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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BENTIVOLIO).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 13, 2014.

I hereby appoint the Honorable KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2014, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CONGRESSMAN LANE EVANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI) for 5 minutes.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I am here to join the distinguished delegation from Illinois, especially Congresswoman BUSTOS, who represents a district in Congress that was once magnificently also represented by Congressman Lane Evans. So it is with great sadness that I come to the floor to join his colleagues, Congresswoman JAN SCHAKOWSKY, Congressman DANNY DAVIS, who served with him, Congressman LUIS GUTIÉRREZ, and others who will be here.

Thank you, Congresswoman BUSTOS, for bringing us together to honor the life and service and leadership of Lane Evans, who passed away this month at the age of 63, my colleagues.

He was the ranking member on the Veterans' Affairs Committee and served our veterans so well. He served our country in uniform. He served our country in the Congress. He served our country in the community. He was just a great person. We were honored to call him colleague, many of us privileged to call him friend.

The son of a firefighter and a nurse, Lane Evans was born and raised in the district he represented here for 24 years. From his service in the Marines—and he was proud of that—to his work as an attorney with the Western Illinois University Legal Assistance Fund, to his time in the House, Lane spent his life fighting for those who could not fight for themselves.

Each and every day, Lane Evans fought to strengthen the middle class and to expand the ladders of opportunity that define the American Dream. He stood strong and resolute against efforts to privatize Social Security. That was one of his fights here.

As a Vietnam-era veteran who served on Okinawa, Lane took the struggles of our military families personally. It is especially fitting that we honor Lane today and this week as we observe Veterans Day, for he was one of the House's most dedicated legislators of those who served our country in uniform and, as I say, a leader in the Veterans' Affairs Committee.

From that position as ranking member on the Veterans' Affairs Committee, Lane worked relentlessly to ensure that veterans of all generations would receive the support and benefits they deserve. He championed veterans with posttraumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury. He was instrumental in passing legislation to assist veterans exposed to Agent Orange.

But on the subject of posttraumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury, Lane had whatever symptoms he had of his service to our country.

As the ranking member, he traveled the country. I had the privilege on a number of occasions to welcome him at Fort Miley, our veterans hospital in San Francisco. The way he connected with the veterans, because he understood, he shared their pain—literally, shared their pain—he fought for all kinds of research, whether it was the hidden injuries of war that we now know so much more about. But there in that hospital we had not only met the needs of our veterans, but we had tremendous research, whether it was about Parkinson's or other traumatic brain injury.

He was a champion for our veterans and military families, hardworking people across America. Many of us who had been invited by—he was so proud of his district, and many of us had the privilege of being invited there to join his constituents in honoring him. It was just an all-American experience to see people from all walks of life honoring this great man and, of course, his colleagues from the military being a very important part of it.

Diagnosed with Parkinson's in 1995, Congressman Evans continued to serve the people in his district for almost another 12 years. He was determined to make a difference and help create a better world for the next generation. He surely has left our country stronger for having served it. He was a pioneer in terms of the hidden wounds of war for our soldiers.

Today we remember his courage, his commitment, his vision, his beautiful smile, his lovely personality, his gracious being, his strong commitment to our vets. We hope it is a comfort to his brothers and loved ones that so many here in this body and around the world

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mourn their loss, pray for them, but we feel very strengthened as a country because of the blessing of Lane Evans' life to us.

So again I thank Congresswoman CHERI BUSTOS for bringing us together to honor this great man. It is my privilege to join the members of the Illinois delegation and other Members who will be on the floor to honor Lane.

He was a proud son of Illinois, that is for sure. I remember seeing him in Moline just so proud, so proud of his district, of his constituents, and they were all, in turn, as we are, proud of him.

Thank you, Congresswoman BUSTOS.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. CLEMENT ALEXANDER PRICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. LANCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Clement Alexander Price, a shining figure in New Jersey society and culture, a respected professor and historian, and a beloved family member and friend, who died last week and leaves behind an extraordinarily distinguished record of public service.

Dr. Price was a true ambassador for his beloved Newark, our State's largest city. He was a widely respected public intellectual whose eloquence and wisdom helped heal a city at a crossroads, educate the next generation of civic leaders, and shape the decisions that have advanced New Jersey.

A native of the then-segregated Washington, D.C., Dr. Price rose to receive degrees from the University of Bridgeport and from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, and spent his life in helping to transform America to a brighter, fairer, integrated society.

As a Board of Governors Distinguished Service Professor at Rutgers Newark, Dr. Price's gifts as a teacher were valued by hundreds of students who sought him out as a mentor and by faculty and administration who respected his expertise and energy.

Dr. Price was an accomplished author and the State's foremost authority on African American history.

He wrote ''Freedom Not Far Distant, A Documentary History of Afro-Americans in New Jersey,'' and other works that explored the history of race and culture in Newark and in New Jersey. He most recently coauthored ''Slave Culture: A Documentary Collection of the Slave Narratives from the Federal Writers' Project.''

Dr. Price was also a major presence on the civic stage. President Obama appointed him as chair of his transition team for the National Endowment for the Humanities and as vice chair of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. He was Newark's official historian. He chaired the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. He was a trustee of the Fund for New Jersey, the Newark Public Library, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, the Newark Education Trust, and the Save Ellis Island Foundation.

He was chief historical consultant for the Jewish Museum's Exhibition, ''Bridges and Boundaries: African Americans and American Jews.'' He cofounded the Marion Thompson Wright Lecture Series, the oldest, largest, and most prestigious Black History Month event in the State. He was a member of the Scholarly Advisory Committee to the National Museum of African American History and Culture, Smithsonian Institution, which is currently being built here on The Mall in Washington.

Dr. Price is survived by his wife, Mary Sue Sweeney Price, who is widely respected for her outstanding leadership for almost a generation as director and CEO of the Newark Museum, our State's greatest museum.

My wife, Heidi, and I are grateful to have known Clement Price. We and the people of our State mourn his untimely passing. We extend our deepest sympathy to Mary Sue and to his legions of friends and admirers in Newark, in New Jersey, and across the United States.

When he last visited me on Capitol Hill several months ago, he was, as usual, filled with optimism and good cheer. On behalf of the Congress of the United States, I celebrate the distinguished life of Dr. Clement Alexander Price in service to the Nation.

WAITING FOR CONGRESS TO TAKE ACTION ON IMMIGRATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GUTIÉRREZ) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, we have not been back in D.C. for a full 24 hours and the immigration shenanigans have already begun.

Republicans, even a few unhelpful Democrats, have been saying the President should not take executive action on immigration and should not act yet, as if his intention to use his executive power under existing law is a surprise.

David Axelrod, safe in the confines of the University of Chicago, has no sense of urgency because none of his family members or neighbors are facing deportation. But it is a little different on my side of Chicago, where people live in nearly constant fear that a loved one or a friend will be detained and then strapped into an airplane for deportation.

My Chicagoans have been waiting for the Congress to act and take action for over a decade. Polish, Ukrainian, Irish, and Mexican have been waiting, Jamaicans and Filipinos. They have been waiting for family members to get visas in backlogs that stretch to 20 years because Congress refuses to act. They have been heartbroken by laws that say, on the other hand, they can apply for a green card because they are married to a U.S. citizen, but, on the other hand, they must wait in exile outside the country, away from their husband or wife, their loved one, for 10 years in order to get that green card.

Two hundred thousand, 300,000, 400,000 deportations a year. These statistics represent people, people disappearing from their churches, from their kitchen tables, from parent-teacher conferences. Why? Because Congress is doing nothing to make it stop or make any progress towards an immigration system based in reality and common sense, where people come legally with visas rather than smugglers.

Now the GOP Conference in the House is saying, after a decade of delay, a decade of defying the American people, and a decade of demonizing immigrants, that they are so anxious to work on immigration reform. But there is just one thing stopping them: the President. The one thing preventing Republicans from taking action, they say, is that the President may also take action to keep families together and address the destructive nature of the deportation.

But here is how one commentator in Atlantic magazine described it: ''Boehner's effort to hold congressional immigration reform hostage if Obama acts unilaterally is so absurd. Boehner killed the hostage long ago. Now he's hoping that if he pretends it's still alive no one will notice the corpse lying on the floor.''

To put it another way, it is a little late for the mayor of Chernobyl to say he is worried about someone poisoning the well.

The President stood right there and said that if this Congress failed to act on important national priorities, he will use his pen and phone within current law to do so. Republicans heard him just as well as I did. Republicans had more than 2 years to address the bill and a year to schedule a vote on the Senate bill. I do not see one scheduled today, tomorrow, or next week. I doubt before this Congress expires will we see a bill scheduled.

□ 1015

Let's just look at the record. Republicans said we can't do immigration unless it is done piecemeal; we can't do immigration unless people are denied citizenship; or, we need more border security spending; we need a parole officer assigned to each immigrant who gets to stay and work. And every Democrat, from the President of the United States on down, all the way to me, said, ''Yes, yes, and yes. Compromise and progress are more important than gridlock and making every Democratic constituency happy.''

Governing means when Democrats say ''yes'' to Republican demands, Republicans actually move forward and we work together. But none of that happened, despite the door being open, the table being set, and Democrats saying, in effect, Republicans can order anything off the menu. And yet here we are with no action, no vote, and the Republicans threatening to double down on no action if the President, acting within the letter and spirit of the

laws passed by this Congress, takes action to help the Nation.

The President will act as he should—boldly, broadly, and soon—to help people. And when he acts, tens of millions of our fellow American citizens will support him. Why? Because they care more about justice and practicality than they do about partisan politics and the blame game. Because a policy based on driving out 10 million immigrants is neither a sensible one nor one that we should be spending billions of dollars on.

The President will act because Presidents before him have acted to solve immigration problems when Congress acted too slowly. The President will act because he believes, as the American people do, that families are more important and children should be raised without the government coming along and ripping their mommy and daddy away from them.

I am tired of the manufactured excuses for inaction. The U.S. Congress can still debate, vote, and pass an immigration law if it wants to, and the best way to get it done will be if leaders on both sides of the aisle work together. If you don't like it, then do something. There is nothing in your way but yourselves.

RECOGNIZING THE DISTINGUISHED CAREER OF JORDAN CLARK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, when you are provided the privilege and honor of representing people from home and you come to Washington, the very first decision you make is probably one of the most important decisions, and that is who your chief of staff will be. Today, I am blessed to stand here to recognize a man who I think is among the best of the chiefs who has served any Member of Congress.

I rise today to recognize the distinguished career of Jordan Clark, who has served as my chief of staff and is retiring from the House this month. Jordan is a man with a deep love of politics, public policy, and people, including his family and most especially his wife, Mary Therese, and their seven children.

A one-of-a-kind personality and wit as sharp as his record of public service is long, Jordan will be dearly missed by friends and colleagues from Capitol Hill and beyond. It is these qualities, combined with a distinct sense of humor and an unmatched work ethic, that took a young boy from Pittston, Pennsylvania, to the halls of power in Washington. But it wasn't power that Jordan sought. It was public service.

Before beginning his career in Washington, Jordan served in the United States Army. He served his commission after completing Infantry Officer Candidate School. Shortly following this, he was assigned to the Kennedy Center for Military Assistance at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he served in special warfare and psychological operations.

After completing Active Duty, he served for 3 years as a captain and company commander in the Maryland National Guard.

Following Jordan's service in uniform, he began a career in Washington with the United States Department of Labor, creating employment opportunities for veterans. Because of his efforts, he was assigned to the President's veterans commission to coordinate job programs between Federal agencies and the private sector, and was chosen by the Secretary of Labor to participate in the Department's career management program.

Jordan later was hired as chief of staff to former United States Congressman Joseph McDade, at the time Pennsylvania's 10th Congressional District Representative and also a senior member of the House Committee on Appropriations. In the House, he also served as a staff member on the Government Operations and Small Business Committees, where he played an integral role in establishing the first White House Conference on Small Business.

Following the OPEC oil embargoes, Jordan accepted a position in the Office of the Secretary of Energy and was responsible for the administration of the country's conservation and renewable energy programs. During this time, he helped develop the Department's Technology Transfer Program, promoting the sharing of research and information between the Federal Government, private sector institutions, and corporations. He was also the first Department of Energy official to visit Brazil to evaluate its ethanol programs and production.

Following his time in the Energy Department, Jordan served as CEO of communitypath.com, a homeowner advocacy group and successor to the nonprofit United Homeowners Association, which he founded. Before founding the UHA, he was director of operations and assistant vice president for congressional relations for the 180,000-member National Association of Home Builders, where he created the Congressional Contact Program, an industry model for grassroots advocacy.

Upon his return to Capitol Hill, Jordan served as chief of staff to Representative John E. Peterson, my predecessor, until Mr. Peterson's retirement in 2008. At the time, he also served as senior staff member on the House Appropriations Committee, during which he initiated and coordinated efforts to eliminate the 24-year-old congressional moratoria on oil and gas production in the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf.

In 2009, I was first elected to represent Pennsylvania's Fifth District. Having worked with Jordan in various capacities over the years, I have come to respect his judgement and his work ethic. He is a man who is acutely aware of the needs and challenges facing our men and women in uniform. He is an expert in energy policy, which is fundamental to the history and economy of Pennsylvania's Fifth District, the birthplace of the oil industry in 1859 and today home to the emergent Marcellus Shale Natural Gas Play. He is someone with insight and understanding of the Fifth District, with its diverse geography, residents, and economy.

Mr. Speaker, I could not have made a better choice for chief of staff. I know I speak for generations of close friends and colleagues when I say: Thank you, Jordan Clark, for decades of committed public service in pursuit of a stronger Nation. We wish you, Mary Therese, and your family the very best on the road ahead.

MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, there were many close elections across America last week, but there was one clear winner: ending our failed prohibition on marijuana and instead legalizing, regulating, and taxing adult use.

Alaska and the District of Columbia voters joined Colorado and Washington from 2 years earlier with strong votes to legalize. Nowhere was that more emphatic than in my home State of Oregon. Marijuana legislation passed in Oregon by a greater margin than it did in Washington and Colorado. It got more votes than United States Senator JEFF MERKLEY, who was overwhelmingly reelected. And this was in a low-turnout, non-Presidential year, which experts predicted would depress the ''yes'' vote.

In a few minutes, I will be joined in a press conference with ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, whose constituents resoundingly approved legalization, and will make the case that Congress needs to stay out of the way of its implementation. JARED POLIS, who has been my partner on efforts at modernizing and reforming marijuana laws, will give a snapshot on the progress in Colorado 2 years after legalization. Congressman DANA ROHRABACHER from southern California, the first State to legalize medical marijuana 18 years ago, has been a tireless champion of the Federal Government not interfering with decisions of local voters to modernize and reform local marijuana laws. He has helped dozens of his Republican colleagues understand and support marijuana and hemp reform.

Perhaps just as important as those votes that passed was one that failed: the vote to legalize medical marijuana that failed in Florida. But it should be noted that it garnered 57 percent of statewide voters, again, in a low-turnout, non-Presidential election where many of the people, polls show, who

were supporters did not bother to vote. It got more votes than any statewide candidate in Florida on the ballot this year. Because it was a constitutional amendment that requires a 60 percent voter approval level, it was not approved at this time. But there is no question that medical marijuana is in the immediate future for Floridians. If it were back on the ballot in a Presidential year, it would exceed the 60 percent threshold.

In the meantime, we are going to work hard to implement the Oregon law and take advantage of the next 2 years to learn from the experience of others and refine our approach. We will raise new revenues to help education, addiction treatment, and law enforcement. And most important, we have already stopped prosecuting people for items that will be legal under the law, and we will be better able to protect our kids than the current vast underground black market.

Now Congress needs to do its part. We need to act now in Congress to solve two serious problems, not just for those States that have legalized adult use but the 23 States and counting that have legalized medical marijuana.

A narrow reading of Federal banking regulations requires that these perfectly legal marijuana businesses be on an all-cash basis. Restricting them from having bank accounts is absolutely insane, unfair, and unwise if you care about money laundering, tax evasion, or theft.

Additionally, I have legislation that will permit legal marijuana businesses to be able to deduct their business expenses from their income tax. Because of the quirk in the law—the 280E provision—small and emerging businesses face punitive Federal taxation that is unfair, unwise, and certainly unjustified. Regardless of how people feel about legalizing marijuana, these businesses are here—and here to stay.

Passing H.R. 2240 and H.R. 2652 will help treat this emerging sector of the economy fairly and further protect the public. I am hopeful that as the reality of these elections and future changes set in, we will be able to do a better job of permitting them to operate and allow this rapidly emerging area of commerce to serve the public and thrive.

OBAMACARE ARCHITECT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACK) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the disturbing remarks that have recently surfaced from one of the key architects of ObamaCare.

It is no secret that the ObamaCare was built on broken promise after broken promise. Millions of Americans' insurance plans have been canceled; they have lost access to their doctors and hospitals; and instead of reducing premiums by $2,500, like the President promised, premiums are skyrocketing across our Nation. And now we have seen one of the key designers of the Affordable Care Act candidly discuss the smoke and mirrors that went into getting this disastrous law passed in the first place.

