiscal year.

''(b) FISCAL REPORT.—Beginning with fiscal year 2014, not later than 120 days after the end of each fiscal year during which fees are collected under this part, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report on the implementation of the authority for such fees during such fiscal year and the use, by the Food and Drug Administration, of the fees collected during such fiscal year for which the report is made.

''(c) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary shall make the reports required under subsections (a) and (b) available to the public on the Internet Web site of the Food and Drug Administration.

''(d) REAUTHORIZATION.—

''(1) CONSULTATION.—In developing recommendations to present to Congress with respect to the goals, and plans for meeting the goals, for the process for the review of abbreviated applications for generic new animal drugs for the first 5 fiscal years after fiscal year 2018, and for the reauthorization of

this part for such fiscal years, the Secretary shall consult with—

''(A) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives;

''(B) the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;

''(C) scientific and academic experts;

''(D) veterinary professionals;

''(E) representatives of patient and consumer advocacy groups; and

''(F) the regulated industry.

''(2) PRIOR PUBLIC INPUT.—Prior to beginning negotiations with the regulated industry on the reauthorization of this part, the Secretary shall—

''(A) publish a notice in the Federal Register requesting public input on the reauthorization;

''(B) hold a public meeting at which the public may present its views on the reauthorization, including specific suggestions for changes to the goals referred to in subsection (a);

''(C) provide a period of 30 days after the public meeting to obtain written comments from the public suggesting changes to this part; and

''(D) publish the comments on the Food and Drug Administration's Internet Web site.

''(3) PERIODIC CONSULTATION.—Not less frequently than once every 4 months during negotiations with the regulated industry, the Secretary shall hold discussions with representatives of veterinary, patient, and consumer advocacy groups to continue discussions of their views on the reauthorization and their suggestions for changes to this part as expressed under paragraph (2).

''(4) PUBLIC REVIEW OF RECOMMENDATIONS.—After negotiations with the regulated industry, the Secretary shall—

''(A) present the recommendations developed under paragraph (1) to the congressional committees specified in such paragraph;

''(B) publish such recommendations in the Federal Register;

''(C) provide for a period of 30 days for the public to provide written comments on such recommendations;

''(D) hold a meeting at which the public may present its views on such recommendations; and

''(E) after consideration of such public views and comments, revise such recommendations as necessary.

''(5) TRANSMITTAL OF RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than January 15, 2018, the Secretary shall transmit to Congress the revised recommendations under paragraph (4), a summary of the views and comments received under such paragraph, and any changes made to the recommendations in response to such views and comments.

''(6) MINUTES OF NEGOTIATION MEETINGS.—

''(A) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—Before presenting the recommendations developed under paragraphs (1) through (5) to Congress, the Secretary shall make publicly available, on the Internet Web site of the Food and Drug Administration, minutes of all negotiation meetings conducted under this subsection between the Food and Drug Administration and the regulated industry.

''(B) CONTENT.—The minutes described under subparagraph (A) shall summarize any substantive proposal made by any party to the negotiations as well as significant controversies or differences of opinion during the negotiations and their resolution.''.

SEC. 204. SAVINGS CLAUSE.

Notwithstanding the amendments made by this title, part 5 of subchapter C of chapter VII of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this title, shall continue to be in effect with respect to abbreviated applications for a generic new animal drug and supplemental abbreviated applications for a generic new animal drug (as defined in such part as of such day) that on or after October 1, 2008, but before October 1, 2013, were accepted by the Food and Drug Administration for filing with respect to assessing and collecting any fee required by such part for a fiscal year prior to fiscal year 2014.

SEC. 205. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this title shall take effect on October 1, 2013, or the date of enactment of this Act, whichever is later, except that fees under part 5 of subchapter C of chapter VII of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as amended by this title, shall be assessed for all abbreviated applications for a generic new animal drug and supplemental abbreviated applications for a generic new animal drug received on or after October 1, 2013, regardless of the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 206. SUNSET DATES.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Section 741 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–21) shall cease to be effective October 1, 2018.

(b) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 742 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–22) shall cease to be effective January 31, 2019.

(c) PREVIOUS SUNSET PROVISION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 204 of the Animal Generic Drug User Fee Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–316) is repealed.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The Animal Generic Drug User Fee Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–316) is amended in the table of contents in section 1, by striking the item relating to section 204.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) and the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material in the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of S. 622, the Animal Drug and Animal Generic Drug User Fee Reauthorization Act of 2013. The Energy and Commerce Committee passed H.R. 1407, a nearly identical bill, through the committee last month with broad bipartisan support.

The agriculture industry, animal drug manufacturers, veterinarians, pet owners, and the Food and Drug Administration have all found both the Animal Drug User Fee and Animal Generic Drug User Fee to be very effective, and have asked Congress to reauthorize the programs as soon as possible. In addition, there is strong bipartisan support for the programs, which I think is a reflection of their success and effectiveness.

Passing S. 622 is extremely important for our Nation. First, having quality and safe medications is essential for ensuring the safety of our Nation's food supply chain. Second, these programs help livestock producers, poultry producers, and veterinarians keep their animals healthy. Third, these programs enable families to have safe and affordable drugs for their pets so they can live longer and healthier lives. It is essential that the House passes this bill swiftly so we can guarantee that these programs continue without interruption.

I would like to thank my colleagues, Mr. SHIMKUS and Mr. GARDNER, for their hard work on this very important piece of legislation. It is no small feat to move legislation to the President's desk in such an efficient manner.

I would also like to thank our colleagues in the Senate, including Senator HARKIN and Senator ALEXANDER, for their leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill, encourage my colleagues to do the same, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 1407, the Animal Drug User Fee Amendments of 2013. FDA's Animal Drug User Fee programs have been successful at speeding both brand and generic drugs for animals to the market, and that's important.

However, I regret that we have not taken this opportunity to provide FDA with new tools to address a glaring public health crisis—the problem of antibiotic resistance.

Antibiotics are truly a lifesaving gift. Unfortunately, the more they are used, the less they work. Untold numbers of Americans die or are infected each year by antibiotic-resistant bugs.

We know that most antibiotic use occurs on the farm, and much of this issue is not to treat sick animals, but most of the use is for disease prevention or growth promotion. If it's for treating sick animals, no one could quarrel with that. Unfortunately, if it's used for growth promotion or disease prevention, that is a misuse of it and could lead to antibiotic-resistant bugs.

We don't know exactly how much is for which of these two uses of the drug. That's why we need to ask industry to give us more data on how these drugs are being used, and to take steps to curtail the inappropriate use in animals of important human antibiotics.

My bill, the Delivering Antibiotic Transparency in Animals, or DATA, Act, would enhance the information FDA gets about how these drugs are used. Representative SLAUGHTER has a bill, which I have cosponsored, the Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act, or PAMTA, that would curtail the inappropriate use in animals of important human antibiotics.

We need to ensure that FDA not only has the resources and procedures for speeding safe and effective animal drugs to market, but also the information and tools to ensure that they are being used judiciously.

□ 1640

I regret that we are not taking this opportunity to give FDA these tools, but I hope we will soon have an opportunity to move these bills forward.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the control of the time on my side of the aisle be given to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD), and I reserve the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from North Carolina will control the time.

There was no objection.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I yield 2 minutes to the chairman of the full committee, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON).

Mr. UPTON. I rise today in strong support of S. 622, the Animal Drug and Animal Generic Drug User Fee Reauthorization Act of 2013.

This bipartisan bill is nearly identical to H.R. 1407, which we favorably reported out of the Energy and Commerce Committee last month. This bill, as well as the Animal Generic Drug User Fee Act, has proven to be very successful; and they are so important for the Nation's public health. Congress first created ADUFA back in 2003 and AGDUFA in 2008. Collectively, these programs have yielded many benefits for the American public.

These two bills have ensured that veterinarians, livestock, poultry producers, and pet owners have access to new and affordable animal drugs to keep their animals healthy. They have assisted animal drug producers by fostering a stable and predictable FDA review process, a rigorous process that helps expedite access to new therapies and fosters new drug development. The programs have also helped American consumers by keeping the food supply safe. Having medications that keep our animals healthy is essential to keeping our Nation's food supply safe. For companies like Zoetis, which employs some 700 people in southwest Michigan, these programs are vital in allowing them to keep producing innovative drugs for pets and livestock.

I was the lead sponsor of the original ADUFA legislation back in 2003, and it is terrific to see how successful it has been and how many Americans it has helped over the last decade.

I want to thank my colleagues, particularly Mr. SHIMKUS and Mr. GARDNER, for their real leadership on this important issue. They deserve tremendous credit as we work to get this bill to the President's desk, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlelady from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER).

Ms. SLAUGHTER. I thank my friend for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, just today, The New York Times reported that we are simultaneously facing a shortage of effective antibiotics and the growing threat of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. Already antibiotic-resistant disease claims 70,000 American lives each year.

According to today's story, Dr. Janet Woodcock, the director of the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research at the Food and Drug Administration, has warned ''it is bad now, and the infectious disease docs are frantic, but what is worse is the thought of where we will be 5 to 10 years from now.''

They are even desperate enough to ask GlaxoKleinSmith, which is working on some new antibiotics, to allow the use of them untested—the FDA is considering this—and to try, in perhaps what will turn out to be a vain attempt, to save people who are dying from infections that we can no longer cure. GlaxoKleinSmith has said the new antibiotics they are working on they will not license for livestock feed.

Eighty percent of the antibiotics produced in the United States of America is put every day in livestock feed. The major reason for the increase in the antibiotic-resistant bacteria is the routine overuse of antibiotics in the Nation's livestock. These are not sick livestock, Mr. Speaker. This is simply put in the feed because they grow faster and they are fatter and they can get to market a little quicker. This irresponsible practice has already been scientifically linked to the growth of superbugs.

It's clear—and it has been clear for quite a while—that the Federal Government must act to end this dangerous practice. Yet, incomprehensibly, for more than 35 years the United States Food and Drug Administration has refused to follow its own advice and ban the routine use of antibiotics in agriculture, not just use it for sick animals. Instead, they have proposed voluntary guidance that naively asks industry to put public welfare before private profits—something the industry has repeatedly shown in 35 years they will not do.

As if such dereliction of duty were not enough, the FDA is now panicked about the superbug threat that they helped to create; but instead of finally removing routine antibiotic use from livestock production, the FDA is thinking of waiving important drug-testing procedures, as I said, in order to rush new drugs to market. The testing procedures that are currently in place are in place for a reason. Waiving these requirements sets a dangerous precedent and is one that is only being considered because the FDA is panicked and has refused to challenge the special interests that have helped to create this superbug threat in the first place.

As the only legislator in Congress with a background in microbiology, I can assure you we will never win the arms race against nature. As long as we allow the irresponsible use of antibiotics in our society, nature will always evolve to create stronger bacteria. As I said, with 80 percent of all of the antibiotics going to agricultural use, our answer has to start on the farm. We have to end the unnecessary use of antibiotics on healthy animals before it's too late. Indeed, it may almost be too late.

At the very least today, the ADUFA legislation should include language to collect important data on antibiotics. That provision would at least allow us to finally learn the full scope of the problem that we confront. Even more importantly, I urge my colleagues to support my legislation, H.R. 1150, the Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act, which would ban the routine use of eight important classes of antibiotics in livestock, but still allow a sick animal to be treated, and would help curb the growing threat of superbugs.

We are literally standing today on the brink of a public health crisis as the food industrial complex fritters away one of the most important advances in medical history—the beginning of the use of antibiotics to cure human beings. Already, some strains of tuberculosis have evolved that are incurable, and others are coming. Some experts have said that if we don't do something soon—and it may already be too late—that strep throat could become a fatal illness. That's what they're worried about, what could happen here in 5 years.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this legislation today and to please join me in the fight to protect the antibiotics for human health. It is so important. I cannot vote for this bill, although I recognize that some work has gone into it. I have spent years on this, and the years are running out, and the time is short.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I yield 2 minutes to the chairman of the subcommittee, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS).

Mr. PITTS. I rise today in support of the reauthorization of two successful programs—the Animal Drug User Fee Act, ADUFA, and the Animal Generic Drug User Fee Act, AGDUFA.

The bill we have before us today originated in the Senate and was approved by unanimous consent on May 8, 2013; and I urge my colleagues in the House to support this legislation as well.

In 2003, the first ADUFA was authorized to help the Food and Drug Administration's review of animal drugs. Similar to the Prescription Drug User Fee for human drugs, under ADUFA, FDA collected funds to help expedite the new animal drug approval process, to reduce application backlog, and to improve communications with drug sponsors. The program was authorized for 5 years, and Congress renewed the program for an additional 5 years in ADUFA II in 2008. In 2012, FDA completed 747 ADUFA reviews; and, according to FDA, the agency has exceeded all performance goals outlined in ADUFA I and ADUFA II. However, absent congressional action, FDA's ability to collect these user fees will expire on September 30, 2013.

□ 1650

AGDUFA I, ADUFA's generic cousin, was first authorized in 2008 for 5 years in order to improve the review of abbreviated new animal drug applications, eliminate application backlogs, and reduce review times.

To date, according to FDA, the agency has exceeded all performance goals but one from AGDUFA I. This program also expires September 30, 2013, unless it is reauthorized and FDA and industry have negotiated an agreement for AGDUFA II. These programs are extremely important not only for our animals and livestock on our farms and ranches, but for our pets' health and well-being as well.

I want to thank my colleagues, Representative JOHN SHIMKUS and Representative CORY GARDNER, for their outstanding work on this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. I inquire as to whether the gentleman from Ohio has any additional speakers.

Mr. LATTA. We have one, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Then I will reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER).

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time.

I rise today in support of Senate Bill 622, the Animal Drug and Animal Generic Drug User Fee Reauthorization Act of 2013.

This legislation will reauthorize two very important programs at the Food and Drug Administration that will provide farmers, ranchers, pet owners, and veterinarians with speedy access to medications that they need for the treatment of herds and pets.

I would like to thank Senator HARKIN for leading its passage in the U.S. Senate, and I would also like to thank Congressman SHIMKUS for his leadership with the House version of H.R. 1407.

These programs have been a success story at the FDA, and this legislation will ensure that drug approvals are done efficiently and to the highest quality standards. ADUFA and AGDUFA expire at the start of September, and we will need to pass this reauthorization today to assure there is no delay for animal caretakers and livestock producers. This bill will also help companies that develop and manufacture animal drugs by providing predictable time lines. It will also help them to benefit from a more stable review process so they can make decisions about where to invest research dollars.

Colorado has a thriving livestock industry which supports rural communities and economic strength for the entire State. I said this during the committee markup of H.R. 1407: there is more livestock in my district than people, or at least that's what I'm told. Colorado is also home to one of the Nation's premier schools of veterinary medicine at Colorado State University. Keeping livestock animals healthy, in particular, is crucial to ensuring our own health, not to mention the health of our family pets. The ADUFA and AGDUFA program keeps our food healthy and safe, while the application of animal drugs poses no risk to animal health.

I had the honor of introducing, with bipartisan support, H.R. 1408, the Animal Generic Drug User Fee Act, or AGDUFA. The bill was later incorporated into H.R. 1407. This program at FDA has achieved noteworthy success since first being authorized in 2008. The FDA has decreased a backlog of applications and reduced the review time for new generic drug applications. The reauthorization of this program will continue this success and allow our animal caretakers and livestock producers to utilize cost savings associated with generic medications.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I ask if my friend has any further speakers on his side.

Mr. LATTA. I have none.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. As we have no further speakers either, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask for passage of S. 622, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 622, the Animal Drug and Animal Generic Drug User Fee Reauthorization Act.

Congress enacted the Animal Drug User Fee Act (ADUFA) in 2003 to help improve the FDA review of new animal drugs, and subsequently enacted the Animal Generic Drug User Fee Act (AGDUFA) to improve the review of abbreviated new animal drug applications, or generic versions of animal drugs. These programs have been extremely effective, and have helped expedite the approval process, reduce application backlogs, and improve communications with drug sponsors.

Without congressional action, the current agreements will expire at the end of this fiscal year, which would have a serious and harmful impact on the ability of the FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine to review new and generic drug applications in a timely manner. S. 622 will extend FDA's authority to collect user fees from manufacturers for five years.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of S. 622, so that progress is not impeded and the Food and Drug Administration can continue to review new and generic animal drug applications in a timely manner. Industry, farmers, ranchers, and pet owners are counting on an uninterrupted supply of animal drugs.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 622.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

COROLLA WILD HORSES PROTECTION ACT

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 126) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement to provide for management of the free-roaming wild horses in and around the Currituck National Wildlife Refuge.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 126

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 ''Corolla Wild Horses Protection Act''.

SEC. 2. WILD HORSES IN AND AROUND THE CURRITUCK NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE.

(a) AGREEMENT REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior shall enter into an agreement with the Corolla Wild Horse Fund (a nonprofit corporation established under the laws of the State of North Carolina), the County of Currituck, North Carolina, and the State of North Carolina within 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act to provide for management of free-roaming wild horses in and around the Currituck National Wildlife Refuge.

(2) TERMS.—The agreement shall—

(A) allow a herd of not less than 110 and not more than 130 free-roaming wild horses in and around such refuge, with a target population of between 120 and 130 free-roaming wild horses;

(B) provide for cost-effective management of the horses while ensuring that natural resources within the refuge are not adversely impacted;

(C) provide for introduction of a small number of free-roaming wild horses from the herd at Cape Lookout National Seashore as is necessary to maintain the genetic viability of the herd in and around the Currituck National Wildlife Refuge; and

(D) specify that the Corolla Wild Horse Fund shall pay the costs associated with—

(i) coordinating a periodic census and inspecting the health of the horses;

(ii) maintaining records of the horses living in the wild and in confinement;

(iii) coordinating the removal and placement of horses and monitoring of any horses removed from the Currituck County Outer Banks; and

(iv) administering a viable population control plan for the horses including auctions, adoptions, contraceptive fertility methods, and other viable options.

(b) REQUIREMENTS FOR INTRODUCTION OF HORSES FROM CAPE LOOKOUT NATIONAL SEASHORE.—During the effective period of the memorandum of understanding between the National Park Service and the Foundation for Shackleford Horses, Inc. (a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of and doing business in the State of North Carolina) signed in 2007, no horse may be removed from Cape Lookout National Seashore for introduction at Currituck National Wildlife Refuge except—

(1) with the approval of the Foundation; and

(2) consistent with the terms of such memorandum (or any successor agreement) and the Management Plan for the

Shackleford Banks Horse Herd signed in January 2006 (or any successor management plan).

(c) NO LIABILITY CREATED.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as creating liability for the United States for any damages caused by the free-roaming wild horses to any person or property located inside or outside the boundaries of the refuge.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN) and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

In 2007, the State of North Carolina, the County of Currituck, the Corolla Wild Horse Fund, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service signed a comprehensive wild horse management plan for the colonial Spanish mustangs that live on 7,500 acres of private and public lands in North Carolina. This plan expired last year, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service indicated that it will not sign a new agreement.

H.R. 126, authored by Congressman WALTER B. JONES, requires the Secretary of the Interior to enter into a new agreement within 180 days of enactment. It will also cap the number of horses to no more than 130, allow the introduction of a small number of Shackleford Banks horses to improve genetic diversity, and will ensure that the Corolla Wild Horse Fund, which is a volunteer organization, will continue to pay for the cost of caring for and managing these horses in the future. These horses are living symbols of our colonial history. H.R. 126, which is a similar bill to one that passed the House by a voice vote last year, will ensure their survival at no cost to the taxpayers.

I urge adoption of the measure and compliment the author for his tireless leadership and his passion for this issue and reserve the balance of my time.

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

(Mrs. NAPOLITANO asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 126 directs the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement with the Corolla Wild Horse Fund, as well as local and State authorities, to provide for the management of the wild horses in and around the Currituck National Wildlife Refuge. The agreement will increase the cap on the herd size and specify that the privately funded Corolla Wild Horse Fund will cover the cost of managing the herd.

This refuge was established in 1984 to preserve and protect the native coastal barrier ecosystem. The refuge provides habitat for the migrating wild fowl and for the endangered species, such as piping plover and sea turtles.

It is unusual to protect a nonnative species such as these horses in a wildlife refuge. Extra effort and resources are needed to ensure that the herd does not impair the ecosystem for the native animals and plants.

H.R. 126 is an imperfect solution, though a solution, to a very difficult problem. We must continue working with Fish and Wildlife Service and with the local community to achieve balance between the needs of the refuge and these wild horses.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES).

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chairman and the ranking member for their words today, and I'll take just a few minutes.

Mr. Speaker, as has been said by both, this is a plan to maintain and protect a part of North Carolina's history. As Mr. WITTMAN said, these horses have been traced back by genetic experts to the Spanish mustangs that swam ashore in the 1600s. They are really part of our heritage.

These beautiful little horses roam, as has been said by both sides today, over 7,500 acres of public and private land. This is in Currituck County out at Corolla.

□ 1700

These little horses are so special that the citizens of our area decided that they should try to create a foundation where they could work together with the Federal Government, the State government, and the county government; and it's known as the Corolla Wild Horse Fund. It is a nonprofit. These people are absolutely convinced and committed to making sure that for years to come down the road that these little horses will still have the ability to reproduce. And that's been part of the problem, Mr. Speaker, is that if you allow this herd to get down to about 60 horses, you will not be able to maintain the diversity of the herd.

That is why an expert, Dr. Gus Cothran of Texas A&M, as has been said in the comments by both sides, has said that you have to have a minimum of 120 horses but no more than 130. We are of the firm belief that H.R. 126 will do what is necessary to continue to make sure that we have a viable herd of these horses that have been traced back to the Spanish galleons that came to the coast of North Carolina and wrecked and these horses swam ashore. They've been able to live for that many years.

This is very close to legislation, and I want to thank the House in a bipartisan way, in 1998 we did the same thing that we are trying to do in Corolla down in Currituck County down at Shackleford Banks. And what was interesting, President Clinton was President at the time, and Erskine Bowles was Chief of Staff to President Clinton, and Erskine Bowles got behind the legislation, and that's exactly what we're trying to do. It was the Park Service down at Shackleford Banks; this is Fish and Wildlife, but thank you for your comments.

I want to thank the chairman for his comments because there's no reason that we cannot make both sides happy to do what needs to be done and to protect what, to me, when you look at this beautiful little horse, it is God's gift to the world. So thank you so much, Mr. Chairman and ranking member. Thank you for giving me this time to speak on behalf of these horses. I hope that we can pass this legislation.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 126.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERMANENT ELECTRONIC DUCK STAMP ACT OF 2013

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1206) to grant the Secretary of the Interior permanent authority to authorize States to issue electronic duck stamps, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1206

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 ''Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ACTUAL STAMP.—The term ''actual stamp'' means a Federal migratory-bird hunting and conservation stamp required under the Act of March 16, 1934 (16 U.S.C. 718a et seq.) (popularly known as the ''Duck Stamp Act''), that is printed on paper and sold through the means established by the authority of the Secretary immediately before the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) AUTOMATED LICENSING SYSTEM.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''automated licensing system'' means an electronic, computerized licensing system used by a State fish and wildlife agency to issue hunting, fishing, and other associated licenses and products.

(B) INCLUSION.—The term ''automated licensing system'' includes a point-of-sale, Internet, telephonic system, or other electronic applications used for a purpose described in subparagraph (A).

(3) ELECTRONIC STAMP.—The term ''electronic stamp'' means an electronic version of an actual stamp that—

(A) is a unique identifier for the individual to whom it is issued;

(B) can be printed on paper or produced through an electronic application with the same indicators as the State endorsement provides;

(C) is issued through a State automated licensing system that is authorized, under State law and by the Secretary under this Act, to issue electronic stamps;

(D) is compatible with the hunting licensing system of the State that issues the electronic stamp; and

(E) is described in the State application approved by the Secretary under section 4(b).

(4) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 3. AUTHORITY TO ISSUE ELECTRONIC DUCK STAMPS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may authorize any State to issue electronic stamps in accordance with this Act.

(b) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall implement this section in consultation with State management agencies.

SEC. 4. STATE APPLICATION.

(a) APPROVAL OF APPLICATION REQUIRED.—The Secretary may not authorize a State to issue electronic stamps under this Act unless the Secretary has received and approved an application submitted by the State in accordance with this section. The Secretary may determine the number of new States per year to participate in the electronic stamp program.

(b) CONTENTS OF APPLICATION.—The Secretary may not approve a State application unless the application contains—

(1) a description of the format of the electronic stamp that the State will issue under this Act, including identifying features of the licensee that will be specified on the stamp;

(2) a description of any fee the State will charge for issuance of an electronic stamp;

(3) a description of the process the State will use to account for and transfer to the Secretary the amounts collected by the State that are required to be transferred to the Secretary under the program;

(4) the manner by which the State will transmit electronic stamp customer data to the Secretary;

(5) the manner by which actual stamps will be delivered;

(6) the policies and procedures under which the State will issue duplicate electronic stamps; and

(7) such other policies, procedures, and information as may be reasonably required by the Secretary.

(c) PUBLICATION OF DEADLINES, ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS, AND SELECTION CRITERIA.—Not later than 30 days before the date on which the Secretary begins accepting applications under this section, the Secretary shall publish—

(1) deadlines for submission of applications;

(2) eligibility requirements for submitting applications; and

(3) criteria for approving applications.

SEC. 5. STATE OBLIGATIONS AND AUTHORITIES.

(a) DELIVERY OF ACTUAL STAMP.—The Secretary shall require that each individual to whom a State sells an electronic stamp under this Act shall receive an actual stamp—

(1) by not later than the date on which the electronic stamp expires under section 6(c); and

(2) in a manner agreed upon by the State and Secretary.

(b) COLLECTION AND TRANSFER OF ELECTRONIC STAMP REVENUE AND CUSTOMER INFORMATION.—

(1) REQUIREMENT TO TRANSMIT.—The Secretary shall require each State authorized to issue electronic stamps to collect and submit to the Secretary in accordance with this section—

(A) the first name, last name, and complete mailing address of each individual that purchases an electronic stamp from the State;

(B) the face value amount of each electronic stamp sold by the State; and

(C) the amount of the Federal portion of any fee required by the agreement for each stamp sold.

(2) TIME OF TRANSMITTAL.—The Secretary shall require the submission under paragraph (1) to be made with respect to sales of electronic stamps by a State according to the written agreement between the Secretary and the State agency.

(3) ADDITIONAL FEES NOT AFFECTED.—This section shall not apply to the State portion of any fee collected by a State under subsection (c).

(c) ELECTRONIC STAMP ISSUANCE FEE.—A State authorized to issue electronic stamps may charge a reasonable fee to cover costs incurred by the State and the Department of the Interior in issuing electronic stamps under this Act, including costs of delivery of actual stamps.

(d) DUPLICATE ELECTRONIC STAMPS.—A State authorized to issue electronic stamps may issue a duplicate electronic stamp to replace an electronic stamp issued by the State that is lost or damaged.

(e) LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY TO REQUIRE PURCHASE OF STATE LICENSE.—A State may not require that an individual purchase a State hunting license as a condition of issuing an electronic stamp under this Act.

SEC. 6. ELECTRONIC STAMP REQUIREMENTS; RECOGNITION OF ELECTRONIC STAMP.

(a) STAMP REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall require an electronic stamp issued by a State under this Act—

(1) to have the same format as any other license, validation, or privilege the State issues under the automated licensing system of the State; and

(2) to specify identifying features of the licensee that are adequate to enable Federal, State, and other law enforcement officers to identify the holder.

(b) RECOGNITION OF ELECTRONIC STAMP.—Any electronic stamp issued by a State under this Act shall, during the effective period of the electronic stamp—

(1) bestow upon the licensee the same privileges as are bestowed by an actual stamp;

(2) be recognized nationally as a valid Federal migratory bird hunting and conservation stamp; and

(3) authorize the licensee to hunt migratory waterfowl in any other State, in accordance with the laws of the other State governing that hunting.

(c) DURATION.—An electronic stamp issued by a State shall be valid for a period agreed to by the State and the Secretary, which shall not exceed 45 days.

SEC. 7. TERMINATION OF STATE PARTICIPATION.

The authority of a State to issue electronic stamps under this Act may be terminated—

(1) by the Secretary, if the Secretary—

(A) finds that the State has violated any of the terms of the application of the State approved by the Secretary under section 4; and

(B) provides to the State written notice of the termination by not later than the date that is 30 days before the date of termination; or

(2) by the State, by providing written notice to the Secretary by not later than the date that is 30 days before the termination date.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN) and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, this legislation, which I sponsored, would make permanent the ability of a migratory waterfowl hunter to electronically purchase their annual Federal duck stamp.

For the past 6 years, eight States have participated in a pilot effort, and by all accounts this program has been a huge success. Many Americans have been able to enjoy the convenience of using their own personal computer to purchase a Federal duck stamp online and in some cases to obtain that required document the evening before a duck hunt. Mr. Speaker, I can tell you from experience and knowing that people want that opportunity, that that timeliness is a factor in people being able to enjoy waterfowl hunting.

In August 2011, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service submitted a report to Congress which stipulated that the E-Duck stamp program has proven to be a practical method that is readily accepted by the stamp-buying public. E-stamps now account for more than 20 percent of all duck stamp sales, which demonstrates widespread acceptance of this sales option.

As vice chair of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, I can proudly say that this legislation is important to waterfowl hunters across the country. H.R. 1206 is supported by the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation and Ducks Unlimited. I would also like to thank and acknowledge Representative RON KIND as an original cosponsor of this bill. The gentleman from Wisconsin is a dedicated conservationist, an avid outdoorsman, and a longtime supporter and friend to sportsmen.

There is no cost to the taxpayers, and there is broad bipartisan support for this innovative idea, and this convenient 21st-century delivery system will be utilized by thousands of American sportsmen in the future.

Allowing the purchase of duck stamps online is an important technological advancement, and it is time to make this a permanent feature of Federal law. During the last Congress, an identical bill passed the House by a

vote of 373–1. I urge adoption of this measure.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

(Mrs. NAPOLITANO asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1206 would allow the Secretary of the Interior to continue the sale of electronic duck stamps and also expands the program to include all of our 50 States.

The Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, commonly known and called the ''duck stamp,'' must be purchased and carried by all waterfowl hunters 16 years and older when hunting migratory waterfowl on both public and private land.

Ninety-eight cents of every dollar generated by the sales of these stamps go to purchase or lease wetland habitat for the National Wildlife Refuge system, which benefits waterfowl. In some rural areas, purchasing the duck stamp can be very difficult. Often, hunters have to wait a significant amount of time to receive their official duck stamp, so utilizing the system of electronic duck stamp producing would eliminate the wait by issuing an electronic stamp with a unique identifying number to serve as a proof of purchase. Hunters can hunt and use the electronic stamp for 45 days until the actual duck stamp arrives via the postal service.

This is a worthwhile piece of legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire if the minority has any more speakers.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. No, sir, not on this bill.

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

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. I yield back the balance of my time, sir.

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to show my strong support for the Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013, H.R. 1206. I want to thank my coauthor and friend, ROB WITTMAN, for his dedication to getting this important legislation passed. In the 109th Congress, I authored legislation that created a pilot program for selling duck stamps electronically. The legislation passed with wide bipartisan support and the Electronic Duck Stamp program went on to become one of the most successful conservation programs in our history.

Since the beginning of duck stamp sales in 1934, the stamps have generated more than $750 million used to purchase more than 5.3 million acres of waterfowl habitat. In Wisconsin alone, 6.78 million duck stamps have been sold thereby conserving numerous acres for waterfowl, birds, reptiles, mammals, fish, and amphibians. In addition to the benefits of conservation for wildlife, the habitats preserved give hunters and nature enthusiasts places to enjoy hiking, hunting, and animals watching. Additionally, these wetlands naturally purify water supplies, keep flood lands, and help decrease soil erosion.

The Electronic Duck Stamp is terribly important to the district I represent in Wisconsin, which is home to three wildlife refuges. Almost the entire west side of my district is a refuge—the Upper Mississippi River Wildlife & Fish Refuge which is visited by 4 million people every year, more than Yellowstone. I want to urge my colleagues to support this commonsense yet vital legislation. I look forward to working toward getting this bill through the Senate and signed into law this year.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1206.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

□ 1710

SAN ANTONIO MISSIONS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK BOUNDARY EXPANSION ACT OF 2013

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 885) to expand the boundary of San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, to conduct a study of potential land acquisitions, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 885

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 ''San Antonio Missions National Historical Park Boundary Expansion Act of 2013''.

SEC. 2. BOUNDARY EXPANSION.

Section 201(a) of Public Law 95–629 (16 U.S.C. 410ee(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''In order'' and inserting ''(1) In order'';

(2) by striking ''The park shall also'' and inserting the following:

''(2) The park shall also'';

(3) by striking ''After advising the'' and inserting the following:

''(5) After advising the''.

(4) by inserting after paragraph (2) (as so designated by paragraph (2)) the following:

''(3) The boundary of the park is further modified to include approximately 137 acres, as depicted on the map titled 'San Antonio Missions National Historical Park Proposed Boundary Addition', numbered 472/113,006A, and dated June 2012. The map shall be on file and available for inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

''(4) The Secretary may not acquire by condemnation any land or interest in land within the boundaries of the park. The Secretary is authorized to acquire land and interests in land that are within the boundaries of the park pursuant to paragraph (3) by donation or exchange only (and in the case of an exchange, no payment may be made by the Secretary to any landowner). No private property or non-Federal public property shall be included within the boundaries of the park without the written consent of the owner of such property. Nothing in this Act, the establishment of the park, or the management plan of the park shall be construed to create buffer zones outside of the park. That an activity or use can be seen or heard from within the park shall not preclude the conduct of that activity or use outside the park.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN) and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 885 will expand the San Antonio Missions National Historic Park to include an additional 137 acres. Each of these 137 acres is currently owned and being managed by the National Park Service, so additional operating costs will be minimal, if there are any at all.

The Natural Resources Committee amended H.R. 885 to further control costs by requiring that any property acquired through this legislation be only by donation or exchange, and condemnation is explicitly prohibited. Additional property rights provisions require written consent of property owners before their land can be included in the boundaries of the park, and the creation of buffer zones around the park is forbidden.

Mr. Speaker, with that, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in strong support of H.R. 885, the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park Boundary Expansion Act 2013. Being a born-and-raised Texan, this is a very dear to my heart issue.

I do want to thank Congressman LLOYD DOGGETT and the entire bipartisan San Antonio delegation for pushing this very important piece of legislation forward. This is the third time the House has considered legislation to expand the San Antonio Missions. Hopefully, the third time will be the charm.

Currently, there are 137 acres of land managed by the National Park Service that are not part of the existing San Antonio Missions National Historical Park. Expanding the boundaries of the park will ensure that these cultural and archaeological resources are protected.

Mr. DOGGETT has been involved with this legislation since the proposal first came before us several years ago—I'm not sure when. Though I know that he would have preferred a broader bill that included a study of the additional potential park areas, I thoroughly appreciate his efforts to work with our Republican colleagues to obtain a bill that they can support.

It's a very unique place, and I can appreciate Mr. DOGGETT's commitment to getting this legislation approved, and I look forward to working with him on this.

Again, this is a very important bill for Texans, and I urge your support.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the sponsor of this piece of legislation, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LLOYD DOGGETT).

Mr. DOGGETT. Thank you to my colleague from California, who has ties directly to San Antonio and appreciates the importance of this legislation.

I do rise in support of the San Antonio Missions National Historic Park Boundary Expansion Act, a measure that has enjoyed the support of all of the members of the Texas delegation who represent a part of Bexar County. The bill does expand the park by 137 acres.

The Spanish Missions in San Antonio are truly a unique treasure—for us as Texans, and for all Americans. The Missions National Historic Park preserves the largest collection of Spanish colonial resources anywhere in the United States. It's an educational, historical, and cultural resource that each year is bringing over a million people to enjoy and learn from it.

The park is important to the understanding of Texas and the development of the United States and, of course, it has a significant impact on San Antonio and Bexar County economically.

In his famous ''San Antonio Rose,'' Bob Wills sung of the Alamo and ''old San Antone.'' And most people do associate San Antonio with the Alamo, a landmark of Texas independence. But in addition to the Alamo, there are five remaining Spanish Missions in San Antonio.

The Alamo lies just north of these four missions that compose the Missions National Historical Park. All of them date back to the 1600s, 1700s, the oldest one to 1690, and they were built when the first of six flags flew over Texas, as Spanish colonialists settled San Antonio, then on the frontier with the Comanches and Apaches.

The missions reached out to a number of local Native American tribes, teaching them trades and crafts. The missions do reflect the original ''old San Antone.''

Thanks to the leadership of Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff, there's now a great new Mission Reach Trail that connects from near the Alamo to all four missions within the park. It's possible to walk or cycle that trail along the San Antonio River, from the excitement of downtown, first to Mission Concepcion.

Next up is the larger Mission San Jose, site of so many gatherings. Recently, I joined Father Tony Posadas, Andrew Anguiano, Neighborhood Association President Armando Cortez and thousands of people who gathered there for the annual Mission Fest.

Nearby is Mission San Juan Capistrano, a very narrow white stucco building, beautiful with its simplicity. Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller, Father David Garcia and Father Jim Galvin recently reopened that mission after an impressive and complex restoration effort. Each of these missions is a working parish church, relying on their parishioners, and fully restored thanks to the leadership of Father Garcia.

Working closely with him is a group called Los Compadres, a group of committed citizens who've raised over $1 million for the continued restoration and preservation of the missions, led by Pamela Bain and Executive Director Susan Chandoha. Their annual Music Under the Stars concert at Mission San Jose is a great way to experience the park.

And thanks to the leadership of State Representative Joe Farias, park visitors also benefit now from a newly dedicated Veterans Memorial Bridge in the historic Bergs Mill area.

The last of the missions, or the first when it comes to our colleague, Congressman GALLEGO, is Mission Espada, and he'll have more to say about it, a very important part of the park.

Among the many community partners who've joined with us in the delegation for park expansion are Susan Snow, the World Heritage coordinator of the National Park Service; Suzanne Dixon, with the National Parks Conservation Association; Bexar County Commissioners Tommy Adkisson and Chico Rodriguez; Shannon Miller, with the city's Historic Preservation Office; Suzanne Scott, with the River Authority; and Marco Barros, with the San Antonio Tourism Council. They're making the missions even more accessible and enjoyable for both neighbors and tourists.

One economic study has recently concluded that the park is already supporting almost $100 million in annual economic activity and over 1,100 jobs. With the completion of initiatives associated with this park expansion, the missions can more than double their economic impact in San Antonio.

In addition to the bill that we have here today, it is very important that we achieve our Quest for World Heritage Status for the missions. About a year ago this week, then-Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced that the Department of the Interior had officially authorized the Spanish Missions for nomination to the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Another economic study has found that that World Heritage status for this expanded park could yield over $500 million for the San Antonio area within a decade of the World Heritage status.

Unfortunately, because the United States is not paying its dues to UNESCO, which funds the World Heritage Committee, our application could be hampered. I hope that obstacle can be overcome by the time next year that there's a formal submission of this application.

I'm hopeful that by passing this bill relatively early in this Congress that the Senate will finally be able to move it and have ample time to consider it.

Frankly, as my colleague Mrs. NAPOLITANO pointed out, I would have liked to have achieved more today. There are other lands in Bexar and Wilson County with historic ties to the mission that should really be a part of this park. I know the Wilson County part is of particular importance to Congressman CUELLAR. But after so many years of failed attempts to secure this legislation, it's better to move forward together and achieve what is possible today.

So together, I believe we are taking constructive steps forward to enhance a national treasure. Our action is not only about preserving culture but about promoting jobs. This park expansion provides another good reason for family vacations and national conventions to take the ''road to San Antone.''

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, how much time is left?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from California has 12½ minutes remaining.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GALLEGO).

□ 1720

Mr. GALLEGO. I'd like to thank Chairman HASTINGS and the ranking member for their work on this vital piece of legislation.

I'm proud to be an original cosponsor of the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park Boundary Expansion Act of 2013. This bill would expand the boundaries of the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, including the Espada Mission in the 23rd District.

Originally, the Espada Mission was the front door. It was the mission in San Antonio that grew the food that raised the cattle that fed the rest of the missions. It's the only mission that still retains its original property. This is a great opportunity for the redevelopment on the south side of San Antonio.

Texas' missions are inextricably part of our culture, our heritage, and our history. Like the families of their founders, the missions can trace their history back to decades before the

United States ever claimed its independence. All four of the missions, as Congressman DOGGETT has said, are within several miles of each other. Individually, they're marvels of architecture and history. Together, they're an incomparable treasure, allowing each of us the opportunity to come face-to-face with our Nation's proud past. Enacting this legislation is critical to the completion of the world-famous San Antonio Mission Trail, which is a national example of public and private cooperation. The community needs the resources and the expertise of the National Park Service. Yet the National Park Service could not operate without the investment of time and money by the local community.

As the Congressman who represents the Espada Mission—and as a personal fan of the missions and their history—I believe the National Park Service, the city of San Antonio, and the county of Bexar, will benefit historically and economically with the passage of this act. It's very rare that we can protect key areas, preserve history, and create jobs all at the same time. Expanding the mission boundaries will do all of that—and much more.

I encourage my colleagues to support and pass this bill.

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUELLAR).

Mr. CUELLAR. I want to thank the gentlewoman from California and also the chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I also rise to encourage my colleagues to support the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park Boundary Expansion Act. I want to thank in particular my colleague, Representative LLOYD DOGGETT, who's taken the leadership on this particular bill, along with the entire San Antonio delegation of Congressman GALLEGO, Congressman CASTRO, and Congressman LAMAR SMITH, all working in a bipartisan way to make sure that this legislation passes.

The San Antonio Missions are a crucial piece of history to the State of Texas, and we have to make sure that the National Park Service has the ability to make needed improvements to the park and the ability to expand the areas under its protection. The lands operated by the National Park Service reflect our Nation's historical treasures and tell the story of our country, and it's important that Texas' history is preserved and included among them.

The San Antonio Missions National Historical Park is the home to four Spanish frontier missions first established in the 1600s. The Park was established by the National Park Service in 1975. However, over the past 37 years, the needs and the scope of the park require this legislation.

This bill would authorize the transfer of 137 acres by the San Antonio River Authority, Bexar County, and the city of San Antonio, to the National Park Service. This land transfer will allow for the expansion of Missions Park, which I used to represent some time ago. Again, it's needed to ensure that these parks are accessible and serving the public to the fullest extent possible.

I'm proud to have this legislation considered today, as we must preserve our Nation's treasures for many years. I know the park missing is in Wilson County. We're hoping that we can continue to work to make sure that we include that sometime in the future, but we must continue working together now.

I urge all my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on this bill.

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to advise the gentlelady from California that I have no other speakers and am prepared to yield back the balance of my time if she is prepared to close.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. I do urge my colleagues to support this legislation. It is critical to help Texas preserve such a national treasure that all of us have seen in the movies and heard about and read about.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the bi-partisan effort that took place here today to resurrect a piece of legislation that is very important to San Antonio, Texas and to our national heritage.

Last Congress my good friend and our former colleague, Mr. Canseco of San Antonio, worked diligently for over a year to craft this legislation only to see its success thwarted at the last minute by our colleagues in the United States Senate.

I want to thank Mr. DOGGETT for not letting this issue go away and helping to fulfill Mr. Canseco's vision for San Antonio and for the protection of such a historical landmark in Texas.

I am proud to stand today and support this bill, which most of us voted for last year, so that we may see through the vision Mr. Canseco had for the San Antonio Missions National Park.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 885, as amended.

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

The title was amended so as to read: ''A bill to expand the boundary of the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, and for other purposes.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CERTAIN SANCTIONS SET FORTH IN THE IRAN FREEDOM AND COUNTER-PROLIFERATION ACT OF 2012 AND ADDITIONAL SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO IRAN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 113–32)

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

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*) (IEEPA), I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order (the ''order'') that takes additional steps with respect to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12957 of March 15, 1995, and implements certain statutory requirements of the Iran Freedom and Counter-Proliferation Act of 2012 (subtitle D of title XII of Public Law 112–239) (22 U.S.C. 8801 *et seq.*) (IFCA), which amends the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–195) (22 U.S.C. 8501 *et seq.*) (CISADA).

In Executive Order 12957, the President found that the actions and policies of the Government of Iran threaten the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. To deal with that threat, the President declared a national emergency and imposed prohibitions on certain transactions with respect to the development of Iranian petroleum resources. To further respond to that threat, Executive Order 12959 of May 6, 1995, imposed comprehensive trade and financial sanctions on Iran. Executive Order 13059 of August 19, 1997, consolidated and clarified the previous orders. To take additional steps with respect to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12957 and to implement section 105(a) of CISADA, I issued Executive Order 13553 on September 28, 2010, to impose sanctions on officials of the Government of Iran and other persons acting on behalf of the Government of Iran determined to be responsible for or complicit in certain serious human rights abuses.

To take additional steps with respect to the threat posed by Iran and to provide implementing authority for a number of the sanctions set forth in the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–172) (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) (ISA), as amended by CISADA, I issued Executive Order 13574 on May 23, 2011, to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to implement certain sanctions imposed by the Secretary of State pursuant to ISA, as amended by CISADA. I also issued Executive Order 13590 on November 20, 2011, to take additional steps with respect to this emergency by authorizing the Secretary of State

to impose sanctions on persons providing certain goods, services, technology, or support that contribute either to Iran's development of petroleum resources or to Iran's production of petrochemicals, and to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to implement some of those sanctions. On February 5, 2012, in order to take further steps pursuant to this emergency, and to implement section 1245(c) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (Public Law 112–81) (22 U.S.C. 8513a), I issued Executive Order 13599 blocking the property of the Government of Iran, all Iranian financial institutions, and persons determined to be owned or controlled by, or acting for or on behalf of, such parties. On April 22, 2012, and May 1, 2012, I issued Executive Orders 13606 and 13608, respectively. Executive Orders 13606 and 13608 each take additional steps with respect to various emergencies, including the emergency declared in Executive Order 12957 concerning Iran, to address the use of computer and information technology to commit serious human rights abuses and efforts by foreign persons to evade sanctions.

To take additional steps with respect to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12957, I issued Executive Order 13622 of July 30, 2012, imposing further sanctions in light of the Government of Iran's use of revenues from petroleum, petroleum products, and petrochemicals for illicit purposes; Iran's continued attempts to evade international sanctions through deceptive practices; and the unacceptable risk posed to the international financial system by Iran's activities.

Most recently, I issued Executive Order 13628 of October 9, 2012, to take additional steps with respect to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12957 and to implement certain statutory requirements of the Iran Threat Reduction and Syria Human Rights Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–158) (22 U.S.C. 8701 *et seq.*) (TRA), including its amendments to the statutory requirements of ISA and CISADA.

With respect to the order that I have just issued, section 1 of the order authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to impose financial sanctions on or to block all property and interests in property that are in the United States, that come within the United States, or that are or come within the possession or control of any United States person (including any foreign branch) of a foreign financial institution determined to have, on or after the effective date of the order:

knowingly conducted or facilitated any significant transaction related to the purchase or sale of Iranian rials or a derivative, swap, future, forward, or other similar contract whose value is based on the exchange rate of the Iranian rial; or

maintained significant funds or accounts outside the territory of Iran denominated in the Iranian rial.