Indeed, Mr. Gruber bragged about the lack of transparency involved in the process of passing this 2,000-page bill, even gaming the bill language so that it could not be scored properly by the Congressional Budget Office. Mr. Gruber refers to the ''stupidity of the American voter'' as a necessary component to getting ObamaCare passed and signed into law. This is outrageous. On behalf of my constituents in Tennessee's Sixth District and Americans across this country, I reject this assertion from one of ObamaCare's key architects.

The American people are much wiser than this. After all, at no point in time has ObamaCare been popular with the public. Before it was even passed, the American people did everything they could to stop it, even electing a Republican senator in the blue State of Massachusetts to be the deciding vote against it. But the Democrat majority maneuvered their way around the will of the people, passing it anyway. And despite the underhanded efforts of this law's designer, it was still unpopular with the American voters when it passed. The law has remained unpopular to this day, and dozens upon dozens of Democrat lawmakers who were responsible for its passage have lost their jobs since its passage.

American voters aren't stupid, as ObamaCare's designer says. To the contrary, they have repeatedly raised their objections to this government takeover of our health care system. In fact, a majority of Americans still say they wish ObamaCare had never passed. And that is why as recently as last week they sent majorities in both Chambers of Congress to Washington to dismantle this maliciously conceived boondoggle.

Mr. Speaker, ObamaCare is arguably the worst piece of legislation to be passed in a generation. The law is such a mess that it may collapse under a review by the Supreme Court next year. The American people get this even if the law's designers do not. That is why they continue to send my colleagues and I to Washington to fight to protect them from this disastrous law.

□ 1030

HONORING THE LEGACY OF FORMER CONGRESSMAN LANE EVANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BUSTOS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to honor the legacy of former Congressman Lane Evans who passed away just this past week.

Lane Evans served the 17th Congressional District of Illinois, the district I now have the privilege of serving myself, and he served it with honor, dignity, humility, and hard work for more than two decades.

A Marine Corps veteran himself, Lane Evans was a steadfast champion for our men and women in uniform. A veteran of the Vietnam war era, he served on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee from the time he arrived in Washington, to rise to the position of ranking Democratic member, a post that he held for a decade.

Lane Evans' record on behalf of veterans earned him praise and respect from veterans service organizations and his colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of former Congressman Lane Evans by designating the Department of Veterans Affairs Community-Based Outpatient Clinic located in my congressional district in Galesburg, Illinois, the Lane A. Evans Community-Based Outpatient Clinic.

I first got to know Lane when I was a young newspaper reporter covering our region. Lane was always warm, friendly, and accessible, and as a rookie reporter, I always appreciated that.

I interviewed him many times about a variety of topics, and while he was young and with his trademark boyish haircut, his quiet courage and drive made him seem older than his age.

Through my interactions with him over the years and with those who worked with him and those who he touched through service, I learned a lot about the man and what he stood for.

A proud native of Rock Island, the son of a firefighter and a nurse, and an Alleman High School and Augustana College graduate, Lane truly represented everything that is right about public service. He will be sorely missed by all those he touched, but his legacy of service will never be forgotten.

The dedication of a veterans facility in the heart of the district he represented is a fitting tribute and acknowledgment of his career-long fight to ensure all veterans get the care and the benefits that they have earned and deserve.

I urge my colleagues to join with me in supporting this bipartisan legislation to honor the memory of Lane Evans.

IRAN NUCLEAR NEGOTIATIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, we are now just 11 days away from the November 24 deadline for the Iran nuclear negotiations.

President Obama and the P5+1 have fallen for Rouhani's stall tactics, despite having every reason to suspect that Iran was never serious about a deal, and that is precisely why it is imperative that Congress use the mechanisms at our disposal to prevent the

administration from making any nuclear agreement with Iran that seeks to go against our national security interests.

The administration and the P5+1 started with a weak hand, and that has only gotten weaker. That is precisely why the Iranian regime feels emboldened to make proclamations that it will never agree to stop its enrichment and why it insists that it has a right to enrich and that it must be part of the final agreement.

In just the past few days, the IAEA, the U.N. agency that is tasked with monitoring Iran's nuclear program and ensuring its compliance with the joint plan of action, has said that Iran refuses to answer questions about its nuclear program and that it is impeding its investigation into the possible military dimensions of the program. This is amazing.

A former IAEA chief inspector said recently that he believes that Iran lied about the number of advanced centrifuges that it possesses. Iran itself has confirmed that it has tested a new centrifuge that could speed up its enrichment process even further; yet the administration is so desperate to get us to a ''yes'' that it will overlook these very serious and dangerous transgressions.

The President has also failed to include in the negotiations Tehran's ballistic missile program, its support for terror worldwide, and its abysmal human rights record. The Supreme Leader right now is calling to arm Gaza and the West Bank to fight against Israel, and it calls for the democratic Jewish state to be eliminated.

Had the administration come to Congress before it mistakenly entered into these discussions and asked us what we needed to see for an acceptable deal, we would have said keep the sanctions against the Iranian regime. Keep the sanctions, and threaten to even expand them.

We would have kept the only leverage we had against the regime until it agreed to abandon its enrichment and other illicit activities, but the President opted to not do that and, instead, mistakenly eased the sanctions, injecting money into the Iranian economy and giving away our leverage, and he still doesn't look to us for any input.

Mr. Speaker, the administration's idea of consultation is a one-way street. It comes to brief us and our staff on the Iran nuclear deal, but it isn't interested in hearing our input and having that reflected in its approach to the negotiations with Iran.

Mr. Speaker, Congress must not allow this administration to continue to circumvent us and ignore our concerns about this weak negotiating position. We have been saying from day one that this approach was a mistake and that the joint plan of action was a signal that the administration has conceded on the enrichment aspect of the Iran nuclear program.

Iran has already emerged as the clear winner in this whole charade, and the P5+1 nations, especially the United States, look more foolish, more pathetic, and weaker than we did when the North Korean regime implemented the same tactics.

If the President continues to ignore our warnings on signing a nuclear deal that we believe goes against U.S. national security interests, then it is incumbent upon us in Congress to take firm action.

Simply put, we must take action and get serious about preventing Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon, and that means ensuring that Iran cannot enrich any uranium at all and that it must dismantle its nuclear infrastructure.

We must start right now by sending an unambiguous message to the administration that we will not accept any deal that leaves Iran with even the slightest capability of producing a nuclear weapon.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF LANE A. EVANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, in 1982, in the State of Illinois, a 31-year-old man announced his candidacy for United States Congress from the 17th Congressional District. His name was Lane Evans. He was a Marine veteran and a young legal aid attorney helping poor people in his home community.

It was viewed initially as kind of a suicide mission that he was not going to be able to win, but some of us decided that we were going to get involved in that campaign even though we weren't necessarily from his district and, gathering with people who supported him from his area, ran a campaign that elected the first Democrat since the Civil War from that area, a young man who impressed the people of his district with his incredible modesty, but also clarity.

Lane Evans was so clear that his mission was to represent the ordinary people of that section of western Illinois, to represent unions and veterans and poor people, and to be their voice in the United States Congress. It turned out to be one of the most important elections in my view, in history, certainly in the history of the State of Illinois.

Lane served for 25 years in the Congress. Again, this was a district that was considered kind of a swing district, but year after year, election after election, Lane Evans would be elected with very wide margins.

Lane Evans was fearless. He would stand up for what was right even when some of us would say, ''Lane, are you sure? This may not go over so great in your district. What do you think?''

He would look at us and say, ''Absolutely. This is the right thing to do. I don't have any qualms about it.'' He would vote his conscience, and people respected that, whether they totally agreed with every vote or not.

Lane Evans was the first member—or maybe DANNY DAVIS—the second—in our delegation to endorse for Senator a young Barack Obama. Lane proudly brought him to western Illinois and was always a great supporter.

When Barack Obama won his election for President in 2008, he sat next to Lane Evans, who was already somewhat debilitated by Parkinson's disease, a disease that finally took his life after two decades, holding his hand and telling him that, if it weren't for Lane Evans, that Barack Obama wouldn't be President of the United States of America.

He was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease almost two decades ago. Lane Evans lived so modestly. I think some people have impressions of Members of Congress as having drivers and black limousines or something. Lane Evans lived exactly like the ordinary person in his district.

As his funeral procession led through the Quad Cities, we went down, in Rock Island, Lane Evans Way. It was a neighborhood of very modest, middle class—I would even say working class—homes. That is where Lane Evans grew up, and that is where his heart and his mind always were.

Lane Evans was honored by the Marines as he was leaving Congress with the tattoo that they do, an amazing performance and then an honor for Lane.

Lane, as a Vietnam era veteran, was the first really to talk about agent orange and the impact that it had on the long-term health of many of our Vietnam veterans and, finally, to get care for our veterans for agent orange.

He was one of the early people to understand the unseen injuries of PTSD and to call attention to that as ranking member on the Veterans' Affairs Committee.

He was such an inspiring person, such a fearless fighter for the middle class, for veterans; and it is apt that we now name the VA clinic in Galesburg, Illinois, in the 17th Congressional District, for Congressman Lane Evans. It is part of his legacy, but only part of his legacy.

For many of us, we will always believe that, because of Lane Evans, it is good politics as well as good policy to stand up for the principles that you believe in for a just society, for an equal society. And I am sure DANNY DAVIS will talk about that.

Before I was elected to anything, we went to El Salvador, so Lane Evans' sense of justice extended beyond the borders of the United States of America to major conflicts in Central America.

Lane Evans will be sorely missed but ever remembered.

TRIBUTE TO REPRESENTATIVE LANE EVANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join with my colleagues in paying tribute to former Congressman Lane Evans, to convey condolences to his family and friends, and to urge the naming of a VA outpatient clinic in Galesburg, Illinois, in his name and in his honor.

I had come to know and revere Representative Lane Evans long before I became a Member of Congress. As a matter of fact, he was known not only in the area that he represented, but throughout Illinois and especially among individuals who considered themselves to be political progressives.

As a matter of fact, I had the good fortune to travel with Lane and a group to El Salvador under his leadership and under the sponsorship of a group at the time known as People to People.

□ 1045

As a matter of fact, in that same group was Representative JAN SCHAKOWSKY, and that is where I felt that I really got to know JAN and her husband, Bob.

Lane Evans spent most of his adult life in public service except for the time he was in college or law school. Not only did he enlist in the Marines during the Vietnam era and comported himself extremely well during his tenure, but Lane also was a legal aid attorney. That is an attorney who works specifically to represent those who otherwise would not have had any legal representation. After being elected to Congress in 1982, he established himself as a strong voice for veterans and championed other progressive causes. During his entire time in Congress, he served on the Veterans' Affairs Committee and rose to the commission of ranking member.

Lane gave us his physical and mental capabilities until he could actually give no more. That is, he would often come to work barely able to sit, sometimes barely able to walk in, at the time when others would have just given up and said, ''I can't do this anymore.''

Lane did us proud. Therefore, I am proud to join in this tribute, and I am proud to support the naming of the VA medical facility in Galesburg, Illinois, as the Lane A. Evans Community-Based Outpatient Clinic. Lane is absolutely deserving of this honor. I have never, ever known anyone who worked as long and as hard as Lane did with his illness, and he simply worked, as they sometimes say in Christian churches, until his days were done.

Lane, I am proud to have known you, proud to have served with you, and proud to call you my friend.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 47 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Imam Hamad Chebli, Islamic Society of Central Jersey, Monmouth Junction, New Jersey, offered the following prayer:

Peace and blessings of Allah be upon you. Assalaamu'alaykum. In the name of Allah, the most gracious, the most merciful. Praise be to Allah, the cherisher, the sustainer of the worlds, the most gracious, the most merciful master of the day of judgment. Thee do we worship and Thine aid we seek. Guide us to the straight path.

The God of all the prophets and the messengers says in the Koran, He does not place a responsibility on you greater than you can bear. Everyone will receive the good they have earned and vice versa.

Let us pray:

O God, bless us as we begin a new day. Bless this assembly, bless the people and Nation it represents. O God, at this time in our history, the challenges for our Nation and the world are many. O God, grant these men and women the wisdom, the guidance, and the strength to pursue compassion, justice, and sound judgment. O God, in Your wisdom, You have placed upon them great responsibility and honor. O God, please help them with Your guidance and Your light. O God, grant them the will and the means to improve the well-being of all inhabitants of this great Nation and beyond.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HAHN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. HAHN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

> I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING IMAM HAMAD CHEBLI

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in welcoming Imam Hamad Ahmad Chebli, the Imam of the Islamic Society of Central Jersey in South Brunswick, New Jersey. Imam Chebli has been both a friend and an ambassador of Islam to me and many others in New Jersey, and we are all honored that his prayer has opened this session of Congress.

Imam Chebli is a native of Lebanon and attended one of the most prestigious Islamic institutions in the world, Al-Azhar University in Cairo, Egypt, where he received his master's in Islamic Canonical Law. He has been the religious leader of ISCJ since 1986, where he makes Muslims and non-Muslims feel welcome.

The depth of his faith and scholarship, his commanding dignity, and the warmth of his personality make him the most prominent and attractive figure of Islam in our region. In a period where the public understanding of Islam has grown greatly, we are fortunate to have Imam Chebli in our community.

He has worked hard to build interfaith dialogue and public understanding, serving as a member of the North and South Brunswick Diversity Committee and of the regional clergy association. Most recently, New Jersey's Governor appointed Imam Chebli to the Governor's Leadership Summit on Diversity.

He and I have a friendship and association that has lasted many years, especially since September 2001, and I greatly value our friendship.

Imam Chebli is the proud husband of Mona Rich, and he is the loving father of their six children; Ahmad, Muhammad, Maryam, Mahmood, Khalid, and Marwa; and the loving grandfather to seven grandchildren.

Through his inspiring prayer this morning, we can all gain wisdom and guidance.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of Georgia). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

ROSE MOUNTAIN BUTCHER SHOPPE

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, during a recent visit to Lansing, North Carolina, I stopped in Rose Mountain Butcher Shoppe and met its proprietor, Ann Rose. Ann is a pioneer in the region's local foods movement, delivering meat

and organic produce from small farms in Ashe, Alleghany, and Watauga Counties to her community.

In addition to running her farm and butcher shop, Ann graciously shares her extensive knowledge with other local farmers. A former nurse, Ann is a strong believer in the importance of an active lifestyle and homegrown diet. She is on a mission to see her neighbors embrace the healthy foods grown in the region.

If she didn't have enough on her plate already, Ann is also helping coordinate the creation of a 66-acre park in Lansing so local residents have access to a community garden and green space for recreation.

Ann is doing tremendous work in her community, and I look forward to seeing her efforts on behalf of the people of Lansing continue to grow and flourish.

PANCREATIC CANCER

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

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on World Pancreatic Cancer Day in solidarity with those who have been affected by this deadly disease. I join Members of Congress, my staff, and many others walking the Halls of Congress today wearing Purple for a Purpose to convince my colleagues that we must increase funding for pancreatic cancer research.

Too often a pancreatic cancer diagnosis is a death sentence. We can change that. Fifty years ago, breast cancer was also killing women at an alarming rate, and women are now fighting and beating breast cancer because well-funded scientific research has vastly improved screening and treatment.

I am thinking today of my friend Larry Clark, a former Rancho Palos Verdes mayor, who has found the strength to fight pancreatic cancer and advocate for others. Let us answer their call today. Let us wage hope, and let us try to double the pancreatic cancer survival rate by 2020.

JONATHAN GRUBER

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, ''Lack of transparency is a huge political advantage. Call it the stupidity of the American voter or whatever.'' That was ObamaCare architect Jonathan Gruber speaking last year at the University of Pennsylvania.

The broken ObamaCare promises are now legendary: ''If you like your health plan, you can keep it; if you like your doctor, you can keep them. The law will save American families money.''

Don't tell that to the 16th District business owners like Nelson Sensenig and Ron Fritz, who both recently contacted me to talk about their struggle to continue affording coverage for their employees. Both of them used to cover 100 percent of their employees' coverage. Now they can't afford to do so.

Gruber, the MIT professor consultant, can jet around the country bragging about pulling one over on the American people—again, his quote: ''The stupidity of the American voters.'' What liberal arrogance.

What he and the President did with ObamaCare has done tremendous harm to Americans struggling to provide for themselves and their families. That is why we must continue to fight for real health care reform.

SIX YEARS AGO TODAY: THE ECONOMY

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, 6 years ago this week, the economic situation of this country was so perilous, we announced that the TARP program was going to be expanded to cover auto loans and credit cards. The housing bubble had burst, household wealth was slashed by over $16 trillion, banks tottered, lending was frozen, the Dow was about to plunge to 7,000, the GDP was sinking at a rate of 6.3 percent.

Today much has changed. The TARP has been repaid, the Dow has climbed 10,000 points, businesses are growing, unemployment has fallen to 5.8 percent, GDP is expanding at a rate of 3.5 percent.

As this Congress considers how to move forward, it would be beneficial and helpful if we would always remember to look back at what worked and what didn't. Let's do more of what works.