Section 2 of the order authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to block all property and interests in property that are in the United States, that come within the United States, or that are or come within the possession or control of any United States person (including any foreign branch) of any person upon determining:

that the person has materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, any Iranian person included on the list of Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons maintained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (SDN List) (other than an Iranian depository institution whose property and interests in property are blocked solely pursuant to Executive Order 13599) or any other person included on the SDN List whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this paragraph or Executive Order 13599 (other than an Iranian depository institution whose property and interests in property are blocked solely pursuant to Executive Order 13599); or

pursuant to authority delegated by the President and in accordance with the terms of such delegation, that sanctions shall be imposed on such person pursuant to section 1244(c)(1)(A) of IFCA.

Section 3 of the order authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to impose financial sanctions on a foreign financial institution determined to have knowingly conducted or facilitated any significant financial transaction:

on behalf of any Iranian person included on the SDN List (other than an Iranian depository institution whose property and interests in property are blocked solely pursuant to Executive Order 13599) or any other person included on the SDN List whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to subsection 2(a)(i) of the order or Executive Order 13599 (other than an Iranian depository institution whose property and interests in property are blocked solely pursuant to Executive Order 13599); or

on or after the effective date of the order, for the sale, supply, or transfer to Iran of significant goods or services used in connection with the automotive sector of Iran.

Section 5 of the order authorizes the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the United States Trade Representative, and with the President of the Export-Import Bank, the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and other agencies and officials as appropriate, to impose sanctions on a person upon determining that the person:

on or after the effective date of the order, knowingly engaged in a significant transaction for the sale, supply, or transfer to Iran of significant goods or services used in connection with the automotive sector of Iran;

is a successor entity to a person determined to meet that criterion;

owns or controls a person determined to meet that criterion, and had knowledge that the person engaged in the activities referred to therein; or

is owned or controlled by, or under common ownership or control with, a person determined to meet that criterion, and knowingly participated in the activities therein.

Sections 6 and 7 of the order provide that, for persons determined to meet any of these criteria, the heads of the relevant agencies, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall implement the sanctions imposed by the Secretary of State. Those sanctions may include the following actions:

the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank shall deny approval of the issuance of any guarantee, insurance, extension of credit, or participation in an extension of credit in connection with the export of any goods or services to the sanctioned person;

agencies shall not issue any specific license or grant any other specific permission or authority under any statute that requires the prior review and approval of the United States Government as a condition for the export or reexport of goods or technology to the sanctioned person;

for a sanctioned person that is a financial institution: the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the President of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York shall take such actions as they deem appropriate, including denying designation, or terminating the continuation of any prior designation of, the sanctioned person as a primary dealer in United States Government debt instruments; or agencies shall prevent the sanctioned person from serving as an agent of the United States Government or serving as a repository for United States Government funds;

agencies shall not procure, or enter into a contract for the procurement of, any goods or services from the sanctioned person;

the Secretary of State shall deny a visa to, and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall exclude from the United States, any alien that the Secretary of State determines is a corporate officer or principal of, or a shareholder with a controlling interest in, a sanctioned person;

the heads of the relevant agencies, as appropriate, shall impose on the principal executive officer or officers, or persons performing similar functions and with similar authorities, of a sanctioned person any of the sanctions described above, as selected by the Secretary of State;

the Secretary of the Treasury shall take actions where necessary to:

prohibit any United States financial institution from making loans or providing credits to the sanctioned person totaling more than $10,000,000 in any 12-month period, unless such person is engaged in activities to relieve human suffering and the loans or credits are provided for such activities;

prohibit any transactions in foreign exchange that are subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and in which the sanctioned person has any interest;

prohibit any transfers of credit or payments between financial institutions or by, through, or to any financial institution, to the extent that such transfers or payments are subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and involve any interest of the sanctioned person;

block all property and interests in property that are in the United States, that come within the United States, or that are or come within the possession or control of any United States person, (including any foreign branch) of the sanctioned person, and provide that such property and interests in property may not be transferred, paid, exported, withdrawn, or otherwise dealt in;

prohibit any United States person from investing in or purchasing significant amounts of equity or debt instruments of a sanctioned person;

restrict or prohibit imports of goods, technology, or services, directly or indirectly, into the United States from the sanctioned person; or

impose on the principal executive officer or officers, or persons performing similar functions and with similar authorities, of a sanctioned person any of the sanctions described above, as appropriate.

Section 7 of the order also provides that, when the Secretary of State or the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to authority delegated by the President and in accordance with the terms of such delegation, has determined that sanctions shall be imposed on a person pursuant to sections 1244(d)(1)(A), 1245(a)(1), or 1246(a)(1) of IFCA (including in each case as informed by section 1253(c)(2) of IFCA), such Secretary may select one or more of the sanctions described above for which the Secretary of the Treasury shall take such action, and the Secretary of the Treasury shall take actions where necessary to implement those sanctions.

Sections 8 and 11 of the order implement the statutory requirements of CISADA, as amended by section 1249 of IFCA. They authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to block all property and interests in property that are in the United States, that come within the United States, or that are or come within the possession or control of any United States person (including any foreign branch), and the Secretary of State to suspend entry into the United States, of persons determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with or at the recommendation of the Secretary of State:

to have engaged, on or after January 2, 2013, in corruption or other activities relating to the diversion of goods, including agricultural commodities, food, medicine, and medical devices, intended for the people of Iran;

to have engaged, on or after January 2, 2013, in corruption or other activities relating to the misappropriation of proceeds from the sale or resale of goods described above;

to have materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, the activities described above or any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to these provisions; or

to be owned or controlled by, or to have acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to these provisions.

I have delegated to the Secretary of the Treasury the authority, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to take such actions, including the promulgation of rules and regulations, and to employ all powers granted to the President by IEEPA, as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the order, other than the purposes described in sections 5, 6, and 11 of the order. All agencies of the United States Government are directed to take all appropriate measures within their authority to carry out the provisions of the order.

The order, a copy of which is enclosed, becomes effective at 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on July 1, 2013.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *June 3, 2013*.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 29 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order: H.R. 1206, by the yeas and nays; and S. 622, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The remaining electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

PERMANENT ELECTRONIC DUCK STAMP ACT OF 2013

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1206) to grant the Secretary of the Interior permanent authority to authorize States to issue electronic duck stamps, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 401, nays 0, not voting 32, as follows:

[Roll No. 184]

YEAS—401

Aderholt
Amash
Amodei
Andrews
Bachmann
Bachus
Barber
Barletta
Barr
Barrow (GA)
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bera (CA)
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chu
Cicilline
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Cotton
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Daines
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Doggett
Duckworth
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farenthold
Farr
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hahn
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holding
Holt
Horsford
Hoyer
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huffman
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Kaptur
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Kline
Kuster
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Long
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lummis
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marino
Massie
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Negrete McLeod
Neugebauer
Noem
Nolan
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
O'Rourke
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pittenger
Pitts
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quigley
Radel
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruiz
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schiff
Schneider
Schock
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)

Southerland
Speier
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Waxman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—32

Alexander
Bilirakis
Bonner
Brown (FL)
Campbell
Cárdenas
Cassidy
Clarke
Davis, Rodney
Dingell
Doyle
Fattah
Fleischmann
Granger
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Honda
Keating
Loebsack
Maloney, Carolyn
Markey
McCarthy (NY)
McDermott
Neal
Richmond
Rush
Sanchez, Loretta
Schakowsky
Schrader
Shimkus
Watt
Whitfield

□ 1854

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANIMAL DRUG AND ANIMAL GENERIC DRUG USER FEE REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2013

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 622) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to reauthorize user fee programs relating to new animal drugs and generic new animal drugs, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 390, nays 12, not voting 31, as follows:

[Roll No. 185]

YEAS—390

Aderholt
Amash
Amodei
Andrews
Bachmann
Bachus
Barber
Barletta
Barr
Barrow (GA)
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bera (CA)
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chu
Cicilline
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Cotton
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Daines
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Doggett
Duckworth
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farenthold
Farr
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hahn
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holding
Holt
Horsford
Hoyer
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huffman
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Kline
Kuster
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Long
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lummis
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marino
Massie
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Negrete McLeod
Neugebauer
Noem
Nolan
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
O'Rourke
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Peterson
Petri
Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quigley
Radel
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruiz
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schiff
Schneider
Schock
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Waxman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NAYS—12

Edwards
Ellison
Lewis
Lofgren
McCollum
McGovern
Miller, George
Moore
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Slaughter
Speier

NOT VOTING—31

Alexander
Bilirakis
Bonner
Brown (FL)
Campbell
Cárdenas
Cassidy
Clarke
Davis, Rodney
Dingell
Doyle
Fattah
Fleischmann
Granger
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Honda
Loebsack
Maloney, Carolyn
Markey
McCarthy (NY)
McDermott
Neal
Richmond
Rush
Sanchez, Loretta
Schakowsky
Schrader
Shimkus
Watt
Whitfield

□ 1902

Ms. MCCOLLUM changed her vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE FRANK R. LAUTENBERG, A SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 242

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable Frank R. Lautenberg, a Senator from the State of New Jersey.

Resolved, That a committee of such Members of the House as the Speaker may designate, together with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Senator.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker and Members of the House, it is my sad duty to inform you that Senator FRANK LAUTENBERG has passed away. He died from complications from viral pneumonia this morning at New York-Presbyterian Hospital. FRANK LAUTENBERG was 89 years old.

I join with my friends and colleagues from our delegation—and, I know, with

the entire House—in expressing our profound sorrow to his family—his wife, Bonnie, his six children, and his 13 grandchildren. Senator LAUTENBERG will be deeply missed.

We will have a Special Order to honor this wonderful man, but just one point: that with his passing he is the last of World War II—of the Greatest Generation—to serve in the United States Senate, and I want everyone to know he will be deeply missed. I, personally, worked very closely with him on a number of issues, in particular on combating anti-Semitism, so I just want to say that we are all in sorrow for his passing. We pray for him and for his family.

I would like to yield to my good friend and colleague from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) for any comments he might have.

Mr. PALLONE. I want to thank my colleague.

It's really with a great deal of sadness that we come to the well this evening to announce—or to comment, if you will—on Senator LAUTENBERG's passing.

I really can't imagine the Congress without him. I worked on his campaign from the very first day in 1982, and he was the longest-serving Member of the U.S. Senate from the State of New Jersey in our entire history.

The fact of the matter is that Senator LAUTENBERG was always there for the little guy. Many of you know that he was a wealthy individual, but he never forgot his roots, and they were very humble roots. He always believed that the Congress should be there for people in need and that the American Dream required that everyone had an equal opportunity and that Congress could do things. FRANK LAUTENBERG understood that there were a lot of problems out there, but he felt that Congress needed to work together on a bipartisan basis to solve those problems.

There are so many that I can mention, but I won't. Whether it was the Nation's infrastructure, mass transit, all of the environmental concerns, whether he wanted to clean up the ocean or clean the air or clean the water for the next generation, he really believed that things could get done here, and he worked hard to get things done. We know, more than anybody else, he was able to accomplish a lot because of the hard work that he put into it.

So I just want to thank him for all of that and for his legacy, and I want to express sympathy, obviously, to Bonnie and his family. He will be missed for what he accomplished and also for what he told us about what our job is when we're here—to get things done and to worry about the little guy and to make sure that we are always out there, working every day to make this a better country.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I yield to my colleague from New Jersey (Mr. LANCE).

Mr. LANCE. Thank you, Congressman PALLONE, and thank you, Congressman SMITH, the dean of the delegation.

Senator LAUTENBERG was a tenacious fighter for the 9 million residents of the State of New Jersey, and tenacity was at the heart of his public service. New Jersey is a State that is complex and that is comprised of many different ethnicities, and Senator LAUTENBERG represented all of us extremely well. The only person in history of the State to serve five terms in the United States Senate, Senator LAUTENBERG died with his boots on in the saddle as he would have wished.

He was extremely proud of his roots in Paterson, a great industrial city in this Nation, where he was born and raised; and at age 18 he went off to war, World War II, as one of the Greatest Generation. Senator LAUTENBERG was the beneficiary of the GI Bill of Rights, and he was able to attend Columbia University from which he graduated after the Second World War, and his brilliant career in the private sector at ADP is a hallmark to the entrepreneurial spirit of the American people; but he recognized that he could do more for the people of our State and of the Nation when he was elected to the United States Senate in 1982, reelected in 1988 and reelected again in 1994, a hiatus of 2 years, then elected for a fourth term in 2002, and again for a fifth term in 2008. He was a person of perseverance.

To Mrs. Lautenberg and the Lautenberg children and family, we extend our profound sympathy. The people of New Jersey and, might I suggest, the Nation are saddened by his death.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS).

Mr. ANDREWS. I thank my friends and colleagues for joining in this moment of solemn remembrance.

There is not a corner of our State that does not bear the manifestation of the greatness of Senator LAUTENBERG's career. Some of the manifestations are functional and somewhat ordinary—bridges and exit ramps—but so many of the things are things of beauty and splendor. This is a person who risked his life for his country in the Second World War and who gave his life to building a successful business and building a great State and a great country.

We are profoundly saddened by his loss, but we are heartened by his example, and I thank all of us on both sides of the aisle for remembering him. Our prayers go to his family, and our thanks go to him for a great life well led.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL).

Mr. PASCRELL. FRANK LAUTENBERG was my friend for 45 years. We drank the same water in Paterson, New Jersey. He was a person of very small means when you looked at his mom and dad. They worked in the factories in Paterson, New Jersey, as so many other people did. His father died when he was 43 years of age. He got sick from the jobs that he had when there was no protection for workers, not like it is now.

Now, can you picture this in a garage in Paterson, New Jersey, off of Carroll Street, four guys together, putting a company together, that if you didn't invest in it you kicked yourself after that, ADP?

He had a business acumen, a business sense, that went beyond votes on the floor of the Senate. He was a good guy, and I know that the talking heads would say he was a liberal's liberal. FRANK LAUTENBERG was a very basic, conservative guy when it came to our values in this country. He was not a spectator by any stretch. He was in there. He was in the battle. He came back to School No. 6 on Mercer Street in Paterson to take care of those kids, to give them computers and to say make sure you take care of those computers because this is going to get you, perhaps, on a path to something better in life for you and your family. He didn't forget it. A lot of people say he didn't forget his roots. That's a wave. That's a passing by. He was not that kind of a person.

So, to Bonnie and to his beautiful family, our best, best, deepest feelings of condolences and sorrow.

We don't know what we've lost—we never do—but we pray that everyone begins to understand, at least now, that each of us is significant, that each of us is important and, as FRANK would say, that no one is better than anyone else.

God bless FRANK LAUTENBERG.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT).

Mr. HOLT. We mark with sorrow and with admiration the loss of FRANK LAUTENBERG—a loss to Bonnie and his family, a loss to this Congress, a loss to New Jersey, a loss to America.

He served in the Army as a youngster. His father died while he was serving in the Second World War—and ''serve'' is the right word. He saw service as his duty, as his life—serving other people, never forgetting the common person and the common good. Whether he was working for public health or individual health care or education or was helping prevent bullying in schools or was teaching foreign languages or was providing for safety in chemical plants, he was thinking about the ordinary person. He never forgot that, he never stopped fighting, and the people of New Jersey knew that. They knew they had somebody in the Senate who was looking out for them.

What I think of most is his work that he did on the Transportation Subcommittee about the blood alcohol level and drunk driving. He did more than any other single person in this country to prevent drunk driving. You could fill many football stadiums with

people who are alive today because of FRANK LAUTENBERG. The interesting thing is that not one of them would know who they are.

We have a lot to be grateful for to FRANK LAUTENBERG, and his legacy is something that we should work hard to continue.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT).

Mr. GARRETT. To the dean of the delegation and to the rest of my colleagues from New Jersey, Washington, D.C., the Senate, the Chambers will not be the same without FRANK LAUTENBERG walking about.

He is and he was a man who lived truly an extraordinary life. You've heard of his humble beginnings that BILL, I guess, knows pretty well, of his growing up in that neighborhood and going on to fight through World War II, as LEONARD points out; and of that extraordinary entrepreneurial spirit. In all of those ways, he lived an extraordinary life that left an extraordinary impact upon the people of his community and the State and on all of those people who benefited from his business acumen—to be able to use that service—to the jobs that he provided and then to take that and bring it here to Washington and the benefits that he provided even far beyond his own humble beginnings back in Paterson, New Jersey, but across the country as well.

So we come here today, joined in the thought that our prayers are with him, his family, his children, and grandchildren. We just hope that through this difficult time that they must be going that they can find some solace in the fact that so many people who have come here today and who are back in New Jersey respect him and appreciate him and thank him for what he did for the State.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SIRES).

Mr. SIRES. I want to thank my colleagues for being here today and for expressing the sentiment towards a friend.

I knew FRANK LAUTENBERG for a long time. I was a mayor when I first met him. He never changed. He was a fighter. He was a real product of New Jersey in his coming from Paterson, serving in the service, starting a business. He became one of the best Senators we ever had in New Jersey. He was a man who had a vision, because he was one of the first ones who saw that riding on a plane and having somebody smoking next to you was not healthy. FRANK fought that fight, and President Reagan signed it into law.

So, today, New Jersey is sad. It's sad because one of its own is not going to be with us any more. Right down to the end, FRANK fought. I will remember him fighting Governor Christie. I remember him fighting for the tunnel. So we are all sad in New Jersey today.

To the whole family, we extend our condolences.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. RUNYAN).

Mr. RUNYAN. I, too, want to reflect on all of the kind and gracious words that my colleagues have expressed up here.

I, only being in my second term, can't say that I knew FRANK that well, but I want to point out one thing: that it's unfortunate that sometimes it takes someone's passing to realize all of the great things he did in his life. I've learned in coming here to Washington sometimes that people forget they are people who come here to represent the people back home, and you forget about the good deeds, the hard work. When you look at what FRANK did, working every single day until today, that is something that, I think, we as Americans do—take that work ethic into everything we do every single day. That's what makes us the greatest country in the world.

With FRANK's obviously being that type of role model, I think we are all saddened by his passing. We will miss him. Again, our condolences go out to his family, and I thank you all for taking time out to recognize him as an individual because, I think, sometimes that is lost.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE).

Mr. PAYNE. Thank you to my colleagues from New Jersey and in the House of Representatives.

Once again, I stand here in almost over a year with sorrow in my heart. The New Jersey delegation has lost another great member.

Senator LAUTENBERG had been an example to me over the course of his career. I'd seen him in many instances in Newark and in other settings, and he always had a common message to young people. It was that there was nothing special about me that you could not do this yourself. If you applied yourself in school, worked hard, honored your country, and did the things that were right, one day you could be in this position as well.

FRANK LAUTENBERG embodies what a New Jerseyan is. So look at his career. Look at his life. He is a true New Jerseyan. He will sorely be missed in this delegation, in this House, in this Congress, and in this country. My condolences to his family on this sad occasion.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, FRANK LAUTENBERG will be missed. As you could hear from my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, it is a great loss for the State of New Jersey. We will have a Special Order next Tuesday to speak even more to his legacy.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, today, our country mourns the loss of Senator FRANK LAUTENBERG—a man whose life embodied the American Dream and who dedicated his career to putting that dream in reach for all Americans. The longest-serving senator in New Jersey's history and the last remaining World War II veteran in the Senate, he served us all with the strength, perseverance, and compassion that exemplifies the greatest generation.

A proud son of hard-working immigrants, Senator LAUTENBERG rose from humble beginnings to meet great success in business and public service. He was an entrepreneur who turned a small business into one of the largest computing services companies in the world. He was a soldier who put his life on the line to protect our country. He was a Senator who helped ban smoking in airplanes and around children, who worked to ensure parents could take time off to care for sick family members, who helped modernize the G.I. bill to ensure today's veterans could benefit from the same opportunity that he received,

Senator LAUTENBERG spent each day fighting to protect and improve the health, security, and well-being of every American. His lifetime of service leaves a legacy we must follow, and an expectation we must meet. We only hope it is a comfort to his wife Bonnie, his children and grandchildren that so many mourn their loss at this sad time.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING THE MEMORY AND SACRIFICE OF FIREFIGHTERS MATTHEW RENAUD, ROBERT BEBEE, ROBERT GARNER, AND ANNE SULLIVAN

(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, along with fellow Members of the Texas and Harris County delegation, stand together to honor and recognize the sacrifice of four fallen firefighters who died last Friday, May 31, 2013, in the city of Houston serving in the line of duty.

We offer our heartfelt sympathy to the families and fellow firefighters of those who died and those who were injured.

We are united with the city of Houston in grief over the deaths of Captain EMT Matthew Renaud, Engineer Operator EMT Robert Bebee, Firefighter EMT Robert Garner, and Probationary Firefighter Anne Sullivan, who died last Friday while searching a blazing hotel and restaurant for possible trapped victims.

In the 118-year history of the Houston City Fire Department, this was the greatest loss of life of their members while on duty. Their heroism will not be soon forgotten nor their sacrifice dimmed by time.

In the Firemen's Creed, these words are heard loudly:

> But, above all, our proudest endeavor is to save lives of men, the work of God, Himself.

We ask that our colleagues join us now in a moment of silence in their memory.

Mr. Speaker, we wish all firefighters injured last Friday a speedy recovery.

Mr. Speaker, I along with fellow members of the Harris County Delegation stand together to honor and recognize the sacrifice of four fallen Firefighters who died last Friday, May 31, 2013 in the City of Houston, Texas serving in the line of duty.

We offer our heartfelt sympathy to the families and fellow firefighters of those who died.

We are united with the City of Houston in grief over the deaths of Captain EMT Matthew Renaud, Engineer Operator EMT Robert Bebee, Firefighter EMT Robert Garner and Probationary Firefighter Anne Sullivan who died on Friday, while searching a blazing hotel and restaurant for possible trapped victims.

In the 118 year history of the Houston City Fire Department this was the greatest loss of life of their members while on duty. Their heroism will not be soon forgotten nor their sacrifice dimmed by time.

EXCERPTS FROM THE FIREMEN'S CREED

I have no ambition in this world but one and that is to be a fireman . . . We strive to preserve from destruction the wealth of the world . . . We are the defenders from fire . . . But, above all, our proudest endeavor is to save lives of men, the work of GOD himself.

We ask that our colleagues join us in a moment of silence in their memory.

We wish a speedy recovery for all those firefighters injured during Friday's tragedy.

MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT

(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, today the White House held a conference on mental health and the importance of removing the stigma associated with seeking mental health treatment. The conference dovetailed with an announcement by the Department of Veterans Affairs that it had met its goal to hire 1,600 new mental health professionals.

Despite the positive news from the VA, the President appropriately stated:

It's not enough to help more Americans seek treatment. We also have to make sure the treatment is there when they are ready to seek it.

I could not agree more, for a major barrier for individuals seeking care is not just access, but the stigma that is oftentimes associated with seeking professional help—especially for our veteran population.

Thankfully, there is more we can do.

I encourage my colleagues to learn more about H.R. 2001, the Veterans E-Health & Telemedicine Support Act. This bipartisan, no-cost bill expands the number of qualified providers servicing our veteran population and also helps remove the stigma associated with seeking treatment through the expansion of telemedicine at the VA.

CONGRATULATING MARK CROGHAN

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

Mr. SWALWELL of California. I rise today to recognize Mark Croghan, the longest serving school administrator from Castro Valley Unified School District, which is in my district, who will be retiring this year after 27 years of service in the East Bay.

Mark was raised and educated in Hayward, California. After a swimming career at Hayward High School, he earned a swimming scholarship to attend the University of California at Berkley, where he received his college degree.

Mark began a long teaching career after college. He taught kids both in and out of the classroom, coaching a variety of sports, including swimming, basketball, softball, and he even served as the advisor for the ski team.

After receiving his master's degree in 1993, Mark began his administrative career as an assistant principal of Canyon Middle School in Castro Valley. Since then, Mark has served as a principal at both Marshall Elementary and Canyon Middle School.

Over his career as an administrator, Mark has created a positive learning environment and has prioritized the needs of students and their families. His leadership surely will be missed.

But if Mark's past service is any evidence of what to expect of him in the future, surely we have a lot in store for what his public service will bring to our community.

I wish Mark the best in his retirement. It is well earned.

□ 1930

LINE DANCING AT THE IRS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the taxman has gone wild. The IRS spent $50 million on boondoggle conferences. At one conference, the agency declined the cheaper government group rate and instead opted for perks including stays at swanky presidential suites, free drinks, and high-dollar tickets to the L.A. Angels baseball game. Now, isn't that lovely?

The IRS spent thousands on touchy-feely speakers, including a $17,000 lecture about ''leadership through art.'' More like the art of wasting money.

The taxacrats-turned film-makers spent $50,000 for videos, including spoofs of ''Star Trek,'' ''Gilligan's Island,'' and line dancing to ''Cupid Shuffle.'' Cupid Shuffle? Are you kidding me?

Mr. Speaker, this is corrupt, contemptible behavior. Ironically, instead of tracking our tax dollars, the Internal Revenue Squanderers waste tax dollars.

The head of the IRS says the expenses were inappropriate. Well, no kidding.

When the revenuers find inappropriate behavior by taxpayers, the taxpayers pay more taxes with interest. The IRS should return the $50 million with interest to the Treasury, and it's time it audited the taxman.

And that's just the way it is.

SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

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

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a member of the Safe Climate Caucus to urge the House to act on climate change.

Last month, scientists recorded atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide at more than 400 parts per million. The long-term consequences of this development are going to get worse in the future, but we're already seeing the immediate impacts today.

The Philadelphia Inquirer has recently reported on the sea level rising along the Delaware Bay and the spring season coming earlier to the Philadelphia region. I will insert these two articles into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

And just last month, the Natural Resources Defense Council released a report on the cost of climate change, showing that the Federal Government spent $100 billion on disaster relief last year. That's more than we spent on education, transportation, or even nondiscretionary spending on health.

And, yet, not only does the Republican majority in the House refuse to address climate change; they're actively pursuing legislation that is sure to make things worse. We must address this problem now.

ALONG N.J. BAY, RISING SEA DRAWS EVER CLOSER

[The Inquirer, Apr. 29, 2013]

[By Sandy Bauers]

The night Meghan Wren got stranded by floodwaters and had to sleep in her car, she knew it was time for a reckoning.

She had been driving to her waterfront home along the Delaware Bay in South Jersey. As she crossed the wide marsh in the dark, the water rose quickly. It became too deep—ahead and behind. She had to stop and wait.

To her, no longer were climate-change predictions an abstract idea. Sea level has been rising, taking her waterfront with it.

''This isn't something that's coming,'' she later told a group of bay shore residents and officials. ''It's here. We just happen to live in a place that will affect us sooner.''

Wren lives on tiny Money Island—more a peninsula of bayfront land with about 40 small homes and trailers in Cumberland County.

Just visible across the grassy marsh is Gandys Beach with 80 homes. Farther south, Fortescue with 250 homes. All three are steadily disappearing'

On the Atlantic coast, beach replenishment masks the effects of sea-level rise. But along the low-lying bay shore, veined with creeks, the problems are striking.

With each nor'easter, more of the beachfronts erode. More of the streets and driveways flood. Septic systems, inundated with salt water, are failing.

''We're seeing beyond the normal damage,'' said Steve Eisenhauer, a regional director with the Natural Lands Trust, which has a

7,000-acre preserve in the area ''We see the problems getting worse.''

In the last century, sea level in the bay has risen a foot, gauges show, partly because the warming ocean is expanding and polar ice is melting. Also, New Jersey is sinking.

All the while, humans have been pumping more and more greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. The planet's average temperature has increased.

''All those links are very strong,'' said Pennsylvania State University's Raymond Najjar Jr., an expert on climate change in Mid-Atlantic estuaries.

''The reason the sea is rising as fast as it is in the Delaware Bay is human-induced climate change,'' he said, echoing many experts.

Sea level is rising faster now than in the early 20th century, and scientists expect it to rise even faster in the future.

The three towns' beachfronts and marshes have always been nibbled away by ship wakes, storms, and more typical erosion—but sea-level rise, combined with more frequent and intense storms, makes them all worse.

Can these three communities, all within Downe Township, adapt to climate change?

Or is there a point beyond which no amount of money can stop the sea? Should everyone relocate?

It's been done. After a $1.8 million seawall in nearby Sea Breeze failed a year after being built, the state bought out the 23 remaining households three years ago for $3.3 million. Tiny Thompson's Beach and Moore's Beach are gone, too.

These are special places, where people look out their windows and see eagles soaring. The bay turns red at sunset. Salt marshes thick with aquatic life stretch for miles.

With marinas in Fortescue and Money Island, they are among the last places in South Jersey where people can access Delaware Bay—vital for generating support to preserve the rich habitat.

But, like Wren, residents sometimes see white caps in their driveways.

Downe officials have come up with a $50 million plan to not only shore up the shore, but also add amenities across the township to draw tourists who could revive the economy.

The plan, which would cost the equivalent of $31,500 per resident, calls for bulkheads and truckloads of sand, restrooms, picnic benches, nature-viewing areas, and a township visitor center.

Officials identified nearly 30 ''potential'' funders—from agencies to nonprofits. But many feel the project is a long shot. Meanwhile, bumper stickers are plastered on homes: ''No retreat. Save the Bayshore communities.''

''I refuse to give up one house, one lot, one piece of land,'' said Robert Campbell, Downe's mayor. ''These towns are 200 years old . . . Its a special place. We've got to preserve it.''

Their survival is also fiscally crucial: they represent half of Downe's tax base

He and others blame flooding not on sea-level rise but on the decline of dikes once used for salt hay farming. (Scientists say the dikes blocked the tides from naturally bolstering mashes with sediment.)

Campbell also blames the state for being too tough in issuing permits for bulkheads and jetties,

After Hurricane Irene struck in 2011, the town put up temporary bulkheads. The state issued violation notices. Now, those structures need restoration. too.

''WE CAN SURVIVE''

Before modern travel made all the Atlantic beaches so easily accessible, Delaware Bay was the shore that many Philadelphians went to,

In the late 1800s, Fortescue was the Cape May of the bay shore, with hotels and a boardwalk.

''We are so rich in our history,'' said Dennis Cook of Money Island, who specified in his will that his ashes be thrown off his pier ''We can survive.''

Or at least they feel compelled to try. Many residents are retirees who have sunk their savings into their homes. Now that prices have fallen, they can't get out unless the state buys them out.

Nine Money Island property owners have already requested that.

One is Tony Novak, owner of the local marina. He wants to stay, and thinks he can for the near future, but ''there is no doubt that the only reasonable, logical, long-term approach is strategic retreat.''

''I have neighbors,'' he said, ''and all they have left in the world is being washed away.''

In October, Wren held a forum on what many consider the hot issue for the bay shore: ''Rising Tides.''

About 100 people went to the nearby hamlet of Bivalve on the Maurice River, and filled a chilly room in a historic shipyard shed owned by the nonprofit Bayshore Discovery Project, which Wren founded,

It owns New Jersey's tall ship, a historic oyster schooner called the A.J. Meerwald, and the walls of the room were lined with vintage oyster cans.

Outside, docks built in the early 1900s still exist, and old-timers notice that the tide comes up higher than it used to. On the serpentine Maurice River, erosion—a natural process worsened by sea-level rise—has almost cut through the bend at Bivalve. If it occurs, the docks might end up high and dry, and land to the east will flood.

Toward the bay are ''ghost forests''—skeletons of trees killed by saltwater intrusion.

Upstream, a quarter century of bird counts shows that black vultures, a Southern species, are becoming more numerous.

In decline are American black ducks, which depend on a freshwater wild rice that is being depleted as saltier water moves up the Maurice River.

''The coast is changing,'' Jennifer Adkins told the group in Bivalve that night.

The executive director of the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary, she cited research showing the dramatic loss of the bay's wetlands. Nearly 5,000 football fields' worth vanished from 1996 to 2006 alone, mostly from sea-level rise and erosion.

Wetlands protect coastal areas by absorbing water from storm surges, so losing these natural buffers makes the bay shore communities more vulnerable.

And then Matt Blake, then with the American Littoral Society, raised the topic few wanted to hear.

''Strategic retreat,'' he said ''The questions of whether to pull back or reinforce are going to come up again and again.''

He didn't claim to have an answer. But he said solutions should be based on research, not emotion ''We'll never have enough resources to defend every community. Before we start spending on new roads and bridges and pipes, we have to run a cost-benefit analysis.''

But Campbell wouldn't hear of it. ''There seems to be a double standard between the Atlantic coast communities and the Delaware Bay,'' the mayor said when he got to the lectern. A murmur of assent rose from the audience.

''I don't hear anybody talking about retreat in Atlantic City,'' he said. Or ''moving the casinos back to Absecon.''

Still, he handed out a summary of township problems: collapsed pavement, eroded road shoulders, failing seawalls.

''Downe Township is just one hurricane away from becoming a bayfront statistic'' like the three other abandoned towns.

Eleven days later. Hurricane Sandy hit.

Bayfront houses were undermined, the sand washing out from under them. Front steps hung in the air. Decks and front rooms were gone.

Campbell said damage along the bay front totaled $20 million; about 30 homes were destroyed.

''Sandy focused everybody's attention,'' Wren said. You can't just quietly ignore [the rising ocean] anymore.''

REMOTE AND LITTLE CLOUT

The bay shore, unlike the Atlantic coast, is ill equipped to respond.

Cumberland County is remote, rural, and economically depressed, the poorest county in the state.

''They don't have the population. They don't have the tax base. They don't have the votes,'' said the trust's Eisenhauer. ''They don't have the clout to get the funding they get on the Atlantic coast.''

Yet the area is hugely vulnerable. About 12 percent of the county's population lives in a floodplain, according to a federal analysis. Ditto 6 percent of the schools, police stations, and other ''critical facilities.'' Plus 10 percent of the road miles.

Local leaders feel they aren't getting much help.

Across the bay, Delaware has a climate-change action plan and a sea-level rise advisory group. It has listed strategies for its bay shore and analyzed the costs and benefits.

''The first step is to have rock-solid science and good economics,'' said the state's environmental head, Collin O'Mara.

In New Jersey. Gov. Christie closed the Office of Climate Change, although a spokesman said several agencies deal with the issue, and many efforts have been launched since Sandy.

Department of Environmental Protection spokesman Larry Hajna said officials visited Downe ''to see what we can do''

''Sea-level rise is clearly one of the biggest concerns along the bay,'' he said, ''But at this point there aren't any long-term answers.'' Federal, state, and local entities would have to get involved, he said.

Ultimately, the question may not be how to keep the waterfront intact but how to get to the towns in the first place.

A new sea-level rise mapping tool from Rutgers University shows that with one more foot of rise—easily possible before century's end—the roads through the marshes would be underwater at high tide.

RUDE AWAKENING

Wren thought she would have more time.

She imagined that the changes ''would be far enough in the future that I could figure out how to manage it''—maybe by working from home during floods. Not anymore.

She and her husband, Jesse Briggs, subscribe to an alert system for when higher-than-usual tides are predicted.

But in December, an alert went out at 3 a.m. When Wren woke up, it was already too late. Her Prius was swamped. Now, she drives a hybrid SUV that is six inches higher.

She thinks it was hubris for humans to build on the shore. And ''it seems like folly to be trying to control nature'' now.

But she's lived on the water her whole life. Briggs is captain of the A.J. Meerwald. They named their son Delbay—for Delaware Bay.

''I can kind of see it from all sides,'' Wren said of the debate over Money Island and its neighbors. So far, it comes down to this: ''If the township decides to keep the infrastructure, I'm committed to keeping my house.''

[From the Inquirer, May 22, 2013]

SPRING COMES SOONER TO PHILA.—AND THAT'S NOT GOOD

(By Sandy Sabers, Inquirer Staff Writer)

One in an occasional series about the regional effects of climate change and how we're coping.

On May 2. 1908. as he strolled along the Perkiomen Creek in Montgomery County, Bayard Long collected a flowering sprig of redbud.

He mounted it, labeled it, and added it to the herbarium at the Academy of Natural Sciences, where he was the curator.

A century later, but just miles away in Chester County, botany graduate student Zoe Panchen also found a redbud in flower. But this time, the short-lived blooms had appeared much earlier. It was April 13, 2010.

Those two data points—and 2.537 others that Panchen analyzed—show a dramatic change in this region's flowering plants.

On average, about 20 species of common spring plants are flowering a day earlier every decade, Panchen concluded.

That scenario is happening across the biological spectrum in ways that could put nature out of sync, worsening pest problems and helping invasive species to flourish.

Migrating birds are arriving earlier, frogs are calling earlier, and insects are emerging earlier than they were decades ago, according to an analysis of the Northeastern United States by a national group focused on phenology—the study of all the things that animals and plants do that are related to the seasons.

Researchers link the numerous shifts they're seeing to climate change—mostly, the warmer springs associated with it.

Individual years are highly variable, of course. Last year was the earliest spring in the North American record, based on ''indicators'' such as plant leaf-out and flowering, This year in the Philadelphia region, temperatures were slightly cooler than normal. But many creatures shift their cycles to go with the overall trend.

''Climate change is here, it's now, it's in your backyard: that's the way we put it,'' said ecologist Jake Weltzin, who directs the National Phenology Network, a federal program that is enlisting citizen scientists to gather data on the plants and animals in their own backyards.

Weltzin and others acknowledge that many factors affect living things—habitat loss, pollution, urban heat islands.

But as they try to understand the changes in timing and shifts in abundance, again and again, climate change appears dominant.

''If you have multiple species that aren't even related, and they're all doing something similar, it's likely that there's a shared cause,'' said Keith Russell, science coordinator with Audubon Pennsylvania. ''Climate change is the one thing that makes the most sense.''

An international coalition of scientists that produced the seminal analyses of climate change noted in their latest report, in 2007. that phenology ''is perhaps that simplest process in which to track . . . responses to climate change.''

Even then, they were seeing it, Numerous studies had documented a progressively earlier spring—by two to five days a decade, the group said.

The evidence continues to mount.

A longtime study of lilacs and honeysuckles across North America shows the plants are leafing out several days earlier than in the early 1900s.

Ten bee species have accelerated their emergence date by roughly 10 days over the last 130 years, a Rutgers University entomologist and others reported in a 2011 paper.

Several studies have pointed to earlier bird migrations. One analysis found that 17 forest species were arriving in Pennsylvania earlier over the last 40 or so years—three days for the cerulean warbler to 25 days for the purple finch.

In addition, a National Audubon Society study looking at 305 species found that birds' wintering grounds had shifted northward an average of 35 miles in four decades,

In Pennsylvania and New Jersey, black vultures moving up from the south are becoming more numerous.

''We're seeing this in real time,'' said Eric Stiles, president of New Jersey Audubon, whose data collectors are part of a national breeding bird survey that is seeing species show up two and three weeks early. ''It's all happening in our lifetime.''

Some of these changes in patterns may not be bad. They're just changes.

But some changes have been linked to pest outbreaks. A longer growing season for some plants means a lengthening of the allergy season.

Scientists don't know how the changes will reverberate, ''If you tug at anything in nature, it's a web,'' said Gary Stolz, manager of the John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum. ''You pull one little string, and it's tied to everything else on Earth.''

Researchers have found some cases where early bird arrivals put them out of sync with the sweet spot of insect emergence—their dinner.

Plants that shift their bloom times earlier could be damaged by even a normally timed frost—a potential disaster if the flower happens to be a crop species. Last year in Michigan, frost damage to fruit trees totaled half a billion dollars.

Organizers may need to rethink the timing of a few festivals to boot.

Last year, the parade for cherry blossoms in Washington happened just as the flowers were beginning to fade. The town's cherry tree cultivars now bloom an average of seven days earlier than in the 1970s.

Scientists say much more research is needed.

Some important data are coming from citizen scientists—people who go out in their backyards and simply notice what's going on. Even with inevitable mistakes, the bigger picture emerges.

Observers are reporting leaf-outs and flowering times to Project BudBurst, nighttime trills and croaks to FrogWatch USA, and backyard bird sightings to Cornell University's FeederWatch project.

Diane House, a physician who lives in Newtown Square, tracks beeches and red maples for the Phenology Network's ''Nature's Notebook.''

The granddaddy of citizen-science efforts, it has nearly 2,000 data gatherers. Its more than 1.8 million records on plants, trees, animals, and birds are already informing research, including a paper showing how ruby-throated hummingbirds are arriving in North America 12 to 18 days earlier than in the 1960s.

In 2010, with a grant from Toyota, Moravian College biologist Diane Husic began a local version, the Eastern Pennsylvania Phenology Project.

She now has 50 regular contributors—master gardeners, nature center staffers, even grade-school teachers who take students on a recess walks past the same trees every day.

Scientists also have a mother lode of data from more than a century ago—before the Industrial Revolution, when temperatures and CO2 levels began to rise,

In the mid-1800s in Concord, Mass., Henry David Thoreau noted enough about the flowering plants of the region that a modern Boston University professor was able to determine that, on average, spring flowers in Concord are blooming 20 days earlier. The work is being featured in a special exhibit at the Concord Museum through Sept. 15.

Philadelphia's Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University is known for its wealth of early data.

Its herbarium—with 400,000 specimens from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland—was crucial to Panchen, who at the time was in the Longwood graduate program at the University of Delaware.

In recent years, volunteers at the North American Bird Phenology Program have begun to transcribe more than 1.2 million bird-migration records—most of them handwritten on old cards—that were collected between 1881 and 1970.

The idea is to digitize the records and make them more researcher-friendly.

None too soon. Within the last month, the level of heat-trapping carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, as measured at a key station in Hawaii, has breached levels that haven't been seen in millions of years.

''All the models say changes are going to accelerate,'' Husic said, The more data, the better.

AMERICAN FAMILIES CANNOT AFFORD OBAMACARE

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

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, two-thirds of the uninsured say they may not purchase insurance under ObamaCare. A new survey of the uninsured says only 19 percent will opt for coverage by January 1, meaning that only the sickest will buy insurance, driving up the cost of health care for all of us.

In fact, 61 percent expect their health care costs to go up as a result of ObamaCare. You may recall that earlier this year a Federal analysis estimated that the cheapest health insurance plan available for a family in 2016 will cost no less than $20,000 a year per family.

And it's not just the uninsured who are filled with uncertainty about ObamaCare. More than two-thirds of small business owners surveyed by the U.S. Chamber say ObamaCare will make it harder for them to hire more employees. Many are busily converting employees to part-time as we speak.

American families cannot afford ObamaCare. It must be repealed, just as I and my Federal Republicans, and even some Democrats, have voted to do.

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WEBER of Texas). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, tonight the Congressional Black Caucus comes before this body and the American people for the next hour to talk about important issues facing our country.

Tonight, we will discuss the problem of poverty in America and what we can do to bring more Americans into the middle class. From SNAP to the earned income tax credit, from Head Start to TRIO and GEAR UP, we have effective programs that reduce poverty and open

up opportunities for people in the low income. Unfortunately, these programs are often the first targeted for cuts.

When you are worrying where your next meal is going to come from, you probably don't have a lot of time to lobby Congress. Well, tonight, we're here to speak to these important issues, and we're also here to listen. So, hopefully, we will be able to answer some questions from our constituents from across America.

If you're watching and you have something that you'd like to let us know about, get on Twitter and tweet #CBCtalks, and we'll do our best to answer your questions.

At this time, I'd like to turn to the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, the gentlelady from Ohio, the woman providing tremendous leadership to the members of the Congressional Black Caucus to bring forward the issues that are facing so many American families, and those families particularly in poverty today, they have a voice, and for the next hour we're going to bring their voice to this body here in Congress.

Ms. FUDGE. Thank you so very, very much for yielding. And I, as always, want to thank Congressmen HORSFORD and JEFFRIES for leading the Congressional Black Caucus hour.

Today's topic is critically important. The rapid rise of poverty and, particularly, the rapid growth of poverty in minority communities, is troubling. The latest Census Bureau numbers report that 15 percent of Americans live in poverty.

The poverty rate among African Americans is nearly double the national rate, 27 percent. And almost 1 in 4 African American children lives in poverty. I'm not sure how many children you come in contact with each day, but this statistic means that every fourth African American child you see lives a life of struggle. Food is scarce in their home. Their neighborhoods are riddled with crime. There is no guarantee that the lights and heat will be on when they come home from school each day.

As our economy sputters and more Americans slip below the poverty line, Federal anti-poverty programs are essential. Yet, over the last year, conservatives on and off the Hill have begun to spin a story of how anti-poverty programs have done nothing but foster a culture of dependency.

On Capitol Hill, lawmakers have used this narrative over and over again, giving them license to place social safety net programs on the chopping block. While the Republican budget retains tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans, it places Social Security and Medicare on the chopping block.

House leadership will send a farm bill to the floor that reduces total spending by almost $40 billion over 10 years. And what's most troubling, more than half of the cuts come from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, otherwise known as SNAP, otherwise known as food stamps. This bill alone would cut off nearly 2 million people from SNAP.

Making matters worse, anti-poverty programs around the country are reducing services because of sequester. Our communities cannot continue to face cut after cut, while Washington does little to create economic opportunity.

This week we will consider the Military Construction and Veterans' Affairs appropriations bill. I want to make sure we bring attention to the vast poverty plaguing veterans. As our troops come home from Iraq and Afghanistan, the United States must prepare for their return. Many of our vets will need help from local safety net programs; but due to budget cuts, help is not guaranteed. As the statistics show, homelessness will be the reality of thousands of returning veterans.

This Congress cannot continue to ignore poverty in our communities. This Congress cannot ignore the fact that nearly 1½ million veterans live in poverty. America cannot be complicit in allowing families, children, and our Nation's veterans to struggle without assistance, not now, not ever.

□ 1940

The CBC will continue to advocate for policies that eliminate persistent poverty. We will rightfully defend critically important antipoverty programs. Our goal is to create opportunities for all Americans—opportunities that help improve lives and move people closer to achieving their version of the American Dream.

Mr. HORSFORD. Thank you for your leadership and for fighting the fight on this very important issue of poverty in America.

Over the last week, we had our work period. And I had the opportunity to be in my district, Mr. Speaker. One of the things we did was an outreach event where we had a ''Commuting with your Congressman.'' I boarded a bus—public transportation in my district—and I met and listened to my constituents for 4 hours as we traveled throughout the various corners of my district—from Centennial Hills to downtown to the new veterans' hospital, where our veterans literally board a bus in a wheelchair—to listen to the struggle that so many Americans are facing; the fact that they are even struggling to make ends meet. There was a mom who boarded the bus who said it takes 2 hours each way to get to work. They can't always make it to a town hall meeting. They can't always come to our district offices. But they deserve to have a voice here in Washington on these important issues.

So much of what this Congress is talking about is the budget and the priorities of the budget. Well, that mom is a priority of mine. That veteran who takes public transportation to get to their veterans' appointment is a priority of mine. That young man who is 17 years old and going to his first job interview so that he can work his way through college is a priority of mine. And it's a priority of my colleagues who are here tonight, along with the cochair for the CBC hour, Mr. JEFFRIES from New York. We're going to bring a voice to these issues tonight—and everyday—as the CBC does.

At this time I would like to turn to my colleague who cochairs Poverty and the Economy for the CBC, as well as chairing the whip's task force on eliminating poverty, the gentlelady from California, Representative LEE.