With 56 months of private sector job growth—not enough, but the best record that we have ever had in history—we must build on this progress by investing in infrastructure, raising wages for middle class workers, committing to make it in America, and making sure our schools are preparing for the next generation.

PANCREATIC CANCER

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, today we recognize the first ever World Pancreatic Cancer Day in an effort to shed a light on this disease as well as the determination to eradicate it.

Pancreatic cancer is the only major cancer that still has a 5-year survival rate in the single digits, at just 6 percent. That is in stark contrast to the overall survival rate for cancer, which is now 67 percent. Even more alarming, pancreatic cancer is now estimated to become the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the United States by 2020.

While the threat of this disease is real, pancreatic cancer does not have to be a death sentence. But we need to act now. Working together, we can push back against this diagnosis. With the combined efforts of leaders on Capitol Hill, including the many physicians who serve in this body, medical professionals, community groups, survivors, and families, we can generate awareness and renewed focus on beating pancreatic cancer once and for all.

I urge my colleagues to reach across the aisle to support these goals through commonsense funding proposals and legislation that benefits all.

COMMEMORATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL

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

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the anniversary of a pivotal event in history. Twenty-five years ago, November 9, 1989, the Berlin Wall fell, heralding the end of the Cold War. Today Germany is the vibrant financial, economic, and political heart of all of Europe. Germany is an important ally of the United States and central to European integration and a unified Atlantic community.

Today a large segment of the Berlin Wall, accepted by former Secretaries of State Henry Kissinger and James Baker, as well as Atlantic Council's Fred Kempe, will be unveiled at the German Embassy until a permanent location for the public is found here in Washington. It is signed by the statesmen and activists whose vision in leadership made this possible and led to the fall of the Berlin Wall. It will serve as a very important reminder of the diplomatic ties between our two countries.

Mr. Speaker, I pledge to continue working with my colleagues to ensure that our two countries continue to strengthen our diplomatic, economic, and strategic partnership into the 21st century.

□ 1215

THE KEYSTONE PIPELINE

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is time to bring American energy to Americans. The Keystone pipeline is the answer.

For over 6 years, the administration has been saying no to energy independence. Six years. That is longer than it took us to win World War II.

Oil is the most reliable and cost-effective source of energy the United States has. The Keystone pipeline, from Canada to Texas, will bring as much crude oil as we get from Saudi Arabia. It will begin energy security

and national security. It will bring jobs.

The pipeline will make Middle Eastern politics and energy irrelevant. It won't cost the taxpayers any money.

I have previously introduced the KFAST bill which will directly and immediately approve the permit for the Keystone XL pipeline. Instead of leaving Americans at the mercy and the questionable loyalties of unstable Middle Eastern countries, we should take care of ourselves.

If the administration continues to be obstinate and politically stonewall the pipeline, the Canadians will simply sell it to someone else, like China. Now, isn't that lovely?

Build the pipeline. It is the right thing to do.

And that is just the way it is.

THE WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES EPA REGULATION

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

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, for months I have said how detrimental the new Waters of the United States EPA regulation would be to the people of my district. We have long protected some of the most beautiful waterways in the world, but once again, bureaucrats think that they know better.

I have many questions about the regulation, but when the Natural Resources Committee held a hearing on this rule back in June, the Federal agencies did not even show up. How can we trust them to work with landowners if the rule is implemented?

Earlier this year, the House passed a bill to protect Americans from the huge regulatory burden, but like so many others, it is stuck in the Senate. Luckily, there is still time to do something to stop this disastrous power grab.

The EPA is accepting comments on the proposed Waters of the United States rule until Friday, November 14, so join me in telling the EPA how terrible this ill-considered regulation would be for Missouri and the United States.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 22 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1224

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of Georgia) at 12 o'clock and 24 minutes p.m.

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.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

ALASKA NATIONAL PETROLEUM RESERVE FEDERAL LAND CONVEYANCE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5167) to direct the Administrator of General Services, on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, to convey certain Federal property located in the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska to the Olgoonik Corporation, an Alaska Native Corporation established under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5167

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

SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE FEDERAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE NATIONAL PETROLEUM RESERVE IN ALASKA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and after completion of the appraisal described in this section, the Secretary of the Interior shall convey to the Corporation by quitclaim deed for the consideration described in subsection (c), all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a parcel of real property described in subsection (b).

(b) LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.—The parcel to be conveyed under subsection (a) consists of approximately 1,518 acres and improvements comprising a former Distant Early Warning Line site in the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska near Wainwright, Alaska, and described as United States Survey Number 5252 located within the Umiat Meridian in—

(1) Sections 3 and 4 within Township 14 North, Range 31 West;

(2) Sections 17, 18, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, and 35 within Township 15 North, Range 31 West; and

(3) Section 13 within Township 15 North; Range 32.

(c) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—

(1) CONSIDERATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—As consideration for the conveyance of the property under subsection (a), the Corporation shall pay to the Secretary an amount not less than the fair market value of the conveyed property, to be determined as provided in subparagraph (B).

(B) APPRAISAL.—The fair market value of the property to be conveyed under subsection (a) shall be determined based on an appraisal that—

(i) is conducted by a licensed, independent appraiser that is approved by the Secretary and the Corporation;

(ii) is based on the highest and best use of the property;

(iii) is approved by the Secretary; and

(iv) is paid for by the Corporation.

(2) PRE-CONVEYANCE ENTRY.—The Secretary, on terms and conditions the Secretary determines to be appropriate, may authorize the Corporation to enter the property at no charge for pre-construction and construction activities.

(3) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary may require additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyance under subsection (a) as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

(d) EXEMPTION.—Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332) shall not apply to any conveyance of property under this section.

(e) CORPORATION DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''Corporation'' means the Olgoonik Corporation, an Alaska Native Corporation established under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. 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 Alaska?

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The Wainwright Short Range radar site is an old Distant Early Warning station, commonly referred to as the Wainwright DEW Line site.

Historically, the U.S. Air Force maintained a radar site on the property, but it is no longer operational. The Air Force is in the final stages of cleaning up the property, which is expected to be finished this summer, and the Olgoonik Corporation, an Alaska Native Corporation, is collaborating on the effort.

When it finishes the cleanup, the Air Force is set to relinquish its right to the property, which is owned by the Department of the Interior and managed by the Bureau of Land Management.

The Native corporation has been working with the Bureau to acquire the site which sits in the middle of land already owned by the Native corporation. However, language in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska Act of 1976 prevents the Bureau from conveying this land.

H.R. 5167 directs the Secretary of the Interior to sell the site at fair market value to the Native corporation. This will allow the Alaska Natives to incorporate the land into their existing land use management plan and policies, thus turning a potential abandoned and unused parcel into a useful property.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill as reported unanimously from the Natural Resources Committee.

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

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5167 directs the Administrator of General Services, on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, to convey 1,518 acres of Federal land in the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska to the Olgoonik Corporation.

The parcel in question was previously used by the U.S. Air Force and is no longer needed by the Department of Defense. It contains a pipeline to the Chukchi Sea and would likely be used to support offshore energy extraction. It is surrounded by land already owned by the Olgoonik Corporation that was conveyed under the Alaska Native Settlement Claims Act.

Transferring the isolated parcel would help simplify BLM management of the preserve and provide needed economic development for the Alaska Native Corporations.

While I have some concerns with this legislation, including an unrealistic 180-day timeframe for survey and conveyance of the parcel, the waiver of requirements to provide an environmental review according to NEPA, and the use of a non-Federal appraisal agent, we support the passage of H.R. 5167.

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

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. 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 Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5167, 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 of the bill was amended so as to read: ''A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal property located in the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska to the Olgoonik Corporation, an Alaska Native Corporation established under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TRINITY COUNTY LAND EXCHANGE ACT OF 2014

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3326) to provide for an exchange of land between the United States and the Trinity Public Utilities District of Trinity County, California, involving a parcel of National Forest System land in Shasta-Trinity National Forest, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3326

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 ''Trinity County Land Exchange Act of 2014''.

SEC. 2. LAND EXCHANGE, TRINITY PUBLIC UTILITIES DISTRICT, TRINITY COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, AND THE FOREST SERVICE.

(a) LAND EXCHANGE REQUIRED.—If not later than three years after enactment of this Act, the Utilities District conveys to the Secretary of the Interior all right, title, and interest of the Utilities District in and to Parcel A, subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary of the Interior may require, the Secretary of Agriculture shall convey Parcel B to the Utilities District, subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary of Agriculture may require, including the reservation of easements for all roads and trails considered to be necessary for administrative purposes and to ensure public access to National Forest System lands.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF MAPS AND LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS.—Maps are entitled ''Trinity County Land Exchange Act of 2014 – Parcel A'' and ''Trinity County Land Exchange Act of 2014 – Parcel B'', both dated March 24, 2014. The maps shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Chief of the Forest Service and the appropriate office of the Bureau of Land Management. With the agreement of the parties to the conveyances under subsection (a), the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture may make technical corrections to the maps and legal descriptions.

(c) EQUAL VALUE EXCHANGE.—

(1) LAND EXCHANGE PROCESS.—The land exchange under this section shall be an equal value exchange. Except as provided in paragraph (3), the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall carry out the land exchange in accordance with section 206 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1716).

(2) APPRAISAL OF PARCELS.—The values of Parcel A and Parcel B shall by determined by appraisals performed by a qualified appraiser mutually agreed to by the parties to the conveyances under subsection (a). The appraisals shall be approved by the Secretary of Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture and conducted in conformity with the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land.

(3) CASH EQUALIZATION.—If the values of Parcel A and Parcel B are not equal, the values may be equalized through the use of a cash equalization payment, however, if the final appraised value of Parcel A exceeds the value of Parcel B, the surplus value of Parcel A shall be considered to be a donation by the Utilities District. Notwithstanding section 206(b) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1716(b)), a cash equalization payment may be made in excess of 25 percent of the appraised value of the Parcel B.

(d) DISPOSITION OF PROCEEDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Any cash equalization payment received by the United States under subsection (c) shall be deposited in the fund established under Public Law 90–171 (16 U.S.C. 484a; commonly known as the Sisk Act).

(2) USE OF PROCEEDS.—Amounts deposited under paragraph (1) shall be available to the Secretary of Agriculture, without further appropriation and until expended, for the improvement, maintenance, reconstruction, or construction of a facility or improvement for the National Forest System.

(e) SURVEY.—The exact acreage and legal description of Parcel A and Parcel B shall be determined by a survey satisfactory to the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture.

(f) COSTS.—As a condition of the land exchange under subsection (a), the Utilities District shall pay the costs associated with—

(1) the surveys described in subsection (e);

(2) the appraisals described in subsection (c)(2); and

(3) any other reasonable administrative or remediation cost determined by the Secretary of Agriculture.

(g) MANAGEMENT OF ACQUIRED LAND.—Upon the acquisition of Parcel A, the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Redding Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management, shall administer Parcel A as public land in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) and the laws and regulations applicable to public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management, except that public recreation and public access to and for recreation shall be the highest and best use of Parcel A.

(h) COMPLETION OF LAND EXCHANGE.—Once the Utilities District offers to convey Parcel A to the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture shall complete the conveyance of Parcel B not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act.

(i) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section:

(1) PARCEL A.—The term ''Parcel A'' means the approximately 47 acres of land, known as the ''Sky Ranch parcel'', adjacent to public land administered by the Redding Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management as depicted on the map entitled ''Trinity County Land Exchange Act of 2014 – Parcel A'', dated March 24, 2014, more particularly described as a portion of Mineral Survey 178, south Highway 299, generally located in the S1/2 of the S1/2 of Section 7 and the N1/2 of the N1/2 of Section 8, Township 33 North, Range 10 West, Mount Diablo Meridian.

(2) PARCEL B.—The term ''Parcel B'' means the approximately 100 acres land in the Shasta-Trinity National Forest in the State of California near the Weaverville Airport in Trinity County as depicted on the map entitled ''Trinity County Land Exchange Act of 2014 – Parcel B'' dated March 24, 2014, more particularly described as Lot 8, SW1/4 SE1/4, and S1/2 N1/2 SE, Section 31, Township 34 North, Range 9 West, Mount Diablo Meridian.

(3) UTILITIES DISTRICT.—The term ''Utilities District'' means the Trinity Public Utilities District of Trinity County, California.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise 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 Alaska?

There was no objection.

□ 1230

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time so the sponsor, the gentleman from California, Congressman JARED HUFFMAN, may explain the bill.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN), the sponsor of the legislation.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Thank you, Mr. GRIJALVA and Mr. YOUNG.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill, the Trinity County Land Exchange Act of 2014.

This bill is a very straightforward, bipartisan bill. It simply facilitates a land exchange between the Trinity Public Utility District, the United States Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management. I am grateful that my bill is cosponsored by my friend and district neighbor, Congressman DOUG LAMALFA, who represented Trinity County when he was in the State legislature.

Trinity County, located in northern California, is one of the poorest counties in the entire State; and although it is very large, much of it is rugged and remote, and more than 75 percent of the total land base is held by the Federal Government, which leaves very little land suitable for economic development.

This legislation before us today will help stimulate Trinity County's economy. The bill grants Trinity County a much-needed 100-acre parcel from the Shasta-Trinity National Forest. It is accessible by the highway, uniquely suited for economic development; and in exchange, the county's public utility district will convey a 47-acre parcel west of Weaverville that will improve public access to the Trinity River, which is a Wild and Scenic River.

The bill guarantees a fair return for Federal taxpayers as the United States Forest Service will receive a cash equalization payment for the improvement, maintenance, reconstruction, or construction of a facility or an improvement for the National Forest System.

This is a win-win bill all the way around. Partnerships with land management agencies are really critical to Trinity County's economic development, and I am so glad that the county has been able to develop this win-win partnership with the Federal agencies that meets everybody's needs. This land swap is a great example of bipartisan legislation that furthers our shared priorities of economic development and environmental protection in our Nation's rural communities.

Again, I especially want to thank Chairman HASTINGS, Ranking Member DEFAZIO, Chairman BISHOP, Ranking Member GRIJALVA, and my neighbor, DOUG LAMALFA, for all of their assistance and collaboration and the many staff who have worked hard on this bill, especially my Sea Grant fellow, Zach Penney.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Representative JARED HUFFMAN of California, the sponsor of the bill, for the legislation and the hard work.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support and congratulate Congressmen JARED HUFFMAN and DOUG LAMALFA. This is a good piece of legislation, and I have to go back through history a little bit.

Being originally from California 63 years ago, I remember Trinity County as one of the richer counties when we had a timber industry, and Weaverville was one of the largest timber cities in the country, but it is no longer. It is really a very poor county because of the management of Federal lands and how they do not manage them.

Again, I compliment the two Congressmen for working on this legislation, and I urge the passage of the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3326, 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.

ARAPAHO NATIONAL FOREST BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 2014

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4846) to adjust the boundary of the Arapaho National Forest, Colorado, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4846

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 ''Arapaho National Forest Boundary Adjustment Act of 2014''.

SEC. 2. ARAPAHO NATIONAL FOREST BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The boundary of the Arapaho National Forest in the State of Colorado is adjusted to incorporate the approximately 92.95 acres of land generally depicted as ''The Wedge'' on the map entitled ''Arapaho National Forest Boundary Adjustment'' and dated November 6, 2013, and described as lots three, four, eight, and nine of section 13, Township 4 North, Range 76 West, Sixth Principal Meridian, Colorado. A lot described in this subsection may be included in the boundary adjustment only after the Secretary of Agriculture obtains written permission for such action from the lot owner or owners.

(b) BOWEN GULCH PROTECTION AREA.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall include all Federal land within the boundary described in subsection (a) in the Bowen Gulch Protection Area established under section 6 of the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 539j).

(c) LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND.—For purposes of section 7 of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 460l–9), the boundaries of the Arapaho National Forest, as modified under subsection (a), shall be considered to be the boundaries of the Arapaho National Forest as in existence on January 1, 1965.

(d) ACQUISITION.—The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to acquire only by donation or exchange non-Federal lands within the boundary described in subsection (a).

(e) PUBLIC MOTORIZED USE.—Nothing in this Act opens privately-owned lands within the boundary described in subsection (a) to public motorized use.

(f) ACCESS TO NON-FEDERAL LANDS.—Notwithstanding the provisions of section 6(f) of the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 539j(f)) regarding motorized travel, the owners of any non-Federal lands within the boundary described in subsection (a) who historically have accessed their lands through lands now or hereafter owned by the United States within the boundary described in subsection (a) shall have the continued right of motorized access to their lands across the existing roadway.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The Arapaho National Forest Boundary Adjustment Act of 2014 would adjust the boundary of the Arapaho National Forest in the State of Colorado to incorporate 92 additional acres. This land, if it is acquired by the Secretary of Agriculture, will become part of the Bowen Gulch Protection Area that was established by Congress in 1993.