Ms. LEE of California. First, let me thank my colleague for your tremendous leadership and yourself and Congressman JEFFRIES for leading the charge on another timely and important topic: the ongoing crisis of poverty. You both are continuing in the tradition of the Congressional Black Caucus being the conscience of the Congress. And so thank you very much for your leadership and for your commitment to the least of these. I think in your remarks, Congressman HORSFORD, you laid it out as clear as anyone could lay it out.

As the cochair of the Congressional Black Caucus' Poverty and Economy Task Force, as well as, as Congressman HORSFORD said, the chair of the new Whip Task Force on Poverty and Opportunity, let me just highlight how truly important it is to continue to, first, fund programs that lift Americans out of poverty. Income inequality continues to grow. Unfortunately, too many people who are working are poor, and they're living on the edge. It's truly unacceptable that 46 million people in our country live in poverty in the richest and most powerful country in the world. And 16 million of those are children. In communities of color, poverty rates are even worse. A staggering 27 percent of African Americans are living in poverty. And so the Congressional Black Caucus, through the tremendous leadership of our chairwoman, Congresswoman MARCIA FUDGE, has made the eradication of poverty a key priority.

Our policies and programs addressing poverty have not kept pace with the growing needs of millions of Americans. It is time that we make a commitment to confront poverty head on, create pathways out of poverty and provide opportunities for all. Yes, we want to make sure the middle class is strong and survives and the middle class does not fall back into poverty. But we have many, many people who are not even part of the middle class and who are striving and working hard just to maintain and take care of their families and who would one day like to be part of the middle class. And so the Congressional Black Caucus and our whip task force and many in this body continue to speak on their behalf and represent them.

That's why many of our CBC colleagues and I came together to introduce H.R. 2182, which is the Half-in-Ten Act of 2013. The Half-in-Ten Act would

establish the Federal agency working group on reducing poverty. The working group will develop and implement a national strategy to reduce poverty in half in 10 years, as well as provide regular reports of its progress to Congress and the American people. Our Nation needs a coordinated and comprehensive plan to bring an end to poverty in America. It is morally right, economically sound, and fiscally prudent.

So I urge all of our colleagues to join us and support the Half-in-Ten Act. It's beyond time that we put the ongoing crises of poverty on the front burner for this country. Yet the draconian sequester and harmful budget cuts to vital human-needs programs are only making things worse for struggling families.

I serve on the Budget Committee and the Appropriations Committee. It was mind-boggling to hear the other side talk about a commitment to reducing poverty. Yet they gut the vital programs, the ladders of opportunity, the pathways out of poverty such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, better known as food stamps; the Women, Infants, and Children program, or WIC; Meals on Wheels; the Earned Income Tax Credit, and all of these programs that lift people out of poverty.

Our chair mentioned the House farm bill. Let me emphasize this again. The reauthorization includes more than $20 billion in harmful and fiscally irresponsible cuts to the food stamp program, our Nation's first line of defense against hunger. Not only is cutting SNAP morally wrong, it's economically bankrupt. Cuts to nutrition programs will cost the government more money in the long run, but also it is just probably the worst thing that I have ever seen proposed.

As a former food stamp recipient myself, I know firsthand how important these safety net programs are. I would not be here today if it were not for the lifeline that the American people extended to me when I was a single mother struggling to care for my kids. No one wants to be on food stamps. No one. Everyone wants a job. They want to take care of their kids. But there are bumps in the road and the economy has not turned around for many. And so that bridge over troubled waters needs to be there.

So a $20 billion cut, people cannot afford that. Our economy cannot support that. Hungry children do not deserve these cuts. And cuts to any hunger program will have further cascading impacts that will create a bleaker future for our children. Communities of color, again, especially African American communities, will feel these impacts even more. African American communities have higher infant mortality rates, diabetes, HIV and AIDS and are more likely to be uninsured. If we continue to balance our budget on the backs of the most vulnerable, we will surely push these families over the edge. That is why members of the Congressional Black Caucus will do everything in our power to ensure that our Nation's most vulnerable are protected.

Starting next week, in an effort to highlight the impact of any further cuts to our Nation's food and nutrition programs, myself, as well as Congressman JIM MCGOVERN; our Congressional Black Caucus chair, MARCIA FUDGE; Congresswoman JAN SCHAKOWSKY; our Democratic vice chair, JOE CROWLEY; and others are, leading and taking part in the food stamp challenge.

□ 1950

We need to raise the level of awareness of what is taking place here in Washington, D.C. So we are going to commit ourselves to limiting our food budget to the average SNAP benefit for a week; that's $1.50 per person per meal. We will show how vital it is to strengthen and fully fund SNAP, and we're asking all of those who can do so to join with us. We will just be on this for a day or a week. Millions of people will live daily on $4.50 with no end in sight.

Finally, let me just say we must protect the most vulnerable and grow the economy and our antipoverty programs like SNAP, which is one of the best programs to do that.

So I urge my colleagues to reject these cuts, stop sequestration, and let's work together to create jobs—because that's what everyone needs and wants—and lift the economy for all.

Thank you again for your leadership.

Mr. HORSFORD. Thank you, Congresswoman. Let me just engage you for a moment because you hit on a number of points.

I want, again, to make sure that we are providing a voice to these very important issues. And to follow the conversation, if you're tuning in, go to our hashtag at #CBCTalks.

But you focused on the fact that nearly 46 million people in our country live in poverty; 16 million of them are children. You talked about the poverty line. In 2013, the poverty line for an individual is $11,490. For a family of four, it's $23,550.

So can you elaborate further on the SNAP program, how that program provides for a safety net for individuals and how is it that a family of four in America can survive on $23,550 a year?

Ms. LEE of California. Thank you very much, Congressman HORSFORD, for that question and for laying the facts out.

There's no way a family can survive on $23,000 a year in America, I don't care what region that they live in. Secondly—and Congressman ELLISON is going to speak in a moment—the Progressive Caucus held a hearing, and we talked with low-wage workers, workers who are actually working for Federal Government contractors in our Nation's capital making $6, $7, $8 an hour. You know what? These are working men and women who need food stamps. They're working each and every day, 10, 12 hours a day.

So when you look at what a cut like this would do, first, you have people who are making $6 or $7 an hour, living on $23,000 a year, family of four, and then you're going to cut their food supply. I mean, people are going to go hungry. We are going to see an increase in hunger both in rural communities and in urban communities in our country. In the long run, it's going to just cost us. If people just care about the fiscal impact—which I hope everyone in this body cares about, first, the human and the moral impact, but also the economy and the economic impact—you know, we're going to pay in the long run.

So it's just wrong and it doesn't make any economic sense. There's no way people in this country, in America, the wealthiest and most powerful country in the world, can survive off of $23,000 a year. We need to, first of all, raise the minimum wage. We need a living wage. In my region, it would be about $25 an hour. People deserve to live the American Dream, and they're not.

Mr. HORSFORD. Well, I know the challenge is something that you have called upon for people to accept. This is a reality for 16 million children, 46 million Americans who are living at this level now. The average meal is $1.48 per meal.

Ms. LEE of California. $4.50 a day, Congressman HORSFORD. And let me tell you, these people are living in our districts, in Democratic Members of Congress' districts and Republicans' districts and Independents' districts. They're in rural communities and in urban communities. So, unfortunately, it's an equal opportunity.

Mr. HORSFORD. Poverty is not partisan.

Ms. LEE of California. No way. So we need bipartisan support to begin to eliminate poverty.

Mr. HORSFORD. Thank you very much, Congresswoman LEE. Thank you for your leadership and for those solutions that you're offering to help move people out of poverty and into the middle class and recognizing that many of these programs that those on the other side propose to cut are actually safety nets.

The sequester alone would cut $85 billion but would directly affect 50 million Americans living below the poverty income line. So they're hurting the very people that we should be sustaining during these difficult economic times.

Ms. LEE of California. Adding insult to injury. That's what's happening here.

Mr. HORSFORD. At this time, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to turn to my colleague, the gentlelady of Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE), the alum of TRIO. She is a dynamic leader who talks so much about the need to help young people get the quality education, particularly first generation college students. I know we're having a college student debate right now on whether or not

we're going to allow student loan rates to double on July 1. The Republican plan puts students in debt, provides no certainty. We're hoping that between now and July 1 we will come up with a bipartisan solution that will keep our college loan rates and will address the more comprehensive need to make college more affordable.

I defer to the gentlelady from Wisconsin, Congresswoman MOORE.

Ms. MOORE. I want to thank you so much, Representative HORSFORD from Nevada—and Representative HAKEEM JEFFRIES as well, who is here with us—for focusing on this effort and to conduct, this evening, this Special Order on lifting Americans out of poverty.

You know, it was very, very difficult to listen to Representative BARBARA LEE provide those data and those statistics of the numbers of Americans who are living in poverty. Reflecting on my own personal experience, reflecting on what I see every single day among my constituents, the stark poverty, especially of children, it is very, very difficult to talk about this because this is just not abstract; this is very real.

For the purposes of this discussion though, with your permission, Representative HORSFORD, I would like to just modify your motto or your theme for one moment. Instead of talking about lifting Americans out of poverty, I'd like to talk about lifting America out of poverty.

You see, America is heading down the road to not just having 46 million Americans living in poverty, not just having half of Americans during the recession relying on food stamps and having that as their only means of support, not just having African Americans or Hispanics or those living in stark rural poverty being the victims of poverty, but having poverty pervade our entire community. Because we, by not investing in educational opportunity of young people, are eating our seed corn.

Rice farmers have taught us not to eat our seed corn. They say that when we do that, when you plant something, you eat a certain portion of it and you preserve some of it so that you can plant and have a harvest for the future. Those people who eat their seed corn are committing an act of desperation. And that is what we're doing by cutting off educational opportunity to programs.

I'm specifically talking about TRIO. TRIO is a set of federally funded college and university-based educational opportunity outreach programs that modify and support students from low-income backgrounds from first generations. It's not a race-based program, but it includes military veterans, students with disabilities. Currently, they serve about 790,000 students from middle schools through postgraduate studies.

These programs are very, very important because we have found that there aren't enough trust fund kids, Representative HORSFORD, to really put this country on a sustainable course of graduating enough high-skilled workers and innovators for our country to enjoy the kind of economic hegemony in a global economy. There aren't enough.

If we graduated every high school senior this June, if every single high school senior went to college, it still would not be enough in order for us to reach those goals of maintaining global hegemony. Yet we have allowed, since 2005, the TRIO programs to lose $66 million in funding, which translates into 88,000 fewer low-income and potential first-generation students—including adult learners, military veterans, and students with disabilities—to study.

Of course, under sequestration, which went into effect March 1, TRIO has received another $42 million cut, which means that in the beginning of the 2013–2014 program year, individual grant awards will be reduced by 5 percent. That translates into 40,000 fewer students to be served by TRIO.

□ 2000

Now, as I indicated in the beginning of my discussion here, this program is a set of programs that seek to identify brilliant students, but for their income, or but for their having not been born into a family where college was a tradition, who can contribute to the growth of our economy in our society.

Talent Search is a very low-cost early invention program which identifies students with college potential in grades 6 through 12. They really work toward giving students information about going to college. Seventy-nine percent of Talent Search participants were admitted to postsecondary institutions.

Upper Bound is an intensive intervention program that prepares students for higher education. Seventy-seven percent of these students who participated in Upper Bound enrolled in college.

The Upper Bound Math/Science program—which we know we need more of them—is a model similar to Upper Bound; 86.5 percent of these students go on to college.

We have Veterans Upper Bound and Student Support Services. Again, the numbers are very, very high for students who matriculate and complete in these programs.

The Educational Opportunity Centers is a program where we have reached back for displaced workers, people who have not been in college, and bring them back into the fold. We have seen a 57 percent increase in the number of participants who have been college dropouts that have re-enrolled or displaced workers.

We also have the Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program—named after the famous astronaut who lost his life—which prepares low-income minority students for doctoral programs.

I will yield to you for questions, Mr. HORSFORD, but just let me finish this segment by reiterating this point. If we fail to invest in young people, I mean starting out with starving them—you know I'm still reeling from the comments of my colleague BARBARA LEE because the food stamp bill that is before us will have nearly a quarter of a million students lose their free lunch program. And the majority of folks who are served by the food stamp program are not these welfare queens or slick hustlers; they're elderly children and disabled people—so if we as a country have decided that we don't need to feed babies, we're eating our seed corn, and that is an act of desperation that will take us down a perilous road.

Mr. HORSFORD. Thank you, Congresswoman MOORE. I couldn't agree with you more when you talk about, first and foremost, your last point, which is if we fail to invest in our children, in our elderly, and in the disabled, then we have done a disservice to them and to society as a whole.

Ms. MOORE. That's exactly right, because we can't lift America out of poverty without lifting Americans out of poverty. We are a family.

Mr. HORSFORD. And so a lot of times when these programs get talked about, the various acronyms, billions of dollars here and billions of dollars there—waste, fraud, and abuse I know gets brought up oftentimes as kind of the red herring in the room in a lot of our committee hearings—but really the reality is there's a face behind each one of these programs. There's real people depending on them—as you indicate, the 250,000 children who would lose free and reduced-cost lunches.

How is a child supposed to learn if they're hungry? How are they supposed to focus if they haven't been able to see a doctor or see a dentist? These are real issues that are facing this Congress. And I know a lot of times, again, those on the other side somehow want to make this out to be more than what it is on people, and how it affects people.

Ms. MOORE. Well, I can tell you, we can have a society by design or by default. We can just let it all go as it will.

I was very moved earlier by the tribute that our colleagues on a bipartisan basis made to Senator LAUTENBERG upon his passing. And once again, here's an example of an American who ultimately became very wealthy, but it was because America embraced him with their values.

He went to school on the GI bill. He was able to go to school. He did not have any wealth. And because he was an American and an American soldier, he was able to benefit from our community of interests to build not only a great senator, but great economic enterprises and a lot of jobs that he created. That's the way America is supposed to work. And we need to realize that educational opportunity is one of our basic strategies for staying on top in a global economy.

Mr. HORSFORD. ''Opportunity'' I think is the key word there, Mr. Speaker. This isn't about a handout, this isn't about providing social services; it's about opportunity. Education is one of those most fundamental opportunities. And you, again, as an alum of TRIO programs and an advocate for funding up TRIO/GEARUP, these programs which provide tremendous opportunity to particularly first generation college students, those who may not have even had the knowledge of how to go about applying to enroll, let alone financial aid and scholarships—but yet it's that opportunity, that door to opportunity that then leads to careers and their ability to contribute, to sustain for themselves and their family.

That's what we're talking about, Mr. Speaker, is providing that opportunity. And right now we're having this big debate of whether that opportunity should come with a huge burden of debt.

Ms. MOORE. Exactly.

Mr. HORSFORD. Because if they finish school, when they finish school, should they be so far in debt they can't afford to buy a home, to buy a car, to start saving for their future, or should they be focused on paying $1,000, $1,500, $2,000 a month in debt for college loans?

Ms. MOORE. And that is an extremely important point, because these young people who are going to college are doing us a favor to become educated. The jobs, you know, making the widgets, are dying out from not only technology but from outsourcing.

We are going to only win this game by having the highest skilled worker, whether it be in farming or manufacturing or research and development. And to see this Congress gutting research and development, anything that looks academic or associated with intelligence or studying at all, it's just across the board decimating it. Again, it's eating our seed corn. Hopefully we can reverse this curse before they get too far down the line.

Thank you so much for letting me participate in this Special Order.

Mr. HORSFORD. Of course. And with your voice and your continued participation I'm sure we will do just that, which is to continue to advocate for these as priorities.

And I do want to go, as I turn to my colleague from North Carolina, the vice chairman of the CBC, to a quick question that came in from the Twitter line. It's from Dr. Davis 920, who asks: How can we increase money in underserved areas for students from high school to college instead of doing more with less funding?

I'm going to ask our vice chairman if he would tackle that question as he provides his response.

I yield now to the gentleman from North Carolina, Congressman BUTTERFIELD.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Well, let me thank you, Mr. HORSFORD. I have a few points that I want to make.

Do you have an idea of how much time we have remaining so I can allocate my time?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Nevada has 26 minutes remaining.

□ 2010

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. HORSFORD, I think the question that has been raised by the gentleman is a very pertinent point.

We have seen over the last 18 to 24 months some very deep cuts in our Federal budget. There are some who believe that discretionary spending is too much and that we need to engage in what I call ''draconian cuts'' to discretionary spending. Because of that, we've seen discretionary accounts reduced significantly, and it's going to affect what the gentleman has in mind. It's going to affect not only higher education but public education as well.

Mr. HORSFORD, I want to thank you for allowing me to say a few words here this evening. This is a very appropriate conversation for the Congressional Black Caucus to have. I want to thank you and Mr. JEFFRIES for coming to the floor each week and for lifting up the issues that the Congressional Black Caucus feels are so vitally important for us to debate here in this Congress.

Ms. FUDGE has left the floor, but I certainly want to thank MARCIA FUDGE of Ohio, the chair of our caucus, for all that she does. She somehow just stays in perpetual motion, and her staff works so very closely with her. I just want to thank her publicly for all that she does, not only for the people of Ohio, but for us here in the Congress.

And what can I say about BARBARA LEE? BARBARA LEE has been talking about issues of poverty ever since I came to this place 9 years ago, and I just want to associate myself with everything that she has said and with everything that Congresswoman GWEN MOORE said just a moment ago.

Mr. HORSFORD, I don't know much about your State of Nevada, but I can tell you a lot about my State of North Carolina. I can tell you that these are some tough times. These are tough times for poor people. These are tough times for rural communities all across America. I represent one of the poorest districts in the whole country in which one in four people in my district, Mr. Speaker, including 36 percent of children, live at or below the poverty level. That's a statistic that is worth bearing. I want to repeat it: 36 percent of the children who live in my congressional district live below the poverty level. That is unacceptable.

The poverty problem in America is actually getting worse. At a time when it should be getting better, it is actually getting worse. There is a huge difference, there is a huge gap, between the haves and the have-nots. The poverty rate now is the highest that it has been in the last 20 years; and in rural North Carolina, median household incomes have dropped since the year 2000.

My district has vivid and unfortunate illustrations of poverty. For example, nearly one in 20 homes in some counties does not have a telephone or a kitchen. A lot of my friends in urban communities cannot relate to that, but nearly one in 20 homes in some counties does not have a telephone or a kitchen. Many of my constituents are still living without indoor plumbing in the year 2013. The time to invest in our children and in our Nation's future is now.

We must first undo the cuts from sequestration. The gentleman who sent us the message a few moments ago may have been referring to sequestration. We must undo the cuts that we are seeing involving sequestration. They are devastating to our communities all across the country. Sequestration has slashed Head Start funding, impacting thousands and thousands of children. It has cut job search assistance for thousands of people. It eliminated millions of dollars from the meals for low-income seniors program. Sequestration cut nutrition funding for 600,000 women and children all across the country, housing and emergency shelter funding for nearly 100,000 homeless people and emergency unemployment compensation benefits by nearly 11 percent.

Instead of indiscriminately cutting funding for critical economic development programs, we must invest in programs. I think, Mr. HORSFORD, that's what you've been saying each week that we have this conversation. We must invest in programs which give people a hand up toward making it on their own, important programs such as emergency unemployment insurance, the Workforce Investment Act, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, and the special supplemental nutrition program for Women, Infants, and Children—we call it the WIC program—which gives people the ability to provide for their families.

The House version of the farm bill, which has been alluded to by the two previous speakers, cuts $20 billion from the SNAP program. That is unthinkable. The House version of the farm bill has cut $20 billion from the SNAP program. SNAP is not a government throwaway or a handout. SNAP moneys go directly to needy families that are in need the most. We are talking about seniors and children and families who need it the most. Republican proposals to slash funding for a program that feeds poor people is simply unacceptable.

There is hope on the horizon for some of our country's poor and uninsured. We can be encouraged that the Affordable Care Act will be fully implemented in just a few months, helping some of the one and a quarter million uninsured people in my State qualify for affordable health coverage through the marketplace.

I will say in closing that the Congressional Black Caucus is very concerned about poverty. We have constructed a plan to address persistent poverty. We

are alarmed that so many communities all across the country have experienced a poverty level that exceeds 20 percent and that has persisted now for more than 30 years. So our plan in the Congressional Black Caucus is to target Federal resources and Census tracts that have high levels of unemployment and high levels of poverty. We call it the 10–20–30 plan. We must do it. We have to do it for the sake of America.

Mr. HORSFORD. Thank you again to our vice chairman for the Congressional Black Caucus, the gentleman from North Carolina.

I really want to commend you for being very plain with how desperate the situation is for so many people. You talked about 36 percent of the people in North Carolina, in parts of your district, who are living in poverty and about the fact that they are going without basic fundamentals, things that many of us probably just take for granted in America. There are people in America who are going without the basics, and that is not something often that's talked about here in Washington, definitely not in this House. When so much attention is placed on corporate special interests and subsidies for big corporations, it's time that we start changing the debate and focusing on the people who most need government support, and those are the people you just talked about, so I commend you for that.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Poverty is all around us, Mr. HORSFORD, whether it's in my district or in your district or in any of my colleagues' districts. Poverty is persistent, and it's all across America. It's within the shadows of this Capitol. When I drive home in just a few minutes here in Washington, I will go right through some very poor, low-income communities within blocks of this Capitol. We must do better. We have got to address as a Congress the whole issue of poverty.

Mr. HORSFORD. You were very clear, and I know Mr. CLYBURN would expect nothing less than for us to lay out what our position is.

I know some people ask: What is the Congressional Black Caucus' position on how to address poverty?

You touched on it. It's the 10–20–30 policy. This means that 10 percent of funds from certain accounts would be directed to areas that have had a poverty rate of 20 percent for the last 30 years in America.

So, rather than spending money everywhere, let's spend it where there is the most need, the most critical need, and where there has been a generational need now for 30 years so that we can see the type of outcomes, the return on investment and the change that people so desperately need.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Absolutely.

Mr. HORSFORD. Thank you to the gentleman from North Carolina.

Now I would like to turn to the co-chairman of the Progressive Caucus, the gentleman from Minnesota. I want to commend the gentleman and the Progressive Caucus because I know you had a hearing before the recess in which you brought low-income wage earners and had a special hearing to listen to their concerns and on how working people, really the working poor, are struggling. I would like to yield to the gentleman from Minnesota at this time.

□ 2020

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I just want to say that the Congressman from Nevada, my friend STEVE HORSFORD, and HAKEEM JEFFRIES are doing such an awesome job. I'm so proud to see you gentlemen holding forth about the issues that affect this whole country and things that the Congressional Black Caucus, of which we are all members, are doing.

I also just want to let people know who may be tuned in, Mr. Speaker, there are people in this Congress who believe that hard work should be rewarded, who believe that when people get up in the morning, pound it out all day to put food on the table for their families, that it is nothing less than an insult for somebody else who is living in plenty to look back on them and say, You're not working hard enough; you're not doing quite enough.

The fact is that sometimes hardworking people need the help of their government. There's no shame in that. There is nothing wrong with that. Lord knows, Apple Computer agrees that sometimes hardworking people need the help of their government.

The fact of the matter is that we did have a hearing and that hearing did involve low-wage workers, people making $7, $8, $8.25 an hour, some of whom were working for contractors who had contracts with the Federal Government, people who were literally working in buildings like Union Station, like the Reagan building, Federal buildings across Washington but also across this country, who were not working for the Federal Government but were working for contractors who had contracts with the Federal Government, paying them $8 an hour, a wage that is not livable, is not sustainable.

Folks often speak derisively, Mr. Speaker, about low-income folks. They'll say, Why don't they make more money? What's wrong with them? They're working 8 hours a day. They're working 40 hours a week. They're working three jobs, but they can still barely put food on the table, and they're raising their children. They need food stamps. And if we cut the food stamp budget by $20 billion, we're going to be cutting families who work hard at two or three jobs every day.

I've heard my Republican friends talk about this cultural dependency. Somehow that moral judgment—you know, the Good Book says, Judge not, lest ye be judged.

Mr. HORSFORD. What's ironic about the culture of dependency is they never talk about it when we bring up corporate welfare and corporate entitlements.

If we really want to talk about entitlements and who is depending upon government, then let's put it all on the table: the billions of dollars that go to special interests, but yet we want to take away services for poor, needy children, families, the elderly, and the disabled. That's really the comparison.

Mr. ELLISON. The gentleman is absolutely right.

I mean, it is utter hypocrisy to sit up here and talk about the cultural dependency and not talk about corporate welfare.

Senator BERNIE SANDERS and I—an awesome gentleman, by the way—have a bill called the End Corporate Welfare Act in which we identify $110 billion worth of corporate giveaways to Big Oil, Big Coal, and Big Natural Gas.

Look, these are industries that are making record profits. ExxonMobil is not having any trouble. Why do they need the American people's money? Why do they need a subsidy? Well, they're getting one, and yet people in this very body are willing to stand back and say that poor folks working three or four jobs need to have their money cut. I mean, it is astounding. It is shocking how hypocritical some of things that we see go on now.

I just want to the say this, Mr. Speaker. This is a country of, by, and for the people. It's a country designed to let the voice of the people be heard, and yet sometimes the people's voice is muted because it's so difficult for the average person to take off time to come down here to talk about what they want to talk about, to be able to access their government.

So these are times when you and Mr. JEFFRIES can come down here and talk about the importance of food stamps, of TRIO, and talk about the absolute concentration of wealth at the very tip-top of the economic stream in this committee.

I'm going to wrap up here, Mr. HORSFORD, but I just want to wrap up by saying this: working people around this country need to know that when poverty increases, the money just doesn't disappear; it goes to the very top of the economy. That is why, since about 2008, if you look at the newly created wealth in this economy, about 93 percent of it went to the top 1 percent.

My friends in the Republican caucus believe that rich people don't have enough money and poor people have too much, which is why they want to cut food stamps and cut taxes for the richest people. One of them even said to me one time, KEITH, a poor person has never given me a job.

Like, wow. That's the attitude we're dealing with.

The bottom line, Mr. HORSFORD, is that low-income workers are taking matters in their own hands. Low-income workers in Detroit and Chicago and New York and St. Louis, even here in Washington, D.C., have come together and had strikes—even McDonald's workers—in order to get better

pay. They are brave and they are courageous. They're taking their families' needs in their own hands. We wish them the best. We had a hearing so they could let their voices be heard.

But if we had a functioning National Labor Relations Board, would they need to go on strike and risk their jobs? If we had a social safety net, would they be in such dire straits? If we made sure that American workers had an increase in the minimum wage and we were paying a livable wage, would they be in this situation?

The American people are standing up for a better life, but the truth is public policies are failing them and we've got to do better. We can start by getting rid of sequester and getting rid of this very bad idea of cutting $20 billion out of supplemental nutrition.

Thank you for your excellent work.

Mr. HORSFORD. Thank you to the gentleman from Minnesota, and, again, thank you for your leadership. On behalf of the Progressive Caucus, we work together here to try to bring these issues forward and we appreciate your hard work.

I'm so pleased to be joined by the co-anchor for this hour, my good friend, the gentleman from New York, who represents, I think, a community that has constituents who are struggling, like many constituents in my district, the Fourth District in Nevada.

So I just want to pose the question to you, Mr. JEFFRIES, around this whole issue of income inequality that we just spent nearly the hour talking about. The fact that it's increased by more over the last 3 years than in the previous 12 years, that under the Republican policies, the budget that they proposed, middle class families with children pay, on average, $3,000 more in taxes, but yet higher tax cuts, upwards of $245,000, were given to some of the wealthiest in America, and here we've heard about so many programs such as SNAP to GEAR UP to TRIO, funding for K–12 education, for Head Start, $20 billion cuts to SNAP that are on the cutting board, and yet we are giving tax cuts to wealthy Americans and corporate subsidies, what do you say about that, my friend from New York?

I yield to you at this time.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I want to thank my good friend, the distinguished gentleman from the Silver State, for once again anchoring this the CBC Special Order, this hour of power where, for the 60 minutes that we've been allotted, we in the Congressional Black Caucus have an opportunity to speak directly to the American people on an issue of great significance, income inequality, which, as you have pointed out Representative HORSFORD, has increased, has gotten worse, not better, in recent years and, in fact, in recent decades. It's a very troubling trend.

The fact is, in America, we celebrate success, celebrate entrepreneurship and the ability of people to prosper. But we in the CBC think that America is at its greatest when we promote progress for everybody, when we work as hard as we can in this Congress and this country to lift the entire civic participation rates and economic participation rates of everybody in this country.

For the last several decades, objectively and empirically, the rich have gotten richer. They've seen their incomes increase since 1979 in excess of 275 percent. In isolation, that wouldn't be problematic. But when you consider what has happened to the least of those amongst us, to middle-income Americans as well, the situation is extremely troubling. The poor in many instances have gotten poorer, and working families and middle class folks and those who aspire to be part of the middle class are still struggling. In many instances, they've been left behind.

□ 2030

Now it has often been said that when Wall Street catches a cold, many low-income Americans get a fever. Well, we know in 2008, Wall Street, in fact, Representative HORSFORD, got the flu. And ever since, many low-income communities across this great country have been dealing with economic pneumonia. That's bad for the country, that's bad for our democracy, and we here in the country ought to do something about it.

Now, since the collapse of the economy in 2008, one of the things that has exacerbated the income and inequality dynamic is the fact that some Americans have recovered, but others have been left behind. We are in the midst of a very schizophrenic economic situation right now. Corporate profits are way up. The stock market is way up. The productivity of the American worker is way up. Yet unemployment remains stubbornly high and wages for working families and for low-income Americans has remained stagnant.

That's why we're arguing in the CBC that what we should be doing in America right now is investing in our economy, lifting up low-income workers and working families and those who aspire to be part of the middle class; invest in education; invest in job training; invest in research and development; invest in transportation and infrastructure and technology and innovation. Invest in America in these ways. Put people back to work so we can increase consumer demand; and if you increase consumer demand, the economy is going to grow. And if the economy grows, then the deficit as a percentage of GDP will reduce itself, and everybody benefits.

So if you can't find the compassion simply to do the right thing for those low-income Americans who are struggling here in this great country, basic economic theory suggests that the right thing to do would be to provide support to those Americans who will spend that additional income that they have, put it into the economy in order to help create a more robust recovery.

So I thank the gentleman from Nevada for his leadership on this issue of great importance.

Mr. HORSFORD. I thank, again, my good friend from New York, Mr. JEFFRIES. I just want to ask you, the proposal by the CBC which supports a 10–20–30 policy for Federal spending, how do you feel this would improve outcomes, address prioritizing of resources, and create the type of positive impact that would ultimately lead to reduced poverty in America?

Mr. JEFFRIES. Well, we don't need slash-and-burn budgets that reduce our investment in social safety net programs that are an important part of who we are in America. What we should be doing, consistent with the 10–20–30 proposal, is targeting our investment in a way that is nonpartisan in nature, that will direct resources to rural America and to urban America, to blue States and to red States, that will focus on the poverty problem in a way that will benefit Americans no matter where they might be. That's what we should be doing as a Congress. That's what 10–20–30 is all about, and I'm hopeful that we can find our way to a bipartisan meeting of the minds, find common ground, and engage in investing in programs that will lift people out of poverty in this great country.

Mr. HORSFORD. I thank my friend and co-anchor and those who have listened for the last hour. Thank you for joining the conversation at #CBCTalks, and we are going to continue this conversation because 46 million people in our country live in poverty; 16 million of them are children. The U.S. poverty rate has risen and approaches a 50-year high. There's no way in America a family of four can live on $23,550 and not expect some type of support.

So these are the issues that we're confronting, Mr. Speaker. We want to work with our colleagues on the other side, but we want to do it in a way that addresses the root causes of the issue.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and insert additional materials on this topic and also House Resolution 242.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the ongoing crisis of poverty in some of the most vulnerable communities in our country. In the United States, one out of every three African American children lives in poverty, which is three times higher than the rate of white American children living in poverty. Over 30 percent of African American children suffer from food insecurity—more than twice the rate of food insecurity among white children. At the same time, residents of predominantly black or Hispanic neighborhoods have access to about half as many social services as residents of predominantly white neighborhoods.

These disparities are unacceptable. Every American deserves enough food to eat and an equal opportunity to get a quality education, a good job, and safe housing.

Our Nation's basic social safety net improves access to affordable housing, childhood education, and adequate nutrition, and serves as a lifeline for millions of Americans. Providing a helping hand to the nearly 50 million Americans who are living in poverty should be at the forefront of Congress' priorities. Instead, we are still living with the sequester, which has delivered devastating cuts to many of our essential safety net programs. I call on my colleagues to prioritize our most vulnerable communities and replace the sequester with an agreement that protects vital safety net programs.

In particular, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, helps low-income families across the country put food on the table. Of the 47 million Americans who rely on SNAP for access to nutritious food, nearly half are children. Even more strikingly, nearly half of all American children will receive SNAP benefits at some point in their lives. SNAP is one of our Nation's most effective anti-poverty programs, helping families get back on their feet while providing an economic stimulus to the local economy.

We must not balance our budget on the backs of children and families struggling to make ends meet. With our economy still recovering, it is time to invest in Americans and in our Nation's future, by supporting important programs like SNAP.

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, first I want to thank Mr. HORSFORD and Mr. JEFFRIES for leading this important effort for the CBC this evening—so that we can discuss a particularly important issue for me, my district, and this nation, and that is: "Lifting Americans out of Poverty."

As many of my constituents and colleagues already know, the great recession cost this country roughly 13 trillion dollars in household wealth, and pushed millions of Americans into poverty.

The poverty rate is at levels not seen in twenty years, and the most recent numbers show that more than 46 million Americans are currently living below the poverty line.

The most distressing fact is that the youngest Americans represent a disproportionate share of the poor in the U.S.

Though children make up less than a quarter of the population, they constitute more than one-third of Americans in poverty.

And, studies by the American Psychological Association have found correlations between poverty in children and higher rates of illness, abuse, neglect, developmental and educational delays, participation in risky behaviors such as smoking or sexual activities, and problems with self-esteem and depression.

And worse, growing up in poverty has a lasting negative impact on lifetime earning potential.

As a joint Princeton University—Brookings Institute study reported, the U.S. has decreasing income mobility, and increasing income inequality.

This means that more than ever, youths that grow up in poverty are more likely to remain in poverty for the duration of their lives.

But we have programs designed to buffer our youth from some of the harshest effects of situations for which they deserve no blame, and over which they have no control.

Programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program which provides nutritional support for the most vulnerable families, and which will face cuts in just a few months without intervening Congressional action.

Or programs like Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers. The Housing Choice Vouchers provide subsidies to landlords directly by public housing agencies, to create housing options for very low-income families.

Though it varies from state to state, on average, a family earning $26,000 per year would be making too much to be eligible.

This program for the least fortunate among us will likely have to cut aid to 125,000 families immediately, due to cuts from sequestration.

Or programs like the Earned Income Tax Credit. This tax credit for low-to moderate-income couples, primarily those with qualifying children, not only provides a tax refund to the most deserving, but it dually functions to incent work even if the pay isn't great.

This is the type of progressive tax system that encourages self-sufficiency and in the long-run can reduce the need for government dependence.

Yet even this simple, long-standing beneficial tax credit is being offered up by some as ripe for elimination.

I can talk about the children and families who need these programs, in the abstract, as if they are some sort of different Americans—people who didn't work hard, or didn't spend wisely.

But the reality is: this type of poverty can happen to anyone.

Anyone in this Chamber, or watching at home on Wall Street or Main Street—this can happen to you.

One unexpected illness, one lost job due to "just a bad economy," or one elderly family member whose medical and caretaking bills continue to pile up, and anyone can find themselves unable to make it without a little help.

That's what these vital programs do. That's why these programs are so important.

We as legislators have the opportunity and obligation to make sure that we put safeguards in place to ensure that no one is left out from the chance to pursue the American dream.

It's not just about helping the poorest Americans. It's about doing the right thing to help our neighbors, knowing that at any time, the shoe could be on the other foot.

I thank you for the opportunity to speak on this most important issue.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2216, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2217, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 113–95) on the resolution (H. Res. 243) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2216) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2217) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of personal reasons.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 258. An Act to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to fraudulent representations about having reeived military decorations or medals.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 36 minutes p.m.), under its previous order and pursuant to House Resolution 242, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, June 4, 2013, at 10 a.m., for morning-hour debate, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable FRANK R. LAUTENBERG.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

1689. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's semiannual report from the office of the Inspector General for the period October 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1690. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting the Commission's semiannual report from the office of the Inspector General for the period October 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

[Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 232, the following report was filed on May 28, 2013:]

Mr. CULBERSON: Committee on Appropriations. H.R. 2216. A bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes (Rept. 113–90). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk

for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

[Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 232, the following report was filed on May 29, 2013:]

Mr. CARTER: Committee on Appropriations. H.R. 2217. A bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes (Rept. 113–91). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

[Submitted June 3, 2013]

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 1919. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113–93). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. MILLER of Florida: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 357. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require courses of education provided by public institutions of higher education that are approved for purposes of the educational assistance programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to charge veterans tuition and fees at the in-State tuition rate; with amendments (Rept. 113–94). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida: Committee on Rules. H. Res. 243. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2216) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2217) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes (Rept. 113–95). Referred to the House Calendar.

REPORTED BILL SEQUENTIALLY REFERRED

Under clause 2 of rule XII, bills and reports were delivered to the Clerk for printing, and bills referred as follows:

[Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 232 the following report was filed on May 29, 2013:]

Mr. LUCAS: Committee on Agriculture. H.R. 1947. A bill to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2018, and for other purposes; with an amendment; referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs for a period ending not later than June 7, 2013 for consideration of such provisions of the bill and amendment as fall within the jurisdiction of those committees pursuant to clause 1(i) of rule x; referred to the Committee on the Judiciary for a period ending not later than June 7, 2013 for consideration of such provisions of the bill and amendment as fall within the jurisdiction of those committees pursuant to clause 1(l) of rule x. (Rept. 113–92, Part I). Ordered to be printed.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. ENYART, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. BARROW of Georgia, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. KIND, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. STUTZMAN, Mr. WALZ, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. HARPER, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. GIBBS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. LONG, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. BARR, Mr. ROKITA, Mrs. ELLMERS, Mr. YOUNG of Indiana, Mr. BUCSHON, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. SHIMKUS, and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 2218. A bill to amend subtitle D of the Solid Waste Disposal Act to encourage recovery and beneficial use of coal combustion residuals and establish requirements for the proper management and disposal of coal combustion residuals that are protective of human health and the environment; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 2219. A bill to reauthorize the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, 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. POE of Texas (for himself, Mr. FLORES, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mrs. BLACK, and Mr. GINGREY of Georgia):

H.R. 2220. A bill to provide for operational control of the international border of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, Rules, Energy and Commerce, and Agriculture, 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. CRAWFORD (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, and Mr. WOMACK):

H.R. 2221. A bill to create a centralized website on reports issued by the Inspectors General, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself and Mr. MEADOWS):

H.R. 2222. A bill to prohibit performance awards in the Senior Executive Service during sequestration periods; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. BENISHEK (for himself, Mr. CONYERS, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. CAMP, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. AMASH, Mr. WALBERG, and Mr. KILDEE):

H.R. 2223. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 220 Elm Avenue in Munising, Michigan, as the ''Elizabeth L. Kinnunen Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. DOYLE:

H.R. 2224. A bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to ensure that all dogs and cats used by research facilities are obtained legally; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. HANABUSA:

H.R. 2225. A bill to restore the traditional day of observance of Memorial Day, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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. JOHNSON of Ohio:

H.R. 2226. A bill to amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 relating to State consultation on removal and remedial actions, State concurrence with listing on the National Priorities List, and State credit for contributions to the removal or remedial action, 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 Mrs. NOEM:

H.R. 2227. A bill to improve the response to and prevention of sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. PETRI (for himself and Mr. BUTTERFIELD):

H.R. 2228. A bill to increase assessment accuracy to better measure student achievement and provide States with greater flexibility on assessment design; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. ROSS (for himself and Ms. CASTOR of Florida):

H.R. 2229. A bill to require the Commissioner of Social Security to issue uniform standards for the method for truncation of Social Security account numbers in order to protect such numbers from being used in the perpetration of fraud or identity theft and to provide for a prohibition on the display to the general public on the Internet of Social Security account numbers by State and local governments and private entities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California:

H.R. 2230. A bill to address the prevalence of sexual harassment and sexual assault in the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H. Res. 242. A resolution relating to the death of the Honorable Frank R. Lautenberg, a Senator from the State of New Jersey; considered and agreed to. considered and agreed to.

By Ms. NORTON:

H. Res. 244. A resolution expressing support for Lunchtime Music on the Mall in Washington, DC, to benefit the District of Columbia, regional residents, and visitors and recognizing the public service of the performers and sponsors; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. CULBERSON:

H.R. 2216.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states: ''No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law . . . .'' In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: ''The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States.

. . .'' Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.

By Mr. CARTER:

H.R. 2217

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states: ''No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law . . . .'' In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: ''The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States. . . .'' Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.

By Mr. MCKINLEY:

H.R. 2218.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

According to Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution: The Congress shall have power to enact this legislation to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 2219.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3.

By Mr. POE of Texas:

H.R. 2220.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8, of Article 1, in the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H.R. 2221.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clauses 1 and 3 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK:

H.R. 2222.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: 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;

By Mr. BENISHEK:

H.R. 2223.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 7

The Congress shall have Power . . . To establish Post Offices and post roads.

By Mr. DOYLE:

H.R. 2224.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This law is enacted pursuant to Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 3 to the U.S. Constitution.

By Ms. HANABUSA:

H.R. 2225.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution, to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing Powers, and all other powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or officer thereof.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio:

H.R. 2226.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

According to Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution: The Congress shall have power to enact this legislation to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.

By Mrs. NOEM:

H.R. 2227.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 14: To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces.

By Mr. PETRI:

H.R. 2228.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution

By Mr. ROSS:

H.R. 2229.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18; Article I, Section 8, Clause 3—This legislative action is necessary and proper for the protection of American citizen's identity, where possession and subsequent inter/intrastate transmission of individuals unique Social Security Number is concerned.

By Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California:

H.R. 2230.

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 (clauses 12, 13, 14, 16, and 18), which grants Congress the power to raise and support an Army; to provide and maintain a Navy; to make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces; to provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia; and to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the foregoing powers.''

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 7: Mr. STIVERS, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. SENSENBRENNER.

H.R. 32: Ms. DELBENE, Mr. KEATING, and Mr. VELA.

H.R. 50: Mr. DEUTCH.

H.R. 104: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.

H.R. 148: Mr. DEUTCH.

H.R. 183: Ms. SINEMA.

H.R. 241: Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California and Ms. SINEMA.

H.R. 288: Mr. CONNOLLY and Ms. SINEMA.

H.R. 301: Mr. DUFFY.

H.R. 303: Mr. VELA, Mr. VEASEY, and Ms. SINEMA.

H.R. 322: Mr. HOLDING and Mr. COTTON.

H.R. 335: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 343: Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina.

H.R. 419: Mrs. HARTZLER.

H.R. 455: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Mrs. DAVIS of California.

H.R. 460: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 508: Mr. HECK of Nevada and Mr. MEEHAN.

H.R. 515: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.

H.R. 521 Ms. ESHOO.

H.R. 556: Mr. WOMACK and Mr. PAULSEN.

H.R. 594: Mr. TONKO and Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 595: Mrs. DAVIS of California.

H.R. 621: Mr. COTTON.

H.R. 640: Mr. BARLETTA.

H.R. 655: Mr. VISCLOSKY and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.

H.R. 664: Mr. CONNOLLY.

H.R. 676: Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 685: Mr. KENNEDY and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 698: Mr. RADEL, Mr. COSTA, and Mr. MICHAUD.

H.R. 708: Mr. TERRY.

H.R. 719: Mr. RANGEL.

H.R. 721: Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. SIMPSON, and Mr. NEAL.

H.R. 736: Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 739: Mr. CONNOLLY.

H.R. 755: Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. KIND, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. NEAL, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.

H.R. 761: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 763: Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. BRADY of Texas, and Mr. FLORES.

H.R. 764: Ms. EDWARDS and Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 769: Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. OWENS, and Mr. RICHMOND.

H.R. 776: Mr. COLLINS of New York.

H.R. 778: Mr. DESANTIS.

H.R. 792: Mr. CÁRDENAS.

H.R. 794: Mr. ANDREWS, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 805: Mr. LANGEVIN.

H.R. 819: Mr. FORBES and Ms. FOXX.

H.R. 850: Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Mr. TURNER.

H.R. 904: Mrs. BUSTOS and Mr. WOLF.

H.R. 911: Mr. PRICE of Georgia.

H.R. 920: Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico.

H.R. 921: Mr. PETRI.

H.R. 940: Mr. ROSS.

H.R. 958: Mrs. CAPPS.

H.R. 961: Mr. RAHALL.

H.R. 964: Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. LEE of California.

H.R. 979: Mr. MATHESON.

H.R. 982: Mr. CHABOT.

H.R. 1010: Mr. SMITH of Washington.

H.R. 1015: Mr. DEFAZIO, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. CONYERS.

H.R. 1024: Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 1078: Mr. WALDEN.

H.R. 1094: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. GABBARD, and Mr. SANFORD.

H.R. 1095: Mr. HORSFORD.

H.R. 1098: Ms. ESHOO.

H.R. 1129: Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 1140: Mr. HECK of Nevada.

H.R. 1141: Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 1146: Mr. COHEN, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. RUIZ, and Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 1148: Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico.

H.R. 1149: Mr. CUMMINGS.

H.R. 1151: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas and Mr. CRAWFORD.

H.R. 1154: Mr. MCGOVERN and Ms. CLARKE.

H.R. 1155: Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico.

H.R. 1175: Mr. MCDERMOTT.

H.R. 1179: Mr. CUMMINGS and Mr. STIVERS.

H.R. 1213: Mr. JEFFRIES.

H.R. 1223: Ms. SINEMA.

H.R. 1240: Mr. CÁRDENAS.

H.R. 1250: Ms. EDWARDS and Mr. CRAWFORD.

H.R. 1254: Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. JONES, and Mr. WESTMORELAND.