At markup, the Natural Resources Committee amended the bill to require the written permission of the landowner before a parcel of private land could be included within the expanded boundary. The amendment also requires that any land acquisition in the added area would be achieved only by donation or exchange, and the motorized use provision was clarified to ensure that the bill does not open privately owned land to trespass. With these added property rights and fiscal responsibility provisions, the committee was able to report the bill by unanimous consent, and I support this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Colorado, Representative JARED POLIS, the sponsor of the legislation. I thank him for his hard work on this boundary adjustment, which reflects current management and authorizes the acquisition and protection of this pristine land.

Mr. POLIS. I thank the gentleman from Arizona and the gentleman from Alaska.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the legislation that I was proud to author, the Arapaho National Forest Boundary Adjustment Act of 2014, H.R. 4846.

This legislation involves a parcel of 10 lots that we call the ''wedge'' in Grand County, Colorado, in the Second Congressional District. The wedge is located just north of the town of Grand Lake and west of the famous Rocky Mountain National Park. Come visit. It is called the ''wedge'' because it is actually a wedge of land which divides the Arapaho National Forest from the Rocky Mountain National Park. Although this parcel is integral to the successful management of these public lands, the wedge is currently outside of the national forest boundary.

I drafted this bill after receiving a lot of feedback and strong local support to incorporate the wedge into the Arapaho National Forest to make sure that this undeveloped land is enjoyed by the millions of visitors who travel west from the top of Rocky Mountain National Park on the Trail Ridge Road scenic byway.

The U.S. Forest Service already owns seven of the 10 parcels, which are already being managed as part of the Arapaho National Forest. There is a nonprofit, the Rocky Mountain Nature Association, that owns one lot, and two lots are owned by private landowners. We have worked with the landowners and the other adjacent landowner, in order to craft this legislation, as well as local government. As a result, all interested parties have sent in letters of support.

The bill is simple. It incorporates the wedge into the Arapaho National Forest boundary; it adds the lots owned by the Forest Service to the adjacent Bowen Gulch Protection Area; and it authorizes the Federal Government to purchase land in the designated area from willing sellers.

The bill is important because the development of the wedge parcel has an important impact on the scenic beauty of the Rocky Mountain National Park. It is also a key driver of our economy in northern Colorado, and it could negatively harm the adjoining Colorado River headwaters if we don't appropriately deal with the wedge parcel. As such, the surrounding communities and landowners all support this idea that preserves the scenic qualities that the wedge has for the area.

The bill is a community-driven effort. I received letters of support from the Grand County Board of County Commissioners, the Town of Grand Lake, the Headwaters Trails Alliance, Conservation Colorado, all three affected landowners, and, of course, many aspects of the tourism industry strongly support this bill as well.

I am very grateful that the House Natural Resources Committee quickly considered this legislation and unanimously passed this legislation on September 18. I urge my colleagues on the floor to similarly support this legislation here today.

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

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, so I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4846, 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.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH TRIBAL LAND EXCHANGE ACT

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4867) to provide for certain land to be taken into trust for the benefit of Morongo Band of Mission Indians, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4867

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 ''Economic Development Through Tribal Land Exchange Act''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Act, the following definitions apply:

(1) BANNING.—The term ''Banning'' means the City of Banning, which is located in Riverside County, California adjacent to the Morongo Indian Reservation.

(2) FIELDS.—The term ''Fields'' means Lloyd L. Fields, the owner of record of Parcel A.

(3) MAP.—The term ''map'' means the map entitled 'Morongo Indian Reservation, County of Riverside, State of California Land Exchange Map', and dated May 22, 2014, which is on file in the Bureau of Land Management State Office in Sacramento, California.

(4) PARCEL A.—The term ''Parcel A'' means the approximately 41.15 acres designated on the map as ''Fields lands''.

(5) PARCEL B.—The term ''Parcel B'' means the approximately 41.15 acres designated on the map as ''Morongo lands''.

(6) PARCEL C.—The term ''Parcel C'' means the approximately 1.21 acres designated on the map as ''Banning land''.

(7) PARCEL D.—The term ''Parcel D'' means the approximately 1.76 acres designated on the map as ''Easement to Banning''.

(8) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior.

(9) TRIBE.—The term ''Tribe'' means the Morongo Band of Mission Indians, a federally recognized Indian tribe.

SEC. 3. TRANSFER OF LANDS; TRUST LANDS, EASEMENT.

(a) TRANSFER OF PARCEL A AND PARCEL B AND EASEMENT OVER PARCEL D.—Subject to any valid existing rights of any third parties and to legal review and approval of the form and content of any and all instruments of conveyance and policies of title insurance, upon receipt by the Secretary of confirmation that Fields has duly executed and deposited with a mutually acceptable and jointly instructed escrow holder in California a deed conveying clear and unencumbered title to Parcel A to the United States in trust for the exclusive use and benefit of the Tribe, and upon receipt by Fields of confirmation that the Secretary has duly executed and deposited into escrow with the same mutually acceptable and jointly instructed escrow holder a patent conveying clear and unencumbered title in fee simple to Parcel B to Fields and has duly executed and deposited into escrow with the same mutually acceptable and jointly instructed escrow holder an easement to the City for a public right-of-way over Parcel D, the Secretary shall instruct the escrow holder to simultaneously cause—

(1) the patent to Parcel B to be recorded and issued to Fields;

(2) the easement over Parcel D to be recorded and issued to the City; and

(3) the deed to Parcel A to be delivered to the Secretary, who shall immediately cause said deed to be recorded and held in trust for the Tribe.

(b) TRANSFER OF PARCEL C.—After the simultaneous transfer of parcels A, B, and D under subsection (a), upon receipt by the Secretary of confirmation that the City has vacated its interest in Parcel C pursuant to all applicable State and local laws, the Secretary shall immediately cause Parcel C to be held in trust for the Tribe subject to—

(1) any valid existing rights of any third parties; and

(2) legal review and approval of the form and content of any and all instruments of conveyance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 4867 authorizes an acre-for-acre land exchange between the Morongo Band of Mission Indians and a non-Indian landowner to resolve a land use and access dispute.

Under the exchange, the private landowner would transfer clear title to a 41-acre parcel of land he currently owns within the Morongo Reservation, which is located in the State of California, to the Secretary of the Interior, who would then hold the land in trust for the benefit of the tribe. The Secretary would simultaneously transfer to the private landowner clear title to a 41-acre parcel of the tribe's trust land on the edge of the reservation, affording reasonable access for his economic use of the property. The bill additionally authorizes conveyances of easements by the tribe and the city of Banning to address certain city and tribal needs.

The Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs held a hearing on H.R. 4867, which was followed by Natural Resources Committee approval by

unanimous consent. This legislation is noncontroversial, and I urge the House to pass this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I want to commend my colleague, Representative RUIZ of California, for sponsoring this legislation, for working so hard to bring all of the diverse interests to the table, and for coming up with a noncontroversial, bipartisan solution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. RUIZ) to speak on his legislation.

Mr. RUIZ. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you to the gentleman from Arizona for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise in support of my bill, H.R. 4867, the Economic Development Through Tribal Land Exchange Act, which is a noncontroversial, bipartisan bill that passed unanimously out of the House Natural Resources Committee and is supported by the Department of the Interior.

The bill would aid economic development in the city of Banning, California, through a land swap, supported by all of the parties involved. Currently, the Morongo Band of Mission Indians and a private landowner, Mr. Lloyd Fields, would like to exchange two parcels of land which are nearly identical in size and value, but they are restrained from doing so because one of the parcels is currently held in trust by the United States on behalf of the tribe.

My bill facilitates an equitable land swap between the Morongo Tribe and the landowner to provide more consolidated reservation land for the tribe and commercial development opportunities for the landowner, the city of Banning and Riverside County.

The bill is consistent with the Department of the Interior's policy of promoting land consolidation within Indian country and facilitating economic development. We can all support this type of commonsense, bipartisan legislation for the simple reason that it benefits all parties involved and spurs job creation.

This bill serves as a model for how land use issues can be addressed by a community's coming together while upholding the sacred government-to-government relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribes.

I would like to thank Chairman Robert Martin of the Morongo Band of Mission Indians in the city of Banning for bringing this issue to my attention; my colleague, Representative PAUL COOK from California, for being an original cosponsor; and Senator BOXER from California for introducing the companion bill. I would also like to thank the Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs' Chairman YOUNG and Ranking Member HANABUSA for holding a hearing on this bill as well as to thank Chairman HASTINGS and Ranking Member DEFAZIO for considering this bill in committee and for their help in bringing it to the floor today.

I urge a ''yes'' vote on H.R. 4867, the Economic Development Through Tribal Land Exchange Act.

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

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. 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 Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4867, 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.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 43 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1617

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas) at 4 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5682, APPROVAL OF THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 748 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 748

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 5682) to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided among and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce; and (2) one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado, Mr. POLIS, my friend, pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

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

There was no objection.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, for the past 6 years, President Obama, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Secretary of State Kerry, and Senate Democrats have made sure that the American people would continue to wait for the Keystone pipeline.

The Keystone pipeline provides jobs, energy security, and perhaps most of all a closer and better relationship with our friends from Canada.

Mr. Speaker, quite honestly, the bottom line is we need to do business with our friends in Canada rather than friends in other places around the world who may be using that money that they receive for reasons that are not in America's best interest. We trust the Canadians.

Today we have a bill on the floor because we believe that House Republicans, being led by Dr. BILL CASSIDY, can lead us to a way to construct the Keystone pipeline, provide us with a closer relationship with Canada, and make sure that the TransCanada application to construct the Keystone XL pipeline will be done. That is why we are here on the floor of the House of Representatives today.

With that said, I rise in support of not only this rule that will provide the context for the bill but also the legislation.

Let me be perfectly clear today: this bill to approve the Keystone pipeline is a jobs bill. Over the last few years, too many Americans have been out of work, not always in the right places where jobs were available, but too many Americans are out of work, and this is an area where people are out of work and need the work and can get it.

Wages have been stagnant, and median incomes for American families have fallen because this administration and the policies of the Democratic Party have led to a stagnation of the free enterprise system, and an opportunity in particular in the area of energy has been a political issue rather than a jobs issue for the American people.

The Keystone pipeline would support tens of thousands of great-paying jobs and help resolve some problems in this area and across a multistate area of the West. Yet President Obama, Secretary Hillary Clinton, and Senate Democrats have stood constantly and consistently in the way of job-creating, shovel-ready projects.

For 6 years we have known that the impact of the Keystone pipeline would be positive on the American economy, with positive benefits that it would provide for the American people. For 6 years, we have known that the pipeline would add over a billion dollars of revenue to a tepid economy, a billion dollars in places where people are out of work, need work. And it can be done through efficiency and effectiveness of this pipeline.

Americans have been looking for leadership to secure energy independence, energy independence to where we no longer have to go across the oceans to receive the energy that we need. With this pipeline, it is an important step, I believe, in the right direction.

When completed, the Keystone pipeline will transport over 800,000 barrels of oil every single day. That is equivalent to half of our daily oil imports from the Middle East.

Mr. Speaker, that is competition with the current system. That is how you get prices lower at the gas pump, by having competition, competition with the Middle East for the oil that we will use in this country.

This will further help lower energy costs for American families while helping to bolster our national security by weaning us off oil from nations that sometimes do not have our best interests in their own mind.

Instead of partnering with countries in the Middle East, the Keystone pipeline lets us work together with our dear friends from Canada.

By approving the Keystone pipeline, the Federal Government will reduce our dependency overnight while creating much-needed jobs and providing billions of dollars in economic opportunity in the USA.

We all know that Keystone can accomplish what the American people want, and that is that we need to work together. Mr. Speaker, we need to work together.

Finally, what has happened is that the Senate Democrats are asking for this bill. Regardless of the reason, what we are doing here today is to work together on ideas that we have been trying to push for a long, long time.

In September of 2008, TransCanada submitted their application to the Department of State to construct the Keystone pipeline. Yet the Obama administration has blocked and delayed construction of the pipeline at every single turn. Excuse after excuse after excuse rather than getting it done.

The State Department, led by Secretary Hillary Clinton and Secretary Kerry, has stood firmly in the way of jobs created by this project. They have held dozens of meetings and issued study after study, each of which confirms what Republicans have said all along, and that is, the pipeline will create jobs and inject billions of dollars into the American economy while doing so in a safe and limited environmental impact way.

Beginning in 2011, with Republicans, as soon as they won this body and became the majority, we started passing laws to jump-start the pipeline. Time after time I have been on the floor of this body—and, Mr. Speaker, you have stood faithfully in your chair to listen to the debates. It is you, Mr. Speaker, who has been behind this idea to make sure that we would keep it as a part of our objective. An objective for the American people, opportunities for the American people, and a friendship with the Canadians. Sadly, Senate Democrats have refused to allow even a vote.

Yet just yesterday the Keystone pipeline suddenly became a hot topic on the Senate floor. A hot topic because they want to get it done now.

Well, so what has changed? Last week, after 6 long years, Members of the Senate finally decided to listen to the American people. The House has been listening and acting for 4 years now, but now that the Senate is prepared to join us, we are here to work together.

The House is prepared to pass this bill from Dr. BILL CASSIDY, oh, yes, from an energy State called Louisiana. A dear friend of not only this body but a dear friend of consumers and families who understand that we need to reduce even further costs at the gas pump, that we need to be concerned about where we buy our oil and our energy and to make sure we are doing business with the friends and people we know.

So they can pass it and they can send it to the President's desk. We are going to send the same bill. Same bill they are doing in the Senate is the same one we are going to do here. We are going to get it to the President. No more delays, no more excuses. It is actually time to make the Keystone pipeline a reality.

Said another way, the election is over; let's get our work done.

I am proud that the House has led on this issue. I look forward to the Senate joining us. I hope the President will do the same thing. I hope we will sign another jobs bill that has been passed by the House of Representatives.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding me the customary 30 minutes.

I rise in opposition to the rule and the underlying bill, the Keystone XL Pipeline Approval Act.

Last night, we got a notice that the Rules Committee was going to have an emergency hearing to expedite very important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I was very excited. I thought we were going to deal with an emergency. Perhaps it was Ebola, perhaps it was dealing with the use of force overseas, or emergencies here at home like the thousands of families that are separated because of our broken immigration law or the emergency of balancing our budget before we leave the next generation with a burden of debt. I was really hopeful that the majority was ready to take on a pressing issue facing the country.

Sadly, I was too optimistic. I found out that the bill that was such an emergency, that was expeditiously brought before the Rules Committee and now to the floor is actually a bill that we have already voted on this Congress to bypass the administration's review policy and streamline the construction of the Keystone XL pipeline.

Turned out last night's Rules Committee meeting was far from an emergency. The majority should not have waived clause 11 of rule XXI that normally requires 3 days to review legislation before we vote on it.

To be clear, we have not had 3 days to read this bill. Now, one could argue, since we have pretty much passed the darn thing before and it hasn't changed much, maybe we didn't need the full 3 days, but why are we doing another bill?

□ 1630

I truly hope we are not setting the tone for the 114th where great Representatives, Democratic and Republican, come from all parts of the country to tackle the issues facing our great Nation, balancing the budget, fixing our broken immigration system, and getting our economy moving; and we vote on the same bill, in the case of repealing the Affordable Care Act, 53 times in the 113th Congress.

One time, I understand. The House wants to do it, that is what the people were elected to do, if they believe that, and that is what a majority says, then do it. But what are the other 52 times besides a waste of taxpayer money?

The Keystone XL Pipeline Approval Act being revived today is nothing new. Again, it bypasses the pending review process and would immediately authorize the TransCanada Keystone pipeline company to build an 875-mile pipeline from Canada through the United States to the Gulf of Mexico for the exportation of oil.

This bill would expedite a tar sands project without requiring a Federal environmental or administrative review process basically saying that those are automatically concluded and/or sufficient.

I asked Chairman WHITFIELD in our Rules Committee what their discussion with the administration was on this. When did they last have testimony, formal or informal, from the administration? Where is the administration in this approval process?

Mr. WHITFIELD informed me that there had been no updates from the administration that they have requested for 6 months, so for all we know, the President might be ready to approve or not approve this project tomorrow, next week, next month—I don't know—but it seems like the two branches of government aren't talking to one another.

Normally, if Congress is interested in where a particular approval process is,

we would hold hearings, and we would ask the relevant questions—what are the current sticking points, are there issues that are still pending—rather than bypass any legitimate issues that might still be there around the routing.

As many of you know, the routing has already been changed so as not to impact the Ogallala aquifer, and there could very well be other important issues that affect residents of the States through which the Keystone pipeline would pass.

Clearly, this project is a great favor to our friendly neighbors to the north, the great nation of Canada. The question that we need to figure out as a country is: Does it benefit America? Does it benefit Americans?

There are pros and cons. Obviously, if it goes in your neighborhood, it is not a particular benefit to you—or through your farm—and that was some of the issues that we heard from in the impact statements that are currently being reviewed by the administration.

There is a review process underway. We all wish that review process went faster. We all wish that NEPA would go faster. We all wish that a wide variety of review policies would go faster, but we don't know how that is going to be concluded, and I think it is important that, while they get through it as soon as possible, they are able to do so and take all factors into account.