H.R. 1276: Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, and Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 1281: Mr. NADLER and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 1284: Ms. SINEMA.
H.R. 1304: Mr. COTTON.
H.R. 1309: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. ROSKAM.
H.R. 1318: Mr. HIGGINS and Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 1331: Mr. STIVERS.
H.R. 1332: Mr. ENYART.
H.R. 1039: Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 1346: Mr. ELLISON and Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 1355: Mr. COTTON and Mr. RADEL.
H.R. 1359: Mr. BARR.
H.R. 1404: Mr. MASSIE.
H.R. 1416: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. YOHO, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Mr. GRAVES of Georgia.
H.R. 1449: Mr. CHABOT, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas and Mrs. CAPITO.
H.R. 1451: Ms. CLARKE, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. MENG, Mr. MEEKS, Mrs. LOWEY, and Mr. CROWLEY.
H.R. 1466: Mr. HOLT.
H.R. 1502: Mr. ROSS.
H.R. 1518: Mr. BISHOP of New York, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Ms. FRANKEL of Florida.
H.R. 1521: Mr. PERLMUTTER and Mr. SWALWELL of California.
H.R. 1528: Mr. NUGENT and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 1598: Ms. SINEMA.
H.R. 1621: Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H.R. 1640: Mr. MAFFEI.
H.R. 1657: Mr. BENTIVOLIO.
H.R. 1661: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H.R. 1690: Mr. CONNOLLY and Mr. BERA of California.
H.R. 1692: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 1693: Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.
H.R. 1699: Mr. CONYERS, Ms. TITUS, and Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 1701: Mr. CUELLAR.
H.R. 1717: Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. SALMON, Mr. ISRAEL, and Mr. PITTENGER.
H.R. 1727: Mrs. BUSTOS.
H.R. 1729: Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. KILMER, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, and Mrs. CHRISTENSEN.
H.R. 1731: Mr. BUCHANAN, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 1739: Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, and Mr. BERA of California.
H.R. 1749: Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 1771: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama and Ms. BORDALLO.
H.R. 1775: Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 1780: Mr. COTTON.
H.R. 1785: Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H.R. 1796: Mr. COHEN, Mr. RUNYAN, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. KILDEE, Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. RUSH, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 1797: Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. DUFFY, and Mr. PETERSON.
H.R. 1798: Mr. SALMON and Mr. PETRI.
H.R. 1805: Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Ms. SINEMA.
H.R. 1809: Ms. SINEMA, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
H.R. 1825: Mr. YODER, Mr. COTTON, Mr. HOLDING, and Mr. BARLETTA.
H.R. 1827: Mr. QUIGLEY and Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 1829: Mr. GUTHRIE and Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1830: Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. BERA of California, Ms. MATSUI, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. ENYART, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. LAMALFA, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. DESANTIS.
H.R. 1843: Mr. RANGEL, Mr. HONDA, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. MOORE, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. FUDGE, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. CLAY, Ms. BASS, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. NORTON, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Mr. POLIS.
H.R. 1848: Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. CAMPBELL, and Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas.
H.R. 1864: Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. LATHAM, Mrs. WAGNER, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Ms. MENG, Mr. HUDSON, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. HORSFORD, Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, Mr. O'ROURKE, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. RUSH, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. POCAN, Mr. MAFFEI, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. GALLEGO, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. WENSTRUP, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. TIERNEY, Mrs. ROBY, and Mr. GARDNER.
H.R. 1868: Mr. MCCLINTOCK.
H.R. 1869: Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, and Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 1878: Ms. SHEA-PORTER and Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 1882: Mr. RIGELL.
H.R.1893: Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 1907: Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. ENYART, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 1919: Mr. VEASEY, Mr. WALBERG, and Mrs. WALORSKI.
H.R. 1921: Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. HOLT, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MENG, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. PRICE of North Crolina.
H.R. 1946: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 1950: Mr. RADEL.
H.R. 1962: Mr. STUTZMAN, Mr. ENYART, Mr. MESSER, Mr. MARCHANT, Ms. ESHOO, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 1971: Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. VELA, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. LOEBSACK.
H. R. 1976: Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 1979: Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. ELLISON.
H.R. 1981: Mr. BERA of California.
H.R. 1994: Mr. GINGREY of Georgia.
H.R. 1995: Mr. CONYERS and Mr. DEFAZIO.
H.R. 1998: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. COHEN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. NADLER, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. NEAL, Mr. DEUTCH, and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
H.R. 1999: Ms. KUSTER and Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H.R. 2000: Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 2002: Mr. MORAN, Mr. VISCLOSKY, and Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 2005: Mr. HOLT.
H.R. 2009: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. RADEL, Mr. BUCHANAN, and Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.
H.R. 2014: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Mr. HANNA.
H.R. 2016: Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 2019: Mr. ROONEY, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. RENACCI, Mrs. BLACK, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. ENYART, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. GRIMM.
H.R. 2022: Mr. HOLDING, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, and Mr. MESSER.
H.R. 2023: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 2026: Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. NOLAN, and Mr. FLEMING.
H.R. 2027: Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. HALL, and Ms. SINEMA.
H.R. 2036: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 2060: Ms. SHEA-PORTER and Mr. SWALWELL of California.
H.R. 2086: Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 2088: Mr. SWALWELL of California and Ms. PINGREE of Maine.
H.R. 2089: Mr. BENTIVOLIO.
H.R. 2092: Mrs. WAGNER.
H.R. 2093: Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. KLINE, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. FINCHER, and Mr. GINGREY of Georgia.
H.R. 2099: Mr. BUCHANAN.
H.R. 2115: Mr. NUGENT.
H.R. 2116: Ms. MOORE and Mr. CONYERS.
H.R. 2131: Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois and Mr. WESTMORELAND.
H.R. 2134: Ms. MOORE.
H.R. 2144: Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 2174: Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 2182: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 2188: Ms. TSONGAS.
H.R. 2215: Ms. CHU, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. ELLISON, and Ms. LEE of California.
H.J. Res. 40: Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.J. Res. 43: Ms. LEE of California, Mr. TAKANO, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. CARNEY, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. TIERNEY, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. POCAN.
H.J. Res. 44: Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.J. Res. 47: Mr. RAHALL, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. HUELSKAMP, and Mr. KLINE.
H. Con. Res. 23: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois and Mr. OWENS.
H. Con. Res. 30: Mr. CARTWRIGHT and Mr. BERA of California.
H. Res. 30: Ms. BROWN of Florida and Mr. YARMUTH.
H. Res. 35: Mr. MICA and Mr. SENSENBRENNER.
H. Res. 36: Mr. LAMBORN.
H. Res. 63: Mr. FARR, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. BORDALLO, Mrs. BUSTOS Ms. SPEIER, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. CLAY, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. COHEN, Mr. BISHOP of New York, and Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California.
H. Res. 75: Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. HANNA, and Mr. LOEBSACK.
H. Res. 90: Mr. CASTRO of Texas and Mr. KILMER.
H. Res. 101: Mr. TONKO.
H. Res. 104: Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RUSH, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, and Mr. HIMES.
H. Res. 109: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.
H. Res. 112: Mr. HECK of Washington.
H. Res. 118: Mr. TAKANO.
H. Res. 190: Mr. RUIZ and Mr. CONNOLLY.
H. Res. 195: Ms. EDWARDS.
H. Res. 211: Mr. SALMON.
H. Res. 213: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. ESTY, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. KILDEE.
H. Res 220: Mr. NADLER, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H. Res. 229: Mr. SCHOCK.
H. Res. 234: Ms. LEE of California, Mr. CLAY, and Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H. Res. 236: Mr. JOYCE and Mr. VELA.
H. Res. 237: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 2216

OFFERED BY: MR. GRIFFITH OF VIRGINIA

AMENDMENT NO. 1. Page 18, line 8, strike ''$35,000 per unit'' and insert ''$15,000 per unit''.

H.R. 2216

OFFERED BY: MR. FARR

AMENDMENT NO. 2. At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement Veterans Health Administration directive 2011–004 regarding ''Access to clinical programs for veterans participating in State-approved marijuana programs''.

H.R. 2216

OFFERED BY: MR. ROTHFUS

AMENDMENT NO. 3. At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

Sec. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to pay a performance award under section 5384 of title 5, United States Code.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 159 WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JUNE 3, 2013 No. 76

Senate

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable TIMOTHY M. KAINE, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God, thank You for being near to us in good and bad times. We celebrate Your wonderful blessings that bring us new victories each day.

As we look at the flowers on the desk of our friend and brother, Senator FRANK LAUTENBERG, we thank You for his life and legacy. As we mourn his death, send Your comfort into our hearts. Bless Bonnie and his family and give them Your peace. Let our memory of this good and courageous American inspire us to transcend the barriers that divide us and to work for the good of America.

We pray in Your merciful Name.

Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable TIMOTHY M. KAINE 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.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 3, 2013.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable TIMOTHY M. KAINE, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. KAINE thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask that the Senate observe a moment of silence in honor of the late FRANK LAUTENBERG, a Senator from the State of New Jersey.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate will have a moment of silence.

If all will please stand.

(Moment of silence.)

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there are a few matters I must take care of. We will be in morning business until 4 p.m. Following that, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 954, the farm bill.

At 5:30 p.m. there will be two rollcall votes on amendments to that bill.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 3 AND H.R. 271

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand there are two bills at the desk due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The leader is correct. The clerk will read the titles of the bills for a second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3) to approve the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Keystone XL pipeline, and for other purposes.

A bill (H.R. 271) to clarify that compliance with an emergency order under section 202(c) of the Federal Power Act may not be considered a violation of any Federal, State, or local environmental law or regulation, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I object to further proceedings with regard to both of these matters.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the measures will now be placed on the calendar.

REMEMBERING FRANK R. LAUTENBERG

Mr. REID. Mr. President, when I learned early this morning that FRANK LAUTENBERG had died, of course, I immediately became very sad. I served with him for 2½ decades or more in the Senate.

I see there are flowers on his desk. It seems the flowers have barely wilted on the desk—which is right behind me—of Senator Inouye. So I have a heavy heart.

As we all know, the senior Senator from New Jersey and my friend FRANK LAUTENBERG died this morning. My thoughts are with his lovely wife Bonnie, his children, and 13 grandchildren.

Few people in the history of this institution contributed as much to this Nation and to the Senate as FRANK LAUTENBERG. His success story is what the American dream is all about.

He came from a family of working-class immigrants from Eastern Europe—Russia and Poland. His parents struggled. I heard FRANK talk about how they struggled. They worked so hard. They moved around New Jersey often.

When FRANK was 18, during the middle of World War II he enlisted in the U.S. Army. During World War II he served with distinction in the Army Signal Corps. I can remember FRANK talking about his experiences in the European theater. While he was in the Army Signal Corps, he said he could

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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see the war going on in his sight while he was up on a wooden power pole.

He talked about the many experiences he had during World War II, as he said, making him a better American. He was very proud of his military service. He is the last World War II veteran having served in the Senate. We don't have any World War II veterans anymore. His death is a great loss to this institution in many different ways.

When FRANK came home from the war—he was obviously very smart—he was permitted to attend the very prestigious Columbia University. He did it, of course, on the GI bill—just as so many of the other returning Americans did.

He quickly founded his own company. He started the company with two boyhood friends. All three kids were from New Jersey. Under his leadership, his firm, Automatic Data Processing, known as ADP, grew into the largest computing company of its kind in the world.

He was so very proud of that company, and he never hesitated to tell everyone that he made money. He became rich. He was a poor boy who became wealthy as a result of being able to fulfill his dreams, as people can do, in America.

FRANK wasn't content with his personal success alone. He was proud of the civic and charitable things he did, but nothing made him more proud of what he did outside government than when he served as the top lay leader of the United Jewish Appeal, known as the Jewish Federations of North America. He was very proud of that.

FRANK LAUTENBERG was known for many things before he came to the Senate. He ran an impossible race for the Senate and was elected. He came to the Congress in 1982, the same year I did. Over the course of three decades he worked tirelessly on behalf of his State and the country.

He retired once. He could not stand retirement. He hated retirement. He could not stay away from public service, and he returned to the Senate in 2002.

He had a remarkable career. I just touched upon a few of his accomplishments. He had determination that made him successful in the private sector and also served him well in the Senate. Motivated by his own experience, Senator LAUTENBERG, a World War II veteran, cowrote the 21st century GI bill of rights. Recognizing how much this meant to him, he wanted to ensure that the vets returning from Iraq and Afghanistan enjoyed the same opportunities for education that helped him become so successful.

My youngest boy just hated cigarette smoke, and it really made him ill. There was a time when people could smoke everyplace in the airplane and then finally in a different part of the airplane; however, it didn't matter. Everybody sucked in the secondhand smoke.

FRANK LAUTENBERG took care of my boy and millions of other people who would no longer have to suck in that smoke in an airplane. He is the one, more than anyone else, whom we have to thank for protecting us from deadly secondhand smoke in an airplane because his legislation banned smoking on airplanes.

He was also a long-time member of the Environment and Public Works Committee. Had he not retired in that very short period of time that he did, he would have been chairman of that committee. However, because he wasn't there, I had the opportunity to be chair of that committee on two separate occasions.

He focused on this Nation's infrastructure, such as roads and highways. One of the ideas he thought would make this country a much safer place was to pass a drinking limit so a person could not drink alcohol anyplace in the country until they were 21 years of age. It was called a national drunk driving standard.

He believed in helping the State of New Jersey as well as helping the country, but I am not sure in which order. It was hard to understand the difference because he was focused on the country and New Jersey at the same time.

FRANK wanted to make sure that women and children were protected from gun violence. Thanks to him, we passed legislation that convicted domestic abusers so they could not own firearms.

Those are just a few examples of his work in the Senate that literally saved lives. He came from his sick bed—in a wheelchair—to vote on gun legislation. He agreed with 90 percent of the American people—that people who had severe mental problems or were felons should not be able to buy guns. He agreed with 90 percent of the American people.

He came from his bed to be here and vote with us. He was so happy to be here. After that, he came once—just a few days ago—to vote when we needed him again. He tried so hard.

When I talked to Bonnie today, she said he was confident he would live to be 100. He was a very strong man physically.

A couple years ago, I took a big delegation to China. It was a bipartisan group. It was a wonderful trip. For FRANK LAUTENBERG, that was his last foreign travel. I can remember indicating what a strong man he was physically. I had never been to the Great Wall of China. I don't know how many of the other 10 Senators had been there, but I had not. It is pretty steep, and there are big rocks that have been there for centuries and centuries. Because FRANK was 88 years old at the time, somebody grabbed his arm to help him go up. He pushed them away. He wanted no help from anybody. He was on his own, and that is the way he wanted to be.

I and our Nation owe a great debt of gratitude to FRANK for his outstanding service. He had always been so kind to me. He was someone who appreciated serving. He appreciated being here. He loved being in the Senate, and the Nation is going to miss his strength and his progressive leadership.

The other attribute that probably a lot of people didn't know about FRANK LAUTENBERG was his sense of humor. I always had him tell stories because no one could tell a story like him. Another reason I liked FRANK is he laughed at his own jokes. He thought they were funny, as did most everyone who listened to them.

One of our favorite jokes was about two wrestlers. It would take 5 minutes or more to tell the story, but it was hilarious. No one could tell it like FRANK. He had a sense of humor, and we certainly appreciated that. Even though the Senate has AL FRANKEN, there was room for two funny people prior to FRANK's death this morning. FRANK LAUTENBERG—and AL FRANKEN—always made us smile and often made us laugh. Now I guess it is going to be up to Senator FRANKEN to do this alone, because they were both funny, together and apart.

It is with deep sadness that his Senate family is going to say goodbye. We are going to do that Wednesday morning. We will say goodbye to an exemplary public servant and a faithful friend, Senator FRANK LAUTENBERG.

I note the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 4 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Thank you, Mr. President. If the Acting President pro tempore will let me know when I have used 10 minutes, I would appreciate it.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair will so notify the Senator.

Mr. ALEXANDER. If no other Senator is on the floor, I will continue.

REMEMBERING FRANK R. LAUTENBERG

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I am here today to speak on clean energy independence, but before I do that

I want to note the passing of Senator FRANK LAUTENBERG.

When I came to the Senate 10 years ago, there were a number of Members here who were veterans of World War II. Now there are none. Senator LAUTENBERG was the last. He was a member of the generation often described as the greatest.

He was the son of immigrants. He made a lot of money in business as an entrepreneur in the American dream. Then he did another entrepreneurial thing: He ran for the U.S. Senate and served twice here. He was an advocate for the things he believed in, and he was a productive Senator. Just in the last couple of weeks he helped to fashion an agreement on amending the Toxic Substances Control Act, of which I am a cosponsor. It has been a long time coming, and he had a major role in that.

We will miss him. To his wife Bonnie and to his family, they have my respect and condolences and admiration for his long service to our country.

CLEAN ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, 5 years ago I spoke at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. I began with a story from our past about our future. It is a familiar story to those of us in Tennessee.

President Franklin Roosevelt called the chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee into his office in 1942 and said: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask you to hide a couple billion dollars in the budget for a secret project to win the war.

Senator McKellar replied: Mr. President. I just have one question: Where in Tennessee would you like me to hide it?

That place turned out to be Oak Ridge. That was how Tennessee became one of the sites where scientists worked to build the atomic bomb before the Germans.

I suggested 5 years ago that we have a new Manhattan Project—really mini-Manhattan Projects for clean energy independence.

Last week at Oak Ridge, 5 years after that first speech, I suggested four grand principles to help us chart a competitive energy future for the next 5 years to end our obsession with taxpayer subsidies and strategies for expensive energy and instead focus on doubling government-sponsored research and allowing marketplace solutions to create an abundance of cheap, clean, reliable energy. I would like to renew those comments today on the floor of the Senate. The four grand principles I mentioned were, No. 1, cheaper, not more expensive, energy; No. 2, clean, not just renewable, energy; No. 3, research and development, not government mandates; and No. 4, the free market, not the government, picking winners and losers.

The seven grand challenges I suggested 5 years ago were grounded in challenges from the U.S. National Academy of Engineering. My challenges included making plug-in electric vehicles more commonplace, finding ways to capture and use carbon, helping solar become cost-competitive, safely managing nuclear waste, encouraging cellulosic biofuels, making new buildings green buildings, and creating energy from fusion.

My goal in laying out those seven challenges was clean energy independence. At the time, some took issue with the idea of a grand goal underlying these challenges, but I thought independence was a good goal then, and it is a good goal now because the United States should not be held hostage by any other country because of our energy needs.

Since I spoke 5 years ago, the Department of Energy has established the energy innovation hubs that are producing fuels from sunlight and advancing nuclear reactor and battery technologies. That, paired with the work of the new energy research agency—which we call ARPA–E—and others, has moved us forward on my seven grand challenges in a number of ways. Let me summarize that briefly.

Electric vehicles sales are approaching 100,000 in the United States, and ARPA–E has helped a company that has doubled the energy density of lithium-ion batteries.

Carbon capture. We are developing commercial uses for carbon dioxide, such as liquid fuels produced from microbes.

Solar power. Though the goal is around $1 per watt installed by 2020, the cost has fallen from $8 to $4 per watt in the past five years. It still has a long way to go, but it is promising.

Nuclear waste. Four of us in the Senate have drafted comprehensive nuclear waste legislation. For the first time in 30 years, we are building new large reactors, and we are moving forward on small modular nuclear reactors.

Advanced biofuels. There are three new bioenergy research centers that are developing next-generation bioenergy crops for industrial-scale production.

Green buildings. Research and development has meant 20 new commercial products in energy efficiency.

Fusion. We have already demonstrated human-engineered fusion on a small scale, and now we are trying to scale it up for commercial energy production.

The United States has made gains, but we still have challenges. Even as other parts of the world grow rapidly, the U.S. still uses about 20 percent of the world's energy, and the Energy Information Administration estimates that our country's energy demand will increase more than 10 percent by 2040.

Second, we have record oil and gas production at home, but we need to be as independent as possible from those who might want to use our demand for oil to hold us hostage. Former Secretary Condoleezza Rice once said she had ''never seen anything warp diplomacy like high oil prices.'' And affording a tank of gasoline remains a struggle for many families.

Another challenge is failing to keep up with energy research and development, which is one of the major points I want to make today—failing to keep up with energy R&D. That energy research has given us abundant, reliable, clean, cheap energy from unconventional gas to nuclear power. The amount we spend on energy research and development—nearly $5 billion a year at the Department of Energy in nondefense and noncleanup research; or nearly $9 billion if you count other agencies and their energy-related research, such as the National Science Foundation, the Department of the Interior, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology—still, those dollars are lower as a percentage of our gross product than major competitors such as France or Japan or Korea or China.

Another challenge is that while the United States has made more gains in reducing the use of carbon than any other industrial country, the National Academies of the United States and 12 other countries have warned that human activity has contributed significantly to climate change and global warming.

So thinking about the progress we have made from 5 years ago and taking into account the challenges we still have, let me suggest four grand principles that could guide our energy future. First, cheaper, not more expensive energy. Five years ago all the talk was about a cap-and-trade program for the United States and deliberately raising the price of energy as a way of achieving clean energy independence.

Last year I was in Germany, a country that adopted exactly that policy. In addition, Germany is closing its nuclear powerplants and becoming more dependent on natural gas but buying both forms of energy from other countries rather than producing it on its own. The Germans are subsidizing wind and solar but are building new coal plants in order to have enough reliable electricity.

In short, what I found in Germany was an energy policy mess that discourages job growth. The end result is that Germany has the second highest household electricity prices in the European Union. When I asked an Economic Minister what he would say to a manufacturer about energy costs in Germany, he said: I would suggest he go somewhere else. Well, that somewhere else is turning out to be the United States: Virginia, Tennessee, other States.

In the United States, we pursued a different track, the most conspicuous example of which is finding unconventional gas and oil. This has created for our country a remarkable phenomenon, a large amount of cheap, clean energy with our own domestic price for natural gas.

This has been the result of a peculiar combination of factors that, in my opinion, amount to a better energy policy than most people give us credit for. The first element is the entrepreneurial spirit of America and the large amount of private property ownership and our huge private market. Another is access to capital. A third and indispensable element is government-sponsored research.

Take our Nation's natural gas boom as an example. In the past it was uneconomical to develop so-called unconventional gas. Government-sponsored research enabled it and demonstrated how it could be done. A temporary Federal tax credit that expired for new shale projects at the end of 1992 encouraged new sources of private capital. Natural gas will be a big part of where we get our clean energy, which leads me to my second principle: clean, not just renewable, energy. Too often we define our energy goals in terms of renewable energy when we should mean clean energy. There are a number of States that have renewable energy mandates defined mainly to include wind and solar power. The Congress is regularly asked to pass a narrowly defined renewable energy mandate for the same purpose.

It is true these energy sources emit no air pollution. These mandates say a certain amount of electricity generated within a State must come from these specific sources. But focusing on this narrow definition for clean energy misses the point, and at a high cost to our electric bills.

Such narrow definitions also discount hydropower and nuclear power, some of our country's cheapest and most available sources of air pollution-free electricity. In the Tennessee Valley Authority region where I live, for example, more than 95 percent of our pollution-free electricity comes from TVA's dams and three nuclear plants, which include six reactors.

Second, mandating renewable energy runs the risk of creating too much reliance on sources that generate power only intermittently. There is certainly a place for these renewable technologies, and solar power especially seems to me to have great promise. But renewable energy consumes great amounts of space, whether it is solar or wind or biomass.

For example, it would take a row of giant wind turbines all the way from Georgia to Maine on the Appalachian Trail to generate the same amount of electricity that we would get from four nuclear power plants. You would still need the nuclear plants because the wind only blows when it wants to.

Fortunately, we have plenty of rooftops on which to put solar panels. When they become cheap enough and aesthetically pleasing enough, they will probably become an increasingly important supplement to our country's huge appetite for electricity, especially because the Sun shines during the peak-use hours.

Battery technology will help make all forms of renewable energy more useful, which brings me to my next principle: research and development, not government mandates. It is hard to think of an important technological advance in our country that has not involved at least some government-sponsored research, especially in the area of energy.

The most recent example is the development of unconventional gas that was enabled by 3D mapping invented at Sandia National Laboratory in New Mexico and the Department of Energy's large-scale demonstration project.

There is an argument that by imposing government mandates, just as by imposing higher prices, government could force some innovation that could move us toward clean energy independence. But I believe the surer path would be to double the federal funding we spend annually on non-defense and non-cleanup energy research and development and trust the marketplace to produce better results.

In 2005 the ''Rising Above the Gathering Storm'' report, written by a commission led by former Lockheed Martin CEO Norman Augustine, recommended doubling energy research and development. In 2007 Congress responded by passing the America COMPETES Act with overwhelming bipartisan support. Senator COONS and I are working together to reintroduce the America COMPETES Act for a second reauthorization after its original passage.

One small agency that is the result of the America COMPETES Act is what we call ARPA–E. It is already showing signs of the wisdom of this approach. ARPA–E has helped improve battery technology and worked to produce liquid fuel from microbes, among other accomplishments. Seeing how our free enterprise can capitalize on this brings me to my fourth and last principle: free market, not government picking winners and losers.

We are more likely to have abundant supplies of cheap, clean, reliable energy in the United States if we trust the marketplace. The most appropriate role for government is in research. I believe a second role is limited jump-starting of new technologies; for example, unconventional gas, about which I just spoke, involves government research and a limited tax credit.

The full tax credit for electric cars is capped at 200,000 vehicles per manufacturer. To encourage innovation in nuclear energy, the government provided research and licensing support for small modular reactors, but that is limited to 5 years.

Even for nuclear power plants there is a production tax credit, but it is limited to 6,000 megawatts. On the other hand, President Reagan used to say the nearest thing to eternal life we will ever see on this Earth is a government program. That is too often the case with energy subsidies. The most glaring example of that is the more than 20-year-old subsidy for wind power, a technology that former Energy Secretary Chu said was a technology that had ''matured.''

This was supposed to help jump-start wind. But we have already lost $16 billion in Federal revenue from 2009 through the end of 2012 alone. Congress just added a 1-year extension of the wind production tax credit, costing $12 billion. Remember, the Department of Energy spends just $5 billion on energy research.

We are spending $12 billion in a 1-year extension of the wind tax credit. The wind industry's idea of a phaseout would cost tens of billions more. People talk about Big Oil, but the big, unnecessary subsidy is big wind, and a much better place to spend our money would be energy research.

I have been fascinated with the progress we have made on the seven grand challenges I suggested 5 years ago. Perhaps by focusing on these four grand principles, the ones I have suggested in this speech, we can capitalize on the last 5 years of progress and move toward cheap, clean, reliable energy.

Oak Ridge's evolution since the Manhattan Project days provides a good model. About 70 years ago the astonishing collection of physicists that produced the two atomic bombs also enabled nuclear power, nuclear medicine, and other technological advances.

What can we expect 5 years from now? To get a glimpse of the future we might look at what fits within the guiding principles I have suggested today. For example, small modular reactors and virtual reactors that scientists are developing will revolutionize the safety and effectiveness of our nuclear technology.

Game-changing manufacturing is also on the horizon with 3D printing. ARPA–E, a small agency of the Department of Energy that came from America COMPETES, and other groups are increasing the reliability of our electricity supply.

This United States of America is a remarkable place. With the potential I have described and the principles I have suggested, a competitive energy future is well within our grasp.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MORAN. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MORAN. I thank the Chair for the recognition.

THE FARM BILL

Mr. MORAN. I just returned from my home State of Kansas to return to the work we are about to do in the Senate. This week away from Washington, DC,

gave me the opportunity to travel all corners of our State. I went from southeast Kansas in Galena to northwest Kansas in Goodland, and almost every night while I was home weather was the topic of conversation.

Certainly, as Kansans who have experienced tornadoes in our own State over the last week and, certainly, over the life of our State, we extend our deepest sympathies and concerns to the people of Oklahoma. It is weather that I wanted to talk about on the Senate floor today in preparation for an amendment I will offer, which is being offered to the farm bill, and continued discussion of that farm bill throughout this week.

As I listened to Kansas farmers, the most prevalent request when it comes to farm policy, to a request for what ought to be in a farm bill is the request by Kansans that the Crop Insurance Program remain solid and viable. We live in a State in which weather is not always a friend to agriculture. Yet agriculture is our most significant creator of economic activity and generator of jobs and economic growth in our State.

We have the pleasure, in fact we are very proud, to feed, clothe, and provide energy to much of the world. At the moment the challenges are great because of the significant effect the drought has had on Kansas and much of the Midwest. That drought has been ongoing for more than 2 years, and it has had a significant impact on agricultural production. It is that point I want to make as we debate the farm bill, the importance of the Crop Insurance Program in response to those difficult times.

Despite the drought, our Nation remains the land of plenty, and Americans continue to enjoy the safest and most abundant food supply in the world. The reason we have so much is because of many factors: Prayers, the work ethic of American farmers and ranchers, the courage to persevere in spite of enormous challenges, and, among those things, finally, is the ability to manage risk.

Farming and ranching is a high-risk occupation. Producers can't manage the one thing that matters most to them, Mother Nature. Mother Nature is the one variable that can't be controlled. Mother Nature brings drought, rain, wind, and hail, the things a producer must face head on each year and each year to follow.

With the inability to control the weather, we must control what we can—the great risks associated with agriculture. This is required for the United States to remain that land of plenty.

The risk management tool of choice is crop insurance. Crop insurance gives producers a safety net so when there is a drought, a flood, a hailstorm, or windstorm, they can pick up the pieces and try again. This is what sets us apart from the rest of the world. We have the ability to manage our risks so when Mother Nature gives us something bad, our Nation's farmers and ranchers can live to start again.

Crop insurance is a public-private partnership. The government helps the producers cover some of the costs of the policy, and the producer covers the rest. Consumers help the producer, and the producer helps the consumer.

To be clear, producers pay a significant part of the premium out of their own pocket. In 2012 they paid $4.1 billion to buy insurance to manage their risks. When farmers take out a crop insurance policy, they get a bill, not a check.

Crop insurance has virtually replaced the need for ad hoc disaster measures for crops. During my time in the House of Representatives and now in the Senate, going back to 1989, 42 such pieces of legislation have cost the taxpayer more than $70 billion. During my time in the House, and now the Senate, many times we have asked for ad hoc disaster assistance, a bill to pass the legislature to provide assistance at the moment. Crop insurance is the tool by which we can avoid those requests. When you manage risks with crop insurance, you save the taxpayers money and give the producers a better program.

Today, as we have scheduled votes, I have an amendment on the Senate floor dealing with a crop called alfalfa. Alfalfa is the Nation's fourth most valuable crop, and it plays a significant role in our daily lives.

Alfalfa is a building block for milk and meat. The hay that is grown in the fields of California, Idaho, South Dakota, Colorado, Oregon, Washington, Texas, Wisconsin, Kansas, and the rest of the 50 States is a driver of the cost of products on grocery store shelves. The Nation's fourth most valuable crop is vitally important.

The reality is producers are faced with risks, and there is no good way to manage them when it comes to this crop, alfalfa. The current Crop Insurance Program, Forage Production APH, is severely inadequate, as demonstrated by the fact that less than 10 percent of the acres are enrolled in the program—compared to corn, soybeans, and wheat, which are all more than 80 percent.

Producers are going back to the bank to borrow operating money and being told not to plant alfalfa because there is no good way to manage the risk. This is very troubling because of the impact that alfalfa has on the economy and our Nation's food supply.

The crop is important, and we need to figure out a way to manage its risks. Producers are being told to grow crops that have a safety net, crops that have some kind of guarantee when weather is bad. My amendment, No. 987, requires the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation to conduct research and development regarding the policy to insure alfalfa and a report describing the results of that study. There are no additional costs to the taxpayer with my amendment.

We need to take a good hard look at alfalfa and recognize its value to the Nation. We need to study and develop something that will work, save taxpayer money, and make certain the land of plenty remains the land of plenty. Alfalfa is a building block of milk and meat. With a risk management tool for alfalfa production, producers will enjoy lower input cost and consumers will enjoy less expensive products on the grocery store shelves.

I know you understand the value of agriculture in Kansas, and I appreciate the opportunity to be on the Senate floor today to describe the value of crop insurance and particularly to highlight the amendment we will vote on later today.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Alaska.

ALASKA FLOODING

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I rise today to describe the devastating spring breakup flooding affecting my home State of Alaska. As we just heard about Kansas, weather patterns are affecting long-term droughts in farmlands, while in Alaska it is warm weather that is actually going in the opposite direction.

Over the last several weeks our country has witnessed devastating tornadoes in Oklahoma. Our hearts go out to the families of Moore, Oklahoma City, and many others that have been affected, as they rebuild their lives.

Disasters such as these remind us of the importance of family and community, and it should make us again examine the work being done by FEMA and other agencies to help communities prepare for natural disasters. While it didn't make national news, Alaska's families along the Yukon River are putting their lives back together after record flooding last week.

Thick river ice, high temperatures, and fast melting combined to flood the community of Galena during what we call ''breakup'' in Alaska. For those who have never witnessed it, breakup on Alaska's biggest and mightiest river is a spectacle almost beyond description. As the ice begins to move, buckle, and crack, you can sometimes hear it from miles away. The trouble is, in the wrong conditions, the moving ice can get caught where the rivers make their natural bends. It piles up into mountains of jumbled ice, creating a natural dam that floods everything behind it, or when it suddenly breaks loose, torrents of raging water and ice rush downstream. This year breakup has, unfortunately, caused some extreme conditions in interior Alaska.

Last week, quickly rising waters from a 30-mile ice jam along the Yukon River had the village of Galena underwater for 3 days. This is an example of what you can see. The woods, the trees are there, but all along there is water burying the buildings.

Galena is a village of fewer than 500 people located in the interior of Alaska. At least 300 of these residents had to be evacuated to keep them from danger. Others moved to buildings on higher ground to keep safe from the rising water.

We are grateful to be able to say no deaths or serious injuries have been reported. It is a miracle when you look at the photos of the damage. As I said, this photo, the aerial photo of Galena, shows the extent of the damage. As mentioned, this was a severe flood. It came on very fast, and we had to try to deal with this very quickly because the power of the Yukon, when it is moving, is fast and furious. These ice jams move fast once they break. It is the worst flooding they have seen in 70 years.

When this happens in very remote communities such as Galena, they don't have communications, river-monitoring technology, and transportation infrastructure to react quickly. Let me remind people that you cannot drive out of this community. You have to fly out of this community. So when the river is breaking, it is all hands on deck for everybody.

We are thankful for the response by the Tanana Chiefs Conference, which safely evacuated many residents. The American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, and many volunteers provided invaluable help. I am proud of the community for coming together to support each other and evacuating the elders and those most in need first. Alaskans are the type of people who are always willing to lend a hand to their neighbor.

This flood hit the community hard. Nearly every structure in Galena and the surrounding 25-mile-wide valley basin was under water. You can see here in this photo how that water moved and flooded out the whole area. The ice jam on the Yukon causing this flooding isn't gone yet. Villages down river from Galena, such as St. Mary's or Holy Cross, remain on alert and are bracing for their possible evacuation.

Once again I remind folks, you cannot drive out of these communities, you have to fly out or take the river. The people who live along the Yukon River respect it as a resource but know that living along the banks can also bring dangerous conditions which we must prepare for.

Although the waters in Galena are subsiding, we know the real work is just beginning. This community must rebuild stronger, more prepared for future disasters. And they must do so within the short summer construction season, an added complication for Alaska. Again, our spring is here now, summer will soon be here, and within 3½ months winter will be back.

As chairman of the Senate Homeland Security Subcommittee on Emergency Management, I take this flooding event very seriously. I have been in touch with local leaders, State disaster response agencies, and FEMA. I will remain engaged throughout the cleanup and rebuilding process.

I am working with the State on this emergency, and I will make sure we have all the resources possible as Galena repairs and rebuilds. The emergency response priorities right now are restoring essential services and getting people back in their homes. I am pleased Alaska's Governor Parnell declared a State disaster for Galena last week, and I urge the President to act quickly to declare a Federal disaster to free up vital resources to help our State and its people recover.

Responding to natural disasters in Alaska is very different than in the lower 48. We have very unique challenges. It is important to have some perspective on the size and scope of Alaska. Alaska's land is two-and-a-half times the size of the State of Texas. Our road system is smaller than that of Rhode Island, and 82 percent of Alaskan communities are only accessible by air. Flying from Galena to Fairbanks, or back and forth, is equivalent to flying from Washington, DC, to New York. Actually, it is a little longer. It is an amazing distance when you have to go from place to place.

I remind folks, as you can see the great Yukon, in order to bring supplies and necessities in, it is an hour-long flight from the Fairbanks region. This makes the traditional lower 48 disaster response unrealistic for Alaska. In most communities we don't have the road system to truck in critical supplies. We frequently rely on skilled bush pilots and boat captains to bring relief to communities in need. Our pilots are often forced to land on gravel runways or river sandbars and our barge captains must navigate dangerous waters to access rural villages.

Most residents of the lower 48 couldn't even begin to imagine these experiences. This disaster in Galena is a stark reminder of why we must continue to invest in the aviation and maritime lifelines Alaskans rely on for survival.

Another issue unique to my State is the absence of broadband access in rural areas. When I say that, most people say: What is the big deal? Everyone is hooked up. Not in Alaska. This is something most people would consider critical infrastructure in order to respond to disasters.

Increased broadband deployment throughout rural Alaska would help communities such as Galena by providing vital information, such as telehealth access to help injured residents, up-to-date information on changing weather conditions, better communication between responders and the disaster response center, and information on incident response teams and cleanup strategies.

I might relate a personal example here. When I called the individual in charge of the situation on the ground, we were waiting for another radio call-in—let me repeat that: a radio call-in—to get an update from someone on the site because the technology doesn't exist at the level necessary to monitor a disaster of this magnitude.

This disaster is a reminder of the inequities that still exist in serving rural America. I will continue to look for ways to work with my Senate colleagues to act to provide rural communities with better broadband access, not only for emergency disasters, such as we are having here, but also for basic communication.

All these factors mean Alaskans must work and respond differently when disasters occur in our State. As our State emergency response chief often tells me, ''You can't do 'big city' response in most of Alaska.'' FEMA rules don't always work for rural Alaska. One key concern is making sure FEMA programs for individual assistance are fully employed and complement State assistance.

I am hopeful that between the Federal, State, local, and tribal governments we can get some much-needed assistance to the residents of Galena who are living through this nightmare. I know how strong the people of Galena are, and we know they will continue to stick together through this trying time. But they couldn't do it without the ongoing support of the National Guard and the Alaska Department of Homeland Security Emergency Management Office. We will all continue to work with them as we help the residents of Galena get back on their feet.

Looking forward, as chairman of the Emergency Management Subcommittee, I will be holding listening sessions in Alaska to discuss preparedness and mitigation solutions to natural disasters. Because it is not just the interior that faces serious threats from natural disasters, we must also consider North Slope communities that are often confronting changes from the warming Arctic. It is important for us to tackle these issues head on, to create public-private partnerships, strong communication lines, and disaster response plans so our communities are protected and our residents are safe.

Mr. President, I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The 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 ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING FRANK R. LAUTENBERG

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I just flew in from Chicago. Early this morning, I was given the news that I had lost a great friend and one of my dearest colleagues; Senator FRANK LAUTENBERG of New Jersey passed away.

Most of us saw FRANK a few weeks ago. He was here on the floor of the

Senate. He had to come down; it was one of those moments where his vote was crucial. We knew he was struggling, but we also knew he would be here. He said he would, and he was. He sat right over here in a wheelchair, with that trademark FRANK LAUTENBERG smile. I don't think I have ever run into a person in my life as happy as FRANK LAUTENBERG. He was a great joke-teller. The best thing about FRANK's joke—even if he was telling it for the 254th time—is he would start laughing before the end of the joke and pretty soon the whole room was laughing.

You always wanted to be out for dinner with FRANK and Bonnie because you knew there was going to be a good time. You would hear a lot of jokes you had heard before, but you encouraged him to tell them. He had so many stories to tell.

Here he was, a member of the ''greatest generation,'' having served in World War II, and served here in the Senate. Two different approaches. He retired once and came back, and served here to the age of 89.

He astonished us all when he came here on the floor of the Senate, that he was wheeled in in a wheelchair to vote on some important amendments related to gun safety and gun control. FRANK, if he were alive, would not have missed those votes; it meant so much to him. It was an issue that he led on, he was respected for. When it came to closing the loopholes where convicted felons and people who had no business owning guns were buying them anyway, FRANK LAUTENBERG led the effort to stop the proliferation of guns and the distribution of them to people who would misuse them. It was a cause he felt passionately about, and one he cast many tough votes on as he served in the Senate.

His return that day for those votes was an act of courage in a long life that was filled with courage, starting with his service in the U.S. Army in World War II, and continuing throughout his life—physical courage, political courage, and moral courage.

When FRANK LAUTENBERG spoke to some law students at Rutgers University about 10 years ago, he said he had considered briefly studying law himself after he had served in the Army in World War II but decided he was too old to start law school. He told the law students: It was too late; I missed my opportunity.

FRANK LAUTENBERG may not have earned a law degree, but make no mistake, FRANK LAUTENBERG of New Jersey left an important mark on the laws of America.

Here is how I first came to know him. In 1986, I was a Congressman from Springfield, IL, and had been here 4 years. I had never met FRANK LAUTENBERG of New Jersey, who was a Senator at the time. I got this crazy notion to introduce a bill to ban smoking on airplanes. I didn't have a chance, not a chance. The entire leadership of the House of Representatives opposed me—all the Democratic leaders of my party and all the Republican leaders too. Yet I put the amendment on a transportation appropriations bill, and through some good luck and breaks it made it through the Rules Committee. That wasn't supposed to happen.

It turned out that when the chairman of the Rules Committee—Claude Pepper of Florida—was a Senator years before, he had been instrumental in starting the National Cancer Institute. As a southerner, he didn't talk much about tobacco—nobody did from the South in those days—but in his heart he knew tobacco smoking was killing people. He let me get that amendment to the floor, which shocked everybody. I remember the day—and this goes back 27 years—I was in the House of Representatives, brand new, calling this amendment to ban smoking on flights of 2 hours or less. That is how we started. I looked up in the gallery, and the gallery was filled with flight attendants in their uniforms from all different airlines. They were victims too of secondhand smoke.

We called that measure for a vote, and it passed. It shocked everybody. It turned out the House of Representatives was the biggest frequent flier club in America. They were sick and tired of sitting on airplanes and breathing in somebody else's secondhand smoke.

Well, there were a few moments of jubilation and celebration. Then somebody said, Well, what are you going to do in the Senate? I thought, Oh, my goodness; that is an important part of this. So I decided to call the chairman of the Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee—a fellow named FRANK LAUTENBERG of New Jersey. I didn't know him, but I said to him, FRANK, I would like to ask you a favor. Would you consider offering this bill as an amendment to the Senate transportation appropriations bill. He said, I will get back to you. And he did—in a hurry. He said, I am on board. Let's do it together.

It was the best phone call I ever made. And for the people of this country and those who fly on airplanes, that team of LAUTENBERG and DURBIN managed to pass a bill, signed into law, which did much more than we ever dreamed of. We thought this little idea of taking smoking off airplanes would make flight a little more comfortable and safer from a health point of view. What neither FRANK nor I realized at the time was it was a tipping point. Americans looked around and said, If we are going to take smoking off airplanes, why stop there? Trains, buses, offices, hospitals, restaurants—look across the board at what has happened in America. Neither FRANK nor I saw this coming, but it worked. It has changed this country. It has changed the Senate, the House—it has changed this country. I wouldn't be standing here today telling you the story were it not for FRANK LAUTENBERG. He was the very best partner I ever could have had. The day came when I was elected to the Senate. He and I used to go around and tell the story from time to time, reminiscing about that battle back in 1986.

FRANK told us he was once a two-pack-a-day cigarette smoker himself, but when it came to this bill, he knew the right thing to do. I was lucky to have him by my side. I couldn't have done it without him.

He was the driving force behind a lot of other laws that were important to America: setting the national drinking age at 21; setting the national blood level definition of 0.08 for drunk driving. These laws on smoking and drunk driving have saved millions of lives thanks to the leadership of FRANK LAUTENBERG.

He was the last remaining World War II veteran in the Senate. A few weeks ago we lost Danny Inouye, who used to sit right here. He, of course, served in World War II as well.

FRANK passed away early this morning in New York. He is survived by his wife Bonnie Englebardt Lautenberg. What an extraordinarily good person she is. I left a message for her on her voicemail and said, Standing by FRANK's side made a big difference in his life, in the years they were together. They were a great partnership. In addition, he is survived by 6 children and 13 grandchildren.

He was a leader on environmental protection, transportation, and protecting public health. He authored the law that prevented domestic abusers from possessing guns. It wasn't easy to do. It looks pretty obvious, doesn't it? It turned out police organizations were opposing him, because some policemen had been accused of domestic abuse and they couldn't carry a gun under the Lautenberg amendment. FRANK stood his ground.

He cowrote the new GI bill for the 21st century. A man who was a beneficiary of the original GI bill in World War II teamed up with Jim Webb of the State of Virginia, and the two of them put together a GI bill that our men and women who serve richly deserve.

He authored the toxic right to know law. It was another great law he and I cosponsored. It came down to the question of the chemicals that are put in fabric in our furniture—which, sadly, leach out and get into the environment of our homes, many times affecting small children. FRANK was quick to be the leader on that issue. Even though his State of New Jersey is one with a lot of chemical manufacturers and producers, he led in this effort to protect families and children.

He wrote the law to create the Paterson Great Falls National Historic Park. After he cast his 9,000th vote in December of 2011, Senator HARRY REID proclaimed on the Senate floor, ''FRANK LAUTENBERG has been one of the most productive Senators in the history of this country.''

It was February 15 that FRANK announced he wasn't going to seek another term in the Senate. At the time

of his announcement in his hometown of Paterson, he set out an agenda for the remaining 2 years of what he wanted to get done before he left the Senate: reforming the U.S. chemical safety laws, improving gun safety, and providing Federal resources for New Jersey to rebuild from Superstorm Sandy.

We owe it to FRANK and his memory to make sure those things are done. I know that BOB MENENDEZ, his friend and close colleague from New Jersey, will pick up that gauntlet and proceed to carry on in FRANK's name.

He used to say with some pride that he was a success in business—and he was—and that he understood the mind of businessmen. But he never ever lost touch with the common man and the people who counted on him in New Jersey and around the United States.

The Senate is going to miss FRANK LAUTENBERG. I am going to miss a great pal. I am going to miss one of the best dinner companions you could ever dream of here in Washington, DC. We are going to join together on Wednesday up in New York for a memorial service. I am sure it is going to be widely attended, because FRANK did a lot of good for a lot of people over the course of his years in public service. I am going to miss him.

Mr. President, I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I was going to speak on a different subject, but I will speak further about our dear colleague Senator LAUTENBERG. I look at the flowers on his desk—it seems in the years I have been here I have seen too many colleagues' flowers there. Of course, every day FRANK LAUTENBERG was here, I had the privilege of serving with him, a dear friend. I missed him when he left the Senate and was overjoyed when he came back to the Senate. He was a man who cared about his country, cared about the Senate, cared about the people.

He was a man who came from humble beginnings and became extremely wealthy. He spent a lot of time giving that wealth away. He was the last combat veteran—in fact, the last veteran from World War II serving in this body. Those of us who got to know him and spent time hearing of those horrendous times in Europe during World War II are better for it. We realized a person who had served the country during that time did more than any of the rest of us.

I will speak further about my friend FRANK LAUTENBERG. I know Marcelle and I extend our love to Bonnie and his children, his family.

I ask consent to speak as in morning business.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATIONS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, before the Senate went into recess, I was disappointed with the statements made to the Senate that misstated the history of Judge Srinivasan's confirmation process. The Senator who said the chairman of the Judiciary Committee made ''no effort, no effort'' to have a hearing on Judge Srinivasan until late last year was misinformed, and in stating what he did, he misinformed the Senate.

We made efforts in the fall before the election to schedule such a hearing, and I renewed our push to have a hearing on the nomination before the end of the session. I was accommodating Republican objections by not scheduling a hearing before the end of last year.

These erroneous RECORD statements—these erroneous statements to the rest of the Senate—have me wondering whether I should be so accommodating to Republican scheduling demands if they then forget their demands in their efforts to avoid responsibility and to blame others. In other words, they request a delay and then say, well, of course it is somebody else's fault that we had the delay.