If Congress wants to change the approval process for these kinds of projects, I think that is a legitimate discussion to have. If Congress determines it needs to reconfigure a review process for a project like this, maybe we would go into the statute and we alter the different agencies or we assign different responsibility or criteria.

That would be a relevant discussion to have, not bypassing something that Congress set up in statute. The President is doing what Congress told him to do in reviewing this process—not this Congress, but the underlying statute when it was passed.

Now, of course, there are a lot of issues around Keystone XL, and rather than interrupting the State Department's ongoing review process, Congress should allow all the relevant issues to be properly addressed around this issue.

I want to emphasize that the Republicans brought this tar sands bill forward just one day after China and the U.S. came to a landmark agreement to address climate change. Tar sands are a high-polluting fuel that, on a lifecycle basis, tar sands crude produces about 20 percent more carbon pollution than conventional crudes.

In addition, we have a study from Cornell University with regard to the effect of the XL pipeline on gasoline for American citizens, and top energy economists in this Cornell study said that if the XL pipeline is built, consumers in our country may end up paying 10 to 20 cents more per gallon for gas as a result of tar sands being diverted.

That is millions of dollars a year out of the pockets of Americans and perhaps into the pockets of wherever all this oil is going. But, again, of what benefit to America is this project?

There is also the simple matter of how a bill becomes a law, okay, so we have a House bill, a Senate bill, and let's take a wild presumption, maybe both Chambers will pass this bill. What happens next? It goes to the President. The President can sign a bill or veto a bill.

Essentially, the President can sign a bill approving the Keystone pipeline, which is something that he can do now without this bill. He can approve the pipeline, and if Congress goes through all this deliberative effort at taxpayer expense, talk, and votes and all this stuff, the President still has a decision.

Now, again, obviously, if there are two-thirds in both Chambers, Congress can seize power on a particular issue and exert its own will, but that hasn't been the case on these Keystone pipeline votes, and I don't expect it to be the case on this one.

So it is just an exercise in senseless hot air being thrown around the Chamber where we can pass bills and the same situation prevails if it passes or not; namely, the President can decide whether they want this to go forward or not. If Congress wants to alter that approval process, let's look at the statutory rules around how projects are reviewed for future projects and see if we can reach a bipartisan consensus about that.

I wish that this had been an emergency piece of legislation. I wish that we were tackling a potential public health crisis. I wish that we were tackling terrorism. I wish we were tackling balancing the budget, and I wish we were tackling securing our borders. But we are not.

We are tackling something that isn't going anywhere and, even if passed, will give the President the same choice that he has today, much to do about nothing.

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

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, just so we really are a little bit clear, the President indicated last week what he might do on this exact issue of Keystone pipeline. He said that he would consider signing the bill if it creates jobs.

So, Mr. President, the study from your own State Department said that construction on Keystone would create over 42,000 jobs, so there is one answer to our President.

Another one, the President said he would consider signing the bill if it was good for the American people, good for their pocketbooks, if it were to reduce gas prices. Now, that is what the President said.

Once again, I have good news. Good news. Keystone pipeline will move up to 830,000 barrels of oil a day through an efficient process. Instead of it coming from halfway around the world, which adds cost to the transportation, it will come through a pipeline and be here real efficiently, so I think we are in good stead there to meet the test for the President.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would like to let you know that I have got five or six speakers that are here who are excited about this opportunity for jobs, a jobs bill that is on the floor today and the creation of legislation to have the XL pipeline.

I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Raleigh, North Carolina, Congressman HOLDING.

Mr. HOLDING. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of American jobs and increased and efficient energy production. For too long, approval of the Keystone pipeline has been delayed, delaying thousands of new jobs—42,000 new jobs—and our struggling economy a much-needed boost.

Mr. Speaker, the majority of Americans, both Democrat and Republican alike, support building the Keystone pipeline. Why? Because it is common sense. But for 6 years, it has been delayed. The Keystone pipeline will create jobs, grow our economy, and help our Nation provide a secure source of energy that does not have to come from halfway around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I am focused on building a stronger economy for American families, and job creation is a top priority to accomplish that. Approving the Keystone pipeline advances all of these goals. I urge my colleagues in the strongest terms to support this rule and support the underlying bill.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN).

Mr. COHEN. Thank you, Mr. POLIS. I appreciate the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the passage of the rule and H.R. 5682, the underlying bill. You first have to consider the opinion of the world's undisputed foremost climatologist, former NASA scientist Dr. James Hansen, the guru on this subject, Betty Crocker, Good Housekeeping Seal, one of the first scientists to warn of the dangers of burning carbon fuel.

Dr. Hansen is a member of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences, and he has likened the building and the use of the Keystone XL pipeline to the lighting of ''the fuse to the biggest carbon bomb on the planet'' and nothing less.

''The fuse to the biggest carbon bomb on the planet,'' that is Dr. Hansen. Dr. Hansen has warned the completion of this pipeline will only reinforce our dependence on fossil fuels, not strengthen our Nation's energy independence, as has been argued by some of my friends on the other side.

When you brush aside the studies funded by TransCanada and other oil companies and you analyze the pure scientific studies that have no political motivation, every analysis clearly

demonstrates that the Keystone XL pipeline poses major threats at every turn, in extraction, in transportation, in refining, and in consumption.

Nationwide, about 3.2 million gallons of oil spill from pipelines every year. Spills such as those pollute drinking water, ruin American farmland, potentially destroy sacred tribal grounds, and create an uninhabitable environment for our own homeowners.

In fact, in Kalamazoo, Michigan, there was a spill in 2010 of tar sands oil that cost $1.2 billion and years and years and years to clean up. That is where the permanent jobs are going to be created, in cleaning up the spillage, and that is not the kind of jobs the American people want.

Building the pipeline carries the dirtiest oil from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico and is exactly the opposite of addressing climate change, which is what we should be doing today, and most of this oil will not go to America, but will go through America, endangering mid-America, and be exported overseas. There are no export restrictions on nondomestic crudes.

H.R. 5682 is a special interest earmark that will make the U.S. a permanent conduit to international markets for one of the dirtiest fuel sources on the planet.

My colleague and friend says that we are going to be helping our friend. Yes, Canada is our friend. We play hockey with them, basketball, whatever; but this oil is going to go to our other friend, China. This is about Canada shipping oil through America and endangering American lands to supply the Chinese with oil.

The Keystone XL proponents like to talk about these jobs it would create, but the vast majority are temporary. The permanent jobs measure but 35, and as I said, the permanent jobs will really be cleanup.

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

Mr. POLIS. I yield the gentleman an additional 45 seconds.

Mr. COHEN. As was mentioned by Mr. POLIS, these jobs are important if they are in transportation infrastructure. That creates real jobs in this country, getting goods to market, and my friends on the other side have resisted transportation infrastructure jobs.

Clean energy is permanent jobs. Wind and solar are permanent jobs. The only permanent jobs are the cleanups. When the U.S. and China have come together in historic agreement is not the time to light the fuse to the biggest carbon bomb on the planet.

For these and other countless reasons, I urge my colleagues to vote ''no.'' It is time to return our focus to an issue that centers on true energy independence through renewable sources and greener, domestic energy production.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I think we are seeing the same heresy take place here on the floor, and that is trying to scare people. It is Republicans who are trying to move a job bill, and jobs, the American people understand. Let's keep this thing right in the center of the table.

It is about jobs. It is about energy independence. It is about a working relationship with our friends. It is about lessening our dependence upon giving people in other countries in foreign lands our money that they don't always use in our best interest. It is about national security, and it is about a lot of things that make common sense. What makes common sense is not to scare people, but give them the facts of the case.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from North Dakota, KEVIN CRAMER. He served on the commission up in North Dakota before he came to Congress, and he is a great young man.

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding. It seems it should be so unnecessary to have something that makes so much common sense become so historic, and yet, here, we find ourselves at a historic moment.

After years of debate and accommodation, the most environmentally studied and accommodated pipeline in the history of the world has been stranded on the President's desk, held hostage by Hollywood advisers and liberals, donors to politicians who either don't understand the issue or don't care.

□ 1645

But as signals of a possible vote in the United States Senate are being transmitted, the American people ought to find comfort in the fact that politics works, that when the American people speak, even the United States Senate listens.

So I am grateful that Congressman CASSIDY has brought this bill to the people's House, a bill that originated with my Senator, Senator HOEVEN in the Senate, so that we can tee it up for them this week so that next week they can do what they should have done a long time ago and pass this bill.

You know, I am a big part of the Keystone pipeline. When I was on the North Dakota Public Service Commission years ago, I carried the pipeline portfolio. I happened to oversee the siting of the original Keystone pipeline that goes through North Dakota and goes down to Cushing, Oklahoma. It crosses the border in North Dakota. It crosses eight counties in my State, 600 landowners' land. It crosses farms of farmers who know how to work the land and know the value of the topsoil and understand the value of the minerals underneath it. It crosses two scenic rivers and includes five pumping stations and runs 217 miles through my State.

I am proud to say that while not universally loved, not one inch of that pipeline through North Dakota required condemnation proceedings, not because I am a great regulator, but because North Dakotans understand value—the value of domestic energy, the value it has to job creation. And I want to talk about jobs in a little bit.

As vast reserves of oil are discovered and new technologies unlocked, energy security is within our reach this decade. The amount of oil that would flow to U.S. refineries in the Keystone XL represents 36 percent of what we import today from the Persian Gulf alone. The fact of the matter is that, today, over 71 percent of the Bakken shale crude that is produced in North Dakota is shipped by rail. Now, I have nothing against trains—I thank God that we have a robust rail system—but railing oil costs more. It is a little more dangerous. It is not as efficient as pipelines. It also requires trucks to get the oil to the rail facilities. Again, trucks are good—they are not bad at all—but they are not as safe or as efficient as pipelines, and they take a toll on our highway infrastructure.

According to the director of the North Dakota Department of Mineral Resources, Lynn Helms, approval of the Keystone XL will cause two things to happen, and listen carefully: 300 to 500 truckloads per day will be taken off of North Dakota highways, and there will be 10 fewer trains every week leaving the State. He also calculates that greenhouse gas emissions from rail are 1.8 times that of a pipeline and 2.9 times the emissions from pipeline transportation, and spills from truck transportation occurs at three to four times the rate of spills from pipelines. So yes, sometimes accidents happen, but they happen far more frequently with trucks.

Approval of the XL will result in 450,00 to 950,000 kilograms per day less greenhouse gas emissions in North Dakota alone, as well as significant decreases in dust and 60 to 80 fewer spills per year.

America's national security, Mr. Speaker, and America's economic security are tied directly to America's energy security. We can do a lot better, and we need to.

Now, the environmental safeguards in the Keystone pipeline—I said it is the most studied pipeline in the history of the world—they are rigorous and they are appropriate. They have been tested and they work. I can attest to that. I toured the Keystone during construction, and I met many of the men and women who worked on the line. Those, Mr. Speaker, are real jobs. Those pipe layers are real workers doing real jobs. The restaurant owners, the hotel owners, the retailers, the subcontractors, those are real jobs, and they should not be diminished by considering them something other than real jobs. We have the lowest workforce participation rate since 1978 in this country. Let's put people back to work.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased today to stand here and support this rule and ask my colleagues to do the same. Support final passage. Put people back to work and make America more energy

secure and keep the prices low for the American consumer.

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

So again, I was excited that perhaps the Rules Committee was going to consider emergency legislation on public health or Ebola or the war with ISIS or our budget. How about a deficit of half a trillion dollars, I call that an emergency. Instead, here we are dealing with a bill, something that Congress already passed that even if they passed again would make the decisionmaker exactly the same decisionmaker we have today, namely, the President of the United States.

Rather than considering the Keystone pipeline bill—and if we weren't going to deal with one of the real emergencies—why not at least bring up bills that create new green energy jobs in our innovation and energy sector like the bipartisan Public Lands Renewable Energy Act that I offered along with Representatives GOSAR, THOMPSON, and HECK? The Public Lands Renewable Energy Act would expand renewable energy development and create jobs while protecting our Nation's public health and environmental resources. It would provide the framework for a competitive leasing system for wind and energy, solar energy, on public lands. The innovative leasing process would help move our Nation forward with clean energy development while providing funding for conservation, States, and localities. How about that? Let's use some of our great public lands that have good solar or wind characteristics for solar and wind. I think that would be a great bipartisan bill to bring up here today.

Another example of a bill that we could consider today that would create jobs and move to a renewable energy future is the Renewable Electricity Standard Act, H.R. 3654, which I co-introduced in order to boost renewable energy markets across the country. The bill would make sure that utilities generate 25 percent of their electricity from renewable energies like wind, solar, and biomass by 2025. It is a goal, and my great State of Colorado already has a 30 percent renewable energy standard. That legislation would build on the success of over 30 State-based renewable energy standards, including the standard in the great State of Colorado by creating a true national market for renewable energy. It would create jobs and save consumers money on utility bills, help keep gas cheap at the pump, and provide billions in local tax revenues for small towns while cutting carbon pollution. That, to me, sounds like a better idea than spending our time debating a bill that, even if passed, will leave the project that it is talking about in the same situation it is before the bill is discussed.

Instead, Republicans are moving forward on a bill that clings on to Big Oil interests and does nothing to make energy more affordable for American consumers, does nothing to move forward to a clean energy future, and does nothing at all because, even if it passes, it has to go to the President to sign, who is currently the person reviewing the applications as we speak.

The emergency Rules Committee meeting and closed rule today does not allow me to bring forward the Public Lands Renewable Energy Act as an amendment. It doesn't allow me to bring forward the Renewable Electricity Standard Act as an amendment. In fact, the closed rule today ensures that no Member, Republican or Democratic, of this great body can offer an amendment to improve this bill.

I strongly urge my colleagues to set the tone for the next Congress by rejecting this rule and the underlying bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Colorado, and I will tell you, we are trying to keep the stage set that we in the Republican majority are leading for jobs for America. We are leading to help gas at the pump be less than what it has been. It doubled under President Obama's watch because they have not done the things that would allow more energy to be gotten. Sure, it is being gotten now on private lands, but on Federal lands, we need to do the same.

Once again, the same old worn-out rhetoric standing in the way of jobs in this country. That is why Republicans are now here on the floor again today. Our last bill is about jobs, too, before we leave.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Gainesville, Georgia (Mr. COLLINS), a member on the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman of the Rules Committee.

I rise in strong support of this rule and the underlying legislation, H.R. 5682, to authorize the construction of the Keystone pipeline. You know, it is not every day that I come back—and we have been gone for awhile from debating while we have been out actually campaigning and listening to the American people, and the American people spoke rather loudly last week, and it is good to come back and begin to put into practice what they have said. In fact, it is amazing to me how debates that went on so far here and coming to the floor—in fact, from people that normally we never disagree on—I am actually bringing to the floor a little bit of bipartisanship here.

In fact, I know that some will think there is no better argument for the pipeline—in fact, there is no better one that I have heard than one that I read in the paper today from a distinguished colleague in the other Chamber just across the way who does not share the Republican point of view. He said in regards to the Keystone pipeline:

> It would be a tremendous windfall for all of us. It is something we can count on. I can't for the life of me understand why we haven't, to date, been able to move this piece of legislation forward.

Well, good grief, neither do I. In fact, if I was to spend the rest of my 5 minutes just trying to understand why the Senate can't move bills, we would be here all night, Mr. Speaker. The gentleman from the other side, the other body, the Senate, summed it up clearly. He said: I don't understand why we can't move stuff.

What I have also missed, Mr. Speaker, coming back to the floor of the House, is things that I have never heard before, I mean, not at least in north Georgia where I am from. When we talk about jobs—and I have heard it talked about here on the floor of the House this afternoon; in fact, it was said that this is a waste of taxpayer money. To bring bills like this up, that it is a waste of taxpayer money. What is a waste of taxpayer money is the House Republicans passing jobs bills for Americans regardless of their party, jobs for them, and having them sit in a Senate that never woke up. That is a waste of taxpayer money. Where do I go to get my money back from that side of the aisle?

You know what is another thing that is amazing to me today, I actually heard something, Mr. Speaker, and you may have to help me with this because I don't understand because it was just said here on the floor of the House that this bill was a special interest earmark. I have never heard jobs described as a special interest earmark. Are you telling me that the Congress, in looking to give people jobs, is a special interest earmark? I think that is exactly what we are supposed to be doing. Are you kidding? This is exactly what the election was about just a couple of days ago. It is exactly what the American people spoke of. It is exactly what they are tired of—of government standing in the way of jobs.

Emergency legislation, an ''emergency rule,'' another term I have just heard on the House floor just a few minutes ago, that we were coming to the floor with an emergency rule and that we were going to do something special. Undoubtedly, they have never met somebody who does not have a job. I have been without a job. And if you were to tell me that I could get a job when I was looking for a job, that is emergency legislation. It is whatever it is, and I am looking for a job, and there are millions of families looking for jobs. Special interests it is not; it is the work of this body. And to say it is a waste of time, have we lost that much of our vision of what the American people sent us here to do?