Judge Srinivasan was nominated June 11, 2012, during a summer when Senate Republicans were in the process of constricting the confirmation process and intent on their misapplication of the so-called Thurmond rule to stall judicial nominees before the Presidential election. It was only in May, 2012, that the Senate completed action on the 19 nominees held over on the Senate Executive Calendar in 2011. Republicans were in the process of filibustering a nominee to the Ninth Circuit from Arizona. Interestingly enough, the person they were filibustering had been recommended by Jon Kyl of Arizona, the deputy Republican leader, of course a Republican Senator. Republicans were dragging out confirmations of judicial nominees who had been nominated in the fall of 2011 and the early months of 2012. They even filibustered a Tenth Circuit nominee from Oklahoma who had been supported by the two Republican Senators from Oklahoma in what was the first filibuster of a circuit court nominee reported with bipartisan support by the Judiciary Committee. Throw out all the precedents, throw out all the rule books, throw out everything Democrats and Republicans have done in the past—it is going to be our way or the highway. Even when the President of the United States, in trying to reach out, nominates a judge supported by the two Republican Senators of that State, a judge reported out by a bipartisan vote by the Senate Judiciary Committee, they say: Oh, what the heck, President Obama nominated him, let's filibuster him. This is wrong. It is a pity. It is beneath the United States Senate.

They filibustered a First Circuit nominee from Maine who was supported by the two Republican Senators from Maine. In addition, Republicans had filibustered the earlier nomination of Caitlin Halligan to the DC Circuit. Anybody who needs to refresh their recollections of those months should reread my statements on judicial nominations from June 6, June 11, June 12, June 18, June 26, July 10, July 16, July 23, July 30, August 2, September 10, September 20, November 30, December 3, December 6, December 11, December 13, and December 17. Unlike the recent misstatements made to the Senate, the facts are in those statements of mine.

By July 19, 2012, I had determined that the paperwork on the Srinivasan nomination was complete and the nominee could be included in a hearing. It has been my practice as chairman of the Judiciary Committee, in an effort to be fair, to do something that was not always done by others, to give the minority notice and allow consultation before scheduling a nomination for a hearing. At that time, the next July hearing had been discussed as one devoted to the nominee to head the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice, a nomination that itself had been delayed and to which there was Republican opposition. During the August recess, my staff asked Senator GRASSLEY's about holding a hearing on the Srinivasan nomination in September. They raised objections and concerns about proceeding with the DC Circuit nomination at that time but agreed to proceed with four district nominees and a Court of International Trade nominee.

In November 2012, after the American people had solidly reelected President Obama, we raised the need for the hearing on the DC Circuit nomination anew. Republicans objected, again, in spite of the precedent of holding a hearing on one of President Bush's DC Circuit nominees during a similar lameduck session.

Instead, they said: No, no, no. It is all right to do it for a Republican President but not for this Democratic President, Barack Obama. We can't do it for him. I know you allowed it for President George W. Bush, but after all, he is different. He was a Republican President. We cannot do it for this Democratic President. Instead they wanted to proceed only with district court nominees during the lameduck. Republicans insisted the Srinivasan hearing be put off until the next Congress and the new year. In deference to the Republican minority, I held off. They agreed that he would be included in the first nominations hearing of the 113th Congress.

Then, in early January this year, when called upon to hold up what they said they would agree to, their end of the bargain, Republicans wanted to change the rules again and they

balked. They insisted the nominee and others be interviewed and scores of documents be produced in their effort to stall other nominations. In other words, having made an agreement, they backed out of it. The nominee was not, and could not have been, the ''lawyer . . . who handled'' the Magner case. In fact, the United States was not a party in the Magner case. As was readily apparent from the one email that named Srinivasan, his alleged ''involvement'' was merely being asked by Tom Perez, now the President's nominee to be Labor Secretary, a technical legal question about U.S. Supreme Court procedure. It was the nominee's job as the Principal Deputy Solicitor General to answer such questions for administration officials—and he did answer it appropriately. Republicans could have asked him about it at his confirmation hearing in January and fulfilled their agreement, but they insisted on using his nomination as leverage against the administration. They insisted, instead, on first interviewing three U.S. Department of Justice officials, including Tom Perez, before they would go forward with his hearing.

After months of attempts to get the committee Republicans to focus on the nominee at hand while they insisted on their wide-ranging investigation of Tom Perez, a nominee not pending before the Judiciary Committee, Republicans finally agreed to include Srinivasan at the Judiciary Committee on April 10, 2013. That was more than 7 months after the hearing I had first been proposed and more than three months after the hearing to which they had previously agreed.

As I noted in my December 12 hearing statement, as Chairman I had not jammed the minority with judicial confirmation hearings the way my Republican predecessor did. I was trying to bring the Senate back to the way it should be, the same way I did during the immigration hearings and markup. I did not want to go back to the games played that we had to face when they were in charge. I think no good deed goes unpunished.

We held only 11 judicial nomination hearings in 2012. In light of the Senate's recess schedule for the election cycle, we held only two after the August recess. The nominations included at those hearings were the result of consultation with the ranking minority member and were essentially by agreement.

I now see that when we try to work it out, and we keep our word and we have conciliation and accommodation and keep our word and our part of the bargain, all we get is recrimination from the other side as they try to break the bargain. That is not the Senate I have been proud to serve in for 38 years.

This nominee was praised at the hearing and proceeded to answer scores of written questions after the hearing. When he had provided his written responses, I listed his nomination for action by the Judiciary Committee on May 9, 2013. In what has become standard practice for the Republicans on the Judiciary Committee, they still insisted on holding him over for another week for no good reason. I protected their right on that, even though it has been abused in a way I have never seen in 38 years.

Presaging the unanimous Senate vote, the vote in the Judiciary Committee was 18 to zero when it was finally allowed to proceed on May 16. Republicans then insisted that the Senate vote on his confirmation be delayed two weeks until after the Memorial Day recess. I would not be surprised if Senate Republicans now took credit for expediting that vote despite the fact that it took the Majority Leader filing a cloture petition to get that vote in May.

I make significant efforts to ensure that the minority is prepared to move forward on a nomination before we schedule a hearing. My staff routinely gives them our plan weeks in advance. Even with this advance notice, I routinely have to notice a hearing without listing nominees because the minority has not yet taken the time to read the basic material on the nominations despite its being available for weeks, and sometimes months, with something a law clerk could have done in 20 minutes, but this highly paid professional staff can't get around to doing it.

I am disappointed that despite the fact that I have bent over backwards to accommodate them, Senate Republicans contend that I made ''no effort, no effort'' to hold Judge Srinivasan's hearing last fall. One Republican Senator said during the debate on the Srinivasan nomination that the delay must have been my choice since that decision was ''solely within the control of the Democratic majority.'' For Senate Republicans to pretend that they had no role in delaying this nomination was wrong. Do they really think the American people are that gullible? I think not.

We had the Policeman of the Year award early this morning in the Mansfield Room. When I looked up at that painting of Mike Mansfield, I thought of how wonderful it was to come here when he was the majority leader. I remember him saying one thing: Senators, no matter what their party, should always keep their word; and when on the floor of the Senate, they should always tell the truth. That is good advice. I wish people would start following it.

COMMENDING SENATOR STABENOW

I see the distinguished Senator from Michigan, the chair of the Senate Agriculture Committee, on the floor. If I could take 30 seconds longer so I can say with her here what I said about her in Vermont to a group of farmers this past week: The Senate is blessed to have her as chair. Nobody has done it better, and I can speak with some experience. She brought through a wonderful bipartisan farm bill last year. The other body did not take it up. She is going to bring through a wonderful one this year. I hope they will take it up.

While she is on the Senate floor, I want to say the same thing I said about her in the State of Vermont: Every one of us is so proud of the Senator. Whether it was a Republican or Democrat, they all agreed.

I yield the floor.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

AGRICULTURE REFORM, FOOD, AND JOBS ACT OF 2013

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 954, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 954) to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018.

Pending:

Stabenow (for Leahy) amendment No. 998, to establish a pilot program for gigabit Internet projects in rural areas.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Michigan.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, before the distinguished chair of the Judiciary Committee—and former chair of the Agriculture Committee—leaves the floor, I just want to thank him not only for being a wonderful role model for me in chairing the Agriculture Committee, but also for the way in which he conducts the Judiciary Committee. He is evenhanded, fair, and gives every member the opportunity to make their case, whether it is legislation coming through on gun violence, immigration, or judicial nominations. I just want to thank the Senator for being the model of a statesman in all he does.

I agree that we need to move forward in a fair and open bipartisan way in filling the nominations of our judiciary. I just wanted to thank the Senator from Vermont.

Mr. President, we are resuming the consideration of the farm bill, the agriculture reform, food, and jobs bill. Before I address that, I want to take a moment—as many colleagues have already done, and many more will do—to pay a very special tribute to a dear friend and colleague, Senator FRANK LAUTENBERG of New Jersey.

REMEMBERING FRANK R. LAUTENBERG

I was deeply saddened, as we all were today, to learn Senator LAUTENBERG had passed away during the night. My thoughts and prayers are with Bonnie and the whole family, as I know they are grieving because of the special loss they feel and we will all feel.

He was the kind of Senator we will not see again—a World War II veteran. We have lost our World War II veterans. He defended freedom against

some of the most evil forces of the 20th century, and he was truly a member of the ''greatest generation'' of Americans.

We saw him battle cancer and survive. We have seen him come to the floor time after time on behalf of the people of New Jersey and our country to fight with tremendous courage for what he believed was right.

I daresay he was one of the lions of the Senate. He served for nearly 30 years, casting over 9,000 votes on behalf of the State and the people he loved.

What makes Congress special is that we all come from all walks of life, and as we know that is what makes a great democracy. That is what gives us our strength, not weakness.

Senator LAUTENBERG was the son of Jewish immigrants. He went to school on the GI bill—as my dad did—after defending our country. He went on to become a successful businessman by developing one of the most successful payroll companies in the world.

We were proud to have Senator LAUTENBERG speak on what it meant to be a success in creating jobs. He has been a wonderful voice in that regard.

He found his true calling in public service, and we all know that. During his five terms in the Senate he was one of the most fearless fighters on a whole range of issues. He has made a permanent mark on the quality of life of Americans. Among other things, he helped to strengthen drunk driving laws, pass the ban on smoking, prevent those convicted of domestic violence from possessing guns, to author legislation to help the public discover what pollutants were being released into neighborhoods, and to cowrite the new GI bill for the 21st century. I could go on and on with so many other examples.

I am proud to have worked with him to champion cleaning our beaches all along our coasts and Great Lakes, working to increase the awareness and treatment of autism, and fighting to make sure women have access to the health care we need and deserve.

He was a true fighter for the rights of all Americans, and he will be greatly missed.

Once again, I send my thoughts and prayers to his wife Bonnie, who is an amazing woman in her own right, his children, and his grandchildren during this very difficult time.

Mr. President, as we return to the debate on the farm bill today, it is important to note that what we do this week will reflect just how committed we are to 16 million Americans who depend on agriculture for their livelihood. All Americans depend on its success for the safest, most affordable, and abundant food supply in the world.

We have to lead by example. We cannot kick the can down the road. We, in the Senate, have already worked hard together on this farm bill which passed out of the Agriculture Committee with broad bipartisan support. We have had a good debate on the Senate floor and a number of votes. We are close to finishing the bill, and we need to get it done this week.

I will note that it was just a year ago when we were also working on this bill. At that time, after coming out of committee on a strong bipartisan vote as well, we had 73 record rollcall votes. Every one of the substantive amendments that passed on the floor is already in this bill.

So we started with the work we did a year ago and the amendments of colleagues that were passed on the floor of the Senate, and now we are building on that with additional ideas. We know it is time to bring this work to a close and get it done.

We need to move forward in order to take care of the people who rely on agricultural policy, conservation policy, nutrition, energy policy, and rural development. Every community outside of our major cities depends on rural development funds in order to be able to provide economic development, build the water and sewer project, build the road, and provide a loan for a small business. They are all counting on us to get this bill done so they have some long-term certainty.

This is a jobs bill, and the 5-year bill in front of us needs to get passed so they have certainty about how to plan for the future and how to continue to create jobs.

We also need to pass this bill because we need to stop unnecessary spending, and we do that in this bill. We need to also ensure that consumers will continue to have a safe, healthy, and affordable food supply. We need to come together to show that, once again, we can work together across party lines as we have done on this legislation. It is important to get this bill done this week.

I am very proud of the fact that last year we were the only committee that produced a voluntary deficit reduction plan. We went through every single page of the policy under the farm bill, and I asked: Does it duplicate something else? Does it work? Is it needed anymore? Is it worthy of taxpayer dollars?

At the end we had eliminated 100 different programs or authorizations. Some programs were consolidated or strengthened, such as conservation. Others were eliminated because they did not make sense. Things such as direct payment subsidies did not make sense. Last year we were able to produce $23 billion in savings.

This year we were back at it again and looked at a couple of other ideas, and it is $24 billion in savings to reduce the deficit. To put that in some kind of context, under the across-the-board cuts we have all known to be called the sequester—the across-the-board cuts over the next 10 years for every agency—agriculture's across-the-board cut is $6 billion.

We could have said: Well, the sequester is $6 billion, so we will find $6 billion in savings. We didn't do that. We found four times as much in savings. We wanted to come to the floor of the Senate to tell every colleague that there is integrity in every program; that we have done everything we could to cut duplication, create accountability, and provide policies that make sense for the American taxpayer.

We don't do subsidies anymore, we do insurance. We partnered with farmers to buy insurance so they have skin in the game. They don't receive a check, they get a bill for the insurance. But just like any other insurance, there is no payout unless there is a loss. So that is the basic structure.

We have done a tremendous amount to also hone in on areas of, frankly, misuse or abuse in policy as it relates to the commodity title as well. For instance, this bill caps payments in the commodity program to half of what they currently are. So we cut in half the current limit on what may be received by an individual farmer.

Senator GRASSLEY and Senator TIM JOHNSON deserve tremendous credit. Senator GRASSLEY, as a member of our committee, has championed these reforms in payments for years, and this is the first farm bill that has that in the base bill. We are cutting the payments in half.

We closed something called the manager's loophole to ensure that so-called farm managers actually have to be farming. They have to actually be farming to get a farm payment.

Today the Washington Post has an article that I would encourage folks to read. It talks about folks who are in Manhattan and Georgetown, living in multimillion-dollar homes, receiving these payments, and they are not farmers. Because of the current structure and lack of accountability and focus, they are actually getting paid. They do not get that anymore under this bill. We have important reforms.

This bill saves money by tightening rules to prevent fraud and misuse in our nutrition programs. Our nutrition programs are critical and essential. Just as crop insurance is there when a farmer has a disaster, food programs are there when a family has a disaster.

We know, as in anything else, there are areas where there can be abuse or waste. In my own home State, much to my chagrin, we have seen lottery winners continue to receive food assistance. We stop that. We crack down on retailers engaged in trafficking of benefits, and we prevent States from allowing some individuals to claim expenses they don't really have in order to increase their benefits.

By ending the misuse but making sure we keep the standard benefit for every man, woman, and child who deserves some temporary help, we are putting more integrity into the food program. I would argue we need to make sure we stand strong against the cuts coming from the House of Representatives when we talk about food assistance for folks who have paid taxes all of their lives, who never

thought in their wildest dreams they would ever need help, who are mortified and who suddenly find themselves out of work and need to know somebody will be there to help them put food on the table, help them get back on their feet. Our bill does that while creating accountability. I am very proud of the work our committee has done.

We also have streamlined programs not only to save dollars but to create more flexibility.

We have done a tremendous amount of work in the area of conservation. We have over 650 conservation and environmental groups across the country endorsing our work in conservation. We took 23 conservation programs and cut them down to 14 and then put them in 4 very different and flexible areas. These conservation groups see that as an improvement because we are cutting down the paperwork and making it more flexible for farmers and community groups to be able to access conservation programs, and we are actually saving money as we are doing that.

In this bill, as the Presiding Officer knows, we have also codified a very important agreement that environmentalists, conservation groups, and farm commodity group leaders have come to in supporting crop insurance and making sure those who receive crop insurance are compliant with conservation. It is a very important policy, and I commend everybody who worked so hard on it.

Once again, as we go into this week, I wish to remind colleagues this is a jobs bill. Agriculture is a bright spot in our economy. It is the only area in which we actually have a trade surplus. The farm bill invests in a number of areas to boost exports and to help family farmers sell more goods locally. We make some changes. While we are cutting in certain areas, we actually increase in others. That is what we ought to do when we make good policy decisions. So we have increased funding for farmers markets, local food hubs, the ability for schools to be able to purchase more fresh foods and vegetables locally—things that create jobs locally.

We have spurred innovations in new biobased manufacturing—not just bioenergy, but we can replace chemicals and petroleum with things such as soybean oil and other agricultural byproducts that are actually cleaner, biodegradable, create jobs, and get us off foreign oil. So there are new initiatives in the farm bill that allow us to do that as well.

It really is a time for reform of the policies that fall under what we dub the ''farm bill.'' This bill, I believe and I think it is safe to say, is the most reform we have seen in decades. We have done it on a bipartisan basis. We have had tough votes and made tough decisions, but I believe they are the right decisions in terms of reform. This is a bipartisan effort, coming out of committee 15 to 5, and I hope for and expect a strong bipartisan vote as we had a year ago.

This really is a jobs bill. It really is a jobs bill, and in order to keep it a set of jobs policies, our farmers and ranchers need to have the economic certainty of getting this work done and having a 5-year policy that will allow them to plan and to continue to create the safest, most affordable food supply for Americans of anyone in the world. So it is time to get it done. We are anxious to work with colleagues this week to do that.

Thank you, Mr. President. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. INHOFE. I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for such time as I may consume.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SEXUAL ASSAULT

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, tomorrow the Senate Armed Services Committee is going to hold a hearing on the pending legislation regarding sexual assault in the military.

Lately, we have been bombarded, we have been inundated with news reports about sexual assault in the military in our Nation. We can't lose sight of the fact that we have the finest military in the world. The presence of sexual predators in our force does not take away from the overwhelming good that is done around the world by our members in uniform, but the presence of these sexual predators in the ranks needs to be addressed, and that is what the military is doing now with or without our interference.

Last year's NDAA—the National Defense Authorization Act—signed into law in January of this year, included 10 new provisions dealing with sexual assault that commanders have barely had time to begin implementing, let alone to assess the effectiveness of them. Yet some want to provide still more changes in the law this year. These commanders need time to act. We can't keep piling new demands on our commanders until they have had time to meet the previous demands. That is what the hearing tomorrow is really all about. We are going to be talking about more demands along these lines.

Today, sexual assault has not been eliminated, but we are working on it. The battle is not lost. More needs to be done. We understand that, and more is going to be done. But we have to preserve the leadership tools that make our forces the finest in the world. One such tool has been to give commanders authority to identify and correct problems firmly and fairly and dispose of disciplinary offenses that destroy morale and readiness. That is why I oppose the proposals to eliminate the role of the commander in this process.

To take the commander out of the process would invite failure. These commanders have to make decisions to send our brave troops into battle. How ludicrous is it that we would say to our commanders: You have to make a decision to send one of our kids into battle where they may end up losing their lives; however, you can't participate in the justice system of the troops. It doesn't make any sense at all.

As we consider the many proposals to combat sexual assault in the military, we can't lose sight of the importance to do three things. The three things are protect, prevent, and preserve. We have to protect the critical role of the commander in driving cultural changes and accountability. We have to prevent case disposition authority from being transferred outside the chain of command. Those of us who have been in the service know what that is. Thirdly, we have to preserve the integrity of the Uniform Code of Military Justice as an integrated, functional system of justice.

First, we have to protect the critical role of the commander. The military is a hierarchy. The most junior recruit quickly learns there is always someone above him in the military organization. I have been there. I understand that. The need to follow the chain of command has been instilled in our troops. That is what they do. It is not a social system; this is a chain of command. Our military is both an organization of leaders and of followers who are in training to become leaders. In peacetime or in war, leaders establish clear expectations and insist on meeting objectives. Every job in the military is important, and every job needs to be done correctly because lives depend on it. The security of our Nation also depends on it. To ensure that the tough jobs get done, the military has a justice system that sets the expectation that decisions have consequences and, I might add, bad decisions have consequences also.

Today there are four major bills that have been introduced to address perceived deficiencies in how the armed services address sexual assault. I think these will very likely be discussed—maybe not all four of them, but some of them are going to be discussed in tomorrow's hearing. I believe that before we make significant, substantive, and procedural changes to the law, including the UCMJ, we need the benefit of adequate review. We need to think before we act.

We have to prevent case disposition authority from being transferred outside the chain of command. It is a terrible idea to remove the authority of commanders to dispose of the military justice offenses. If commanders will be held responsible for abolishing sexual

assault, then they must have the tools they need.

Some propose establishing colonel-level JAGs—judge advocate generals—instead of commanders as disposition authorities who would decide what cases should go to courts-martial. The awesome authority of a commander is the foundation for discipline within the organization. The most junior servicemember in the organization knows, under the current law, their commander has the ability to decide if misconduct should be disposed of through administrative measures, by nonjudicial punishment, or by a court-martial. Others within the command watch how the commander deals with misconduct. All of this stuff doesn't happen in a vacuum. People are watching. Those individuals who are going to be under the control and command and jurisdiction of a commander have to know how they are doing it. If the commander is not allowed to exercise that authority, it will destroy discipline within the command. When discipline declines, the military's ability to deflect threats declines with it.

Another proposal would create two separate disciplinary systems: one in which commanders retain limited ability to dispose of minor, uniquely military offenses; another where a judge advocate, far removed from the commander, decides what offenses go to trial by court-martial. Now, how can two systems possibly be more efficient and effective than one system in the hands of commanders who are fully vested in the wellness and the readiness of their commands?

Another proposal would revoke designation of certain senior officers who are currently authorized by Federal law to convene general courts-martial. This has broad implications beyond military justice. This would require the services to revise literally hundreds of service regulations.

Another proposal that I think is worthy of careful review would establish a special victims counsel. The proposal would assign an attorney to the victim of sexual assault to provide advice throughout the process, from initial complaint of sexual assault through final disposition. The Air Force has already developed a pilot program. We are doing it now. So I think the suggestion is good, but it is simply what we are currently doing. Wouldn't it be better to wait and get the results of what the Air Force is doing in their program to determine whether this is something we want to continue?

I am willing to consider appropriate changes to the UCMJ in a thoughtful bipartisan approach that is consistent with the longstanding traditions of the Senate Committee on Armed Services. In the fiscal year 2013 NDAA—the National Defense Authorization Act—we created an independent panel to review the UCMJ and judicial proceedings of sexual assault cases. The panel is tasked with assessing the response systems used to investigate, prosecute, and adjudicate sexual assault and related offenses and to recommend how to improve effectiveness. The commission has only just begun, and we must allow it the opportunity to do what it was created to do. So we established this. It was just last January when we established this, and they are busy doing what we have asked them to do.

Sexual assault cannot be abolished by legislation alone. While we should not wait to provide additional tools that could make a difference immediately, we have to be deliberate in making fundamental changes that could undermine the UCMJ. I said we should do three things, and this is the third thing.

The third thing is to preserve the integrity of the UCMJ as an integrated, functional system of justice. Since 1951, the UCMJ has backed up commanders' authority and their best leadership skills with the force of law. The UCMJ is a deployable justice system that has proved to be effective throughout our Nation's conflicts.

Some believe military justice under the UCMJ and the Manual for Courts-Martial is an informal, undisciplined system. Nothing could be further from the truth. The UCMJ is a highly developed and codified legal system. The Rules of Court Martial are the military counterpart to the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and provide detailed and structured procedural rules. The Military Rules of Evidence are based on the Federal Rules of Evidence.

The UCMJ has been at the forefront of changes in the civil criminal justice system. In fact, it has been ahead of the civil system. They are doing things in advance of what the civil system actually does.

A rights warning statement similar to the now-familiar Miranda warnings was required by article 31 of the UCMJ a decade and a half before the Supreme Court decision of Miranda v. Arizona. The UCMJ was offering these protections long before the civil courts did—the same thing with article 38(b). It continued the 1948 Articles of War guarantee of qualified defense counsel—in other words, you get a defense counsel—to be provided to all accused and at earlier stages than required in civilian jurisdictions. So the military was providing counsel long before the civil system was. Yet the U.S. Supreme Court only guaranteed counsel to the poorest criminal defendants in 1963. Again, UCMJ was way ahead of the game.

Our Nation has 238 years of investment in our military justice system, a system of Federal law, rules of procedure and evidence, and case history interpreting those rules that form the foundation for one of the most comprehensive and sophisticated justice systems the world has ever known.

The UCMJ is not static and unchanging. It has continuously been updated. Article 146 of the UCMJ requires an annual comprehensive update. The Joint Service Committee reviews recommendations to modify the UCMJ on a regular basis.

Some remain committed to yet another round of changes to the law and, in fact, the recently passed fiscal year 2013 NDAA included some 10 legislative changes addressing sexual assault in the military.

The services need adequate time to implement recent legal changes that give them the tools to fight these assaults. Stop and think about it. Just last January we gave 10 new rules for them to absorb and put into play. They have not had time to do that yet. Yet we are talking about having a meeting and putting together something that would be maybe even contradicting what we have already told them to do.

Some would criticize our commanders and the entire military justice system because of a recent case in which a court-martial conviction was set aside. If we take time to look at the statistics, we will see commanders have only set aside findings of guilty in about 1 percent of the cases.

The Marine commanders only set aside findings in 7 out of 1,768 cases from 2010 to 2012. That is 0.4 percent of the cases—less than 1 percent.

The Air Force commanders only set aside findings in 40 of 3,713 cases over 5 years. That is 1 percent.

The Army commanders set aside findings in only 68 of 4,603 cases since 2008.

The Navy says its commanders only set aside findings in 4 of the 16,056 cases they have tried from 2002 to 2012. That is 0.0001 percent in a 10-year period.

Clearly, the commanders have been doing a good job. The Defense Legal Policy Board released a subcommittee report on military justice in combat zones just last week. This Defense Legal Policy Board was put together and they have experts to study this matter. We all agreed this was a good move. They came out with their report last week. This is not something that might have happened 2 or 3 years ago. It happened just last week.

The subcommittee began its work on July 30, 2012, to assess the application of military justice in combat zones in Afghanistan and Iraq. This report states, since the beginning of 2001, the Army conducted over 800 courts-martial in deployed environments, the Navy and Marine Corps conducted 8 courts-martial in Afghanistan and 34 in Iraq, and the Air Force conducted 3 courts-martial in Iraq and 3 in Afghanistan.

The main theme of the Defense Legal Policy Board's subcommittee hearings and their 208-page report is the need for the joint commander to have a central role in the administration of justice in deployed theaters of operations. This is the opposite of what some people are saying now. They are saying take the commander out of it.

I am going to read this quote. This report came out just 1 week ago.

While good order and discipline is important and essential in any military environment, it is especially vital in the deployed

environment. The military justice system is the definitive commanders' tool to preserve good order and discipline, and nowhere—I repeat—nowhere is this more important than in a combat zone. A breakdown of good order and discipline while deployed can have a devastating effect on mission effectiveness.

Continuing to quote the report that came out last week:

The Joint Commander is ultimately responsible for the conduct of his forces. As such the Subcommittee has determined that the Joint Commander MUST have the authority and apparatus necessary to preserve good order and discipline through the military justice system.

Let me repeat the last line.

As such the Subcommittee—

The experts who were looking at this and came out with the report last week—

has determined that the Joint Commander MUST have the authority and apparatus necessary to preserve good order and discipline through the military justice system.

The services can do better, and they will. But the record clearly demonstrates these commanders take their responsibility very seriously, and we should continue to let them lead the men and women of our Armed Forces into battle, bring them home safely, and to use all the tools in the military justice system to enforce their authority.

At the very least, let's give the commanders a chance to implement the changes we ordered them to make as recently as last January before we go imposing more systems on them.

I know it is popular to do this and say we have all these sexual harassments and all that, but these figures speak for themselves. These are facts, and I think we cannot expect our people—our commanders in the field, the ones who are responsible for the lives and deaths of the troops they send into harm's way—to continue to spend all of their time making these changes and not even have time to make the changes we ordered them to do last January.

With that, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. TESTER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO MAX BAUCUS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, in a few minutes Senators will cast votes on two amendments to the farm bill that is now pending before this body. Before we do, I wish to take a minute to acknowledge that the senior Senator from Montana, MAX BAUCUS, has cast more than 12,000 votes over the past three decades in this institution, the Senate. This is a remarkable accomplishment, and it speaks to his dedication to the Senate and to the people of Montana.

He is a hard-working Senator. He learned the value of hard work on a ranch outside of Helena, the capital, in the State of Montana. From the time he was a boy, he was noted as being extremely smart. That is why he was able to obtain both his bachelor's degree and his law degree from one of the most prestigious universities in the world, Stanford University.

I have worked with him the many years I have been here in the Senate. I worked with him when he was chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee during a massive highway bill. He has been a member of the Agriculture Committee for many years.

His mark in this body, though, has been as a member of the Finance Committee. He has done many things. He was involved over the course of the 1982 bill that reformed the Tax Code significantly, called Bradley-Gephardt. MAX BAUCUS was in there working on what he thought was important to Montana and the country.

He became chairman of this very important committee, and he has been instrumental in developing many massive pieces of legislation but nothing more significant than the months and months and months he spent managing the health reform bill, the ObamaCare bill. He has long been an advocate for children's health. He was an advocate for the Children's Health Insurance Program and has fought to strengthen Medicare for seniors all over America and, of course, in his State of Montana.

As I mentioned, he served on the Agriculture Committee, the Environment and Public Works Committee, and the Joint Committee on Taxation. His legislative record is open for everyone to see. It is massive, it is important, and he has done a remarkably good job.

The one thing Senator BAUCUS and I have spent a lot of time talking about is running—not running for office but running with your feet. He is an avid runner. I used to feel and always felt pretty cocky that I have run quite a few marathons, but they pale in comparison to the running MAX BAUCUS has done. No. 1, he is faster than I am, and, No. 2, he can run longer than I can. He has completed a 50-mile race in less than 12 hours. That is remarkable, and he did that less than 10 years ago. This is just one way Max has gone the distance. Anyone willing to spend half a day running must love the outdoors. I am speaking about half a day. That is 12 hours. This is especially true for Max, who enjoys hunting and fishing and has been an important advocate for public lands in Montana and the Nation. He was the author of one the largest conservation bills I know of in American history, except for perhaps some Alaska lands bills, which preserved more than 310,000 acres of forest land in northwestern Montana.

I congratulate Senator BAUCUS on reaching this impressive milestone of 12,000 votes and recognize the contributions he has made to this country are significant.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

REMEMBERING FRANK R. LAUTENBERG

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, today I come to the floor shaken and deeply saddened, as we all are, by the loss of our colleague, my good friend and ally, the senior Senator from New Jersey, Senator FRANK LAUTENBERG. When I think of Senator LAUTENBERG, I think of the word ''tenacity.'' FRANK LAUTENBERG was tenacious. When he had a setback, he always got right back into the game. He was as tenacious in life as he was here in the Senate, where that tenacity paid off for the people of New Jersey and for the Nation.

When he had a setback with cancer, he did not let himself take 1 minute more than he had to before he got back up and went right back at it. I will always remember his tenacity, a strength of will, and an unshakable resolve that helped him in his own life and in making life better for others.

FRANK LAUTENBERG loved the Senate. He loved his job and the people who elected him time and time again—five times, in fact; the longest serving Senator for the State of New Jersey—people he cared deeply about: working families, seniors, single moms, and the hard-working folks who trusted him always to be on their side, and he was. He was a man for New Jersey, a man for his time—one of the ''greatest generation,'' the last in the Senate to have served in World War II.

His story was a quintessential American story. His father Sam worked in the silk mills of Paterson, NJ. He sold coal, he farmed, and he once ran a tavern. FRANK lost his father to cancer when he was 19 and he learned the lesson of hard work, having to take on a job nights and weekends until he graduated from Nutley High School, when he joined the Army and went to Europe. When he came back, he went to Columbia University on the GI bill, and he got a degree in economics. He understood the value of that opportunity given to him as a veteran and he extended that forward when he later coauthored the new 21st century GI bill.

Anyone who knew FRANK LAUTENBERG knew he was destined to make something of himself, and he did. He joined two of his boyhood friends to found a very successful business, ADP, and he did it well. But if losing his father, working his way through high school, going to war, starting a business and making a success of himself wasn't enough, FRANK wanted to give something back. He was very comfortable in life and he could have said: I am going to enjoy this hard work and sacrifice that has brought me to this comfortable stage in life, but he considered himself lucky and he wanted to help others. That is why he ran for office. It is why he served and it is why the people of New Jersey kept electing him.

New Jerseyans loved and admired FRANK for what he did for the Nation

and what he did to help them and every American build a better life for themselves and their families. In death, those accomplishments and the love and admiration New Jerseyans have always had for FRANK LAUTENBERG will not diminish, whether it was his landmark drunk driving law, coauthoring the 21st century GI bill, or introducing the toxic right to know law that empowered the public to know what pollutants were being released into their neighborhood, FRANK gave something back to all of us.

We can talk about how hard he fought for the victims of Superstorm Sandy this year. Even in illness he came back to the Senate to try to make sure New Jerseyans and all those who suffered from Superstorm Sandy were taken care of. Or we can talk about how he worked to make the Paterson Great Falls—his hometown he loved so dearly—a national park. But above all, he was Mr. Transportation here in the Senate. Whether it was roads or bridges, airlines or the rail system, he believed in having the best and safest transportation system in the world. And when it comes to air travel, he was way ahead of his time when it came to safety. Let's not forget it was FRANK LAUTENBERG who ended the dangers of smoking on airlines so none of us would be subjected to sitting in a smoke-filled aircraft and with the dangers of smoking on a plane. Today, when I took the Amtrak from Newark to Union Station, I thought through most of that ride of FRANK. I remembered how many times he came to this floor to fight for America's railways, how much he believed in the importance of rail travel and what it meant to keeping this Nation's transportation system competitive.

Given all those accomplishments, it still would not adequately reflect the gift of governing he gave this Nation in the 9,000 votes he cast in this Chamber. Maybe not all of them made the headlines, but they made a difference for every American family. With each of those votes, FRANK LAUTENBERG helped shape the history of America, and not just for his time but for all generations to come.

When I think of FRANK I also certainly not only look back to the fact he was part of that ''greatest generation'' of World War II veterans, but I also think FRANK may have left us too soon at the age of 89 because he never missed a beat. He lived in the moment. I remember about 3 years ago, in January, he and his wife Bonnie celebrated his 86th birthday in what some might say was an unusual way. FRANK wanted to spend his birthday with his favorite singer. He was a fan of Lady Gaga, and so to celebrate his birthday, he and Bonnie went to Radio City Music Hall for Lady Gaga's Monster Ball Tour.

No, FRANK was not yesterday's news. He was always about today's news, and he lived in the moment. But that moment is gone now. We remember well, and we were lucky to share that moment with him. Time goes by all too quickly, but the memories last forever. His accomplishments will last forever. They will touch the lives of people well beyond his death, and our image of what it means to learn to live, to learn, to earn, and then give something back will never be forgotten because it lives in FRANK LAUTENBERG's legacy to this Chamber, this Nation, and to the people of my home State.

There is a quote from the Old Testament, from Daniel, chapter 12, and it says:

> Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake . . . and the wise shall shine brightly like the splendor of the firmament . . . And those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever.

FRANK LAUTENBERG stood for justice in all of its forms for every American every day he served in this Chamber, and his memory shall be like a constellation showing us the way.

Today we say: Thank you, Senator LAUTENBERG, for a life well lived and a job well done. Thank you, on behalf of a grateful State and Nation.

Our deepest thoughts and prayers are with his wife Bonnie and his entire family. I know we will miss him as they will miss him, as the Nation will miss his incredible work.

With that, Mr. President, I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT OFFICER (Mr. COWAN). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 987

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to temporarily set aside the pending amendment so that I may call up my amendment No. 987, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

> The Senator from Kansas [Mr. MORAN] proposes an amendment numbered 987.

Mr. MORAN. I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

> (Purpose: To require the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation to carry out research and development regarding a crop insurance program for alfalfa)
>
> After section 11024, insert the following:
>
> **SEC. 110___. ALFALFA CROP INSURANCE POLICY.**
>
> Section 522(c) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1522(c)) (as amended by section 11024) is amended by adding at the end the following:
>
> ''(25) ALFALFA CROP INSURANCE POLICY.—
>
> ''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Corporation shall offer to enter into 1 or more contracts with qualified entities to carry out research and development regarding a policy to insure alfalfa.
>
> ''(B) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Corporation shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes the results of the study conducted under subparagraph (A).''.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I was on the floor earlier today describing this amendment, and I will do so very briefly.

This is an amendment to the farm bill that deals with a crop called alfalfa, one that is grown and produced in most States but often not known a lot about, as we discovered in this farm bill discussion. What we know about this crop is that it is very important and used in many ways—to feed cattle and produce milk by feeding dairy cattle—and so it is a very important component in the livestock industry and valuable as feed for both cattle for meat consumption and cattle for dairy consumption.

There is a real challenge in getting crop insurance available for this crop. So this amendment would require the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation to conduct research and development regarding an insurance policy to insure alfalfa and then provide us with a report from the results of that study. There is no cost to the taxpayer. As I understand, this is a noncontroversial amendment.

I see the chairperson of the committee is on the Senate floor, and I would be happy to yield to her.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I urge adoption of the amendment. The Moran amendment follows the philosophy of this farm bill of moving from direct subsidies to crop insurance. It is an important crop, and it is important to make sure that we do have crop insurance tailored to alfalfa growers.

I urge colleagues to support the amendment, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: The Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS), and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DONNELLY). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 72, nays 18, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 140 Leg.]

YEAS—72

Alexander	Fischer	Merkley
Baldwin	Franken	Mikulski
Barrasso	Gillibrand	Moran
Baucus	Graham	Murray
Begich	Grassley	Nelson
Bennet	Hagan	Portman
Blumenthal	Harkin	Pryor
Blunt	Hatch	Reid
Boozman	Heinrich	Roberts
Brown	Heitkamp	Rockefeller
Burr	Hirono	Sanders
Cantwell	Hoeven	Schatz
Cardin	Inhofe	Schumer
Carper	Isakson	Shaheen
Casey	Johanns	Stabenow
Chambliss	Johnson (SD)	Tester
Cochran	Kaine	Thune
Collins	King	Udall (CO)
Coons	Landrieu	Udall (NM)
Cowan	Leahy	Warner
Crapo	Levin	Warren
Donnelly	McCaskill	Whitehouse
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker
Feinstein	Menendez	Wyden

NAYS—18

Ayotte	Durbin	Reed
Coats	Flake	Risch
Coburn	Heller	Rubio
Corker	Kirk	Scott
Cornyn	Manchin	Shelby
Cruz	Paul	Toomey

NOT VOTING—9

Boxer	Lee	Murphy
Johnson (WI)	McCain	Sessions
Klobuchar	Murkowski	Vitter

The amendment (No. 987) was agreed to.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote, and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

VOTE EXPLANATION

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I was unable to attend this roll call vote. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on the Moran amendment No. 974 to require the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation to carry out research and development regarding a crop insurance program for alfalfa.●

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

AMENDMENT NO. 1079

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator COONS and Senator JOHANNS—I am not sure if Senator JOHANNS is here—I wish to call up amendment No. 1079 on their behalf. We intend to take this by voice vote this evening.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Michigan [Ms. STABENOW], for Mr. COONS and Mr. JOHANNS, proposes an amendment numbered 1079.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To modify a provision relating to funding of local and regional food aid procurement projects)

On page 339, line 13, strike ''$40,000,000'' and insert ''$60,000,000''.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, this simply increases the authorization for the local and regional procurement program from $40 million per year to $60 million per year. It is based on a pilot project from the last farm bill to test various options on food aid for hungry populations, how to do it faster and more efficiently.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote in relation to amendment No. 1079 offered by the Senator from Delaware, Mr. COONS.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I would simply say that this is an amendment we are happy to accept on behalf of Senator COONS, Senator JOHANNS, Senator DURBIN, Senator ISAKSON, and Senator LEAHY. It would modestly increase the authorization for the local and regional food procurement program. I ask that we accept it on a voice vote.

I yield back the remaining time on both sides.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time is yielded back. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 1079) was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask that I be recorded as voting no on this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Michigan.

Ms. STABENOW. Have we completed the vote?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Yes.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I see colleagues who wish to speak. I wish to thank colleagues for their diligence as we work through amendments on the farm bill. Our goal is to complete this by the end of the week. It is important that we complete this jobs bill. Sixteen million people work in agriculture and are depending on it, and they are depending on us to get it right, as we did a year ago. So I look forward to working with colleagues as we continue to work through the amendment process. I appreciate everybody's hard work.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

HONORING JOEL CAMPORA AND CODY CARPENTER

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, Members of the Senate often come to the floor and talk about our men and women in uniform and their incredible bravery and the sacrifice they make for our country, and that is true. We certainly honor them and appreciate them for all they do for our country as they serve us overseas. However, there are other men and women in uniform who also serve our country by serving our citizens in our communities, and those are our policemen and policewomen and others in law enforcement as well as first responders and others who wear a uniform as well.

I rise today to honor two heroes from Arkansas. Last week we lost a sheriff and a game warden who were trying to help victims of a flood in our State. These two first responders answered the call when there was an emergency, a dire situation. They jumped in their vehicles and headed to the danger. They got into a boat, and they went to a home of some victims who were stranded and very much in danger by the floodwaters. Unfortunately, all four lost their lives in this terrible incident in Arkansas.

Arkansas game and fish wildlife officer Joel Campora and sheriff Cody Carpenter of Scott County both drowned while assisting victims in this overnight flash flood near Y City, AR. In times of distress such as these, we should come together to help others, which is exactly what they were doing as they sacrificed their lives for others. They put others' needs ahead of their own because of their sense of duty and honor and their belief in helping their fellow man.

In closing, I wish to commend these men and offer condolences to their families for their sacrifice.

I yield to my colleague from Arkansas.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I also wish to take a pause. It seems as though for the last several weeks on a very regular basis storms have been ravaging the country and different events have been occurring where we have had cause to pause, and certainly this tragedy that struck Arkansas is one. So we would like for our colleagues to keep in their thoughts and prayers those in western Arkansas who have suffered this flood.

As the Senator from Arkansas said, six people lost their lives to the terrible storm that brought significant flooding to western Arkansas late last week. Scott County sheriff Cody Carpenter and wildlife officer Joel Campora, two dedicated public servants, were among them. They gave their lives while responding to a 9–1-1 call at a home in Y City. The two arrived at a home to help two female victims trapped by the flooding. While they were there, the house exploded, killing all four of them. Additionally, a Grant County man was killed when a tree fell on him as a result of the storm.

These are people who are true heroes not because of the way they died but because of the way they lived their lives.

Sheriff Carpenter was a leader who was never content to sit behind the desk. He bravely put the safety of others before his own to protect those in harm's way. He rose from a dispatcher to deputy, chief deputy, and then finally sheriff. He was a man of faith who loved life, loved his family, loved his job, and loved the Lord.

Officer Campora began his law enforcement career in Mena, AR. In 2007 he became a wildlife officer for the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. His desire to serve led him down this career path, but it also led him to serve

as a volunteer youth minister for the Salem Baptist Church and Pencil Bluff First Baptist Church.

Again, these were ordinary people doing extraordinary deeds.

Sheriff Carpenter left behind his wife Aime Beth and four children: Garren, Christian, Douglas, and Irelynn. Officer Campora left behind his wife Rebecca and two daughters: Dacie and Bethany.

Again, we would very much like everyone to remember these families and keep them in their thoughts and prayers as time goes on.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING FRANK R. LAUTENBERG

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I come to the floor this evening with a very sad heart to speak about one of our colleagues here in the Senate who gave tremendous service to his country and sadly passed away last night.

Senator FRANK LAUTENBERG was a true American. He earned a lot throughout his lifetime, but he came here to the Senate floor to fight for all of those people who didn't have the ability to fight for themselves. He was here in the Senate with us just a few weeks ago even though he himself was battling an extremely difficult illness.

I think of FRANK LAUTENBERG as a man of tremendous determination, an awful lot of grit, and someone who really embodies the term ''happy warrior.'' He wanted to be here to fight for those who didn't have what he did. Throughout his career, that is exactly what he did.

FRANK lived the American dream. He was the son of poor immigrants, and he rose to become a chief executive of a business that employed thousands of people around the world. He personally did very well, but he was never satisfied with just his own personal success. He understood, as so many other great Americans, that his success was based on the opportunities this country afforded him. So he chose over three decades to give back and to fight for people to make sure they had the opportunities he had.

He started his career in the Senate back in 1982. As many of us who served with him know, he decided to retire, but he was not happy in retirement. He wanted to be here doing what he loved—being a Senator and fighting for the people of his home State of New Jersey and fighting for Americans all over to have the opportunities I just spoke about. He made it his mission to make sure the ladders that were there for him were there for the generations that came behind him.

He was a proud World War II veteran—in fact, the last this body will know. He fought for the post-9/11 GI bill because, as did my dad, who was also a World War II veteran, he had used the GI bill after World War II. He knew it was the key to unlocking the knowledge that powered the ''greatest generation.'' He wanted that for those who came behind him.

His desire to stand for the powerless is also why he championed legislation to protect families from gun violence, why he stood to safeguard families against dangerous chemicals time and time again, and why he took on the powerful to ban smoking on airplanes and to bring about tougher drunk driving protections.

I personally will always remember FRANK's passion for transportation. He chaired the Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Subcommittee before I did, and I spent many years working with him to make sure we funded the infrastructure of this country—rail, highway, airline safety issues.

FRANK's legacy really is that his direct work saved lives. He saved lives. He helped to build transportation networks that brought families, businesses, and communities together. He wanted a better life for families in America. He was a champion for the underserved and underrepresented.

How many times have I been on the floor feeling like a lonely voice—fighting for women's health care issues or fighting for the protection of families against hazardous chemicals or fighting for victims of domestic violence—and time and time again FRANK LAUTENBERG would come over here to stand beside and fight with me, no matter what the time of day or the late hour of the night, because that was his passion and his cause.

He was a passionate public servant. He was not afraid to fight and vote for what he believed. He could never understand anyone who came here and tried to figure out which way the winds were blowing in order to take a vote. FRANK came and was passionate about whom he cared for, and he did not care about the political consequences. He wanted to fight for the underserved.

He loved the Senate. In fact, he loved it so much that one tour of duty was not enough and service called him back, as I said. Up until just a few days ago, nothing could stop FRANK from taking Amtrak down here to fight for the issues he believed in and the people of New Jersey whom he represented so well.

FRANK LAUTENBERG gave everything he had to public service, and those who served with him, as I was so fortunate to do, know it gave him all the satisfaction in the world.

He is going to be missed by all of us. He will be missed for his determination, for his passion, for always caring, and for fighting for what was right for all the people in this country.

I just wish to say tonight that my thoughts and prayers are with Bonnie and all of his family as they struggle with this loss but to know that his legacy lives on in the safety and caring of so many families in this country for whom he worked so passionately and hard.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

BERWICK, ME

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President. I rise today to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the town of Berwick, ME. As the ninth incorporated town in Maine, Berwick holds a very special place in our State's history, and one that exemplifies the determination and resiliency of Maine people.

While this landmark anniversary marks Berwick's incorporation, the year 1713 was but one milestone in a long journey of progress. It is a journey that began thousands of years earlier with Native American villages on the banks of the Piscataqua and Salmon Falls Rivers. In 1631, barely a decade after the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock, Ambrose Gibbens established a settlement at Quampeagan Falls and built the first sawmill in North America. That manufacturing heritage has remained strong in the three communities known today as The Berwicks, from the textile and iron works of the 18th century to the cutting-edge biotechnology and aerospace industries of today.