Are there things that we could bring up? I appreciate my friend from Colorado. Are there a multitude of bills we could bring up? Yes. But as my parents once told me, they said: DOUG, that is the supper you are getting tonight. You either eat it or go to bed hungry.

The bill we have before us is a jobs bill—42,000 jobs—puts millions of people in jobs and the economy back together again in a way that helps our economy and helps the world, but yet

all we are worried about is what could be. Well, what could be is not good enough for somebody who can't pay their house payment, who can't send their kids to school. It is bad.

If you are watching and if you want to think about this right now, there is a clear difference. And the clear difference is that the Republicans have listened to the folks at the ball fields, have listened to the folks at the churches and the synagogues, who have heard ''I need a job.''

I want to work together for good jobs, and we will get to better jobs; but what is before us right now, Mr. Speaker, is this bill. This is the bill that is before us, and there is bipartisan support for this. And we can claim what is not in it. We can claim what it is. But I would never ever want to come to this podium, Mr. Speaker, and ever say that a jobs bill is an earmark, that a jobs bill is something that we shouldn't be taking up or that it is a waste of time, because when we say that bills like this are a waste of time, then we might as well say to people on the unemployment line, ''You are a waste of time,'' and this Republican will never do that because the American people expect better from us. That is why this rule needs to pass; that is why this bill needs to pass; and that is why this Republican majority will do what it is sent here to do—govern.

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

Mr. Speaker, the other side here is arguing like somehow passing this bill would lead to this pipeline being built. That simply isn't the case. The current review process, the decision lies with the President and the Secretary of State. If this bill, in identical form, were to pass both Chambers, the President of the United States will have a choice—approve it or not approve it—the same choice he has now.

□ 1700

So in no way would this Republican bill that we are considering here today make a decision for the President. The President is elected by the people in the country. Congress itself gave the President the authority to review this bill. It only becomes law if he chooses to sign it.

I should point out that this bill exempts TransCanada from multiple environmental laws like the National Environmental Policy Act or the Endangered Species Act. If the President were to approve the Keystone project, it probably wouldn't even be by signing this bill. He would probably approve it without waiving those laws or perhaps different areas, or perhaps there are other issues that this body doesn't know about because Mr. WHITFIELD hasn't consulted the President on what the pending issues are in 6 months.

So again, as a Member of this body who is not on the committee of jurisdiction, I can't say that I have been briefed by the administration on what the pending issues are. Apparently, Mr. WHITFIELD hasn't either. So let's find out what they are and are there additional areas that have to be rerouted, are there precautions that have to be made because of the high temperature of the tar sands as they race across our country.

Approving this Keystone XL pipeline, which this bill, again, would not do—it would simply go to the President who could choose whether he wants to move forward or not, just as he can now—but it would simply benefit foreign oil interests. The real issue is where are the benefits for the American people—the health and safety of the American people, the integrity of agriculture-based economies in the areas that would be affected. Does Congress really want to give TransCanada special benefits and exemptions or should they be held to the same standard as other important energy projects?

We need to help America grow renewable energy to wean ourselves off of our reliance on fossil fuels. If Congress wants to weigh in on how large energy projects should be approved, by all means, let's do it. But, quite frankly, you don't do it by presenting a bill to the President which gives him the exact same options that he has today. It doesn't move the ball down the road one way or the other.

I share the desire that my colleagues have that hopefully the process is nearing its completion. Whether that is a week or a month or 6 months, I don't know. Apparently, the committee doesn't know either, because they haven't asked the Executive. But I do trust that they are taking the factors that Congress wrote into law into consideration and, hopefully, will come to the conclusion one way or the other regardless of whether this bill is passed or not.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Ennis, Texas (Mr. BARTON). As the former chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, he knows about as much as anybody in the United States Congress about not just the needs of jobs and energy in this country, but, as the distinguished former chairman of the committee, he led this fight for many, many years.

(Mr. BARTON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chairman of the Rules Committee.

First of all, let's try to define what this bill actually does. We have had a lot of rhetoric on the House floor the last 30 minutes or so. It is a pretty simple bill. It removes the President from the decisionmaking authority. He can sign the bill and it would become law; he cannot sign it after so many days and it can become law; or he can veto it—but he doesn't have to make the decision whether to build the pipeline or not. That is the first thing. It takes the President out of the decisionmaking loop, except for the fact that he has the option as the President of the United States to sign the bill into law, veto it, or to let it become law without his signature.

Secondly, it says that if the bill does become law and the environmental groups still want to contest it, you get expedited judicial review so that we immediately get a decision. That is what the bill does. It is a simple bill.

A lot of the Keystone pipeline has already been built. From some of the rhetoric on the floor, you would think that it hadn't even been started yet. The reason the State Department and the President are even in the loop is because it is an international pipeline. Having said that, the international part of it has been built. The connection between Canada and the United States has been built and is operational. The part that is in question is within the interior of the United States of America.

If you were building a pipeline that wasn't connected to the Keystone pipeline as it exists, you wouldn't have to have the State Department review it and you wouldn't have to have the President make a decision. But because it is the continuation or in addition to an existing international pipeline, the State Department has to make a decision and, in this case, the President right now has to make a decision.

It is an 800,000-barrel-a-day pipeline if we make it operational. That brings oil from Canada into the United States where it can go to any number of domestic refineries, or it could actually, as has been said, it could be exported potentially. But in all probability, they will get a better market price in the United States down on the Gulf Coast and they would prefer to sell it here. But the market would make that decision, Mr. Speaker.

So, if at first you don't succeed, try, try, and try again. The House leadership, on a bipartisan basis, is going to send another bill on the Keystone pipeline to the other body. My understanding is that they are going to vote on it next week if it passes the House tomorrow, and then we will send it to the President. This would be a great Thanksgiving present for the American people, as has been pointed out: more job creation, more options for domestic refineries, potentially lower gasoline prices than they even are today for motorists and our consumers. It is a win-win-win.

There is no group in America that opposes it. Republicans support it; Democrats support it; labor unions support it. The only group is the radical environmentalists that probably make up 2 or 3 percent of the population. I just don't understand it.

I want to thank the committee of jurisdiction for bringing the bill to the floor, for the Rules Committee reporting out the rule. I urge a strong ''yes'' vote on the rule, and tomorrow I urge a strong ''yes'' vote on the bill.

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

What we have here is Congress trying to interfere with a highly technical review process that has already resulted in the rerouting of the proposed pipeline to ensure that the integrity of the Ogallala aquifer is preserved and that there are potentially other important issues to Americans that live in the affected areas where the pipeline would be built. Instead of hearing what those issues are or talking to the administration about what pending issues remain or are standing in the way of approval, Congress is seeking to shortcut that process, exempt the XL pipeline from the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act to immediately order it to be built regardless of the legitimate issues that should be waived.

When my colleague says, oh, somehow it is only 2 percent of the American people that oppose it, that is not the discussion we are having here today. It is not about who supports it or who opposes it. There needs to be the studies that are done to make sure that the routing of it maintains the health and safety of the American people, doesn't jeopardize the economy in the affected areas. Those are the issues that have already resulted in several changes of the plan and could result in additional changes to the plan of where and how the pipeline could be built. For Congress to somehow say we are just tired of dealing with the technical issues and we just want it done puts American lives at risk, puts America's health at risk.

We all wish that this process could have been completed 6 months ago, 3 months ago. We hope it is completed a month from now, 6 months from now. But giving the President the same choice he has today by passing this bill doesn't move the process forward. We should be taking advantage of our last few precious weeks before the end of the year to address some of the important pieces of legislation that the Senate has sent over, but somehow what we are debating, repealing the Affordable Care Act for the 53rd time or the Keystone pipeline again and again, somehow this body hasn't had time to even consider or debate or allow a vote on important pieces of legislation like the bipartisan immigration reform package that received more than two-thirds support in the United States Senate. There is a companion bill that is bipartisan that has been introduced in the House. There is a discharge petition at the desk for Members to sign to demand a simple up-or-down vote to fix our broken immigration system, secure our borders, reduce our budget deficit by over $200 billion.

There is a discussion of jobs with the Keystone project. Well, let me tell you, this bill on immigration reform that if this body allows a vote on would create over 250,000 jobs for American citizens.

Or how about the Employment Non-Discrimination Act? The Senate has acted on a bill that would prevent an employer from firing somebody just because they are gay or lesbian. It shouldn't be any of your boss' business who you date or who you love after work. The Senate passed that. More than three-quarters of the American people support it. We filed a discharge petition on that bill. We would love to be acting on that bill here today instead of yet again shortcutting the process with regard to an oil project.

This Congress has been a frustrating Congress. Unfortunately, here in our final weeks, I hope we are not setting the tone for an equally ineffective and inefficient 114th Congress. The American people deserve better. It is time to move forward with the renewable energy agenda, with balancing our budget, with fixing our broken immigration system, with making college more affordable, rather than talking in circles about projects that are already under review and won't be any more or less under review if the bill passes because it requires the signature of the same President who is currently charged with making this decision under current law in statutes passed by the United States Congress. Let's not waste our limited time on bills that won't go anywhere and won't do anything.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring H.R. 15, comprehensive immigration reform, to the floor of the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the gentleman from Texas yield for that purpose?

Mr. SESSIONS. I object.

Mr. POLIS. Well, unfortunately, yet again, we have been stymied in our efforts to address a critical issue facing the American people with a bill that would create over 250,000 jobs for American citizens, would secure our border, restore the rule of law, and unite American families. That is what the work of Congress should be; that is what the American people want Congress to do. If the 113th Congress can't do it, I sure hope that the President moves forward with the powers that have been granted to him by Congress and that the 114th Congress proves to be better than this Congress is in its waning days.

I urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on the rule and the underlying bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask how much time I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 4½ minutes remaining.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, thank you very much.

Mr. Speaker, once again, we heard our friends on the Democrat side talk about special interest money. They were talking about green energy: $18 billion a year is spent, money that would be spent like what was spent on Solyndra, sole-source contracts to companies that have gone belly up. Those are the ideas of the Democrat Party and the ideas of this President. The ideas of this President are they have taken over 6 years—2,246 days—the President of the United States, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Secretary of State Kerry, an administration that stands in the way of the operation of getting people jobs, of doing the things that the American people want and need. That is why what happened this first Tuesday in November, the American people said: We have had enough.

□ 1715

I, as a Republican, don't take it that we are just outstanding and they elected us. What they said is: We are sick and tired of the direction we're headed. We want serious things to happen.

We have a brand new Governor in Maryland and a brand new Governor in Illinois. There is a lot of information that is out there, ready for us. We Republicans came right back to work. The Senate is doing the same. They are trying to pass this. We are trying to take the exact same bill that we were asked to do, with the expectation and understanding it can pass this body.

It is a well-understood bill. It hasn't taken us 6 years—2,246 days—to figure it out. If this administration can't figure the dang thing out, they need to admit they do not know how to read or lead. And I don't know which one it is, but either they can't read or they cannot lead. They need to know that the American people expect us to go get the work done. That is what you heard Mr. COLLINS say. The Republican Party is up to the task. The Republican Party, through the leadership of JOHN A. BOEHNER and the leadership of what will be MITCH MCCONNELL, the Senate majority leader, is going to do exactly that.

We are going to take all the issues, including the one the gentleman talks about all day and every day—and that is immigration—and we are going to have an immigration bill. And we are going to do the right thing.

But today we are talking about jobs: jobs and opportunities for people that need them. We need competition for the price of energy. We need to make sure we don't depend as much on the Middle East and that we work with our friends from Canada. And it does not take the Republican Party 6 years, or 2,246 days, to try and make a decision. The Republican Party is here today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this rule and the underlying bill. I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

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

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 233, nays 185, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 517]

YEAS—233

Aderholt
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barr
Barton
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Camp
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Clawson (FL)
Coble
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Cook
Cotton
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Daines
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
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Ryan (WI)
Salmon
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Scalise
Schock
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Stockman
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Tiberi
Tipton
Turner
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Valadao
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Walden
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Crowley
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Davis, Danny
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Delaney
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Deutch
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Doyle
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Kaptur
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Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Speier
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
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Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Vargas
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Duckworth
Enyart
Hall
Hinojosa
Issa
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Moran
Negrete McLeod
Perry
Runyan
Smith (WA)

□ 1745

Ms. CASTOR of Florida changed her vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 517, I was detained en route from National Airport. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

SUNSCREEN INNOVATION ACT

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (S. 2141) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide an alternative process for review of safety and effectiveness of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2141

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 ''Sunscreen Innovation Act''.

SEC. 2. REGULATION OF NONPRESCRIPTION SUNSCREEN ACTIVE INGREDIENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—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 I—Nonprescription Sunscreen and Other Active Ingredients

"SEC. 586. DEFINITIONS.

''In this subchapter—

''(1) the term 'Advisory Committee' means the Nonprescription Drug Advisory Committee of the Food and Drug Administration or any successor to such Committee;

''(2) the term 'final sunscreen order' means an order published by the Secretary in the Federal Register containing information stating that a nonprescription sunscreen active ingredient or combination of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients—

''(A) is GRASE and is not misbranded if marketed in accordance with such order; or

''(B) is not GRASE and is misbranded;

''(3) the term 'GRASE' means generally recognized, among experts qualified by scientific training and experience to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of drugs, as safe and effective for use under the conditions prescribed, recommended, or suggested in the labeling of a drug as described in section 201(p);

''(4) the term 'GRASE determination' means, with respect to a nonprescription active ingredient or a combination of nonprescription active ingredients, a determination of whether such ingredient or combination of ingredients is GRASE;

''(5) the term 'nonprescription' means not subject to section 503(b)(1);

''(6) the term 'pending request' means each request with respect to a nonprescription sunscreen active ingredient submitted under section 330.14 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of enactment of the Sunscreen Innovation Act) for consideration for inclusion in the over-the-counter drug monograph system—

''(A) that was determined to be eligible for such review by publication of a notice of eligibility in the Federal Register prior to the date of enactment of such Act; and

''(B) for which safety and effectiveness data have been submitted to the Secretary prior to such date of enactment;

''(7) the term 'proposed sunscreen order' means an order containing a tentative determination published by the Secretary in the Federal Register containing information proposing that a nonprescription sunscreen active ingredient or combination of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients—

''(A) is GRASE and is not misbranded if marketed in accordance with such order;

''(B) is not GRASE and is misbranded; or

''(C) is not GRASE and is misbranded because the data are insufficient to classify such ingredient or combination of ingredients as GRASE and not misbranded and additional information is necessary to allow the Secretary to determine otherwise;

''(8) the term 'sponsor' means the person that submitted—

''(A) a request under section 586A;

''(B) a pending request; or

''(C) any other application subject to this subchapter;

''(9) the term 'sunscreen' means a drug containing one or more sunscreen active ingredients; and

''(10) the term 'sunscreen active ingredient' means an active ingredient that is intended for application to the skin of humans for purposes of absorbing, reflecting, or scattering ultraviolet radiation.

''SEC. 586A. SUBMISSION OF REQUESTS.

''Any person may submit a request to the Secretary for a determination of whether a nonprescription sunscreen active ingredient or a combination of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients, for use under specified conditions, to be prescribed, recommended, or suggested in the labeling thereof (including dosage form, dosage strength, and route of administration) is GRASE and should be included in part 352 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations) concerning nonprescription sunscreen.

''SEC. 586B. ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATIONS; DATA SUBMISSION; FILING.

''(a) ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 calendar days after the date of receipt of a request under section 586A, the Secretary shall—

''(A) determine, in accordance with paragraph (2), whether the request is eligible for further review under subsection (b) and section 586C;

''(B) notify the sponsor of the determination of the Secretary; and

''(C) make such determination publicly available in accordance with paragraph (3) and subsection (b)(1).

''(2) CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible for review under subsection (b) and section 586C, a request shall be for a nonprescription sunscreen active ingredient or combination of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients, for use under specified conditions, to be prescribed, recommended, or suggested in the labeling thereof, that—

''(i) is not included in part 352 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations) concerning nonprescription sunscreen; and

''(ii) has been used to a material extent and for a material time under such conditions, as described in section 201(p)(2).

''(B) ESTABLISHMENT OF TIME AND EXTENT.—A sponsor shall include in a request under section 586A the information required under section 330.14 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations) to meet the standard described in subparagraph (A)(ii).

''(3) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—

''(A) REDACTIONS FOR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.—If a nonprescription sunscreen active ingredient or combination of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients is determined under paragraph (1)(A) to be eligible for further review, the Secretary shall make the request publicly available, with redactions for information that is treated as confidential under section 552(b) of title 5, United States Code, section 1905 of title 18, United States Code, or section 301(j) of this Act.

''(B) IDENTIFICATION OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION BY SPONSOR.—At the time that a request is made under section 586A, the sponsor of such request shall identify any information that such sponsor considers to be confidential information described in subparagraph (A).

''(C) CONFIDENTIALITY DURING ELIGIBILITY REVIEW.—The information contained in a request under section 586A shall remain confidential during the Secretary's consideration under this section of whether the request is eligible for further review consistent with section 330.14 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations).

''(b) DATA SUBMISSION AND FILING OF REQUESTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a request under section 586A that is determined to be eligible under subsection (a) for further review under this section and section 586C, the Secretary shall, in notifying the public under subsection (a)(1)(C) of such eligibility determination, post the eligibility determination on the Internet website of the Food and Drug Administration, invite the sponsor of such request and any other interested party to submit comments, and provide a period of not less than 45 calendar days for comments in support of or otherwise relating to a GRASE determination, including published and unpublished data and other information related to the safety and efficacy of such request.

''(2) FILING DETERMINATION.—Not later than 60 calendar days after the submission of data and other information described in paragraph (1) by the sponsor, the Secretary shall determine whether the data and other information submitted by the sponsor under this section are sufficiently complete, including being formatted in a manner that enables the Secretary to determine the completeness of such data and information, to enable the Secretary to conduct a substantive review under section 586C with respect to such request. Not later than 60 calendar days after the submission of data and other information described in paragraph (1) by the sponsor, if the Secretary determines—

''(A) that such data and other information are sufficiently complete, the Secretary shall—

''(i) issue a written notification to the sponsor of the determination to file such request, and make such notification publicly available; and

''(ii) file such request made under section 586A; or

''(B) that such data and other information are not sufficiently complete, the Secretary shall issue a written notification to the sponsor of the determination to refuse to file the request, which shall include the reasons for the refusal, including why such data and other information are not sufficiently complete, and make such notification publicly available.

''(3) REFUSAL TO FILE A REQUEST.—

''(A) REQUEST FOR MEETINGS; SUBMISSION OF ADDITIONAL DATA OR OTHER INFORMATION.—If the Secretary refuses to file a request made under section 586A, the sponsor may—

''(i) within 30 calendar days of receipt of written notification of such refusal, request, in writing, a meeting with the Secretary regarding the filing determination; and

''(ii) submit additional data or other information.

''(B) MEETINGS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—If a sponsor seeks a meeting under subparagraph (A)(i), the Secretary shall convene the meeting within 30 calendar days of the request for such meeting.

''(ii) ACTIONS AFTER MEETING.—Following any meeting held under clause (i)—

''(I) the Secretary may file the request within 60 calendar days;

''(II) the sponsor may submit additional data or other information; or

''(III) if the sponsor elects, within 120 calendar days, to have the Secretary file the request (with or without amendments to correct any purported deficiencies to the request)—

''(aa) the Secretary shall file the request over protest, not later than 30 calendar days after the sponsor makes such election;

''(bb) at the time of filing, the Secretary shall provide written notification of such filing to the sponsor; and

''(cc) the Secretary shall make such notification publicly available.

''(iii) REQUESTS FILED OVER PROTEST.—The Secretary shall not require the sponsor to resubmit a copy of the request for purposes of filing a request filed over protest, as described in clause (ii)(III).

''(C) SUBMISSIONS OF ADDITIONAL DATA OR OTHER INFORMATION.—Within 60 calendar days of any submission of additional data or other information under subparagraph (A)(ii) or (B)(ii)(II), the Secretary shall reconsider the previous determination made under paragraph (2) with respect to the applicable request and make a new determination in accordance with paragraph (2).

''(4) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—

''(A) REDACTIONS FOR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.—After the period of confidentiality described in subsection (a)(3)(C), the Secretary shall make data and other information submitted in connection with a request under section 586A publicly available, with redactions for information that is treated as confidential under section 552(b) of title 5, United States Code, section 1905 of title 18, United States Code, or section 301(j) of this Act.

''(B) IDENTIFICATION OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION BY SPONSOR.—A person submitting information under this section shall identify at the time of such submission the portions of such information that the person considers to be confidential information described in subparagraph (A).

''SEC. 586C. GRASE DETERMINATION.

''(a) REVIEW OF NEW REQUEST.—

''(1) PROPOSED SUNSCREEN ORDER.—In the case of a request under section 586A, not later than 300 calendar days after the date on which such request is filed under subsection (b)(2)(A) or (b)(3)(B)(ii)(III) of section 586B, the Secretary—

''(A) may convene a meeting of the Advisory Committee to review such request; and

''(B) shall complete the review of such request and issue a proposed sunscreen order with respect to such request.

''(2) PROPOSED SUNSCREEN ORDER BY COMMISSIONER.—If the Secretary does not issue a proposed sunscreen order under paragraph (1)(B) within such 300-day period, the sponsor of such request may notify the Office of the Commissioner of such request and request review by the Office of the Commissioner. If such sponsor so notifies the Office of the Commissioner, the Commissioner shall, not later than 60 calendar days after the date of notification under this paragraph, issue a proposed sunscreen order with respect to such request.

''(3) PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD.—A proposed sunscreen order issued under paragraph (1)(B) or (2) with respect to a request shall provide for a period of 45 calendar days for public comment.

''(4) MEETING.—A sponsor may request, in writing, a meeting with respect to a proposed sunscreen order issued under this subsection and described in subparagraph (B) or (C) of section 586(7), not later than 30 calendar days after the Secretary issues such order. The Secretary shall convene a meeting with such sponsor not later than 45 calendar days after such request for a meeting.

''(5) FINAL SUNSCREEN ORDER.—With respect to a proposed sunscreen order under paragraph (1)(B) or (2)—

''(A) the Secretary shall issue a final sunscreen order—

''(i) in the case of a proposed sunscreen order described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of section 586(7), not later than 90 calendar days after the end of the public comment period under paragraph (3); or

''(ii) in the case of a proposed sunscreen order described in subparagraph (C) of section 586(7), not later than 210 calendar days after the date on which the sponsor submits

the additional information requested pursuant to such proposed sunscreen order; or

''(B) if the Secretary does not issue such final sunscreen order within such 90- or 210-calendar-day period, as applicable, the sponsor of such request may notify the Office of the Commissioner of such request and request review by the Office of the Commissioner.

''(6) FINAL SUNSCREEN ORDER BY COMMISSIONER.—The Commissioner shall issue a final sunscreen order with respect to a proposed sunscreen order subject to paragraph (5)(B) not later than 60 calendar days after the date of notification under such paragraph.

''(b) REVIEW OF PENDING REQUESTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The review of a pending request shall be carried out by the Secretary in accordance with this subsection.

''(2) INAPPLICABILITY OF SECTIONS 586A AND 586B.—Sections 586A and 586B shall not apply with respect to any pending request.

''(3) FEEDBACK LETTERS AS PROPOSED SUNSCREEN ORDER.—Notwithstanding the requirements of section 586(7), a letter issued pursuant to section 330.14(g) of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations before the date of enactment of the Sunscreen Innovation Act, with respect to a pending request, shall be deemed to be a proposed sunscreen order and displayed on the Internet website of the Food and Drug Administration. Notification of the availability of such letter shall be published in the Federal Register not later than 45 calendar days after the date of enactment of such Act.

''(4) PROPOSED SUNSCREEN ORDER.—In the case of a pending request for which the Secretary has not issued a letter pursuant to section 330.14(g) of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations before the date of enactment of the Sunscreen Innovation Act, the Secretary shall complete review of such request and, not later than 90 calendar days after the date of enactment of such Act, issue a proposed sunscreen order with respect to such request.

''(5) PROPOSED SUNSCREEN ORDER BY COMMISSIONER.—If the Secretary does not issue a proposed sunscreen order under paragraph (4), or the Secretary does not publish a notification of the availability of a letter under paragraph (3), as applicable, the sponsor of such request may notify the Office of the Commissioner of such request and request review by the Office of the Commissioner. The Commissioner shall, not later than 60 calendar days after the date of notification under this paragraph, issue a proposed order with respect to such request.

''(6) PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD.—A proposed sunscreen order issued under paragraph (4) or (5), or a notification of the availability of a letter under paragraph (3), with respect to a pending request shall provide for a period of 45 calendar days for public comment.

''(7) MEETING.—A sponsor may request, in writing, a meeting with respect to a proposed sunscreen order issued under this subsection, including a letter deemed to be a proposed sunscreen order under paragraph (3), not later than 30 calendar days after the Secretary issues such order or the date upon which such feedback letter is deemed to be a proposed sunscreen order, as applicable. The Secretary shall convene a meeting with such sponsor not later than 45 calendar days after the date of such request for a meeting.

''(8) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—In the case of a proposed sunscreen order under paragraph (3), (4), or (5), an Advisory Committee meeting may be convened for the purpose of reviewing and providing recommendations regarding the pending request.

''(9) FINAL SUNSCREEN ORDER.—In the case of a proposed sunscreen order under paragraph (3), (4), or (5)—

''(A) the Secretary shall issue a final sunscreen order with respect to the request—

''(i) in the case of a proposed sunscreen order described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of section 586(7), not later than 90 calendar days after the end of the public comment period under paragraph (6); or

''(ii) in the case of a proposed sunscreen order described in subparagraph (C) of section 586(7)—

''(I) if the Advisory Committee is not convened under paragraph (8), not later than 210 calendar days after the date on which the sponsor submits the additional information requested pursuant to such proposed sunscreen order, which shall include a rationale for not convening such Advisory Committee; or

''(II) if the Advisory Committee is convened under paragraph (8), not later than 270 calendar days after the date on which the sponsor submits such additional information; or

''(B) if the Secretary does not issue such final sunscreen order within such 90-, 210-, or 270-calendar-day period, as applicable, the sponsor of such request may notify the Office of the Commissioner about such request and request review by the Office of the Commissioner.

''(10) FINAL SUNSCREEN ORDER BY COMMISSIONER.—The Commissioner shall issue a final sunscreen order with respect to a proposed sunscreen order subject to paragraph (9)(B) not later than 60 calendar days after the date of notification under such paragraph.

''(c) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The Secretary shall not be required to—

''(1) convene the Advisory Committee—

''(A) more than once with respect to any request under section 586A or any pending request; or

''(B) more than twice in any calendar year with respect to the review under this section; or

''(2) submit more than a total of 3 requests under section 586A or pending requests to the Advisory Committee per meeting.

''(d) NO DELEGATION.—Any responsibility vested in the Commissioner by subsection (a)(2), (a)(6), (b)(5), or (b)(10) shall not be delegated.

''(e) EFFECT OF FINAL SUNSCREEN ORDER.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—

''(A) SUNSCREEN ACTIVE INGREDIENTS DETERMINED TO BE GRASE.—Upon issuance of a final sunscreen order determining that a nonprescription sunscreen active ingredient or combination of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients is GRASE and is not misbranded, a sunscreen containing such ingredient or combination of ingredients shall be permitted to be introduced or delivered into interstate commerce for use under the conditions described in such final sunscreen order, in accordance with all requirements applicable to drugs not subject to section 503(b)(1), for so long as such final sunscreen order remains in effect.

''(B) SUNSCREEN ACTIVE INGREDIENTS DETERMINED NOT TO BE GRASE.—Upon issuance of a final sunscreen order determining that a nonprescription sunscreen active ingredient or combination of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients is not GRASE and is misbranded, a sunscreen containing such ingredient or combination of ingredients shall not be introduced or delivered into interstate commerce, for use under the conditions described in such final sunscreen order, unless an application is approved pursuant to section 505 with respect to a sunscreen containing such ingredient or combination of ingredients, or unless conditions are later established under which such ingredient or combination of ingredients is later determined to be GRASE and not misbranded under the over-the-counter drug monograph system.

''(2) AMENDMENTS TO FINAL SUNSCREEN ORDERS.—

''(A) AMENDMENTS AT INITIATIVE OF SECRETARY.—In the event that information relevant to a nonprescription sunscreen active ingredient or combination of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients becomes available to the Secretary after issuance of a final sunscreen order, the Secretary may amend such final sunscreen order by issuing a new proposed sunscreen order under subsection (a)(1) and following the procedures set forth in this section.

''(B) PETITION TO AMEND FINAL ORDER.—Any interested person may petition the Secretary to amend a final sunscreen order under section 10.30, title 21 Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations). If the Secretary grants any petition under such section, the Secretary shall initiate the process for amending a final sunscreen order by issuing a new proposed sunscreen order under subsection (a)(1) and following the procedures set forth in this section.

''(C) APPLICABILITY OF FINAL ORDERS.—Once the Secretary issues a new proposed sunscreen order to amend a final sunscreen order under subparagraph (A) or (B), such final sunscreen order shall remain in effect and paragraph (3) shall not apply to such final sunscreen order until the Secretary has issued a new final sunscreen order or has determined not to amend the final sunscreen order.

''(3) INCLUSION OF INGREDIENTS THAT ARE SUBJECTS OF FINAL ORDERS IN THE SUNSCREEN MONOGRAPH.—

''(A) AMENDING REGULATIONS.—

''(i) REQUIREMENT.—At any time that the Secretary proposes to amend part 352 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations) concerning nonprescription sunscreen, including pursuant to section 586E, except as provided in clause (iv), the Secretary shall include in such part 352 (or any successor regulations) any nonprescription sunscreen active ingredient or combination of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients that is the subject of an effective final sunscreen order of the type described in section 586(2)(A) and issued since the time that the Secretary last amended such regulations. Such regulation shall set forth conditions of use under which each such ingredient or combination of ingredients is GRASE and not misbranded. If these conditions differ from, or are in addition to, those previously set forth in the applicable final sunscreen order, the Secretary shall provide notice and opportunity for comment on such conditions in the rulemaking, and the applicable final sunscreen order shall continue in effect until the effective date of a final regulation, as set forth in clause (iii).

''(ii) INCLUSION OF ORDERS.—In proposing to amend the regulations as described in clause (i), the Secretary shall include in the proposed regulations a list of final sunscreen orders that shall cease to be effective on the effective date of a resulting final regulation. Such list shall include all final sunscreen orders of the type described in section 586(2)(A) that are in effect on the date that such regulations are proposed, with the exception that such list shall not include any final sunscreen orders that, on the date that the regulations are proposed, the Secretary is in the process of amending under paragraph (2).

''(iii) ORDERS NO LONGER EFFECTIVE.—Any final sunscreen order included by the Secretary in a list described in clause (ii) and in a list included in resulting final regulations shall cease to be effective on the date that such final regulations including such order in such list become effective.

''(iv) INGREDIENTS NOT GRASE.—If, notwithstanding a final sunscreen order stating that a nonprescription sunscreen active ingredient or combination of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients is GRASE and is not misbranded if marketed in accordance with such order, while amending the regulations as described in clause (i), the Secretary concludes that such ingredient or combination of ingredients is no longer GRASE for use in nonprescription sunscreen, the Secretary shall, at the discretion of the Secretary, either initiate the process for amending the final sunscreen order set forth in paragraph (2) of this subsection or include in a proposed regulation an explanation and information supporting the determination of the Secretary that such ingredient or combination of ingredients is no longer GRASE for use in nonprescription sunscreen.

''(B) PROCEDURE FOR UPDATING REGULATIONS.—After the Secretary amends and finalizes the regulations under part 352 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations under section 586E and such regulations become effective, the Secretary may use direct final rulemaking to include in such regulations any nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients that are the subject of effective final sunscreen orders.

''SEC. 586D. GUIDANCE; OTHER PROVISIONS.

''(a) GUIDANCE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—

''(A) DRAFT GUIDANCE.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Sunscreen Innovation Act, the Secretary shall issue draft guidance on the implementation of, and compliance with, the requirements with respect to sunscreen under this subchapter, including guidance on—

''(i) the format and content of information submitted by a sponsor in support of a request under section 586A or a pending request;

''(ii) the data required to meet the safety and efficacy standard for determining whether a nonprescription sunscreen active ingredient or combination of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients is GRASE and is not misbranded;

''(iii) the process by which a request under section 586A or a pending request is withdrawn; and

''(iv) the process by which the Secretary will carry out section 586C(c), including with respect to how the Secretary will address the total number of requests received under section 586A and pending requests.

''(B) FINAL GUIDANCE.—The Secretary shall finalize the guidance described in subparagraph (A) not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Sunscreen Innovation Act.

''(C) INAPPLICABILITY OF PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT.—Chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code shall not apply to collections of information made for purposes of guidance under this subsection.

''(2) SUBMISSIONS PENDING ISSUANCE OF FINAL GUIDANCE.—Irrespective of whether final guidance under paragraph (1) has been issued—

''(A) persons may, beginning on the date of enactment of the Sunscreen Innovation Act, make submissions under this subchapter; and

''(B) the Secretary shall review and act upon such submissions in accordance with this subchapter.

''(b) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—

''(1) CURRENTLY MARKETED SUNSCREENS.—Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to affect the marketing of sunscreens that are marketed in interstate commerce on or before the date of enactment of this subchapter, except as otherwise provided in this subchapter.

''(2) ENSURING SAFETY AND EFFECTIVENESS.—Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to alter the authority of the Secretary with respect to prohibiting the marketing of a sunscreen that is not safe and effective or is misbranded, or with respect to imposing restrictions on the marketing of a sunscreen to ensure safety and effectiveness, except as otherwise provided in this subchapter, including section 586C(e).