Industry is only part of Berwick's story. During the Revolutionary War, the town provided two full companies to fight for America's independence, more than many towns of greater size. The courage and character demonstrated by the townspeople in standing for liberty echo throughout Berwick's history. In the years before the Civil War, the many churches in town were powerful voices for the abolition of slavery. During that terrible conflict, more than 200 of Berwick's young men fought, and many died, so that all might live in freedom. The town's honor roll of current military personnel demonstrates an ongoing commitment to our Nation's founding principles.

This anniversary is not just about something that is measured in calendar years. It is about human accomplishment. We celebrate the people who, for more than three centuries, have pulled together, cared for one another, and built a great community that is a wonderful place to live, work, and raise families. Thanks to those who came before, Berwick has a wonderful history.

Thanks to those who are here today, it has a bright future.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO TERRY SCHOW

• Mr. LEE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Terry Schow for his exemplary work in behalf of Veterans in the State of Utah.

Mr. Schow has provided a strong voice and steady hand in fighting for the critical services our veterans need and deserve. Three Utah Governors recognized and tapped into his tremendous talent and unchallenged commitment to our veterans. He was appointed as Director of the Utah Division of Veterans Affairs in October 2001 by Governor Michael O. Leavitt. Governor Jon M. Huntsman Jr. then appointed Mr. Schow as Executive Director of the Utah Department of Veterans Affairs and Governor W. Herbert named him to the same post.

Terry Schow is a U.S. Army Veteran who served in the 5th and 10th Special Forces Groups and the 25th Infantry Division. He also served a tour of duty in Southeast Asia.

Mr. Schow has demonstrated through his long years of service what it means to honor the promises we make as a country to those who stand in harms way defending our freedom. He paid special attention to our veterans who suffer from mental and emotional challenges and the troubling trend of suicide among veterans. Terry Schow worked tirelessly to ensure we never lose a member of the military whether on the battlefield or long after they have left active duty.

Terry Schow's efforts have improved the quality of life for countless Utah veterans through increased access to critical care and specialized services. I thank Mr. Terry Schow for his extraordinary impact on our veterans.•

TRIBUTE TO DAVID McCULLEN

• Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I wish to honor David McCullen, a veteran of the war in Vietnam. David, on behalf of all Montanans and all Americans, I stand to say thank you for your service to this Nation. It is my honor to share the story of David's service because no story of heroism should ever go unrecognized.

David was born in Miles City, MT, in February of 1949. Soon after, his family moved to California, where he attended Asuza High School near Los Angeles. While in high school, David was a wrestler, lettering in the sport his senior year. After graduating from high school, David joined the famed 101st Airborne Division—known as the Screaming Eagles—and began training at Fort Ord.

David then attended advanced individual training at Fort Gordon and jump school at Fort Benning—both in Georgia.

On May 8, 1969, David left for Vietnam. Just 2 days later, David's regiment was assigned to Operation Apache Snow and took part in the mission that became known as the Battle of Hamburger Hill. This hard-fought offensive became the basis for several movies and books about the Vietnam war. For over a week, American forces attempted to take Hill 937. Seventy-two American soldiers were killed in the battle, and more than 300 were wounded. For its heroism, David's battalion was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation.

After a 2-year tour in the military, David returned to California, living there and in Iowa for many years. David moved back home to Miles City in 2000.

Today, in our presence, it is my honor to present David with his Presidential Unit Citation; Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation with Palm Device and Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal Unit Citation, First Class. These decorations are small tokens, but they are powerful symbols of true heroism, sacrifice, and dedication to service. These medals are presented on behalf of a grateful nation.•

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

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

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE ISSUANCE OF AN EXECUTIVE ORDER TO TAKE ADDITIONAL STEPS WITH RESPECT TO THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY ORIGINALLY DECLARED ON MARCH 15, 1995 IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 12957 WITH RESPECT TO IRAN—PM 11

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*) (IEEPA), I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order (the ''order'') that takes additional steps with respect to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12957 of March 15, 1995, and implements certain statutory requirements of the Iran Freedom and Counter-Proliferation Act of 2012 (subtitle D of title XII of Public Law 112–239) (22 U.S.C. 8801 *et seq.*) (IFCA), which amends the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–195) (22 U.S.C. 8501 *et seq.*) (CISADA).

In Executive Order 12957, the President found that the actions and policies of the Government of Iran threaten the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. To deal with that threat, the President declared a national emergency and imposed prohibitions on certain transactions with respect to the development of Iranian petroleum resources. To further respond to that threat, Executive Order 12959 of May 6, 1995, imposed comprehensive trade and financial sanctions on Iran. Executive Order 13059 of August 19, 1997, consolidated and clarified the previous orders. To take additional steps with respect to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12957 and to implement section 105(a) of CISADA, I issued Executive Order 13553 on September 28, 2010, to impose sanction on officials of the Government of Iran and other persons acting on behalf of the Government of Iran determined to be responsible for or complicit in certain serious human rights abuses.

To take additional steps with respect to the threat posed by Iran and to provide implementing authority for a number of the sanctions set forth in the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–172) (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) (ISA) as amended by CISADA, I issued Executive Order 13574 on May 23, 2011, to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to implement certain sanctions imposed by the Secretary of State pursuant to ISA, as amended by CISADA. I also issued Executive Order 13590 on November 20, 2011, to take additional steps with respect to this emergency by authorizing the Secretary of State to impose sanctions on persons providing certain goods, services, technology, or support that contribute either to Iran's development of petroleum resources or to Iran's production of petrochemicals, and to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to implement some of those sanctions. On February 5, 2012, in order to take further steps pursuant to this emergency, and to implement section 1245(c) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (Public Law 112–81) (22 U.S.C. 8513a), I issued Executive Order 13599 blocking the property of the Government of Iran, all Iranian financial institutions, and persons determined to be owned or controlled by, or acting for or on behalf of, such parties. On April 22, 2012, and May 1, 2012, I issued Executive Orders 13606 and 13608, respectively. Executive Orders 13606 and 13608 each take additional steps with respect to various emergencies, including the emergency declared in Executive Order 12957 concerning Iran, to address the

use of computer and information technology to commit serious human rights abuses and efforts by foreign persons to evade sanctions.

To take additional steps with respect to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12957, I issued Executive Order 13622 of July 30, 2012, imposing further sanctions in light of the Government of Iran's use of revenues from petroleum, petroleum products, and petrochemicals for illicit purposes; Iran's continued attempts to evade international sanctions through deceptive practices; and the unacceptable risk posed to the international financial system by Iran's activities.

Most recently, I issued Executive Order 13628 of October 9, 2012, to take additional steps with respect to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12957 and to implement certain statutory requirements of the Iran Threat Reduction and Syria Human Rights Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–158) (22 U.S.C. 8701 *et seq.*) (TRA), including its amendments to the statutory requirements of ISA and CISADA.

With respect to the order that I have just issued, section 1 of the order authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to impose financial sanctions on or to block all property and interests in property that are in the United States, that come within the United States, or that are or come within the possession or control of any United States person (including any foreign branch) of a foreign financial institution determined to have, on or after the effective date of the order:

knowingly conducted or facilitated any significant transaction related to the purchase or sale of Iranian rials or a derivative, swap, future, forward, or other similar contract whose value is based on the exchange rate of the Iranian rial; or

maintained significant funds or accounts outside the territory of Iran denominated in the Iranian rial.

Section 2 of the order authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to block all property and interests in property that are in the United States, that come within the United States, or that are or come within the possession or control of any United States person (including any foreign branch) of any person upon determining:

that the person has materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, any Iranian person included on the list of Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons maintained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (SDN List) (other than an Iranian depository institution whose property and interests in property are blocked solely pursuant to Executive Order 13599) or any other person included on the SDN List whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this paragraph or Executive Order 13599 (other than an Iranian depository institution whose property and interests in property are blocked solely pursuant to Executive Order 13599); or

pursuant to authority delegated by the President and in accordance with the terms of such delegation, that sanctions shall be imposed on such person pursuant to section 1244(c)(1)(A) of IFCA.

Section 3 of the order authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to impose financial sanctions on a foreign financial institution determined to have knowingly conducted or facilitated any significant financial transaction:

on behalf of any Iranian person included on the SDN List (other than an Iranian depository institution whose property and interests in property are blocked solely pursuant to Executive Order 13599) or any other person included on the SDN List whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to subsection 2(a)(i) of the order or Executive Order 13599 (other than an Iranian depository institution whose property and interests in property are blocked solely pursuant to Executive Order 13599); or

on or after the effective date of the order, for the sale, supply, or transfer to Iran of significant goods or services used in connection with the automotive sector of Iran.

Section 5 of the order authorizes the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the United States Trade Representative, and with the President of the Export-Import Bank, the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and other agencies and officials as appropriate, to impose sanctions on a person upon determining that the person:

on or after the effective date of the order, knowingly engaged in a significant transaction for the sale, supply, or transfer to Iran of significant goods or services used in connection with the automotive sector of Iran;

is a successor entity to a person determined to meet that criterion;

owns or controls a person determined to meet that criterion, and had knowledge that the person engaged in the activities referred to therein; or

is owned or controlled by, or under common ownership or control with, a person determined to meet that criterion, and knowingly participated in the activities therein.

Sections 6 and 7 of the order provide that, for persons determined to meet any of these criteria, the heads of the relevant agencies, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall implement the sanctions imposed by the Secretary of State. Those sanctions may include the following actions:

the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank shall deny approval of the issuance of any guarantee, insurance, extension of credit, or participation in an extension of credit in connection with the export of any goods or services to the sanctioned person;

agencies shall not issue any specific license or grant any other specific permission or authority under any statute that requires the prior review and approval of the United State Government as a condition for the export or reexport of goods or technology to the sanctioned person;

for a sanctioned person that is a financial institution: the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the President of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York shall take such actions as they deem appropriate, including denying designation, or terminating the continuation of any prior designation of, the sanctioned person as a primary dealer in United States Government debt instruments; or agencies shall prevent the sanctioned person from serving as an agent of the United States Government or serving as a repository for United States Government funds;

agencies shall not procure, or enter into a contract for the procurement of, any goods or services from the sanctioned person;

the Secretary of State shall deny a visa to, and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall exclude from the United States, any alien that the Secretary of State determines is a corporate officer or principal of, or a shareholder with a controlling interest in, a sanctioned person;

the heads of the relevant agencies, as appropriate, shall impose on the principal executive officer or officers, or persons performing similar functions and with similar authorities, of a sanctioned person any of the sanctions described above, as selected by the Secretary of State;

the Secretary of the Treasury shall take actions where necessary to:

prohibit any United States financial institution from making loans or providing credits to the sanctioned person totaling more than $10,000,000 in any 12-month period, unless such person is engaged in activities to relieve human suffering and the loans or credits are provided for such activities;

prohibit any transactions in foreign exchange that are subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and in which the sanctioned person has any interest;

prohibit any transfers of credit or payments between financial institutions or by, through, or to any financial institution, to the extent that such transfers or payments are subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and involve any interest of the sanctioned person;

block all property and interests in property that are the in the United States, that come within the United States, or that are or come within the possession or control of any United States person, (including any foreign branch) of the sanctioned person, and provide that such property and interests in property may not be transferred, paid, exported, withdrawn, or otherwise dealt in;

prohibit any United States person from investing in or purchasing significant amounts of equity or debt instruments of a sanctioned person;

restrict or prohibit imports of goods, technology, or services, directly or indirectly, into the United States from the sanctioned person; or

impose on the principal executive officer or officers, or persons performing similar functions and with similar authorities, of a sanctioned person any of the sanctions described above, as appropriate.

Section 7 of the order also provides that, when the Secretary of State or the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to authority delegated by the President and in accordance with the terms of such delegation, has determined that sanctions shall be imposed on a person pursuant to section 1244(d)(1)(A), 1245(a)(1), or 1246(a)(1) of IFCA (including in each case as informed by section 1253(c)(2) of IFCA), such Secretary may select one or more of the sanctions described above for which the Secretary of the Treasury shall take such action, and the Secretary of the Treasury shall take actions where necessary to implement those sanctions.

Sections 8 and 11 of the order implement the statutory requirements of

CISADA, as amended by sanction 1249 of IFCA. They authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to block all property and interests in property that are in the United States, that come within the United States, or that are or come within the possession or control of any United States person (including any foreign branch), and the Secretary of State to suspend entry into the United States, of persons determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with or at the recommendation of the Secretary of State:

to have engaged, on or after January 2, 2013, in corruption or other activities relating to the diversion of goods, including agricultural commodities, food, medicine, and medical devices, intended for the people of Iran;

to have engaged, on or after January 2, 2013, in corruption or other activities relating to the misappropriation of proceeds from the sale or resale of goods described above;

to have materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, the activities described above or any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to these provisions; or

to be owned or controlled by, or to have acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to these provisions.

I have delegated to the Secretary of the Treasury the authority, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to take such actions, including the promulgation of rules and regulations, and to employ all powers granted to the President by IEEPA, as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the order, other than the purposes described in sections 5, 6, and 11 of the order. All agencies of the United States Government are directed to take all appropriate measures within their authority to carry out the provisions of the order.

The order, a copy of which is enclosed, becomes effective at 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on July 1, 2013.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *June 3, 2013*.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2013, the Secretary of the Senate, on May 24, 2013, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 17. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and an adjournment of the House of Representatives.

The message further announced that pursuant to the National Foundation of the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 955(b) note), the Minority Leader re-appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the National Council of the Arts: Ms. BETTY MCCOLLUM of Minnesota.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2013, the Secretary of the Senate, on May 24, 2013, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Acting Speaker pro-tempore (Mr. WOLF) has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 258. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to fraudulent representations about having received military decorations or medals.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2013, the enrolled bill was signed on May 24, 2013, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. LEVIN).

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:09 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1911. An act to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish interest rates for new loans made on or after July 1, 2013, to direct the Secretary of Education to convene the Advisory Committee on Improving Postsecondary Education Data to conduct a study on improvements to postsecondary education transparency at the Federal level, and for other purposes.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 3. An act to approve the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Keystone XL pipeline, and for other purposes.

H.R. 271. An act to clarify that compliance with an emergency order under section 202(c) of the Federal Power Act may not be considered a violation of any Federal, State, or local environmental law or regulation, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES DURING ADJOURNMENT

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 744. A bill to provide for comprehensive immigration reform and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. WYDEN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

Report to accompany S. 306, a bill to authorize all Bureau of Reclamation conduit facilities for hydropower development under Federal Reclamation law, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113–35).

Report to accompany S. 545, a bill to improve hydropower, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113–36).

Report to accompany S. 761, a bill to promote energy savings in residential and commercial buildings and industry, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113–37).

Report to accompany H.R. 267, a bill to improve hydropower, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113–38).

Report to accompany H.R. 678, a bill to authorize all Bureau of Reclamation conduit facilities for hydropower development under Federal Reclamation law, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113–39).

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. UDALL of Colorado (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1084. A bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to establish the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy as the lead Federal agency for coordinating Federal, State, and local assistance provided to promote the energy retrofitting of schools; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. CASEY):

S. 1085. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small businesses; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself, Mr. BURR, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. ALEXANDER):

S. 1086. A bill to reauthorize and improve the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 162

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 162, a bill to reauthorize and improve the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Act of 2004.

S. 186

At the request of Mr. SHELBY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 186, a bill to award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal to Addie Mae Collins, Denise McNair, Carole Robertson, and Cynthia Wesley, in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, where the 4 little Black girls lost their lives, which served as a catalyst for the Civil Rights Movement.

S. 346

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 346, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit veterans who have a service-connected, permanent disability rated as total to travel on military aircraft in the same manner and to the same extent as retired members of the Armed Forces entitled to such travel.

S. 403

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from New York

(Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. COWAN), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN), and the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 403, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to address and take action to prevent bullying and harassment of students.

S. 420

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL), and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 420, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the logical flow of return information between partnerships, corporations, trusts, estates, and individuals to better enable each party to submit timely, accurate returns and reduce the need for extended and amended returns, to provide for modified due dates by regulation, and to conform the automatic corporate extension period to longstanding regulatory rule.

S. 460

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 460, a bill to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage.

S. 470

At the request of Mr. JOHANNS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 470, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require that the Purple Heart occupy a position of precedence above the new Distinguished Warfare Medal.

S. 501

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 501, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and increase the exclusion for benefits provided to volunteer firefighters and emergency medical responders.

S. 506

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 506, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide recruitment and retention incentives for volunteer emergency service workers.

S. 534

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 534, a bill to reform the National Association of Registered Agents and Brokers, and for other purposes.

S. 569

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 569, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to count a period of receipt of outpatient observation services in a hospital toward satisfying the 3-day inpatient hospital requirement for coverage of skilled nursing facility services under Medicare.

S. 600

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 600, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to reform and reduce fraud and abuse in certain visa programs for aliens working temporarily in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 602

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 602, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the participation of physical therapists in the National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program, and for other purposes.

S. 674

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) were added as cosponsors of S. 674, a bill to require prompt responses from the heads of covered Federal agencies when the Secretary of Veterans Affairs requests information necessary to adjudicate claims for benefits under laws administered by the Secretary, and for other purposes.

S. 682

At the request of Mr. COBURN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 682, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to reset interest rates for new student loans.

S. 700

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. COWAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 700, a bill to ensure that the education and training provided members of the Armed Forces and veterans better assists members and veterans in obtaining civilian certifications and licenses, and for other purposes.

S. 734

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 734, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation.

S. 749

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 749, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the 15-year recovery period for qualified leasehold improvement property, qualified restaurant property, and qualified retail improvement property.

S. 783

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 783, a bill to amend the Helium Act to improve helium stewardship, and for other purposes.

S. 789

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 789, a bill to grant the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the First Special Service Force, in recognition of its superior service during World War II.

S. 815

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 815, a bill to prohibit the employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.

S. 829

At the request of Mrs. HAGAN, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 829, a bill to improve the financial literacy of students.

S. 842

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 842, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an extension of the Medicare-dependent hospital (MDH) program and the increased payments under the Medicare low-volume hospital program.

S. 864

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 864, a bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to reauthorize technical assistance to small public water systems, and for other purposes.

S. 871

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 871, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to enhance assistance for victims of sexual assault committed by members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 878

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 878, a bill to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration.

S. 886

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 886, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect pain-capable

unborn children in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

S. 896

At the request of Mr. BEGICH, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 896, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 897

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 897, a bill to prevent the doubling of the interest rate for Federal subsidized student loans for the 2013–2014 academic year by providing funds for such loans through the Federal Reserve System, to ensure that such loans are available at interest rates that are equivalent to the interest rates at which the Federal Government provides loans to banks through the discount window operated by the Federal Reserve System, and for other purposes.

S. 950

At the request of Mr. PAUL, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 950, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to allow a veterinarian to transport and dispense controlled substances in the usual course of veterinary practice outside of the registered location.

S. 953

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 953, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to extend the reduced interest rate for undergraduate Federal Direct Stafford Loans, to modify required distribution rules for pension plans, to limit earnings stripping by expatriated entities, to provide for modifications related to the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 963

At the request of Mr. COBURN, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 963, a bill preventing an unrealistic future Medicaid augmentation plan.

S. 964

At the request of Mrs. MCCASKILL, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 964, a bill to require a comprehensive review of the adequacy of the training, qualifications, and experience of the Department of Defense personnel responsible for sexual assault prevention and response for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 965

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 965, a bill to eliminate oil exports from Iran by expanding domestic production.

S. 967

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 967, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to modify various authorities relating to procedures for courts-martial under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and for other purposes.

S. 980

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 980, a bill to provide for enhanced embassy security, and for other purposes.

S. 987

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) were added as cosponsors of S. 987, a bill to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media.

S. 1003

At the request of Mr. COBURN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1003, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to reset interest rates for new student loans.

S. 1032

At the request of Mrs. MCCASKILL, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1032, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the Uniform Code of Military Justice related to sex-related offenses committed by members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 15

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 15, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Chained Consumer Price Index should not be used to calculate cost-of-living adjustments for Social Security or veterans benefits, or to increase the tax burden on low- and middle-income taxpayers.

S. RES. 75

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 75, a resolution condemning the Government of Iran for its state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights.

S. RES. 154

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 154, a resolution supporting political reform in Iran and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 966

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 966 intended to be proposed to S. 954, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018.

AMENDMENT NO. 1027

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1027 intended to be proposed to S. 954, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018.

AMENDMENT NO. 1077

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1077 intended to be proposed to S. 954, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018.

AMENDMENT NO. 1079

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1079 proposed to S. 954, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018.

AMENDMENT NO. 1082

At the request of Mr. FLAKE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1082 intended to be proposed to S. 954, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018.

AMENDMENT NO. 1096

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1096 intended to be proposed to S. 954, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018.

AMENDMENT NO. 1099

At the request of Mr. BEGICH, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1099 intended to be proposed to S. 954, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018.

AMENDMENT NO. 1102

At the request of Mr. JOHANNS, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) and the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1102 intended to be proposed to S. 954, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018.

AMENDMENT NO. 1115

At the request of Mr. BEGICH, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1115 intended to be proposed to S. 954, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018.

AMENDMENT NO. 1120

At the request of Mr. JOHANNS, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr.

ROBERTS), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) and the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1120 intended to be proposed to S. 954, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018.

AMENDMENT NO. 1130

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1130 intended to be proposed to S. 954, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. CASEY):

S. 1085. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small businesses; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise to speak about legislation, the Small Business Tax Certainty and Growth Act of 2013, which I introduced today along with my friend and colleague, Senator CASEY.

Small businesses are our Nation's job creators. Firms with fewer than 500 employees generate about 50 percent of our Nation's GDP, account for more than 99 percent of employers and employ nearly half of all workers. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, firms with fewer than 500 employees accounted for 65 percent of the new jobs created from 1993 to 2009.

Even the smallest firms have a huge effect on our economy. Small Business Administration data indicate that businesses with fewer than 20 employees accounted for 18 percent of all private sector jobs in 2010.

The Small Business Tax Certainty and Growth Act of 2013 allows small businesses to plan for capital investments that are vital to expansion and job creation. Our bill eases complex accounting rules for the smallest businesses, and it reduces the tax burden on newly formed ventures.

Recent studies by the National Federation of Independent Business, NFIB, indicate that taxes are the number one concern of small business owners, and that constant change in the tax code is among their chief concerns. A key feature of this bill is that it provides the certainty small businesses need to create and implement long-term capital investment plans, which are vital to growth. For example, section 179 of the Internal Revenue Code allows small businesses to deduct the cost of acquired assets more rapidly. The amount of the maximum allowable deduction has changed three times in the past 6 years, and is usually addressed as a year-end ''extender,'' making this tax benefit unpredictable from year to year, and therefore difficult for small businesses to take full advantage of in their long-range planning. Our bill permanently sets the maximum allowable deduction under section 179 at $250,000, indexed for inflation, and ensures that only small businesses can take advantage of the benefit because it phases out as acquisitions exceed $800,000.

The Small Business Tax Certainty and Growth Act of 2013 also allows more companies to use the intuitive cash method of accounting by permanently doubling the threshold at which the more complex accrual method is required, from $5 million in gross receipts to $10 million. This includes an expansion in the ability of small businesses to use simplified methods of accounting for inventories.

The bill also eases the tax burden on new businesses by permanently doubling the deduction for start-up expenses from $5,000 to $10,000. Like section 179, this benefit is limited to small businesses, and the deduction phases out for expenses exceeding $60,000.

The Small Business Tax Certainty and Growth Act of 2013 extends for one year provisions which provide benefits to businesses large and small—so-called ''bonus depreciation'' and 15-year depreciation for improvements with respect to restaurants, retail facilities, and leaseholds. Although permanence is important, I believe that tax provisions that affect businesses of all sizes should be debated and addressed in the context of comprehensive, pro-growth tax reform, which I urge the Senate to undertake.

The provisions in the Small Business Tax Certainty and Growth Act of 2013 would make a real difference in our Nation's small businesses' ability to survive and thrive. I recently spoke with Rob Tod, the founder of Allagash Brewing Company, which is based in Portland, ME. Allagash makes some of the best craft beer in the country. It started as a one-man operation in 1995. In the 18 years since, it has grown into a firm that employs approximately 65 people and distributes craft beer throughout the United States. Rob noted that his company's expansion was fueled in part by bonus depreciation and section 179 expensing. New to the craft beer business, Rob had difficulty obtaining financing on favorable terms. But these cost recovery provisions allowed Rob to pay less in taxes in the years he acquired the equipment needed to expand his business. Those tax savings were then reinvested in his business, thus creating jobs. This economic benefit is multiplied when you consider the effect of Allagash's investment on the equipment manufacturers, the transportation companies needed to haul new equipment to his brewery, the increased inventory in his brewery, and the suppliers of the materials needed to brew additional beer.

In light of the positive effects this bill would have on small businesses and our economy, I urge my colleagues to support the Small Business Tax Certainty and Growth Act of 2013. This bill has been endorsed by the NFIB, an important voice for small business.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a letter of support be printed in the RECORD.

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

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS,
Washington, DC, June 3, 2013.

Hon. SUSAN COLLINS,
U.S. Senate, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR COLLINS: On behalf of the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), the nation's leading small business advocacy organization, I am writing in support of the Small Business Tax Certainty and Growth Act of 2013, which provides permanency and certainty to small businesses regarding several tax provisions including Section 179, cash accounting, and deductions for startup and organizational expenses.

The most important source of financing for small business is their earnings, i.e. cash flow, which is closely tied to a small business' overall tax burden. In NFIB Research Foundation's Problems and Priorities, five of the top ten small business concerns are tax related. The preservation of cash flow is a key element for small businesses as Congress considers comprehensive tax reform.

Cost recovery for capital investments is closely tied to a small business' effective tax rate and its ability to manage cash flow. Section 179 expensing—especially with the inclusion of real property—provides small businesses with an immediate source of capital recovery and improved cash flow. We appreciate you including this in your legislation. Additionally, small businesses would benefit from an expanded ability to use cash accounting for tax purposes. Permitting more business entities with higher gross receipts to use cash accounting helps small businesses to manage cash flow because it better reflects the business owner's ability to pay taxes. We appreciate you including both of these provisions in your bill.

Thank you for introducing this important legislation, and we look forward to working with you to provide for permanent small business tax incentives as the 113th Congress moves forward.

Sincerely,

SUSAN ECKERLY,
Senior Vice President, Public Policy.

By Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself, Mr. BURR, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. ALEXANDER):

S. 1086. A bill to reauthorize and improve the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2013, along with Senators BURR, HARKIN, and ALEXANDER.

For the past year, our offices have worked on a bipartisan basis to draft a comprehensive reauthorization of the Child Care Development Block Grant, CCDBG, a program that helps low- and moderate-income working families access and afford child care. This program helps working parents keep working, it helps parents who are in school stay in school, and it is supposed to ensure that children are in safe environments that support their physical,

emotional, and cognitive development. It is a vital program and its reauthorization is of the utmost importance.

We did not draft this reauthorization in a vacuum. We held three public hearings in the Subcommittee on Children and Families, and we worked closely with all members, Democrat and Republican, of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee. We also asked for input and recommendations from folks on the ground since we know that parents, child care providers, and early learning and developmental experts, know best how this program works and how it can be improved. It is my hope that the bill we're introducing today represents all of the good ideas that have been brought to us throughout this process.

It is noteworthy that the CCDBG program has not been reauthorized since 1996. The last time we reauthorized CCDBG was during welfare reform. At that time, the program was envisioned solely as a workforce aid—something to help moms and dads get back to work or school. This was, and remains, an important goal, but we have learned a lot since 1996. We know that child care can, and should, be constructed in such a way that benefits both the parent and the child: it should allow parents to go to work or school, but it should also give kids the building blocks to be successful in their lives.

What we know today, that we didn't 17 years ago, is that the most rapid period of development for the brain happens in the first 5 years of life. That is why it is so imperative that we ensure our children are in high-quality child care programs. While important, it is not enough to simply ensure that kids have someplace to go. We must also ensure that they go someplace that is safe, that nurtures their development, that challenges their mind, and that prepares them for school.

The current program is outdated. It does not go far enough in promoting and supporting high-quality child care programs. It does not do enough to safeguard the health and safety of children. It does not always ensure that children have continuity of care, nor does it provide sufficient protections for working families when their employment situations change. It does not focus enough on infant and toddler care. It does not require mandatory background checks for child care providers in this program.

So, today we are introducing a bill that makes needed changes to address shortcomings in current law.

Our bill requires States to devote more of their funding to quality initiatives, such as: training, professional development, and professional advancement of the child care workforce, supporting early learning guidelines, developing and implementing quality rating systems for providers, and improving the supply and quality of child care programs and services for infants and toddlers.

Our bill says that CCDBG providers must meet certain health and safety requirements related to prevention and control of infectious diseases, first aid and CPR, child abuse prevention, administration of medication, prevention of and response to emergencies due to food allergies, prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and shaken baby syndrome, building and physical premises safety, and emergency response planning.

Our bill gives families more stability in the CCDBG program. It ensures that children in the program can get care for at least a year, even if their parent sees a change in their working status or income.

Our bill works to improve early childhood care by requiring States to spend a certain portion of their funding on infant and toddler quality initiatives. The bill requires States to develop and implement plans to increase the supply and quality of care for infants and toddlers, as well as children with disabilities and children receiving care during non-traditional work hours.

And our bill requires mandatory background checks for child care providers in the CCDBG program.

At the outset, I would like to say that most child care providers I have met and spoken with are wonderful, caring people committed to ensuring that the children in their care are safe and happy. This proposal is not meant to insinuate anything negative about our child care workforce.

Instead, it is simply meant to ensure that we are doing our due diligence to ensure that the adults entrusted with our children's day-to-day care are not murderers, child molesters, kidnappers, arsonists, drug dealers, or rapists. Background checks are required for many jobs and I believe they should be required for child care providers.

Every working parent with children, no matter their income level, worries about child care. What's affordable? What's accessible? Will my child be safe? Where can I get the very best care for my kid? The CCDBG program is supposed to give parents peace of mind. And for many families over many years, it has. But we can and should be doing more to improve child care for children, parents, and providers alike. It is long past time to revitalize, refresh, and reform this vitally important program.

Again, I would like to thank Senator BURR, Chairman HARKIN, Ranking Member ALEXANDER, and all members of the Senate HELP Committee for their hard work on this bipartisan proposal. It is my hope that we can move swiftly to get this bill passed out of House and Senate and onto the President's desk.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1144. Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. KING) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 954, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1145. Mr. BEGICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 954, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1146. Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. ENZI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 954, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1147. Mr. PRYOR (for himself and Mr. HOEVEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 954, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1148. Mr. COWAN (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 954, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1149. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 954, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1150. Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Ms. HIRONO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 954, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1151. Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. RISCH, Mr. KING, and Mr. CRAPO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 954, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1152. Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. HARKIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 954, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1153. Mr. WYDEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 954, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1154. Ms. STABENOW (for Mr. WYDEN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 588, to provide for donor contribution acknowledgments to be displayed at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitor Center, and for other purposes.

SA 1155. Mr. FRANKEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 954, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1144. Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. KING) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 954, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title XII, insert the following:

SEC. 12____. TRANSPORT AND DISPENSING OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES IN THE USUAL COURSE OF VETERINARY PRACTICE.

Section 302(e) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 822(e)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''(e)'' and inserting ''(e)(1)''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a registrant who is a veterinarian shall not be required to have a separate registration in order to transport and dispense controlled substances in the usual course of veterinary practice at a site other than the registrant's registered principal place of business or professional practice, so long as the site of transporting and dispensing is located in a State where the veterinarian is licensed to practice veterinary medicine and is not a principal place of business or professional practice.''.

SA 1145. Mr. BEGICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 954, to reauthorize

agricultural programs through 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 877, after line 18, add the following:

SEC. 6208. NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION UTILITY PILOT LOAN PROGRAM.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF PILOT LOAN PROGRAM.—Section 232(c) of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6942(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking ''; and'' and inserting a period; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) The natural gas distribution utility pilot loan program authorized by section 6208(b) of the Agriculture Reform, Food, and Jobs Act of 2013.''.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF PILOT LOAN PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service shall establish a natural gas distribution utility pilot loan program to add cooperatives and municipally owned natural gas distribution utilities to the list of utilities eligible to receive loans from the Rural Utilities Service.

(2) PRIORITY.—In making loans authorized under paragraph (1), the Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service shall give priority to utilities located in areas that—

(A) have been designated as $PM_{2.5}$ nonattainment areas by the Environmental Protection Agency; and

(B) pay more than 200 percent of national average for space heat on a dollar per Btu basis.

(3) FUNDING.—The Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service—

(A) shall carry out the loan pilot program using existing funds of the Rural Utilities Service; and

(B) shall not make loans under the loan pilot program in excess of $500,000,000 over the duration of the program.

(4) DURATION.—The loan pilot program shall be authorized for a period of 5 years, beginning on the date of enactment of this Act.

(5) REPORT.—At the conclusion of the loan pilot program, the Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service shall complete a report examining—

(A) the economic benefits of providing low cost loans; and

(B) any upward price pressure on natural gas prices in the United States resulting from the loan pilot program.

SA 1146. Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. ENZI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 954, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 273, line 17 strike ''.'''

On page 273, between lines 17 and 18, insert the following:

''(3) FOREST SERVICE PARTICIPATION.—The Secretary (acting through the Chief of the Forest Service) may use funds derived from conservation-related programs executed on National Forest System land to carry out the ACES Program on National Forest System land.''.

SA 1147. Mr. PRYOR (for himself and Mr. HOEVEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 954, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 573, line 25, strike ''$4,226,000,000'' and insert ''$5,726,000,000''.

On page 574, line 7, strike ''$3,026,000,000'' and insert ''$4,526,000,000''.

On page 574, line 9, strike ''$1,000,000,000'' and insert ''$2,500,000,000''.

SA 1148. Mr. COWAN (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 954, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 914, between lines 13 and 14, insert the following:

''(i) SOIL AMENDMENT STUDY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a study to assess which types of, and which practices associated with the use of, fertilizers, biostimulants, and soil amendments best achieve the goals described in paragraph (2).

''(2) GOALS.—The goals referred to in paragraph (1) are—

''(A) increasing organic matter content;

''(B) reducing atmospheric volatilization;

''(C) identifying cost-effective conservation or production practices that reduce or eliminate nutrient runoff or leaching into groundwater or other water sources; and

''(D) understanding current bioactivity or nutrient loads in soil.

''(3) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of receipt of funds to carry out this subsection, the Secretary shall make publicly available and submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that—

''(A) describes the results of the study; and

''(B) identifies the types of, and practices using, fertilizers, biostimulants, and soil amendments that best achieve the goals identified in paragraph (2).''.

SA 1149. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 954, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 396, strike lines 2 through 7 and insert the following:

SEC. 4201. ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY FOR PURCHASE OF FRESH FRUITS, VEGETABLES, AND OTHER SPECIALTY FOOD CROPS.

Section 10603 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 612c–4) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking ''2012'' and inserting ''2018'';

(2) by redesignating subsections (a), (b), and (c) as subsections (b), (c), and (a), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after subsection (c) (as so redesignated) the following:

''(d) LOCAL PREFERENCE IN MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT.—To the maximum extent practicable, a memorandum of agreement between the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Defense related to the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables under this section shall require that fruits and vegetables purchased under the agreement be locally grown (as determined by the Secretary).

''(e) PILOT GRANT PROGRAM FOR PURCHASE OF FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Using amounts made available to carry out subsection (c), the Secretary of Agriculture shall conduct a pilot program under which the Secretary will give not more than 5 participating States the option of receiving a grant in an amount equal to the value of the commodities that the participating State would otherwise receive under this section for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018.

''(2) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A participating State receiving a grant under this subsection may use the grant funds solely to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables for distribution to schools and service institutions in the State that participate in the food service programs under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 51 et seq.) and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.).

''(B) LOCALLY GROWN.—To the maximum extent practicable, the fruits and vegetables shall be locally grown, as determined by the State.

''(3) SELECTION OF PARTICIPATING STATES.—The Secretary shall select participating States from applications submitted by the States.

''(4) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) SCHOOL AND SERVICE INSTITUTION REQUIREMENT.—Schools and service institutions in a participating State shall—

''(i) maintain records of purchases of fresh fruits and vegetables made using the grant funds; and

''(ii) report to the State the records.

''(B) STATE REQUIREMENT.—Each participating State shall submit to the Secretary a report on the success of the pilot program in the State, including information on—

''(i) the amount and value of each type of fresh fruit and vegetable purchased by the State; and

''(ii) the benefit provided by the purchases in conducting the school food service in the State, including meeting school meal requirements.''.

SA 1150. Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Ms. HIRONO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 954, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1122, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

SEC. 121___. LABELING REQUIREMENTS FOR KONA COFFEE.

Subtitle A of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621 et seq.) (as amended by section 12104(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 211. LABELING REQUIREMENTS FOR KONA COFFEE.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—No person shall sell or offer, expose for sale, or transport Hawaii-grown green coffee packed in wholesale quantities outside the geographic region of production described in subsection (b) unless each container is conspicuously marked, stamped, printed, or labeled in the English language with the exact grade or lower grade for the green coffee or the term 'offgrade', as applicable.

''(b) GEOGRAPHIC REGION OF PRODUCTION.—For purposes of subsection (a), the geographic region of production is—

''(1) the State of Hawaii;

''(2) the island of Maui;

''(3) the island of Moloka'i;

''(4) the island of Oahu;

''(5) the island of Kaua'i;

''(6) the district of Ka'u on the island of Hawai'i, as designated by the State of Hawaii Tax Map;

''(7) the district of Hamakua on the island of Hawai'i, as designated by the State of Hawaii Tax Map; and

''(8) the North Kona and South Kona districts on the island of Hawai'i, as designated by the State of Hawaii Tax Map.

''(c) PLACEMENT.—The grade statement shall appear on—

''(1) the label required under subsection (a); or

''(2) the container on the same panel as the declaration of identity required by the matter under the headings 'Uniform Laws and Regulations' and 'Uniform Packaging and Labeling Regulation' of section A of part IV of the National Institute of Standards and Technology handbook No. 130 (1993 edition), with amendments specified in section 4-93-2(a) of the Hawaii Administrative Rules.

''(d) CORRECTION.—Any label that is determined to be incorrect shall be corrected by complete obliteration of the incorrect information and substitution with the correct statement of fact.

''(e) LETTERS AND FIGURES.—The letters and figures used to meet the requirements of this section shall be of bold type and legible.

''(f) GRADE TERMS.—The grade terms shall be exactly as shown in sections 4-143-4, 4-143-5, and 4-143-6 of the Hawaii Administrative Rules (as in effect on the date of enactment of this section).''.

SA 1151. Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. RISCH, Mr. KING, and Mr. CRAPO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 954, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 421, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following:

SEC. 42___. AVAILABILITY OF VEGETABLES AS SUPPLEMENTAL FOODS UNDER WIC PROGRAM.

Section 17(f)(11) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(f)(11)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D); and

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

''(C) VEGETABLES.—The regulation required under paragraph (1) shall not exclude or restrict the eligibility of any variety of fresh, whole, or cut vegetables (other than vegetables with added sugars, fats, or oils) from being provided as supplemental foods under the program under this section.''.

SA 1152. Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. HARKIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 954, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 421, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following:

SEC. 40___. DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS TO PROMOTE HEALTHY EATING AMONG SNAP RECIPIENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out 2 demonstration projects in States that agree to plan, design, develop, and implement programs to eliminate purchases of unhealthful foods or beverages under the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.).

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—In selecting States to carry out a demonstration project under this section, the Secretary shall ensure that each proposed demonstration project includes—

(1) a standard based on nutritional content that—

(A) is demonstrated to be clear, practical, and consistent in excluding certain items from eligibility;

(B) limits the use of benefits for purchasing foods or beverages that are identified in the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans published under section 301 of the National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5341) as foods, beverages, or food components that—

(i) are consumed in excessive amounts; and

(ii) may increase the risk of certain chronic diseases or conditions; and

(C) does not—

(i) expand the number of items otherwise eligible for assistance under the supplemental nutrition assistance program; or

(ii) classify alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and hot foods or hot food products ready for immediate consumption as eligible for assistance under that program;

(2) a description of the cost of implementing the demonstration project in the State;

(3) a description of the number of households participating in the supplemental nutrition assistance program to be affected by the demonstration project;

(4) a process for participating States to educate participants and retailers about eligible and ineligible foods, including a procedure for disseminating product eligibility information to participants and retailers periodically;

(5) a procedure to work with retailers to identify problems and best practices in implementing new product eligibility standards;

(6) a procedure to monitor and evaluate program operations, including the impact on participating households and small businesses;

(7) a statement that the demonstration project does not reduce the eligibility for, or amount of, benefits available under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);

(8) notwithstanding section 3(k) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012(k)), complies with the requirements of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);

(9) the ability of the State to meet the evaluation criteria under subsections (c) and (d); and

(10) any other requirements that the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(c) CONSIDERATION.—In selecting States to carry out a demonstration project under this section, the Secretary shall consider whether a State has previously applied for a waiver under the supplemental nutrition assistance program to carry out a similar project.

(d) EVALUATION.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which a demonstration project is initiated under this section, the Secretary shall provide for an independent evaluation of the projects selected under this section that uses rigorous methodologies, particularly random assignment or other methods that are capable of producing scientifically valid information regarding effective restrictions to measure the impact of the pilot program on—

(1) the costs and benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program in the State;

(2) the access of individuals receiving benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program in the State to nutritious food;

(3) the dietary intake of—

(A) supplemental nutrition assistance program recipients participating in the supplemental nutrition assistance program demonstration project; and

(B) a control group of supplemental nutrition assistance program recipients not participating in the demonstration project; and

(4) other effects that the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(e) COSTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—All costs associated with carrying out a pilot project and an evaluation of that pilot project under this section shall—

(A) be provided by the State; and

(B) not be eligible for administrative matching under section 16(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2025(a)).

(2) CONTRIBUTIONS.—A State may accept and use contributions from nongovernmental entities, including nonprofit organizations, to carry out a pilot project and an evaluation of that pilot project under this section.

SA 1153. Mr. WYDEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 954, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 986, between lines 4 and 5, insert the following:

SEC. 83___. EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN PAYMENTS FROM SEQUESTRATION ORDERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 255(g)(1)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 905(g)(1)(A)) is amended by inserting after ''Payment to Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund (24-0200-0-1-805).'' the following:

''Payments to Counties under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 500 note; Public Law 106–393).

''Payments in lieu of taxes under chapter 69 of title 31, United States Code.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) takes effect on October 1, 2012.

SA 1154. Ms. STABENOW (for Mr. WYDEN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 588, to provide for donor contribution acknowledgments to be displayed at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitor Center, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS.

Section 8905(b) of title 40, United States Code is amended by striking paragraph (7) and inserting the following:

''(7) DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the Secretary or Administrator, as applicable, may permit a sponsor described in subsection (a) to acknowledge donor contributions at the commemorative work.

''(B) REQUIREMENTS.—Acknowledgments shall—

''(i) be displayed inside a visitor center or other ancillary structure associated with the commemorative work; and

''(ii) conform to applicable National Park Service or General Services Administration guidelines for donor recognition, as applicable.

''(C) LIMITATIONS.—Acknowledgments shall—

''(i) be limited to an appropriate statement or credit recognizing the contribution;

''(ii) be displayed in a form approved by the Secretary or Administrator;

''(iii) be displayed for a period of time determined by the Secretary or Administrator to be appropriate, commensurate with the level of the contribution;

''(iv) be limited to short, discrete, and unobtrusive acknowledgments or credits; and

''(v) not include any advertising slogans or company logos.

''(D) SUBMITTAL OF PLAN.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Prior to the display of donor acknowledgments, the sponsor shall submit to the Secretary or Administrator, as applicable, for approval a plan for displaying the donor acknowledgments, including—

''(I) the sample text and types of acknowledgments to be displayed; and

''(II) the form and location of all displays.

''(ii) NOTIFICATION AND RESUBMITTAL.—If the Secretary or Administrator does not approve the plan submitted under clause (i), the Secretary or Administrator shall—

''(I) not later than 60 days after the date on which the plan is received, notify the sponsor of the reasons the plan is not approved; and

''(II) allow the sponsor to resubmit a revised donor acknowledgment plan.

''(E) COST.—The sponsor shall bear all expenses related to the display of donor acknowledgments.

''(F) APPLICABILITY.—This paragraph shall apply to any commemorative work dedicated after January 1, 2010.''.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY FOR VIETNAM MEMORIAL VISITOR CENTER.

Section 6(b)(5) of Public Law 96-297 (16 U.S.C. 431 note; 124 Stat. 2851) is amended by striking ''2014'' and inserting ''2018''.

SA 1155. Mr. FRANKEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 954, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 199, strike lines 11 through 24, and insert the following:

''(A) the level of natural resource and environment benefits resulting from existing and proposed conservation treatment on all applicable priority resource concerns; and

On page 200, line 1, strike ''(E)'' and insert ''(B)''.

On page 200, beginning on line 4, strike ''; and'' and all that follows through ''production'' on line 8.

On page 206, line 9, strike ''not less than 5'' and insert ''a limited number of''.

On page 210, line 2, insert ''or improve'' after ''adopt''.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing scheduled before the Subcommittee on Water and Power of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources has been postponed. This hearing was scheduled to be held on Thursday, June 6, 2013, at 2:30 p.m., in room 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of this oversight hearing is to examine the progress made by Native Hawaiians toward stated goals of the Hawaiian Homelands Commission Act.

For further information, please contact Cisco Minthorn at (202) 224–4756 or Danielle Deraney at (202) 224–1219.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, June 11, 2013, at 10 a.m., in room 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the November 6, 2012 referendum on the political status of Puerto Rico and the Administration's response.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record may do so by sending it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510–6150, or by e-mail to danielle_deraney@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Allen Stayman at (202) 224–7865 or Danielle Deraney at (202) 224–1219.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet during the session of the Senate on June 12, 2013, in room SD–628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing to consider the President's Nomination of Yvette Roubideaux, to be Director of the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services. (Reappointment)

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee at (202) 224–2251.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

VIETNAM VETERANS DONOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT ACT OF 2013

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 588, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 588) to provide for donor contribution acknowledgments to be displayed at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitor Center, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a Wyden amendment which is at the desk be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 1154) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS.

Section 8905(b) of title 40, United States Code is amended by striking paragraph (7) and inserting the following:

''(7) DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the Secretary or Administrator, as applicable, may permit a sponsor described in subsection (a) to acknowledge donor contributions at the commemorative work.

''(B) REQUIREMENTS.—Acknowledgments shall—

''(i) be displayed inside a visitor center or other ancillary structure associated with the commemorative work; and

''(ii) conform to applicable National Park Service or General Services Administration guidelines for donor recognition, as applicable.

''(C) LIMITATIONS.—Acknowledgments shall—

''(i) be limited to an appropriate statement or credit recognizing the contribution;

''(ii) be displayed in a form approved by the Secretary or Administrator;

''(iii) be displayed for a period of time determined by the Secretary or Administrator to be appropriate, commensurate with the level of the contribution;

''(iv) be limited to short, discrete, and unobtrusive acknowledgments or credits; and

''(v) not include any advertising slogans or company logos.

''(D) SUBMITTAL OF PLAN.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Prior to the display of donor acknowledgments, the sponsor shall submit to the Secretary or Administrator, as applicable, for approval a plan for displaying the donor acknowledgments, including—

''(I) the sample text and types of acknowledgments to be displayed; and

''(II) the form and location of all displays.

''(ii) NOTIFICATION AND RESUBMITTAL.—If the Secretary or Administrator does not approve the plan submitted under clause (i), the Secretary or Administrator shall—

''(I) not later than 60 days after the date on which the plan is received, notify the sponsor of the reasons the plan is not approved; and

''(II) allow the sponsor to resubmit a revised donor acknowledgment plan.

''(E) COST.—The sponsor shall bear all expenses related to the display of donor acknowledgments.

''(F) APPLICABILITY.—This paragraph shall apply to any commemorative work dedicated after January 1, 2010.''.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY FOR VIETNAM MEMORIAL VISITOR CENTER.

Section 6(b)(5) of Public Law 96–297 (16 U.S.C. 431 note; 124 Stat. 2851) is amended by striking ''2014'' and inserting ''2018''.

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

The bill (H.R. 588), as amended, was read the third time and passed.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2013

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 4, 2013; that following the prayer and the pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following any leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business for 1 hour with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the majority controlling the first half and the Republicans controlling the final half; that

following morning business the Senate resume consideration of S. 954, the farm bill; further, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:55 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, June 4, 2013, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be general

LT. GEN. FRANK GORENC

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. PHILIP S. DAVIDSON

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 716:

To be major

DAISY Y. ENG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant colonel

JOSEPH N. KENAN

To be major

SIRPA T. AUTIO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE REGUALR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant colonel

SCOTT M. SHEFLIN

To be major

CHRISTOPHER F. TANA
ERIC J. TURNEY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant colonel

CHRISTOPHER E. CIEURZO
CHARLES C. MARTINEAU

To be major

VINH Q. TRAN

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

JASON R. PURVIS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be colonel

THOMAS R. BOUCHARD
PETER M. EMERSON
JAMES M. HARMON
PHILLIP F. JOHNSON
JESSE J. KIRCHMEIER
ALEXANDER D. LAWSON
JAN M. OLEEN
ROBERT D. PARRISH II
JOHN A. ZENKER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

GEORGE T. BARIDO
LISA M. BROWN
DON S. COLT II
CYNTHIA S. KNYSAK
PETER B. OLSON
REGINA POWELL
MICHAEL N. PULLEN
KEVIN S. SHARP
MATTHEW A. SHEAFFER
CHARLES J. SIZEMORE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

TIMOTHY BARNARD
BRIAN R. BEA
FRED D. BICOY
GARY R. BRICKNER
DAVID W. BUTLER
LISA J. DEWITT
FREDDIE J. FRIEL
DAVID B. HALE
JAMES W. HALLIDAY, JR.
EDWIN P. HENDRICKS, JR.
LISA J. HOU
MARGUERITE L. KNOX
JAMES B. KYLE III
JOSHUA H. LIPSCHUTZ
MARTIN J. LUCENTI, JR.
BEN R. MALTZ
MICHAEL D. MCLEARY
LISA MERIWETHER
JEFFREY P. MILES
RICARDO MUNOZ, JR.
MARTIN D. ORTIZ
MICHAEL S. PIZZATO
SCOTT A. POCHA
MICHAEL S. RANDOLPH
SHAKTI S. SABHARWAL
STARR M. SEIP
STACEY A. SMITH
ANGELA M. STEWARDRANDLE
JEFFREY A. STEWART
MICHAEL J. STURKIE
STEWART H. TANKERSLEY
OSCAR L. TROCHEMATOS
KEVIN D. VAUGHN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

JEFFREY S. ACREE
SAMUEL C. ALDRIDGE
JEAN M. ANDERSON
YOLANDA ANTHONY
JOSEPH S. ATKINS
KULVINDER S. BAJWA
LEE J. BARTON
PAULA M. BEHRENS
RICARDO J. BERRIOS
OMAR S. BHOLAT
GEOFFREY BLOOMFIELD
JOHN H. BORDES, JR.
WILLIAM H. BOSWORTH
JACQUELINE J. BRADLEY
KEVIN M. BRADLEY
JOHN P. BRIDE, JR.
ARNOLD D. BRIDGES
MATTHEW D. BRIDGES
PATRICK A. BRODIE
ANDREW T. BRYAN
JOHN R. BURCHFIELD
BRUCE E. BURNS
MARK A. CANNON
ROBERT P. CASILLAS
CATHERINE W. CATINA
MICHAEL J. CEPE
GREGORY H. CHOW
JULIA L. CHRISTIAN
ANTONIO DELAROSA
JAMES G. DELUCA
GLENNA J. DONOVAN
ANGELA M. DOUGLAS
MARC T. DOWNING
JEFFREY DREXLER
MARC R. DUCHETTE
ANNE M. EMSHOFF
LOUIS A. FELICIANO
PEDRO FLORESRUIZ
DIANE R. FORBES
KATHLEEN P. FOREMAN
CAROLYN L. FORRISI
AMELIA J. FOSTER
ALAN G. GETTS
STEVEN L. GLORSKY
THOMAS S. GRANCHI
JAMES L. HALEY
JONATHAN P. HALISCAK
LUCY A. HALL
HUNTER A. HAMMILL
JEFFERY K. HARPSTRITE
BERNARD S. HARRISON
KENT E. HARSHBARGER
DANIEL W. HASH
CHERYL A. HENDRIX
PETER J. HENSLER
DAVID R. HINCKLEY
JON A. HINMAN
DIANA M. HOEK
PHILLIP S. HOLMES
GREGORY B. HUGHES
ERMA J. JACKSON
JONI J. JOHNSON
CYRUS KARIMIAN
MICHAEL S. KILLEN
DAVID G. KING
LISA A. KLATKA
FRANCIS W. KLOTZ
STEVEN M. KOSTRZEWA
DIXON A. LACKEY III
LOREN S. LASATER
JOHN S. LEE
PAUL J. LEE
JOHN F. LOPINTO
DAVID G. LUKENS
EARL H. LYNCH
KATHLEEN A. MALONE
GEORGE G. MANLONGAT
JENNIFER A. MARRASTHOST
STEVEN R. MCCOLLEY
DANA E. MCDANIEL
MARY E. MCLAUGHLIN
MICHELLE C. MCLAUGHLIN
MARTIN E. MENOSKY
PAUL F. MESSINA
GABRIELLA G. MILLER
JACQUELINE C. MITCHELL
BRIAN A. MONTGOMERY
CLARA E. MOSES
ROBERT L. MOSSER
THOMAS J. MURPHY
CLAYTON H. NASH
MITCHELL NAZARIO
REGINA C. NOETH
MATTHEW P. NOVAK
EDWARD E. ORONSAYE
MARIA E. OSTRANDER
NOEL C. PACE
JIMMY A. PAULK
EILEEN A. PILLMEIER
JEFFERY S. PORTER
MELODY A. QUESENBERRY
MARGARET J. RAMSDELL
PETER D. RAY
FREDERICK A. REMICK, JR.
RANDY F. RIZOR
MICHAEL A. ROWLEY
MARIA SANTIAGOSOSA
WILLIAM D. SCHAEFER
PAUL J. SCHENARTS
DUANE R. SHARPE
SHIRLEY A. SPENCER
JOHN F. STECKER III
KENNETH E. STONE
MICHAEL C. STYPULA
ERIC J. TOBIASON
CAROLINE A. TOFFOLI
DIANE TRAVER
ELIZABETH M. TRINIDAD
ELIZABETH S. TUGAS
EDWARD L. VANOEVEREN
SUSAN L. B. WALTON
SANDRA M. WANEK
CALVIN W. WASHINGTON
MELINDA L. WELLBORN
FRANCIS X. WHALEN
JEFFREY L. WILSON
JASON R. WING
VICKY L. YOUNG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be lieutenant colonel

MAZEN ABBAS
JULIE A. AKE
JOSEPH F. ALDERETE, JR.
SHANE ANDERSON
JARED M. ANDREWS
ALISON L. BATIG
ADRIENA C. BEATTY
STEPHEN BECKWITH
ROBERT BEJNAROWICZ
JENNIFER L. BELL
CHAD L. BENDER
JASON W. BENNETT
EDWARD C. BERGEN
NICI E. BOTHWELL
REBECCA A. BOUCHER
BRANDON D. BROWN
JON S. CAMPI
SUYOUNG CHANG
JASON COLEMAN
JACOB F. COLLEN
MISTY C. COWAN
JOHN M. CSOKMAY
JEANCLAUDE G. DALLEYRAND
PATRICK DEPENBROCK
JUSTIN P. DODGE
DAVID M. DOMAN
DAVID DURUSSEL
NICOLE M. EHRHARDT
TRACY L. EICHEL
DAVID ESCOBEDO
PAUL M. FAESTEL
DEAN R. FELLABAUM
KATHLEEN M. FLOCKE
MICHELLE L. FONTAINE

LEVI FUNCHES
DANIEL J. GALLAGHER
DALE W. GEORGE
RUSSELL GIESE
JASON A. GRASSBAUGH
ADAM T. GROTH
REY D. L. GUMBOC
MATTHEW B. HARRISON
JOSHUA D. HARTZELL
ALAN F. HELMBOLD
DAVID C. HILE
GUYON J. HILL
SEAN J. HIPP
MICHAEL C. HJELKREM
MATTHEW H. HOEFER
JOSEPH HUDAK
JOHN R. HUGHES
ADAM L. HUILLET
STEPHEN P. HYLAND
NICHOLAS JASZCZAK
JEREMY N. JOHNSON
YANG E. KAO
SEAN C. KEENAN
PATRICK R. KENNY
SAMEER D. KHATRI
STEVEN W. KHOO
DANIEL E. KIM
JONATHAN KITCHIN
JEFFREY S. KUNZ
GREGORY LACY
JASON S. LANHAM
MATTHEW A. LAUDIE
MARK Y. LEE
ERIK K. LUNDMARK
JONATHAN B. LUNDY
RODD E. MARCUM
KATHARINE W. MARKELL
PETER K. MARLIN
VINCENT J. MASE, JR.
SHANNON M. MASNERI
GABRIELLE MAYBEE
DANIRA H. MAYES
KRISTI MCKINNEY
JOHN J. MCPHERSON
NIA R. MIDDLETON
CRISTIN A. MOUNT
GEORGE R. MOUNT
THORNTON MU
TERRY L. MUELLER
PETER D. MUENCH
JAMALAH A. MUNIR
KEITH P. MYERS
ANICETO J. NAVARRO
NICHOLAS J. NOCE
WILLIAM D. OCONNELL
MICHEAL A. ODLE
BRUCE A. ONG
JUAN A. ORTIZPEREZ
JAMES J. PARK
JEFFREY T. PARKER
JONATHAN R. PARKS
CHRISTOPHER T. PERRY
WYLAN C. PETERSON
TRAVIS PFANNENSTIEL
ERIC PRYOR
ANITA F. QURESHI
JASON A. REGULES
JAMIE C. RIESBERG
JEFFREY L. ROBERTSON
MARK J. ROSCHEWSKI
KIMBERLY C. SALAZAR
DENNIS M. SARMIENTO
DAVID J. SCHWARTZ
DEREK K. SEAQUIST
MARK SHASHIKANT
ROBERT SHIH
NATHAN M. SHUMWAY
JOSEPH SHVIDLER
CARL G. SKINNER
JOHN W. SONG
DARREN C. SPEARMAN
MICHAEL P. STANY
JOSEPH R. STERBIS
TOIHUNTA STUBBS
GUY H. TAKAHASHI
SCOT A. TEBO
ARTIN TERHAKOPIAN
WESLEY M. THEURER
JOHN E. THOMAS
ROY F. THOMAS
JEFFREY M. TIEDE
MICHAEL TODD
DAWN M. TORRES
JAIME L. TORRES II
DAVID B. TROWBRIDGE
DAVID A. VAN DE CAR
JEFFERY W. VANDENBROEK
KATRINA E. WALTERS
SCOTT M. WATERMAN
JAMES A. WATTS
MICHAEL A. WIGGINS
JOSHUA S. WILL
GARY H. WYNN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY DENTAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be lieutenant colonel

EDWARD T. BREECHER
JASON BULLOCK
LLENA C. CALDWELL
PAUL COLTHIRST
LUKE K. DALZELL
CHAD V. DAWSON
JEAN R. ELYSEE
CYNTHIA V. FELEPPA
THOMAS M. JOHNSON
YOUNG S. KANG
DENNIS J. KANTANEN
PETER KIM
JAYANTHI KONDAMANI
LOUIS R. KUBALA
CHARLES C. LAMBERT
BENJAMIN R. METHVIN
JUSTIN N. NAYLOR
WADE H. OWENS
MANUEL PELAEZ
MICHAEL PICCIONE
CONSTANCE L. SEDON
THOMAS STARK
STEPHEN TURELLA
LEWIS WAYT
DEMETRES WILLIAMS
EDWARD M. WISE, JR.

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be commander

KIMBERLY K. YEAGER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

JAMES D. HARRISON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant commander

KERRIE L. ADAMS
AMANDA FEIGEL
ANTONIA J. HENRY

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO VERNON YOUNG

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Vernon Young, an Iowan and a World War II Navy veteran, for joining Des Moines North High School's Class of 2013 and accepting his diploma after more than seven decades.

Vernon Young, now age 88, was set to graduate from North High School in the spring of 1942. However, Mr. Young's plans for the future drastically changed as a result of the devastating attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Vernon wasted no time to answer the call of service and enlisted with the United States Navy a day after the attack. One short month later, he was deployed and contributing to America's pivotal and ultimately successful war effort.

Mr. Young served honorably and went on to obtain a bachelor's degree after being accepted to school on the basis of equivalency criteria—but he never attained his high school diploma. Now, more than 70 years later on May 24, 2013, Vernon, adorned in a green cap and gown, crossed the stage of North High School's 2013 graduation ceremony to receive it. At the ceremony, Vernon's older brother Marion Young was also honored for his service and sacrifice in World War II. Marion, a 1939 graduate of North High School and an enlisted service member, was killed in action during the war.

Mr. Speaker, it goes without saying that the selflessness and patriotism displayed by these brothers is truly extraordinary and a proud testament to the Iowa spirit. The efforts put forth by our country's greatest generation in a time of worldwide combat and uncertainty defined the prosperous and free nation that future generations continue to love and enjoy today. It is a great honor to represent veterans like Vernon Young in the United States Congress, and I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating him as both a veteran and as an official high school graduate. In all he has done, Vernon continues to be an example that our state and nation can be proud of.

TRIBUTE TO COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR LAWRENCE VANCE

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished military career of West Virginia National Guard Command Sergeant Major Lawrence Ray Vance. CSM Vance's service is one of honor and devotion; to which the people of West Virginia and the United States of America owe a tremendous debt of gratitude.

Lawrence Vance began serving his country in 1971 when he enlisted in the United States Army. Following a short stint as a civilian, Vance joined the WVNG in 1975 and embarked on a journey that would take him around the globe. He began as an Armor Crewman at Fort Hood, Texas and gained extensive experience as a Tank Commander at Camp Casey, Korea; Fort Benning, Georgia; Ferris Barracks, Germany; and Fort Polk, Louisiana. He returned to WV in 1981 as a Motor Sergeant with the WVNG, later earning the rank of Command Sergeant Major after completing the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy Course in June of 2005. In the same year, he was promoted to the fourth highest position of leadership in the WVNG, State Enlisted Leader.

CSM Vance has received a host of awards and decorations throughout his service to our country, including the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medals, Achievement Medals, Good Conduct Medals, and Reserve Components Achievement Medals, among many others. In addition to the federal awards, CSM Vance received state recognition in the form of multiple WV Achievement Ribbons, Emergency Service Ribbons, State Service Ribbons, and Minute Man Ribbons, as well as a North Carolina Achievement Ribbon for his service to the state.

CSM Vance lives in Charleston, West Virginia with his wife, Ute. Together they have five children and sixteen grandchildren, many of whom followed their father's footsteps through work in the military or ministry.

On May 31, 2013 CSM Vance will retire from the WVNG after 38 years, 5 months, and 18 days of commendable service. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the State of West Virginia and the United States of America, I would like to thank CSM Lawrence Vance for his years of selfless service to our state and country.

TRIBUTE TO KAREN L. DELLAROCCO

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding career of an individual whose meritorious civil service to our country has come to a close after 38 years. My staff and I came to know Karen L. Dellarocco through her work as Legislative Specialist at the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP), but her storied career with the federal government began back in 1975 when Karen joined the Department of Defense as a clerk typist. Karen's talent and professionalism became apparent immediately as she quickly rose through the ranks to become a Department of the Army Protocol Officer. In 1990, she began work with BOP at Federal Correctional Institution Petersburg, Virginia and seven years later, transitioned to the BOP's Office of Legislative Affairs where she served until her retirement last month in May 2013.

My staff tells me that Karen's customer service to the Congress is simply unparalleled, and that she has always approached her work with enthusiasm, professionalism, fairness and attention to detail. With her retirement, Karen will be deeply missed by my office and every Capitol Hill office which she has faithfully served. Unquestionably, Congress has lost a kind–hearted and talented Legislative Affairs counterpart who will be appreciated for her humor, hard work and ever-present willingness to lend a helping hand.

Karen is an avid antiquer, gardener and traveler—and a friend to many. We wish you all the best in your retirement. Congratulations.

BUSINESS INCUBATOR CENTER TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Business Incubator Center of Grand Junction, Colorado. Founded in 1987, the Business Incubator Center is a private non–profit organization with the sole mission of fostering economic growth and entrepreneurial spirit in Western Colorado. Earlier this year, the Business Incubator Center was named ''Incubator of the Year'' by the National Business Incubation Association for the second time in its 25 year history.

Working with both start-up and established businesses in the Grand Junction area, the Business Incubator Center has played a significant role in building and maintaining thousands of businesses. Over the past 25 years, the Business Incubator Center has helped launch more than 575 businesses in the community, which have gone on to generate more than $156 million in revenue, and create more than 10,000 jobs. The impact the Business Incubator Center has had on the community is immeasurable.

In both 1996 and 2013, BIC was chosen by the National Business Incubation Association as America's top incubator, well deserved honors for this vital organization that has led to the creation of so many jobs. The success of the Business Incubator Center's model has sparked innovation and fostered prosperity for thousands of Coloradans. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize The Business Incubator Center of Grand Junction, Colorado for its commitment to the economic development of Western Colorado.

IN HONOR OF ELIZABETH JORDAN GIBSON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding educator and truly one of a kind woman, Mrs. Elizabeth Viola Jordan Gibson. Sadly, Mrs. Gibson passed away on Monday, May 27, 2013. A funeral service will be held on Monday, June 3, 2013 at 12:00 p.m. at the First African Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia.

The oldest of five children born to Alonza T. Jordan, Sr. and Olive Scott Jordan, Mrs. Gibson was born and reared in Petersburg, Virginia. She graduated with honors from Peabody High School and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Virginia State College. She earned a Master of Science degree in English Education from Tuskegee Institute. She also studied at Georgia State University and American University.

Mrs. Gibson came to live in Columbus, Georgia when she accompanied her husband, Elwood T. Gibson, Sr., on his military assignment to Fort Benning during World War II. She joined First African Baptist Church and for the next 60 years plus, she served the church faithfully in many capacities, including the Rebekah Missionary Circle, Deaconesses Ministry, and the Music Ministry. In addition to showcasing her lovely voice as a soloist in the Senior and Smithsonian choirs, she served as a director and pianist for the Youth Choir. Due to her devoted leadership and service, the women of First African selected her to chair the Women's Day Program in 1972, and in 2000, the Women's Day Program was dedicated to her. Mrs. Gibson and her husband co-chaired the church's anniversary in 1993.

Mrs. Gibson began her teaching career while still in Virginia and when she moved to Columbus, she taught briefly at South Girard High School in Phenix City, Alabama. Shortly thereafter, she was employed to teach at the historic William Henry Spencer High School in Columbus before joining her husband on a three-year tour in Germany. Extensive travel in Germany, Italy and Austria provided experiences which enhanced her teaching skills upon her return to the Muscogee County School System. In 1968, Mrs. Gibson was one of two black teachers selected to be transferred to Jordan High School when schools in Muscogee County were desegregated. Well respected at Jordan High, she was the faculty sponsor of the Frank David Chapter of the National Honor Society for 14 years until her retirement in 1991, after 42 years as an educator.

Mrs. Gibson was not only an English teacher, she was also a dedicated mentor who taught her students to be of service to others. And she herself epitomized a life of service. She was a Golden Soror and Life Member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. In 1979, she was elected Soror of the Year by the Gamma Tau Omega chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha and was honored for her 20 years as chairman of the Senior Citizens Luncheon at which time the chapter changed the event's name to the "Elizabeth Gibson Senior Citizens Luncheon." She was a Platinum member of the Links, Incorporated, as well as a member of the Columbus Community Center Board of Directors; Muscogee Retired Educators Association; West Central Georgia Chapter of American Red Cross Board of Directors; and the American Cancer Society Board of Directors. She was also a charter member of the local chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. and the Mr. and Mrs. Club; a member of the Pleasure Seekers Club; was named in the Model Club's first list of "The Columbus Ten Best Dressed Black Women" and was among the club's first "Hall of Fame" inductees. Fondly called "Gip" by her friends, she was known as a shopper extraordinaire.

Mrs. Gibson was preceded in death by her beloved husband of sixty years, Elwood T. Gibson, Sr.; her sister, Mildred J. Campbell; and her brother, Alonza "Buzzy" Jordan, II. She is survived by her children; Olive, Elwood, Andre and Alan; her brothers, Benjamin Jordan and Samuel Jordan; her nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; and many other family members and friends.

George Washington Carver once said, "No individual has any right to come into the world and go out of it without leaving behind distinct and legitimate reasons for having passed through it." We are all so blessed that Mrs. Elizabeth Viola Jordan Gibson passed this way and during her life's journey did so much for so many for so long. Her smile, her affectionate mentorship, her beautiful singing voice, and her warm, shining presence will be greatly missed.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the more than 700,000 people of the Second Congressional District salute Mrs. Gibson for her outstanding achievements, service, and public distinction. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest condolences to Mrs. Gibson's family, friends and the Columbus, Georgia community during this difficult time. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

WITNESSES TO TIANANMEN SQUARE

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, following is the article I referred to earlier today in my one-minutes speech.

[From the Washington Post, June 2, 2013]

WITNESSES TO TIANANMEN SQUARE STRUGGLE WITH WHAT TO TELL THEIR CHILDREN

(By William Wan)

BEIJING.—From a young age, Qi Zhiyong's daughter asked him how he lost his leg.

To everyone else in the world, Qi always responded to the question with an unflinching, often angry, answer: He lost his left leg when soldiers fired on him and other unarmed civilians during protests at Tiananmen Square in one of modern history's most brutal crackdowns.

But when his daughter asked, Qi choked back the words.

"I lost it in an accident," he mumbled for years.

The lie, however, burned at him, he said.

In the 2½ decades since the protests' violent end, China's government has largely scrubbed Tiananmen from history. Bullet holes on the streets of Beijing have long been patched over. The government has barred any independent inquiry and censored all mention online. Instead, Tiananmen Square has been reduced to a single euphemistic sentence in most school textbooks, making vague reference to "political turbulence in 1989."

But for those who were part of the student-led protests against government repression and corruption, those dark morning hours of June 4, 1989, remain etched in memory and, in cases like Qi's, on their bodies. That generation must now decide what to tell their children about that day, if anything at all.

For many, the decision is colored by how their own views have changed over time. In interviews with more than a dozen survivors, a few wondered whether the democratic cause they fought for was misguided by youthful passion. Others have won asylum abroad, and when they talk of Tiananmen to their children, it is as history—just one part of their life's larger story.

But the dilemma is often more complicated for those who remain in China, where public mention of Tiananmen can result in government retribution. To this day, officials maintain that the decision was necessary for stability, and the anniversary is marked with thousands of police officers patrolling the square and chasing off journalists.

Those who have found successful careers in business, law and academia often talk of it only in private, fearful of consequences for themselves and their offspring.

Even some of those who have soldiered on as activists deliberately say little of Tiananmen to their children, who grow up not fully understanding why police barge into their homes each year as the anniversary approaches to interrogate and spirit away their parents for weeks without explanation. Some children experience restrictions and warnings at school.

For most parents, it comes down to a choice between protecting their children from the past or passing on dangerous and bitter truths about the authoritarian society they continue to live under.

It is something Qi and his wife have wrestled with throughout their 14-year-old daughter's life. The two have fought so often and so heatedly on the subject that neither dares mention 1989 at home anymore.

'THE VEIL WAS LIFTED'

A 33-year-old construction worker at the time of the Tiananmen protests, Qi took a detour that night toward the central Beijing square with co-workers out of curiosity, not activism. Qi, who later converted to Christianity, now likens the moment that troops fired without warning at the crowd around him to a baptism of sorts.

"The veil was lifted from my eyes, and I saw the party for what it really was," he said.

In the hospital, he said, as doctors tried to salvage his bullet-torn left thigh, he took a purple antiseptic liquid and, to their chagrin, angrily scrawled on his leg: "This bullet belongs to the Communist Party's army.

After the amputation, he was forced to give up his construction job and has not found work since. By the time Qi Ji was born in 1998, her father had become a full-time activist, protesting the government's maltreatment of the disabled and democracy advocates, along with other human rights abuses.

Qi's wife warned him early on: Say what you want about the government to everyone else, but Ji is too young. Why create problems for her, his wife argued. Why poison her against the society she must live in?

''But I don't think it's a bad thing for her to understand this government,'' Qi said on a recent afternoon while waiting for his daughter's return from school. ''I want her to be prepared to handle life and to face these problems. Why should we cover up the truth and let her live in illusion?''

For Qi, the Tiananmen crackdown—or June 4, as it is commonly referred to in China—has become the defining moment of his life.

While most people, including some former Tiananmen protesters, have learned to avoid the topic, Qi carries business cards listing his job title as ''Disabled Victim of June 4.'' His home telephone number, cellphone number and e-mail address end with deliberately chosen digits: ''89 64.'' And on the back of his cards, he has emblazoned this slogan: ''Facts written in ink cannot conceal the truth written in blood.''

His family lives in a cramped Beijing apartment, dependent on his wife's $320-a-month job as a drugstore sales assistant, while Qi cares for their daughter and supports human rights causes—work that has resulted in long stretches of detention and frequent government harassment.

Qi's wife, Lu Shiying, wishes he would let go of what happened 24 years ago. She recently declined to meet with foreign journalists and warned Qi against it.

''How come others are able to move forward?'' she often asks him, he said. ''You were not the only victim on June Fourth.''

'NOTHING TO BE GAINED'

Kong Weizhen also was shot and lost the use of his left leg that night. But after seeing the danger and futility of his anti-government activism, he abandoned the opposition work that had brought him to the streets. Instead, he tried to make a new life for himself within the existing system.

He became a salesman and worked his way up to owning a computer store. He even tried in vain to join the Communist Party at one point—an attempt, he says, to increase his pay for the sake of his 12-year-old daughter.

''My family is now my first priority,'' he explained in a phone interview. ''There's nothing to be gained from telling her about June 4. If I tell her, she may form some dangerous resentment against the party. . . . I just want her to have a safe and happy life.''

The only reason he would tell her, he said, is if another anti-government protest erupted. ''If that happened, I would use my own example to teach her what such movements can accomplish and what they cannot. And I would ask her to get as far away as she can.''

But even those who have devoted their lives to fighting for the democratic ideals of 1989 disagree on how much to tell their children. Many of them now form the core of China's dissident community.

''I don't want my children to know,'' said Zhang Lin, a rights activist in Anhui province who has spent many years in jail on state subversion charges.

In February, authorities pulled his 10-year-old daughter, Anni, from school as an apparent punishment to her father. The incident spurred dozens of other activists to stage a hunger strike in front of the school. Weeks later, Anni was allowed to resume class, but only in another town far away.

His daughter now loses her temper easily, Zhang said, and has become obsessed with cartoons in which the good guys beat up the bad. ''I don't want my children to follow the same path as me,'' he said.

In a phone interview, his daughter said, ''I don't know why the police keep coming,'' though she knows it's related somehow to her father.

When asked about June 4, she responded: ''What is June 4? I haven't heard anything about it.''

'I HAVE NO REGRETS'

Qi said he doesn't begrudge other parents their personal decisions, but he worries that staying silent contributes to the gradual purge of China's collective memory.

To this day, he said, his amputated stump hurts whenever he hears the crack of fireworks. He avoids passing Tiananmen Square, he said, because he tastes blood whenever he gets too close.

In the end, suppressing all mention of June 4 in front of his daughter proved impossible. And after his daughter turned 10, a teacher made a passing reference to the date while talking about the physical space of Tiananmen Square.

That night, with Qi's wife still at work, his daughter mentioned it to him, and the memories poured out. The clacking advance of tanks. The shocking sound of gunfire. The blood he saw all around him and the sudden pain and darkness.

In the years that followed, he secretly told her more and more. They watched banned videos about that day on overseas Web sites. They talked about the party and its instinct for self-preservation.

He watched both proud and pained as June 4 began to color her worldview as it had his.

She became both more rebellious and more mature, he said. Like her parents, she now refers to the police watching their home as ''dogs,'' but she accepts without questioning when school leaders exclude her from trips abroad and from student parades at Tiananmen celebrating China's Communist rule.

Lately, she's talked of becoming a kindergarten teacher so she can teach kids how to think for themselves about what's right and wrong.

''All parents want their children to live a happy life, but I have no regrets about telling her,'' Qi said. ''Only after she first tastes the bitter can she know what the sweet is.''

Qi's wife now knows that her daughter knows. But the family recently reached a kind of detente—similar to the one in Chinese society at large. When together at home these days, the family simply avoids all mention of Tiananmen Square, June 4 and what happened that day 24 years ago.

TRIBUTE TO CURTIS EDWARD PRICE

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Curtis Edward Price Jr., who passed peacefully in his home, surrounded by family, on May 30, 2013. An able athlete, gifted musician, and beloved mentor, he epitomized the notion of a true gentleman. It goes without saying that Curtis made quite a positive impression on all of us, and he will be sorely missed.

Curtis was born in Charleston on May 6, 1950, to the late Curtis Edward Price Sr. and Ethel Price. He was a graduate of Charleston High School and West Virginia University. Upon receiving his bachelor's degree, he became the youngest head basketball coach in the country when he accepted the position at West Virginia State College. After leaving WVSC he worked with then-Governor Jay Rockefeller as the Director of Affirmative Action for the State of West Virginia. He ended his career at the Charleston Job Corps Center as its Center Director, where he continued to use his gift of helping others.

Throughout his life, Curtis possessed a profound belief that he could make a positive difference in the lives of others. He was a beloved husband, a devoted father, and a loving grandfather, and worked tirelessly for those outside of his family. Although he is best known for his skills on the basketball court, his passion for politics, championing of the rights of others, and efforts toward ensuring quality education for all children were important facets of his life's work. He was also deeply involved in serving churches through the Ministry of Music, and cherished spending time with his family and close friends.

Curtis is survived by his wife, Judy; two daughters, seven grandchildren; one brother; and two sisters-in-law.

Mr. Speaker, this high level of devotion to both family and the State of West Virginia is one deserving of great honor and respect. Through this Extension of Remarks, I would like to thank Curtis for returning to his native West Virginia to share his life and wonderful spirit with us. We, in the mountain state, are fortunate to remember him as one of our own.

HONORING THE REV. DR. WADE A. STEVENSON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 10TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great man and a wonderful community. Ten years ago, on June 3, 2003, Gideon Missionary Baptist Church in Waukegan invited the Rev. Dr. Wade A. Stevenson to become its pastor. Since then, the church has grown its following and expanded its positive reach in the community.

I have had the privilege of getting to know Pastor Stevenson as an exceptional leader of men, student of faith and community servant. On the several occasions that I have visited his church, I leave each time with a renewed sense of hope and purpose. Pastor Stevenson is dedicated to the belief that helping your neighbor helps you.

Pastor Stevenson's ten years at Gideon Missionary Baptist Church have been a joyous time for the community, and his presence is an indelible part of Waukegan.

Since his earliest days growing up in Kentucky, Pastor Stevenson has heeded the call to serve others. Rather than constantly guide his church members, he prefers to teach, or, as he says, ''to equip.''

Armed with the tools of faith that Pastor Stevenson teaches, his church members are better prepared to have the same positive impact on their communities that Pastor Stevenson has had on his.

During the course of his career, Pastor Stevenson has been recognized with many awards and by various organizations–during the course of his career, Pastor Stevenson has been recognized.

In honor of his tenth pastoral anniversary with Gideon Missionary Baptist Church, I congratulate Pastor Wade A. Stevenson, his wife Gloria and his three sons on this great achievement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I was unfortunately unable to cast a vote on rollcall 179 on the evening of May 22, 2013. I strongly oppose the Northern Route Approval Act and I would have voted ''no'' on passage of H.R. 3. This legislation is another reckless attempt to disregard due process for reviewing projects with significant implications for national security, the environment and public health. I have consistently stated that TransCanada's application for a permit to build the Keystone XL tar sands pipeline must undergo a full environmental review and public comment period, as required by law, before the President determines whether the project is within the national interest. It is irresponsible to waive environmental review and public comment, much less ''deem approved'' a project of such magnitude as the Keystone XL pipeline, especially in light of the recent tar sands disaster in Mayflower, Arkansas that spilled 210,000 gallons of heavy crude oil and displaced 22 families from their homes.

IN RECOGNITION OF LINDA HUTCHENRIDER

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Linda Hutchenrider upon her upcoming retirement from her position as Town Clerk of Barnstable, Massachusetts.

Ms. Hutchenrider has been a constant figure in Barnstable's Town Hall since she first took a position with the town's local government in 1987. She was elected to her current position in 1993, and has been reelected in every election since. She has administered over 38 elections during her twenty-year tenure as Town Clerk, and her knowledge of the many intricacies of the position has gained her the respect and admiration of Clerks throughout the Commonwealth.

Ms. Hutchenrider's many accomplishments include having served as President of the Massachusetts Town Clerks Association, President of the Cape and Islands Town Clerks Association, and Chair of the New England Municipal Clerks' Institute and Academy. During her time as Barnstable Town Clerk, Ms. Hutchenrider also attained her Master Municipal Clerk (MMC) and Certified Massachusetts Municipal Clerk (CMMC) designations, both of which required many hours of advanced training. While Ms. Hutchenrider may be retiring this June, she has not finished giving back to her field, and plans to serve as a volunteer teacher for the New England Municipal Clerks' Institute and Academy this summer.

It is fitting to acknowledge and to thank those who have offered service to their communities, and Ms. Hutchenrider is a true embodiment of such an individual. I thank her for all that she has done for the Barnstable community, and wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing and congratulating Ms. Linda Hutchenrider upon her retirement.

CONGRATULATING CARTERSVILLE BASEBALL ON THE DIVISION AAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Cartersville High School Baseball team. On May 25th, the Purple Hurricanes swept the North Hall Trojans in a best of three championship series to win the AAA division state championship.

Although the North Hall Trojans put up a memorable fight, the Purple Hurricanes ultimately hit walk–off single to clench the program's 6th title in 12 years.

This season, Coach Stuart Chester, his staff, and these young men have worked tirelessly to earn their place in Georgia baseball history. The team's 14 seniors—who are no strangers to adversity—will enter the next chapter of their lives knowing that they have upheld their school's legacy of excellence and have set a high bar for future Purple Hurricanes teams to strive for.

I encourage the entire team to savor their victory and remember the season's important life lessons of responsibility, persistence, and self-discipline; they will undoubtedly make them better citizens and fathers as they grow older.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I congratulate the Cartersville Purple Hurricanes on their well-deserved 2013 division AAA State Championship title and wish them luck as they defend their title next year. This team has brought great pride to their school, the city of Cartersville, and Georgia's 11th District. Go Canes.

RECOGIZING THE JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER OF SYRACUSE'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANIEL B. MAFFEI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. MAFFEI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Jewish Community Center of Syracuse in celebrating 150 years of proudly serving the Central New York community.

The Jewish Community Center of Syracuse is the second oldest of its kind in North America. Located at 5655 Thompson Road in DeWitt, the center offers a variety of services that have enriched the lives of the Jewish community in Syracuse for generations.

The center's Early Childhood Development Program introduces young children the important concepts of learning and teamwork. In addition, The Children's Department provides care whenever schools are closed, including: state and national holidays, school conference closure days, half days, and snow days.

Many seniors take advantage of the community center's Senior Department for services ranging from affordable kosher meals to free manicures. Furthermore, the Jewish Community Center of Syracuse offers seniors an opportunity to stay active by utilizing the Neulander Family Sports & Fitness Center. Seniors can rest assured that the center provides instructors that take measures to ensure the safety and comfort of participants. Participation in these various programs allow seniors to stay involved in the community.

On June 6, 2013, The Jewish Community Center of Syracuse will hold its Annual Community You Can Count on Gala, with its focus on honoring its rich heritage over the past 150 years. The Gala with pay tribute to the past presidents who have had an instrumental role in forming what the Jewish Community Center of Syracuse is today. In addition to the 150th celebration on June 6, the Jewish Community Center will formerly recognize the renaming of the Jewish Community Center of Syracuse to the Sam Pomeranz Jewish Community Center of Syracuse.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing The Jewish Community Center of Syracuse and its 150 years of bettering the Syracuse community.

HONORING THE 2013 FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA AREA HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR MILITARY ENLISTEES

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. WITTMAN . Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the one hundred and eighteen Fredericksburg, Virginia area high school seniors who plan to enlist in the United States Armed Forces after graduation. These students have excelled in their academic and extracurricular activities and I offer my sincere congratulations upon their high school graduation.

I commend these student leaders for their selfless and courageous decision to serve their country as members of the Armed Forces:

Alva, Andrew E.; Anderson, James E.; Armstrong, Stephanie L.; Arrington, Tarance L.; Atkinson, Rebecca; Barksdale, Alexus; Barrett, Maurice N.; Baxter, Austen J.; Beckwith, Dillion B.; Benabides, Erika Y.; Berrios, Cristopher B.; Bowling, Clinton M.; Boyd, Brandon M.; Bridgers, Charles W.; Cain, April R.; Campbell, Brandon J.; Carter, Devonte M.; Caylor, Steven W.; Clark, Nathan T.; Coleman, Sergio J.; Comings, Heather N.; Cooper, Theophilus G.; Corbett, Zoe; Daley, John R.; Davis, Devin H.; Dejesus, Joseph K.; Dejesus, Rasckey R.; Dennison, Michael P.; Devine, Andrew D.; Doggett, Daquan; East, Donald E.; Fagan, Daniel J.; Floyd, William; Frady, Nicholas; Gail, Liam M.; Gandy, Sabrina; Gonzalez, Dion A.; Grenke, Konnor E.; Griffiths, Tyler D.; Hall, Nathanael J.; Harcum, Brandon L.; Hartless, Evan; Hashbarger, Kyle R.; Hayward, Michael A.; Heard, Dwune A.; Heilman, John; Hennessey, Patrick J.; Herrera, Abraham L.; Hodge, Austin C.; Hopewell, Lashaad; Howell, Thomas J.; Hulo, Zachary R.; Irace, Dominic R.; Jenkins, Tiffany J.; Jeter, Chelsi; Johnson, Casey W.; Johnson, Dakota W.; Johnson, Ricky D.; Johnson, Simeon T.; Jones, Asya D.; Korovin, Nikita K.; Kratz, Joseph A.; Leclair, Daniel R.; Lee, Cameron T.;

Lyterisher, Sean S.; Mahon, Elias; Marquez, Anthony M.; Martin, Anika O.; Mason, Brittney Keith; Mason, James P.; Masters, Jonathan E.; McCoy, Nyia N.; Mcdermott, Brian; McKinney, Darlene A.; McLaughlin, Jonathan Evan; Mendozaguevara, Jose M.; Merritte, Ebony; Mlaka, Desiree J.; Mondragon Pina, S.; Moore, Shawn E; Morad, Brandon; Morin, Jonathan; Morris, Joshua L.; Mote, Andrew A.; Naylor, Ryan A.; Newcomb, Douglas K.; Peacher, Matthew; Peck, Cody T.; Pena Andia, Wendy L.; Pitts, Cameron N.; Rastall, Brooke N.; Rathbone, William; Raymer, Nicholas M.; Rhodes, Trevon C.; Riggs, McKenzie W.; Rocha, Helena M.; Rodriguezramos, Herson C.; Rose, Eric M.; Roush, Casey A.; Russell, Carter; Schmitt, Phorrest J.; Shackleton, Christopher D.; Shry, Kelly L.; Smith, Latifah E.; Stephens, Caleb M.; Stotler, Corey A.; Taylor Lewis, Alexis B.; Thomas, Vanessa; Tuel, Chancellor K.; Turner, Seth; Turner, Walter B.; Vogel, Michael A.; Walker, Joshua; Williams, Lorenzo D.; Williams, Derek A.; Winans, Nikolos A.; Woodard, David E.; Young, Joseph K.

These students will be honored by the Greater Fredericksburg Chapter of Our Community Salutes at their 2nd Annual Military Enlistee Recognition Ceremony on Wednesday, June 5, 2013 at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking these young men and women and their families for their dedication to serving this great Nation. We owe them and the many Americans who have served and will serve a debt of gratitude.

SMARTER SOLUTIONS FOR STUDENTS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 1911, the Smarter Solutions for Students Act.

In a global economy, putting a college education within reach for every American has never been more important. But it's also never been more expensive. On July 1, the interest rate on subsidized Stafford student loans will double from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent if Congress does nothing, increasing college costs for over 7 million students by $1,000 per student, per loan. Unfortunately, this bill does not adequately provide the assistance our students need and instead exacerbates the college debt crisis.

According to estimates by the Congressional Budget Office, interest rates under H.R. 1911 will be higher than current fixed rates for millions of borrowers seven of the next ten years. Even more troubling, H.R. 1911 also includes provisions the will provide $3.4 billion in debt reduction. It will be a sad day in American history if should the Congress decide to further burden struggling students to reduce a national debt they will already be paying for throughout the course of their lives.

In Texas and all across the country, students and recent college graduates are now facing the highest unemployment rate of any other group. By 2018, 63 percent of all American job openings will require some sort of postsecondary education. In order for our country to remain competitive, we need to make college more affordable and accessible. Political gimmicks such as H.R. 1911 will only discourage our Nation's students from pursuing an education.

With the cost of higher education continuing to skyrocket, I simply cannot support a measure that will increase the financial burden for millions of students and their families. If Americans fail to address this issue now, we will default on commitment to a better future for our children. We owe it to our young people to provide the opportunities that will allow them to become successful and productive adults.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF CAPTAIN MARC DENNO

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Marc Denno, United States Navy, as he concludes his service as the 49th Commanding Officer of Naval Submarine Base New London. On behalf of southeastern Connecticut, I thank Captain Denno for his service, his leadership and his friendship to our community.

A native of Minnesota, Denno graduated from the Naval Academy in 1985 and went on to serve in a number of capacities throughout the Submarine Force, including Damage Control Assistant on the USS *George Bancroft* (SSBN 643), Engineer Officer on the USS *Bluefish* (SSN 675), Executive Officer of USS *West Virginia* (SSBN 736) (Blue) and Commanding Officer of Pre-Commissioning Unit (PCU) *Jimmy Carter* (SSN 23). He served as Commanding Officer of the USS *City of Corpus Christi* (SSN 705), which, while under his command, was twice awarded the Battle "E" and earned the Meritorious Unit Commendation and Navy Unit Commendation. Captain Denno's shore assignments include the Shift Engineer and Material Officer at Nuclear Power Training Unit Charleston, as well as Chief Staff Officer and Director of the Tactical Analysis Group on the staff of Commander, Submarine Development Squadron Twelve.

It was during his tour as Commanding Officer of Submarine Base New London, however, that I got the chance to work closely with Captain Denno. Known both as the "First and Finest" submarine base in our Navy and the "Submarine Capitol of the World," Submarine Base New London is a military installation that is closely tied to the fabric of the community that surrounds it. In a region that follows developments on the base like a box score, Captain Denno's four year tour at the base was distinguished by a focus on the fundamentals of supporting the submarine force, a focus on the vitality and viability of the base, and deepening the connections between the base and its host community and state.

During his tenure, Captain Denno was an active leader in tending to the base's key mission area: the support and operation of the submarines assigned to New London. Under Captain Denno's leadership the base undertook close to $200 million in major infrastructure projects and capital investment. Infrastructure improvements included the recapitalization of Pier 31 and the construction of a new Port Operations Center, a new Indoor Smalls Arms Range, and a new synthetic Track and Field, among other projects. As important, he led the demolition of 450,000 square feet of excess and outdated buildings and infrastructure that have reduced the footprint and operating costs of the base. And, working joining with the State of Connecticut, Captain Denno deepened the relationship between the base and its host state through a unique partnership. Under Captain Denno's command and through his collaboration with State officials, Connecticut invested unprecedented resources into the future of the base, supporting new projects like a new diver facility, an up to date boiler for the power plant, critical additions to training facilities, and a joint project with the local communities to address encroachment issues.

Beyond the nuts and bolts of base infrastructure, Captain Denno prioritized efforts to deepen the connection between the sailors assigned to New London and the surrounding community. Under his watch, 9,000 members of the base community contributed 47,000 community service volunteer hours in the region in local schools and in a number of organizations like the American Red Cross, the Boy and Girls Scouts of American, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, and the Special Olympics. And, Captain Denno was instrumental in broader regional events like OPSAIL Connecticut 2012, in which he helped to coordinate Navy involvement in this daunted undertaking, from working with the local community to support the event to coordinating naval vessel participation—and many things in between.

From being a constant presence as community meetings to spearheading stakeholder orientation tours of the base, leading key military education initiatives and being the public face of the base, Captain Denno was a fixture in the southeastern Connecticut community during his four years at SUBASE New London. It is no wonder then that SUBASE New London was selected from among the region's more than 20 other installations and activities as the unprecedented winner for two consecutive years of the annual Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic's Award for Installation Excellence, in 2010 and 2011.

As you might imagine, a good working relationship with SUBASE New London and its Commanding Officer is a prerequisite for anyone in the position of representing eastern Connecticut in Congress. However, I consider myself privileged to have worked so closely with Captain Denno over the last four years not just in his capacity as a Navy officer, but as a friend and occasional golf partner. He and his team have never been more than a phone call or email away, and the connection between his office and mine has been nothing short of a two way street as we tackled the key challenges facing the base. I am grateful for his time, his advice, his counsel and most of all, his unflagging commitment to Connecticut's base and the sailors and submarine stationed at it.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in thanking Captain Denno for his service to SUBASE New London and wishing him and his family "fair winds and following seas" as he heads to his next assignment in service to our country.

A SALUTE TO FLORIDA NATIVE WILLIAM R. ELLIS

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize William R. Ellis who has been an integral part of Brevard County, Florida for more than 50 years. Bill currently serves as the Vice President of Government and Industry Relations for Health First, Inc. in Meltourne, Florida. He will retire from that position on June 14, 2013, after 57 years of distinguished service to our community and the State of Florida.

For the past 15 years, Mr. Ellis has been responsible for all governmental and industry relations for Health First, Inc. Bill also currently serves as a consultant for The Viera Company and has served as a consultant for the Governmental and Community Affairs of the Canaveral Port Authority. In that position, Bill was responsible for maintaining community and governmental relations locally and statewide.

Bill Ellis is well recognized for his early years of service. From 1956–1982 he served in various managerial positions with the Florida Power & Light Company in Brevard County, Florida. From 1982–1986 he held the position of Federal and State Regulatory Representative in Washington DC and in Tallahassee, Florida. From 1986–1991 he served as District General Manager with Florida Power & Light Company in West Palm Beach, Florida. From 1991–1993 he served as an Area Manager for Florida Power & Light Company in Brevard County, Florida and retired in 1993. From 1993–1998 he served as the Director of Public Affairs for the Canaveral Port Authority in Cape Canaveral, Florida.

Bill's community service includes: past President and current Board Member for BCC Foundation and Brevard Cultural Alliance; Secretary of Civilian Military Affairs Council; past Chairman of Brevard County Tourist Development Council; past Chairman of Cocoa Beach Area Chamber of Commerce; past Chairman and current Executive Committee and Board Member EDC Government Relations of the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast; Board of Governors, Executive Committee, Florida Chamber of Commerce; Chairman of Governmental Relations Committee for the Melbourne-Palm Bay Chamber of Commerce; past President and member of the Space Coast Tiger Bay Club; and past Chairman of United Way. Bill is also member of the following professional associations: the American Hospital Association; the Associated Industries of Florida; the Florida Hospital Association; Keep Brevard Beautiful; the Titusville Area Chamber of Commerce; and serves as an associate member with the Florida League of Cities.

Bill Ellis is married to Carol, with 3 grown children and 5 grandchildren. He is a 4th generation Floridian and was raised and educated in the Florida school system.

Bill has been an integral part of Brevard County for more than 50 years and for that we are grateful. Bill and Carol will be missed as they leave Brevard and relocate further south. Now, that community will be the beneficiaries of their commitment to service.

Thank you for making the Space Coast and Brevard County a better place.

RECOGNIZING SNOOTY THE MANATEE'S 65TH BIRTHDAY

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Snooty the Manatee's 65th Birthday.

Snooty is an ambassador for wildlife preservation, a local celebrity, and tourist attraction to Manatee County, most of which I represent in Congress.

Born on July 21st, 1948, Snooty is the world's oldest known living manatee.

Since June 20, 1949 he has lived at South Florida Museum in Bradenton, Florida, where researchers from New College of Florida and Mote Marine are able to learn more about the health and life cycles of manatees.

Manatees frequently suffer from both man-made and natural hazards, such as red tide, cold water, boat strikes, and, in the past, hunting.

Snooty is one of the most popular representatives for endangered species.

He has fostered 26 manatees recuperating from illness or injury and is currently sharing his 60,000 gallon fresh water pool with two young rescued manatees, Cheeno and Longo.

Snooty has also contributed to public education by appearing on Captain Kangaroo in 1982 and greeting more than 2 million visitors of all ages who learn about manatee care, conservation, eating habits, reproduction and physiology.

He reaches people world-wide on the "Snooty Cam," an online, live webcast.

The beloved Manatee was declared the County's official mascot by the Manatee County Commission on April 4, 1979.

I appreciate this opportunity to recognize the many contributions Snooty has made to the world's knowledge of Manatee's and encourage my constituents to participate in Snooty's 65th Birthday Bash and Wildlife Awareness Festival on July 20.

CONGRATULATING U.S. SOUTHERN COMMAND ON THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) on their 50th anniversary, and to commend its exemplary service to the United States in Central America, South America, and the Caribbean.

SOUTHCOM provides invaluable contingency planning, operations, and security cooperation to the volatile region, and has been an invaluable asset to the area. Whether it be through deterring illegal activities such as drug trafficking, dismantling transnational organized crime networks, or fostering alternatives to criminal influence in under-governed areas. SOUTHCOM has consistently supported the region for all their security needs, and has strengthened the regions defense capabilities.

Recently, vital humanitarian assistance and disaster relief missions have underscored the importance of their presence in the South Florida community. For example, in 2010 SOUTHCOM led Operation Unified Response, in which a force of about 22,000 troops, more than 30 ships, and 300 aircraft provided life-saving assistance and distributed millions of pounds of food and water in Haiti following its devastating earthquake.

With an economic impact of $600 million on Miami-Dade County, SOUTHCOM's positive influence is keenly felt throughout the community. SOUTHCOM personnel are mainstays in community organizations and contribute an astonishing 30,000 volunteer hours each year to local charity groups, community projects, and events. Moreover, by participating in activities such as color guard presentations at sporting events and parades, and giving speeches at meetings sponsored by local organizations, we are all reminded of our civic duty and the sacrifices made by those who serve.

SOUTHCOM has become an invaluable organization for the state of Florida, the Nation as a whole, and the region it serves. I am extremely proud to have SOUTHCOM in my Congressional district, and I am confident that they will continue to represent the interests of the United States with distinction.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to congratulate SOUTHCOM as they celebrate this milestone. I am certain that we can all look forward to many more years of outstanding service, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing SOUTHCOM's achievement.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF KEVIN KUHN AND ANDY MOTEL

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kevin Kuhn and Andy Motel for their years of dedicated and distinguished service to Charlestown Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania.

Kevin Kuhn, Charlestown Township Supervisor and Member of the Open Space Commission, and Andy Motel, Charlestown Township Planning Commissioner and Member of the Open Space Commission, have each demonstrated exceptional commitment to the concerns of Charlestown Township's residents by working to permanently preserve over 30 percent of Charlestown Township as open space. They have each worked to maintain the historic and rural character of the Township with diligence and unwavering leadership. Additionally, Kevin Kuhn and Andy Motel have helped to enable Charlestown Township to expand the hiking and equestrian trail network, provide additional stream protection, and to slow residential growth.

Kevin Kuhn and Andy Motel have been the principal leaders in open space preservation for Charlestown Township and have spearheaded efforts to negotiate with various entities while keeping the community abreast of all such developments. Through their energies and direction, the Charlestown Township Board of Supervisors has managed the Earned Income Tax and Open Space Fund to ensure all resources are invested wisely.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of their years of service and commitment to the preservation of

open space, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing Kevin Kuhn and Andy Motel of Charlestown Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania, for their many valuable contributions to their community.

HONORING THE TOWN OF RUMFORD'S NATIONAL MAIN STREET DESIGNATION

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the town of Rumford on receiving a national Main Street designation and for joining the Maine Downtown Network program.

The National Main Street Program was launched in 1980 by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. For over three decades, this program has promoted the revitalization of downtowns across the country by leveraging local assets such as cultural or architectural heritage, local enterprise, and community pride. Since 2009, the Maine Downtown Center, MDC, has served as the state coordinator for the National Main Street Program. MDC has done an excellent job building a network of participating communities over the last several years.

As a national Main Street designee, Rumford will receive guidance, resources and professional training in community development from MDC. They will also have access to MDC staff, 24-member volunteer Advisory Council and the National Main Street Center resources. Rumford is capitalizing on its distinct character, through a unique public-private partnership, to stimulate economic vitality in the heart of their community.

This recognition acknowledges the hard work that the Town of Rumford and its business community have put towards strengthening the local economy. Their efforts are already yielding dividends and making the region a better place to do business.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating the town of Rumford and on their outstanding achievement.

HONORING CAPITAL ENERGY GROUP INCORPORATED (CEG)

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Capital Energy Group Incorporated (CEG) as the 2013 District of Columbia Small Business of the Year, as well as its president and chief executive officer, Norman H. Jones, Sr.

CEG is a District of Columbia small business specializing in energy efficient windows and glass installation. CEG has been awarded contracts on three of the largest projects in the District of Columbia, the U.S. Coast Guard building at the Department of Homeland Security complex at St. Elizabeths, Progression Place—The United Negro College Fund Building, and City Center D.C. In addition to working on large-scale projects, CEG has completed projects for Anacostia Senior High School, Unity Healthcare and Building K167 in Southwest D.C. Because of CEG's high-quality work, it has now become the largest African-American owned glass and window company in the national capital region. CEG has used its growth to further its goals of employing D.C. residents and promoting glass/glazing as a career option.

CEG's president and chief executive officer, Norman H. Jones, Sr., has over 30 years of experience in the glass/glazing and window industry. He continues to share his knowledge with future generations by establishing apprenticeship programs for District residents to learn more about window glazing and installation.

I ask the House to join me in honoring Capital Energy Group Incorporated and its president and chief executive officer, Norman H. Jones, Sr., for their outstanding accomplishments and commitment to the residents of the Distinct of Columbia, and in commending Capital Energy Group Incorporated on becoming the 2013 District of Columbia Small Business of the Year.

RECOGNIZING LOUDOUN STUDENTS WHO ''BEAT THE ODDS''

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize four remarkable students from my congressional district who were recently awarded college scholarships through the ''Beat the Odds'' program.

Hosted by the Loudoun Bar Association, ''Beat the Odds'' provides financial support to area students who have overcome challenging, and often tragic circumstances. The students who received awards this year have endured hardships ranging from sexual abuse to illness to poverty, yet have still achieved great success in the classroom or on the athletic field.

I had the privilege of attending a ceremony for the recipients on Thursday, May 23, in Leesburg. It was an honor to meet the students and hear firsthand how they overcame adverse situations. Their ability to remain positive and work hard despite the difficulties they face is inspiring. I wish them all the best as they embrace this wonderful opportunity and move on to college.

The recipients of this year's scholarships are: Jonathan ''Cory'' Dickey of Loudoun County High School, Shannon Hayes of Park View High School, Leanna Moron of Loudoun County High School and Vineetha Thekkel of Tuscarora High School.

I submit two recent news articles from the Loudoun Times-Mirror and Leesburg Today on these remarkable students.

[From the Loudoun Times-Mirror, May 24, 2013]

FOUR LOUDOUN STUDENTS AWARDED ''BEAT THE ODDS'' SCHOLARSHIPS

(By Alanna Dvorak)

Looking at Loudoun County High School senior Leanna Moron, one wouldn't suspect the challenges she's overcome.

The poised girl of Thai and Bolivian descent is an academic, sitting within the top 10 percent of her class. She takes time out of her day to work with English Language Learners. She will be attending Penn State to study nursing.

She's also endured multiple traumas, from sexual abuse, financial struggles, alcoholic family members and ''tremendous heartache and pain.''

''To know what she has lived through everyday and see her still be who she is is amazing,'' said Megan Dunn, a guidance counselor at Loudoun County and the person who nominated Moron for the award.

Moron received a $6,000 scholarship from the Loudoun Bar Association's Beat the Odds program at a ceremony May 24 at the historic courthouse in Leesburg. ''It's an amazing honor,'' Moron said. ''I'm very thankful for this scholarship and this opportunity.''

The Beat the Odds program awards scholarships to students who have overcome significant life obstacles, such as abuse, illness or poverty. A national program, the Loudoun chapter was founded nine years ago by members of the Loudoun County Bar Association.

''In a given year, there are roughly 245 days we hold court,'' said Juvenile and Domestics Court Judge Pamela Brooks, who hosted the ceremony. ''I have two favorite days: today and adoption day.''

In addition to Moron, three other students received merit awards at the ceremony.

Jonathan ''Cory'' Dickey, a senior football player and wrestler at Loudoun County High School, received a $2,000 award. At age 14, he physically stopped his alcoholic father from strangling his mother. His father left and the family was forced to make do with food stamps, social security benefits his mother, who is unable to work, receives and a part-time job Dickey took on. Still: the family was unable to stave off foreclosure.

''I did it not only for myself, but I try to be strong for my brothers,'' Dickey said. ''It is very tough growing up at an early age but I think it's made me a stronger person in the long run.''

Park View's Shannon Hayes' parents divorced when she eight, after her father's struggles with alcoholism made it unsafe for her. Two years later, her mom became ill and her father moved back in with the family to help out.

''I thought our family was finally growing back together,'' Hayes said.

However, her father was diagnosed with Leukemia and died just 15 days before Hayes' 13th birthday. Hayes' family has also struggled financially.

Hayes received a $2,500 award to put toward her education at Penn State, where she plans to study biochemistry to become a genetic engineer.

Vineetha Thekkel of Tuscarora received the third merit award of the evening. Thekkel and her parents came to America in 2009 and the then 13 year old immediately had to take on an adult role, trying to find transportation for the family from the airport. Once the family settled in Leesburg, the young teenager then solicited for jobs for her mother and deaf father. Despite being laughed out by numerous business owners, Thekkel was able to help her parents find employment. They currently each work three jobs.

Thekkel credits much of her success to agencies around Loudoun County who supported her family during their financial struggles with food stamps and free medical care and teachers who personally supported her.

''With their support, I was able to stay on top of my schoolwork,'' Thekkel said.

Thekkel will be attending Mt. Vernon Nazarene University in Ohio and hopes to become a missionary doctor. She received a $2,500 scholarship.

Several prominent members of the community came out to support the students, including Board of Supervisor member Ken Reed, School Board member Thomas Reed, Town of Leesburg Mayor Kristen Umstattd and Congressman Frank Wolf, who served as keynote speaker.

Wolf told of his adversities from childhood and being teased as a stutterer and poor student. He told the students their adversity would determine their success, rather their character and ability to overcome.

''Do not be afraid to take on tough issues,'' Wolf told the students.

The Beat the Odds program will hold a special event June 13 at the Tally Ho in Leesburg from 5 to 7:30 p.m. The event will serve as both a fundraiser and an opportunity for the community to hear the stories from this year's winners.

[From the Leesburg Today, May 24, 2013]

BAR AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS TO HELP STUDENTS CONTINUE BEATING THE ODDS

''Everything has a way out. You have the choice to keep going.''

Those were the words of Vineetha Thekkel, a graduating senior at Tuscarora High School, but it was a message shared by all four students awarded scholarships through the Loudoun Bar Association's Beat the Odds program during a ceremony at the historic courthouse in Leesburg Thursday night.

In its ninth year, the program provides financial support to college-bound students who have overcome remarkably challenging, often tragic circumstances. The annual awards ceremonies—attended by relatives, teachers and members of the Bar—are known for their emotional rollercoaster ride of pride in the students' accomplishments and sadness at the situations the teens lived through. The tales bring tears to the eyes of even the most experienced lawyers in the room. The wider public will have the opportunity to hear the stories of this year's honorees and past scholarship winners during a special June 13 event at the Tally Ho Theatre in Leesburg.

This year's winners, while coming from decidedly different backgrounds, told similar stories involving domestic violence, financial struggles and lost youth.

At age 14, Jonathan ''Cory'' Dickey said he stopped his alcoholic father from choking his mother and then had to start working to support her and his siblings when his father left. ''Dad got off easy,'' the Loudoun County High School senior said. Food stamps and Social Security benefits for his mother, who is unable to work because of a medical condition, helped, but not enough to hold off a foreclosure. His hard work has paid off with a chance to continue his education in college. ''It's going to help me in so many ways,'' he said of the $2,000 scholarship award.

Park View High School's Shannon Hayes' parents divorced when she was 8, after her mother felt that her father's alcoholism made it too dangerous to live together. Two years later her mother became ill and her father returned to help. Although the relationship with her father healed and a strong bond was formed, he died when she was 12. ''He was my best friend,'' Hayes said. It was her father's wish that she succeed that has inspired her to peruse a degree in biochemistry at Penn State and a career in genetic engineering. ''He is with me everyday. He is my angel.''

Thekkel said she flew to the U.S. March 18, 2009, with her deaf father and a mother who did not speak English. It was at the airport making phone calls to try to find a ride where the then-13-year-old realized, ''I had to be the adult in the family.'' Once settled in a Leesburg townhouse, she went around to area businesses to collect job applications for her parents who now work three jobs. Although the halls of Tuscarora High School presented a completely new experience for the first-generation immigrant, it was at school where she found support from teachers who understood the challenges she faced.

''I loved going to school. That was the only place where I could stay away from the tough times,'' she said. ''I was forced to become an adult at a very young age.'' With the help of her $2,500 scholarship, she will attend Mount Vernon Nazarene University in Ohio with the goal of working as a missionary doctor.

Loudoun County's High School's Leanna Moron received the largest scholarship—the $6,000 Beat the Odds Award. She described her story as ''complex,'' involving family financial struggles, a foreclosure, alcoholic and abusive family members, ''and tremendous heartache and pain.''

At times life may seem too challenging and hopeless, she said, but with determination you can get through it. She found education as ''a way out'' and will graduate in the top 10 percent of her class. She will pursue a nursing degree at Penn State.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court Judge Pamela L. Brooks led the ceremony and U.S. Rep. Frank R. Wolf (R–VA–10) was the keynote speaker, telling students of his struggles growing up in Philadelphia as a picked-on, stuttering youth and poor student. He urged them to continue to be willing to pay the price to do the right things and to thank God for the adversity that helps make them better people.

Attorney Matt Snow, co-chairman of the Bar's Beat the Odds Committee, encourages residents to attend a special forum at the Tally Ho, 5–7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 13, to gain a better understanding of the program and the impact it is having on the lives of the students. Attendees are advised to bring tissues to wipe away tears; and may bring their checkbooks to support the program.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ASSESSMENT ACCURACY AND IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2013

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, as Congress considers the reauthorization of the No Child Left Behind Act this year, we have an obligation to listen closely to the students, parents, and educators that we represent to ensure that our efforts result in responsible and pragmatic improvements. While we have made great strides in the areas of assessment and accountability over the last nine years, this reauthorization provides a critical opportunity to learn from our experiences and fine-tune the law.

One example of a lesson my constituents have learned, and have vigorously shared with me, is that we should be encouraging states to move towards better assessment models. As I have met with educators over the past several years, one of the primary concerns that I have heard is that the state assessment fails to provide information of value to educators and administrators. Even more disturbing, it often takes four to six months before scores are returned to schools, which leaves little or no time for teachers to use the information to address student performance before they advance to the next grade.

However, I believe there is a sensible solution that Congress can adopt to address these concerns and give states more options in assessment design. Today, working with Representative G.K. Butterfield, I am introducing the bipartisan Assessment Accuracy and Improvement Act of 2013 to give states the option to use adaptive testing as their statewide assessment measuring reading, math, and science to fulfill No Child Left Behind requirements. I believe that this legislation will give states the ability to truly track the academic growth of every child and provide more accurate information to teachers, parents and school administrators through the use of an adaptive test.

For those who may be unfamiliar with adaptive testing, it is a test that changes in response to previously-asked questions. For example, if a student answers a question correctly, the test presents a question of increased difficulty. If a student answers incorrectly, the test presents a question of decreased difficulty. As you can see, an adaptive test customizes itself to a student's actual level of performance with a great degree of accuracy.

Giving states the flexibility to use an adaptive test and to ask questions outside of grade level will improve the accuracy of student assessment and enable educators to target appropriate instruction for each child based on performance at, above, or below grade level. In addition, using an adaptive test over time will allow accurate measurement of the performance growth of each individual student.

In Wisconsin, hundreds of school districts currently use their own funds to participate in adaptive testing in addition to the state assessment required by NCLB. Educators and administrators appreciate the diagnostic information it yields and the efficiency that it provides. I believe that school districts nationally are already ''speaking with their wallets'' by spending scarce resources to voluntarily participate in this testing because it provides valuable information that the state assessment does not.

Mr. Speaker, adaptive testing is one of the keys to putting the 'child' back into No Child Left Behind. I hope that our colleagues will join us in this pragmatic and responsible improvement to the law as we work towards a bipartisan reauthorization this year.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHARLESTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Charlestown Historical Society on the occasion of its 40th anniversary.

The Charlestown Historical Society was founded in 1973 at the home of Ms. Betty Stonorov to discover and maintain the rich historical heritage of Charlestown Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania. The Society currently boasts over 160 members and is led by President John W. Pittock, who has served in that capacity since 2007. The Society meets

at the historic Wisner-Rapp House, which was built in 1835 by Revolutionary War soldier Jacob Wisner.

The Charlestown Historical Society has supported the preservation, repair and stabilization of the Woolen Mill, which was established in 1725 and acquired by the Township in 2002. In 2011, the Society published a book entitled ''Historical Sketches of Charlestown'' which highlighted the historical roots of the Township. This book contains the original manuscript written in 1943 by resident Harman D. Rees and includes additional sketches and art by Charlestown Historical Society members and Township residents.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of its 40th anniversary, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing the Charlestown Historical Society, Chester County, Pennsylvania, for its contributions to exploring and maintaining the rich historical heritage of Charlestown Township.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was $10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is $16,738,821,943,986.12. We've added $6,111,944,895,073.10 to our debt in 4 years. This is $6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, on May 14, 2013, I inadvertently missed rollcall vote No. 146, had I been present I would have voted ''yes.''

CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIREMAN'S FUND INSURANCE COMPANY

HON. MICHAEL G. GRIMM

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. GRIMM. Mr. Speaker, on June 11, 2013 the Fireman's Fund Insurance Company will celebrate their 150th anniversary at the New York City Public Library on 42nd Street. Originally founded in San Francisco, California in 1863 with a mission to assist the widows and orphans of fallen firefighters, the Fireman's Fund grew into a national company with significant size operations in New York City and other locations throughout the United States.

The Fireman's Fund has played an important role in New York's history with the company insuring, among other things, Charles Lindbergh's Spirit of St Louis flight from New York to Paris in 1927, the construction of the Radio City Music Hall during the 1930's and the World Heavyweight Championship Fight between Joe Frazier and Muhammad Ali in Madison Square Garden. More recent work of note has been the company's tremendous response efforts to the 9/11 World Trade Center Tragedies, and its excellent work in coming to the assistance of those who suffered damages to their homes and businesses during the 2012 Hurricane Sandy disaster.

Over the last eight years the Fireman's Fund Heritage Program has provided over $30 million in grants to Fire Departments throughout the nation, allowing them to purchase safety equipment and training services that might otherwise have gone unattended during this difficult time of constrained public spending. Closer to home, the company has given $630,000 to New York City and another $1.2 million to the rest of New York State. Furthermore, on June 12, 2013 at a public ceremony, the Fireman's Fund will present checks awarded under the auspices of three of its major insurance agents that total more than $60,000.

New York City has always played a prominent role in the United States and international insurance business, and we are pleased that the Fireman's Fund and its affiliated companies have chosen to be in lower Manhattan providing quality jobs and excellent risk management services to America's businesses and families.

Mr. Speaker, It is an honor to recognize the Fireman's Fund today and we commend the company and its employees for the valuable services they continue to provide. In our transitory times, 150 years is an impressive feat and we extend best wishes for the continued success of the company. May it grow and prosper, bringing with it the company's generous legacy of assisting the Firefighter whose daily lives are dedicated to our own personal safety.

HONORING CAPTAIN DAN JOHNSON

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Dan Johnson on his installation as Post Commander of the Johnson–Phelps VFW Post 5220 in Oak Lawn, Illinois. As a decorated veteran, a dedicated citizen, and a loyal patriot, Captain Johnson continues to serve his community and his tireless dedication deserves our recognition.

An active member of the United States Army since 1992, Captain Johnson has served in Iraq and Afghanistan, as a Platoon Leader and on Security Forces Assistance Advisor Teams. He has earned 17 awards, including the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal with 5 Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Bronze Star.

Captain Johnson is a resident of Oak Lawn, Illinois, so I am especially proud to have such a committed serviceman from the 3rd Congressional District. I am confident that his leadership will be an asset to the Johnson–Phelps VFW Post 5220, and thank him for his service and commitment to his fellow countrymen.

Today I stand and ask you to join me in honoring Captain Dan Johnson on his new position as Commander of Johnson–Phelps VFW Post 5220.

IN RECOGNITION OF JIM HANSEN'S RETIREMENT

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Jim Hansen, principal of Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton, California. Jim will be retiring this year after serving the East Bay as both a principal and a teacher for over three decades. I benefitted personally from his thoughtful leadership when I was a student at Wells Middle School during his time as principal there.

Jim was born and raised in the East Bay, where he attended St. Joseph's College High School. After high school, Jim worked his way through college where he held positions as a gardener, maintenance man, and many interesting jobs. He went to school at University of California, Berkley, where he majored in history.

After earning his bachelor's degree, Jim took his first teaching job at St. Clement's School in Hayward, where he taught sixth grade science and physical education. While Jim was teaching at St. Clements, he also coached the Pleasanton Valley swim team. Jim then began teaching at St. Elizabeth's school.

Jim transferred to Village High School in the Amador Valley Joint Union School District, teaching English to freshman and sophomore students. While teaching, Jim attended San Francisco State University, where he received his Master's degree in Education Technology. He later received his Administrative Services Credential from California State University, Hayward.

In 1988, Jim became the principal of Valley Continuation High School in Dublin, while also serving as vice principal for Wells Middle School. Jim has also served as principal at Dublin High School, Wells Middle School, Harvest Park Middle School, and, most recently, at Amador Valley High School.

Today, Jim resides in San Ramon, where he has lived with his wife, Judy and children, Kelly, Kevin, and Brian since 1986. Jim's service to the East Bay as both a teacher and administrator will be remembered for his openness and accessibility to both students and parents. I wish Jim the best in his retirement.

HONORING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VILLAGER

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2013

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the 60th anniversary of The Villager. Born to give neighborhoods in Saint Paul, Minnesota a voice, the Villager is a local newspaper dedicated to covering Highland Village and other neighborhoods. Since 1953, the Villager has served as an important source of news to its loyal readers. Today it continues

to be the voice of Highland Village and beyond and the trusted go-to-source for local news.

The Villager began when Barry Prichard and Arnold Hed were seeking a way for merchants in the Highland Village area of Saint Paul to connect with local shoppers. Mr. Prichard and Mr. Hed were helped in their venture by Harold Shapira, the de facto mayor of Highland, who endorsed the Villager as the "Official Publication of Highland Village Merchants." As time progressed, the Villager turned from a local bulletin board of events and news briefs, to a full-fledged community newspaper. Today, the villager is freely distributed in over 10 Twin Cities neighborhoods, and has a regular readership of over 100,000 people—making it the largest neighborhood newspaper in the Twin Cities.

Much has changed in Highland Village and the surrounding area since the first edition of the Villager was published. In 1953 the first color ad ran, featuring rib steaks for 49 cents a pound and salad dressing at 32 cents a quart and an article on the dedication of the $100,000 Ford Auto Workers Union meeting hall. In recent times, the Villager has reported on main community topics such as the closure of Saint Paul's Ford plant (after 86-years) and subsequent redevelopment efforts for the site, as well as the restoration of the historic Union Depot multi-modal transit hub in downtown Saint Paul.

Born to give our Saint Paul neighborhoods a voice, the Villager has evolved throughout the years, but has continued to keep the journalistic integrity that makes the paper a reputable source of information throughout our community.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of the Villagers' dedication to the businesses and residents of the many neighborhoods it serves, I am pleased to submit this statement for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD recognizing the 60th Anniversary of this Saint Paul publication.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, June 4, 2013 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 5

10 a.m.
Committee on Finance
To hold hearings to examine sex trafficking and exploitation in America, focusing on child welfare's role in prevention and intervention.
SD–215

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine reducing duplication and improving outcomes in Federal information technology.
SD–342

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Subcommittee on Economic Policy
To hold hearings to examine the state of the American dream, focusing on economic policy and the future of the middle class.
SD–538

Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Tulinabo Salama Mushingi, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Burkina Faso, and Catherine M. Russell, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Women's Issues, both of the Department of State.
SD–419

JUNE 6

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Legislative Branch
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2014 for the Architect of the Capitol, Secretary of the Senate, the Sergeant at Arms and the United States Capitol Police.
SD–138

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine programs and activities of the Department of the Interior.
SD–366

10 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2014 for the Department of Justice.
SD–192

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Business meeting to consider S. 534, to reform the National Association of Registered Agents and Brokers, and the nomination of Fred P. Hochberg, of New York, to be President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States.
SD–538

Committee on Finance
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Michael Froman, of New York, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador.
SD–215

Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine labor issues in Bangladesh.
SD–419

Committee on the Judiciary
Business meeting to consider S. 394, to prohibit and deter the theft of metal, and the nominations of Patricia E. Campbell-Smith, of the District of Columbia, and Elaine D. Kaplan, of the District of Columbia, both to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, Derek Anthony West, of California, to be Associate Attorney General, Department of Justice, and Valerie E. Caproni, of the District of Columbia, and Vernon S. Broderick, both to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.
SD–226

10:30 a.m.
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine a progress report 3 years after the Deepwater Horizon disaster, focusing on Gulf restoration.
SR–253

2:15 p.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Geoffrey R. Pyatt, of California, to be Ambassador to Ukraine, Department of State.
SD–419

2:30 p.m.
Select Committee on Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.
SH–219

JUNE 11

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Airland
Business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014.
SD–G50

Committee on the Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Byron Todd Jones, of Minnesota, to be Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and Stuart F. Delery, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, both of the Department of Justice.
SD–226

10 a.m.
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the November 6, 2012 referendum on the political status of Puerto Rico and the Administration's response.
SD–366

11 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support
Business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014.
SD–G50

2 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Personnel
Business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014.
SD–G50

3:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Strategic Forces
Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014.
SR–232A

6 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities
Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014.
SR–232A

JUNE 12

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on SeaPower
Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014.
SR–222

10 a.m.
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine pending benefits legislation.
SR–418

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Closed business meeting to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014.
SR–222

Committee on Indian Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Yvette Roubideaux, of Maryland, to be Director of the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services.
SD–628

JUNE 13

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Closed business meeting to continue to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014.
SR–222

2 p.m.
Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe
To hold hearings to examine Syrian refugees in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) region, focusing on the United States and international response to the humanitarian crisis that threatens to destabilize the entire region.
SD–562

JUNE 14

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Closed business meeting to continue to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014.
SR–222

JUNE 20

10 a.m.
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
To hold an oversight hearing to examine water resource issues in the Klamath River Basin.
SD–366

POSTPONEMENTS

JUNE 5

10 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Department of Defense
To hold hearings to examine the Missile Defense Agency.
SD–192

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2014 for the Department of Labor.
SD–138

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development
To hold hearings to examine long term sustainability for reverse mortgages, focusing on Home Equality Conversion Mortgage's (HECM) impact on the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund.
SD–538

Joint Economic Committee
To hold hearings to examine building job opportunities for veterans.
SH–216

JUNE 6

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
Subcommittee on Water and Power
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the progress made by Native Hawaiians toward stated goals of the Hawaiian Homelands Commission Act.
SD–366

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

See Résumé of Congressional Activity.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3887–S3914

Measures Introduced: Three bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1084–1086. **Page S3905**

Measures Reported:

Reported on Tuesday, May 28, during the adjournment:

S. 744, to provide for comprehensive immigration reform and for other purposes, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

Reported on Monday, June 3:

Report to accompany S. 306, to authorize all Bureau of Reclamation conduit facilities for hydropower development under Federal Reclamation law. (S. Rept. No. 113–35)

Report to accompany S. 545, to improve hydropower. (S. Rept. No. 113–36)

Report to accompany S. 761, to promote energy savings in residential and commercial buildings and industry. (S. Rept. No. 113–37)

Report to accompany H.R. 267, to improve hydropower. (S. Rept. No. 113–38)

Report to accompany H.R. 678, to authorize all Bureau of Reclamation conduit facilities for hydropower development under Federal Reclamation law. (S. Rept. No. 113–39) **Page S3905**

Measures Passed:

Vietnam Veterans Donor Acknowledgment Act: Senate passed H.R. 588, to provide for donor contribution acknowledgments to be displayed at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitor Center, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S3912**

Stabenow (for Wyden) Amendment No. 1154, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S3912**

Measures Considered:

Farm Bill—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of S. 954, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S3895–S3902**

Adopted:

By 72 yeas to 18 nays (Vote No. 140), Moran Amendment No. 987, to require the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation to carry out research and development regarding a crop insurance program for alfalfa. **Pages S3900–01**

Stabenow (for Coons/Johanns) Amendment No. 1079, to modify a provision relating to funding of local and regional food aid procurement projects. **Page S3901**

Pending:

Stabenow (for Leahy) Amendment No. 998, to establish a pilot program for gigabit Internet projects in rural areas. **Page S3895**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 11 a.m., on Tuesday, June 4, 2013. **Page S3913**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the issuance of an Executive Order to take additional steps with respect to the national emergency originally declared on March 15, 1995 in Executive Order 12957 with respect to Iran; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–11) **Pages S3903–05**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

1Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

1Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, and Navy. **Pages S3913–14**

Messages from the House: **Page S3905**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S3905**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S3905–08**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S3908–09

Additional Statements: Page S3903

Amendments Submitted: Pages S3909–12

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: Page S3912

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—140) Page S3901

Adjournment: Senate convened at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 6:55 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 4, 2013. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S3912–13.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 13 public bills, H.R. 2218–2230; and 2 resolutions, H. Res. 242, 244, were introduced. Page H3014

Additional Cosponsors: Pages H3015–16

Reports Filed: A report was filed on May 28, 2013 as follows:

H.R. 2216, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 113–90).

Reports were filed on May 29, 2013 as follows:

H.R. 2217, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 113–91) and

H.R. 1947, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2018, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 113–92, Pt. 1).

Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 1919, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 113–93);

H.R. 357, to amend title 38, United States Code, to require courses of education provided by public institutions of higher education that are approved for purposes of the educational assistance programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to charge veterans tuition and fees at the in-State tuition rate, with amendments (H. Rept. 113–94); and

H. Res. 243, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2216) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2217) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 113–95). Page H3013–14

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Womack to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H2967

Recess: The House recessed at 2:11 p.m. and reconvened at 4:02 p.m. Page H2968

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013: H.R. 1919, amended, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain; Pages H2968–84

Animal Drug and Animal Generic Drug User Fee Reauthorization Act of 2013: S. 622, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to reauthorize user fee programs relating to new animal drugs and generic new animal drugs, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 390 yeas to 12 nays, Roll No. 185; Pages H2984–93, H3001

Corolla Wild Horses Protection Act: H.R. 126, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement to provide for management of the free-roaming wild horses in and around the Currituck National Wildlife Refuge; Pages H2993–94

Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013: H.R. 1206, to grant the Secretary of the Interior

permanent authority to authorize States to issue electronic duck stamps, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 401 yeas with none voting ''nay'', Roll No. 184; and

Pages H2994–96, H3000–01

San Antonio Missions National Historical Park Boundary Expansion Act of 2013: H.R. 885, amended, to expand the boundary of San Antonio Missions National Historical Park and to conduct a study of potential land acquisitions. **Pages H2996–98**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: ''To expand the boundary of the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, and for other purposes.''.

Page H2998

Recess: The House recessed at 5:29 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H3000**

Privileged Resolution: The House agreed to H. Res. 242, relating to the death of the Honorable Frank R. Lautenberg, a Senator from the State of New Jersey. **Pages H3001–03**

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in honor of the fallen firefighters in Houston, Texas. **Pages H3003–04**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he reported to Congress that he has issued an Executive Order taking additional steps with respect to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12957 of March 15, 1995 relating to Iran—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 113–32). **Pages H2298–H3000**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H3000–01 and H3001. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and at 8:36 p.m., pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 242, it stands adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable Frank R. Lautenberg.

Committee Meetings

APPROPRIATIONS—IRS OVERSIGHT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on the IRS. Testimony was heard from Danny Werfel, Acting Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service; and J. Russell George, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, Internal Revenue Service.

TRAGIC ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1989 TIANANMEN SQUARE

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations held a hearing entitled ''Tragic Anniversary of the 1989 Tiananmen Square Protests and Massacre''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014; AND DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 2216, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2014; and H.R. 2217, Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2014. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–2, open rules for H.R. 2216 and H.R. 2217. The rule provides one hour of general debate on each bill equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of each bill. The rule waives points of order against provisions in each bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI, except for section 563 of H.R. 2217. The rule provides that each bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The rule provides that the Chair may accord priority in recognition to Members who have pre-printed their amendments in the Congressional Record. The rule provides one motion to recommit each bill with or without instructions. In section 3, the rule provides that pending the adoption of a concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2014, the provisions of House Concurrent Resolution 25, as adopted by the House, shall have force and effect in the House as though Congress has adopted such concurrent resolution, and the allocations of spending authority printed in Tables 11 and 12 of House Report 113–17 shall be considered for all purposes in the House to be the allocations under section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. Testimony was heard from Representatives Culberson, Bishop, Jr. (GA), Carter, Price (NC), Kaptur, and Van Hollen.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, *p. D481)*

H.R. 360, to award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal to Addie Mae Collins, Denise McNair, Carole Robertson, and Cynthia Wesley to commemorate the lives they lost 50 years ago in the bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, where these 4 little Black girls' ultimate sacrifice served as a catalyst for the Civil Rights Movement. Signed on May 24, 2013. (Public Law 113–11)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2013

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine an overview of the Federal Housing Administration, 2:30 p.m., SD–138.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine pending legislation regarding sexual assaults in the military, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine Iran sanctions, focusing on ensuring robust enforcement, and assessing next steps, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine the fiscal and economic effects of austerity, 10:30 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet, to hold hearings to examine the state of wireless communications, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine wildland fire management, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Reviewing the President's Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Proposal for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services'', 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade, hearing entitled ''Our Nation of Builders: Home Economics'', 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled ''Continuing Repression by the Vietnamese Government'', 2:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications, hearing entitled ''Emergency MGMT 2.0: How #SocialMedia & New Tech are Transforming Preparedness, Response, & Recovery #Disasters #Part1 #Privatesector'', 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, meeting on Committee Resolution dismissing the election contest in CA–43; Committee Resolution dismissing the election contest in TN–9; markup on H.R. 94, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to Prohibit the Use of Public Funds for Political Party Conventions; H.R. 95, to Reduce Federal Spending and the Deficit by Terminating Taxpayer Financing of Presidential Election Campaigns and Party Conventions; and H.R. 1994, the ''Election Assistance Commission Termination Act'', 11 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 2115, the ''Voter Registration Efficiency Act'', 11 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security and Investigations, hearing entitled ''Department of Justice's Handling of Known or Suspected Terrorists Admitted into the Federal Witness Security Program'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice, markup on H.R. 1797, the ''District of Columbia Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act''; and H.R. 1944, the ''Private Property Rights Protection Act of 2013'', 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Defining Species Conservation Success: Tribal, State and Local Stewardship vs. Federal Courtroom Battles and Sue-and-Settle Practices'', 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''STEM Education: The Administration's Proposed Re-Organization'', 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled ''How Secure is Veterans' Private Information?'', 2:30 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, hearing with Organizations Targeted by Internal Revenue Service for Their Personal Beliefs, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of June 4 through June 7, 2013

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday* , at approximately 11:00 a.m., Senate will continue consideration of S. 954, the Farm bill.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Appropriations: June 4, Subcommittee on Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine an overview of the Federal Housing Administration, 2:30 p.m., SD–138.

June 6, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal

year 2014 for the Architect of the Capitol, Secretary of the Senate, the Sergeant at Arms and the United States Capitol Police, 9:30 a.m., SD–138.

June 6, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2014 for the Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–192.

Committee on Armed Services: June 4, to hold hearings to examine pending legislation regarding sexual assaults in the military, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: June 4, to hold hearings to examine Iran sanctions, focusing on ensuring robust enforcement, and assessing next steps, 10 a.m., SD–538.

June 5, Subcommittee on Economic Policy, to hold hearings to examine the state of the American dream, focusing on economic policy and the future of the middle class, 2:30 p.m., SD–538.

June 6, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 534, to reform the National Association of Registered Agents and Brokers, and the nomination of Fred P. Hochberg, of New York, to be President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on the Budget: June 4, to hold hearings to examine the fiscal and economic effects of austerity, 10:30 a.m., SD–608.

June 5, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nomination of Brian C. Deese, of Massachusetts, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: June 4, Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet, to hold hearings to examine the state of wireless communications, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

June 6, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine a progress report 3 years after the Deepwater Horizon disaster, focusing on Gulf restoration, 10:30 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: June 4, to hold hearings to examine wildland fire management, 10 a.m., SD–366.

June 6, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine programs and activities of the Department of the Interior, 9:30 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Finance: June 5, to hold hearings to examine sex trafficking and exploitation in America, focusing on child welfare's role in prevention and intervention, 10 a.m., SD–215.

June 6, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Michael Froman, of New York, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: June 5, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Tulinabo Salama Mushingi, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Burkina Faso, and Catherine M. Russell, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Women's Issues, both of the Department of State, 2:30 p.m., SD–419.

June 6, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine labor issues in Bangladesh, 10 a.m., SD–419.

June 6, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Geoffrey R. Pyatt, of California, to be Ambassador to Ukraine, Department of State, 2:15 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: June 5, to hold hearings to examine reducing duplication and improving outcomes in Federal information technology, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on the Judiciary: June 6, business meeting to consider S. 394, to prohibit and deter the theft of metal, and the nominations of Patricia E. Campbell-Smith, of the District of Columbia, and Elaine D. Kaplan, of the District of Columbia, both to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, Derek Anthony West, of California, to be Associate Attorney General, Department of Justice, and Valerie E. Caproni, of the District of Columbia, and Vernon S. Broderick, both to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: June 4, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

June 6, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House Committees

Committee on Appropriations, June 5, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA, and Related Agencies, markup on Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for FY 2014, 9:30 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

June 5, Subcommittee on Defense, markup on Defense Appropriations Bill for FY 2014, 11 a.m., H–140, Capitol.

Committee on Armed Services, June 5, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1960, the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014", 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, June 5, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled "Reforming SGR: Prioritizing Quality in a Modernized Physician Payment System", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

June 5, Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy, markup on "Coal Residuals Reuse and Management Act of 2013"; the "Reducing Excessive Deadline Obligations Act of 2013"; the "Federal Facility Accountability Act of 2013"; and the "Federal and State Partnership for Environmental Protection Act of 201", 4 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

June 6, Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy, markup on "Coal Residuals Reuse and Management Act of 2013"; the "Reducing Excessive Deadline Obligations Act of 2013"; the "Federal Facility Accountability Act of 2013"; and the "Federal and State Partnership for Environmental Protection Act of 201", 9 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, June 5, Subcommittee on Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprises, hearing entitled "Examining the Market Power and Impact of Proxy Advisory Firms", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, June 5, Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, hearing entitled "A

Crisis Mismanaged: Obama's Failed Syria Policy'', 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

June 5, Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, hearing entitled ''U.S. Relations with Vietnam'', 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, June 5, Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law, hearing on H.R. 1493, the ''Sunshine for Regulatory Decrees and Settlements Act of 2013'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

June 5, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1947, the ''Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act of 2013'', 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

June 6, Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property and the Internet, hearing on H.R. 1123, the ''Unlocking Consumer Choice and Wireless Competition Act'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, June 6, Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 412, the ''Nashua River Wild and Scenic River Study Act''; H.R. 585, the ''Anchorage Land Conveyance Act of 2013''; H.R. 664, the ''Harriet Tubman National Historical Parks Act''; H.R. 1495, the ''Arizona Land Sovereignty Act''; H.R. 1497, the ''War Memorial Protection Act''; H.R. 1513, to revise the boundaries of the Gettysburg National Military Park to include the Gettysburg Train Station and certain land along Plum Run in Cumberland Township, to limit the means by which property within such revised boundaries may be acquired, and for other purposes; H.R. 2166, the ''Good Samaritan Search and Recovery Act of 2013''; and H.R. 2192, to amend the Act popularly known as the Antiquities Act of 1906 to require certain procedures for designating national monuments, and for other purposes, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

June 6, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing on legislation concerning the ''Offshore Energy and Jobs Act'', 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, June 5, Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, U.S. Postal Service and the Census, hearing entitled ''OPM's Revolving Fund: A Cycle of Government Waste?'', 9:30 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

June 5, Subcommittee on Energy and Policy, Health Care and Entitlements, hearing entitled ''Up Against the Blend Wall: Examining EPA's Role in the Renewable Fuel Standard'', 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

June 6, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Collected and Wasted: The IRS Spending Culture and Conference Abuses'', 9:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, June 5, Subcommittee on Research; and Subcommittee on Technology, hearing entitled ''Federal Efforts to Reduce the Impacts of Windstorms'', 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, June 5, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Reducing Duplication and Promoting Efficiency at The SBA: The Inspector General's View'', 1 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

June 6, Subcommittee on Investigations,Oversight and Regulations, hearing entitled ''Financing America's Small Businesses: Innovative Ideas for Raising Capital'', 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, June 5, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing entitled ''A Review of the United States Army Corps of Engineers Chief's Reports'', 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, June 5, Subcommittee on Social Security, hearing on How Social Security Protects the Benefits of Those Who Cannot Protect Themselves, 10 a.m., B–318 Rayburn.

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, June 6, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Ongoing Intelligence Activities'', 9 a.m., HVC–304. This is a closed hearing.

Résumé of Congressional Activity

FIRST SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

The first table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the Senate and House. The second table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation.

DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

January 3 through May 31, 2013

	Senate	*House*	*Total*
Days in session	62	66	..
Time in session	433 hrs., 20′	261 hrs., 25′	..
Congressional Record:			
Pages of proceedings	3,886	2,965	..
Extensions of Remarks	..	766	..
Public bills enacted into law	2	9	11
Private bills enacted into law	..	..	..
Bills in conference	..	..	..
Measures passed, total	129	126	255
Senate bills	12	3	..
House bills	10	62	..
Senate joint resolutions	..	..	..
House joint resolutions	..	..	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	9	7	..
House concurrent resolutions	7	9	..
Simple resolutions	91	45	..
Measures reported, total	*63	*90	153
Senate bills	35	..	..
House bills	3	65	..
Senate joint resolutions	..	..	..
House joint resolutions	..	..	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	1	..	..
House concurrent resolutions	..	3	..
Simple resolutions	24	22	..
Special reports	12	2	..
Conference reports	..	..	..
Measures pending on calendar	64	23	..
Measures introduced, total	1,273	2,544	3,817
Bills	1,083	2,217	..
Joint resolutions	15	48	..
Concurrent resolutions	17	38	..
Simple resolutions	158	241	..
Quorum calls	1	1	..
Yea-and-nay votes	139	119	..
Recorded votes	..	63	..
Bills vetoed	..	..	..
Vetoes overridden	..	..	..

*These figures include all measures reported, even if there was no accompanying report. A total of 34 written reports have been filed in the Senate, 92 reports have been filed in the House.

DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

January 3 through May 31, 2013

Civilian nominations, totaling 181, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	42
Unconfirmed	137
Withdrawn	2
Other Civilian nominations, totaling 864, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	5
Unconfirmed	859
Air Force nominations, totaling 3,800, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	705
Unconfirmed	3,095
Army nominations, totaling 3,360, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	3,342
Unconfirmed	18
Navy nominations, totaling 1,570, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	167
Unconfirmed	1,402
Withdrawn	1
Marine Corps nominations, totaling 761, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	747
Unconfirmed	14

Summary

Total nominations carried over from the First Session	0
Total nominations received this Session	10,536
Total confirmed	5,008
Total unconfirmed	5,525
Total withdrawn	3
Total returned to the White House	0

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, June 4

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond one hour), Senate will continue consideration of S. 954, the Farm bill.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Tuesday, June 4

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: onsideration of H.R. 2216—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2014 (Subject to a Rule).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

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