''(3) OTHER DRUGS.—Except as otherwise provided in section 586F, nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to affect the authority of the Secretary under this Act or the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 201 et seq.) with respect to a drug other than a nonprescription sunscreen.

''(4) EFFECT ON DRUGS OTHERWISE APPROVED.—Nothing in this subchapter shall affect the marketing of a drug approved under section 505 of this Act or section 351 of the Public Health Service Act.

''(c) TIMELINES.—The timelines for the processes and procedures under paragraphs (1), (2), (5), and (6) of section 586C(a) shall not apply to any requests submitted to the Secretary under section 586A after the date that is 6 years after the date of enactment of the Sunscreen Innovation Act.

''SEC. 586E. SUNSCREEN MONOGRAPH.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of the Sunscreen Innovation Act, the Secretary shall amend and finalize regulations under part 352 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations concerning nonprescription sunscreen that are effective not later than 5 years after such date of enactment. The Secretary shall publish such regulations not less than 30 calendar days before the effective date of such regulations.

''(b) REPORTS.—If the regulations promulgated under subsection (a) do not include provisions related to the effectiveness of various sun protection factor levels, and do not address all dosage forms known to the Secretary to be used in sunscreens marketed in the United States without a new drug approval under section 505, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives on the rationale for such provisions not being included in such regulations, and a plan and timeline to compile any information necessary to address such provisions through final regulations.''.

(b) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in the amendment made by this section shall be construed to—

(1) limit the right of a sponsor (as defined in section 586(8) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as added by subsection (a)) to request that the Secretary of Health and Human Services convene an advisory committee; or

(2) limit the authority of the Secretary of Health and Human Services to meet with a sponsor (as defined in section 586(8) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as added by subsection (a)).

SEC. 3. NON-SUNSCREEN TIME AND EXTENT APPLICATIONS.

Subchapter I of chapter V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as added by section 2, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 586F. NON-SUNSCREEN TIME AND EXTENT APPLICATIONS.

''(a) PENDING TIME AND EXTENT APPLICATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—

''(A) REQUEST FOR FRAMEWORK FOR REVIEW.—If, prior to the date of enactment of the Sunscreen Innovation Act, an application was submitted pursuant to section 330.14 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations for a GRASE determination for a drug other than a nonprescription sunscreen active ingredient or combination of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients and such drug was found to be eligible to be considered for inclusion in the over-the-counter drug monograph system pursuant to section 330.14 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations, the sponsor of such application may request that the Secretary provide a framework under paragraph (2) for the review of such application.

''(B) REQUEST REQUIREMENTS.—A request for a framework for review of an application made under subparagraph (A) shall be made within 180 calendar days of the date of enactment of the Sunscreen Innovation Act and shall include the preference of such sponsor as to whether such application is reviewed by the Secretary in accordance with—

''(i) the processes and procedures set forth for pending requests under section 586C(b), except that specific timelines shall be determined in accordance with other applicable requirements under this section;

''(ii) the processes and procedures set forth under part 330 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations);

''(iii) an initial filing determination under the processes and procedures described in section 586B(b) and the processes and procedures set forth for pending requests under section 586C(b), except that specific timelines shall be determined in accordance with other applicable requirements under this section; or

''(iv) an initial filing determination under the processes and procedures described in section 586B(b) and the processes and procedures set forth under part 330 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations).

''(C) NO REQUEST.—If a sponsor described in subparagraph (A) does not make such request within 180 calendar days of the date of enactment of the Sunscreen Innovation Act, such application shall be reviewed by the Secretary in accordance with the timelines of the applicable regulations when such regulations are finalized under subsection (b).

''(2) FRAMEWORK.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Sunscreen Innovation Act, the Secretary shall provide, in writing, a framework to each sponsor that submitted a request under paragraph (1). Such framework shall set forth the various timelines, in calendar days, with respect to the processes and procedures for review under clauses (i), (ii), (iii), and (iv) of paragraph (1)(B) and—

''(A) such timelines shall account for the considerations under paragraph (5); and

''(B) the timelines for the various processes and procedures shall not be shorter than the timelines set forth for pending requests under sections 586B(b) and 586C(b), as applicable.

''(3) GOVERNING PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES FOR REVIEW.—

''(A) ELECTION.—Not later than 60 calendar days after the Secretary provides a framework to a sponsor under paragraph (2), such sponsor may provide an election to the Secretary regarding the processes and procedures for review under clause (i), (ii), (iii), or (iv) of paragraph (1)(B). If such sponsor makes such election, the Secretary shall review the application that is the subject of such election pursuant to the processes and procedures elected by such sponsor and the applicable timelines in calendar days set forth under such framework, which the Secretary shall confirm in writing to the sponsor not later than the date upon which the Secretary provides a report under paragraph (4). If such sponsor does not make such election, such application shall be reviewed by

the Secretary in accordance with the timelines of the applicable regulations when such regulations are finalized under subsection (b).

''(B) DIFFERENT PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES.—At any time during review of an application, the Secretary may review such application under different processes and procedures under clause (i), (ii), (iii), or (iv) of paragraph (1)(B) than the processes and procedures the sponsor elected in accordance with subparagraph (A), so long as the Secretary proposes, in writing, the change and the sponsor agrees, in writing, to such change.

''(C) INCLUSION OF INGREDIENTS IN MONOGRAPHS.—If the sponsor elects to use the processes and procedures for review in accordance with clause (i) or (iii) of paragraph (1)(B), the Secretary may incorporate any resulting final order into a regulation addressing the conditions under which other drugs in the same therapeutic category are GRASE and not misbranded, including through direct final rulemaking, and the final order so incorporated shall cease to be effective on the effective date of the final regulation that addresses such drug.

''(4) LETTER REGARDING PENDING APPLICATIONS.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Sunscreen Innovation Act, the Secretary shall report to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives, in writing, regarding all pending applications subject to paragraph (1). In such letter, the Secretary shall provide a report on the review of such applications, including the timelines, in calendar days, for the review and GRASE determination for each application. Such timelines shall account for the considerations under paragraph (5).

''(5) TIMELINES.—The timelines in calendar days established by the Secretary pursuant to this subsection—

''(A) may vary based on the content, complexity, and format of the application submitted to the Secretary; and

''(B) shall—

''(i) reflect the public health priorities of the Food and Drug Administration, including the potential public health benefits posed by the inclusion of additional drugs in the over-the-counter drug monograph system;

''(ii) take into consideration the resources available to the Secretary for carrying out such priorities and the processes and procedures described in paragraphs (1)(B) and (2); and

''(iii) be reasonable, taking into consideration the requirements described in clauses (i) and (ii).

''(b) NEW TIME AND EXTENT APPLICATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Sunscreen Innovation Act, the Secretary shall issue proposed regulations establishing timelines for the review of applications for GRASE determinations for drugs other than nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients or combinations of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients that are submitted to the Secretary after the date of enactment of the Sunscreen Innovation Act, under section 330.14 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations), and that are found to be eligible to be considered for inclusion in the over-the-counter drug monograph system pursuant to section 330.14 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations), or that are subject to this subsection pursuant to paragraph (1) or (3) of subsection (a), as applicable, providing—

''(A) timely and efficient completion of evaluations of applications under section 330.14 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations) for drugs other than sunscreens; and

''(B) timely and efficient completion of the review of the safety and effectiveness submissions pursuant to such applications, including establishing—

''(i) reasonable timelines, in calendar days, for the applicable proposed and final regulations for applications of various content, complexity, and format, and timelines for internal procedures related to such processes; and

''(ii) measurable metrics for tracking the extent to which the timelines set forth in the regulations are met.

''(2) TIMELINES.—The timelines in calendar days established in the regulations under paragraph (1)—

''(A) may vary based on the content, complexity, and format of the application submitted to the Secretary; and

''(B) shall—

''(i) reflect the public health priorities of the Food and Drug Administration, including the potential public health benefits posed by the inclusion of additional drugs in the over-the-counter drug monograph system;

''(ii) take into consideration the resources available to the Secretary for carrying out such priorities and the processes and procedures described in paragraph (1); and

''(iii) be reasonable, taking into consideration the requirements described in clauses (i) and (ii).

''(3) PROCEDURE.—In promulgating regulations under this subsection, the Secretary shall issue a notice of proposed rulemaking that includes a copy of the proposed regulation, provide a period of not less than 60 calendar days for comments on the proposed regulation, and publish the final regulation not less than 30 calendar days before the effective date of the regulation.

''(4) RESTRICTIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations implementing this section only as described in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3).

''(5) FINAL REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall finalize the regulations under this section not later than 27 months after the date of enactment of the Sunscreen Innovation Act.''.

SEC. 4. REPORTS.

(a) INITIAL GAO REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall 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 reviewing the overall progress of the Secretary of Health and Human Services in carrying out subchapter I of chapter V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (as added by section 2 and amended by section 3 and subsection (c)), including findings on and recommendations with respect to—

(1) the progress made in completing the review of requests under subchapter I of chapter V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, including pending requests, and the feasibility of the timelines associated with such subchapter;

(2) the role of the Office of the Commissioner of Food and Drugs in issuing determinations with respect to requests reviewed under such subchapter, including the number of requests transferred to the Office of the Commissioner under section 586C of such Act;

(3) the extent to which advisory committees were convened by the Secretary regarding requests under subchapter I of chapter V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, including pending requests; and

(4) the types of metrics that have been, or should be, established for the review of time and extent applications.

(b) SUBSEQUENT GAO REPORT.—Not later than 5½ years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall 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 reviewing the overall progress of the Secretary of Health and Human Services in carrying out subchapter I of chapter V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (as added by section 2 and amended by section 3 and subsection (c)) and the regulation of over-the-counter drug products, including findings on and recommendations with respect to—

(1) updates on the matters reported on by the Comptroller General under subsection (a);

(2) significant factors impacting the ability of the Food and Drug Administration to fulfill the mission of the agency with regard to the regulation of over-the-counter drug products, including finalizing outstanding monographs and responding to emerging and novel safety issues;

(3) the performance of the Secretary in carrying out section 586E of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act;

(4) the types of metrics that have been, or should be, established for the review and regulation of over-the-counter drug products; and

(5) timeliness, efficiency, and accountability in reviewing time and extent applications and safety and effectiveness reviews for over-the-counter drug products.

(c) FDA REPORT.—Subchapter I of chapter V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as amended by section 3, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 586G. REPORT.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Sunscreen Innovation Act, and on the dates that are 2 and 4 years thereafter, the Secretary shall issue a report to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives describing actions taken under this subchapter.

''(2) CONTENTS.—The reports under this subsection shall include—

''(A) a review of the progress made in issuing GRASE determinations for pending requests, including the number of pending requests—

''(i) reviewed and the decision times for each request, measured from the date of the original request for an eligibility determination submitted by the sponsor;

''(ii) resulting in a determination that the nonprescription sunscreen active ingredient or combination of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients is GRASE and is not misbranded;

''(iii) resulting in a determination that the nonprescription sunscreen active ingredient or combination of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients is not GRASE and is misbranded and the reasons for such determinations; and

''(iv) for which a determination has not been made, and an explanation for the delay, a description of the current status of each such request, and the length of time each such request has been pending, measured from the date of original request for an eligibility determination by the sponsor;

''(B) a review of the progress made in issuing GRASE determinations for requests not included in the reporting under subparagraph (A), including the number of such requests—

''(i) reviewed and the decision times for each request;

''(ii) resulting in a determination that the nonprescription sunscreen active ingredient, combination of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients, or other ingredient is GRASE and is not misbranded;

''(iii) resulting in a determination that the nonprescription sunscreen active ingredient, combination of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients, or other ingredient is not GRASE and is misbranded and the reasons for such determinations; and

''(iv) for which a determination has not been made, and an explanation for the delay, a description of the current status of each such request, and the length of time each such request has been pending, measured from the date of original request for an eligibility determination by the sponsor;

''(C) an annual accounting (including information from years prior to the date of enactment of the Sunscreen Innovation Act where such information is available) of the total number of requests submitted, pending, or completed under this subchapter, including whether such requests were the subject of an advisory committee convened by the Secretary;

''(D) a description of the staffing and resources relating to the costs associated with the review and decisionmaking pertaining to requests under this subchapter;

''(E) a review of the progress made in meeting the deadlines with respect to processing requests under this subchapter; and

''(F) to the extent the Secretary determines appropriate, recommendations for process improvements in the handling of requests under this subchapter, including the advisory committee review process.

''(b) METHOD.—The Secretary shall publish the reports under subsection (a) in the manner the Secretary determines to be the most effective for efficiently disseminating the report, including publication of the report on the Internet website of the Food and Drug Administration.''.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2014

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (S. 2539) to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize certain programs relating to traumatic brain injury and to trauma research, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2539

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 ''Traumatic Brain Injury Reauthorization Act of 2014''.

SEC. 2. CDC PROGRAMS FOR PREVENTION AND SURVEILLANCE OF TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY.

(a) PREVENTION OF TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY.—Section 393B(b)(3) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280b–1c(b)(3)) is amended by striking ''2010, commonly referred to as Healthy People 2010'' and inserting ''2020, commonly referred to as Healthy People 2020''.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 394A of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280b–3) is amended—

(1) by striking the section heading and all that follows through ''For the purpose'' and inserting the following:

''SEC. 394A. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose'';

(2) by striking the second period; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY.—To carry out sections 393B and 393C, there are authorized to be appropriated $6,564,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2019.''.

SEC. 3. STATE GRANTS FOR PROJECTS REGARDING TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY.

Section 1252 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300d–52) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking '', acting through the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration,'';

(2) in paragraphs (1)(A)(i) and (3)(E) of subsection (f), by striking ''brain injury'' and inserting ''traumatic brain injury'';

(3) in subsection (h), by striking ''under this section, and section 1253 including'' and inserting ''under this section and section 1253, including''; and

(4) in subsection (j), by striking ''such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2001 through 2005, and such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2009 through 2012'' and inserting ''$5,500,000 for each of the fiscal years 2015 through 2019''.

SEC. 4. STATE GRANTS FOR PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY SERVICES.

Section 1253 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300d–53) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking '', acting through the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration (referred to in this section as the 'Administrator'),'';

(2) in subsections (c), (d)(1), (e)(1), (e)(4), (g), (h), and (j)(1), by striking ''Administrator'' each place it appears and inserting ''Secretary'';

(3) in subsection (h)—

(A) by striking the subsection heading and inserting ''**REPORTING**'';

(B) by striking ''Each protection and advocacy system'' and inserting the following:

''(1) REPORTS BY SYSTEMS.—Each protection and advocacy system''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) REPORT BY SECRETARY.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Traumatic Brain Injury Reauthorization Act of 2014, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing the services and activities carried out under this section during the period for which the report is being prepared.'';

(4) in subsection (i), by striking ''The Administrator of the Health Resources'' and all that follows through ''regarding'' and inserting ''The Secretary shall facilitate agreements to coordinate the collection of data by agencies within the Department of Health and Human Services regarding'';

(5) in subsection (k), by striking ''subtitle C of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000'' and inserting ''subtitle C of title I of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 15041 et seq.)'';

(6) in subsection (l), by striking ''$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2001, and such sums as may be necessary for each the fiscal years 2009 through 2012'' and inserting ''$3,100,000 for each of the fiscal years 2015 through 2019'';

and

(7) in subsection (m)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''part C of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance Bill of Rights Act (42 U.S.C. 6042 et seq.)'' and inserting ''subtitle C of title I of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 15041 et seq.)''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''part C of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (42 U.S.C. 6042 et seq.)'' and inserting ''subtitle C of title I of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 15041 et seq.)''.

SEC. 5. TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY COORDINATION PLAN.

(a) DEVELOPMENT OF PLAN.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall develop a plan for improved coordination of Federal activities with respect to traumatic brain injury. Such plan shall—

(1) review existing interagency coordination efforts with respect to Federal activities related to traumatic brain injury, including services for individuals with traumatic brain injury;

(2) identify areas for improved coordination between relevant Federal agencies and programs, including agencies and programs with a focus on serving individuals with disabilities;

(3) identify each recommendation in the report required by section 393C(b) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280b–1d(b)) that has been adopted and each such recommendation that has not been adopted, and describe any planned activities to address each such recommendation that has not been adopted; and

(4) incorporate, as appropriate, stakeholder feedback, including feedback from individuals with traumatic brain injury and their caregivers.

(b) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit the plan developed under subsection (a) to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 6. REVIEW OF BRAIN INJURY MANAGEMENT IN CHILDREN.

The Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in consultation with the Director of the National Institutes of Health, shall conduct a review of the scientific evidence related to brain injury management in children, such as the restriction or prohibition of children from attending school or participating in athletic activities following a head injury, and identify ongoing and potential further opportunities for research. Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shall 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 the results of such review.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ENHANCE LABELING, ACCESSING, AND BRANDING OF ELECTRONIC LICENSES ACT OF 2014

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (S. 2583) to promote the non-exclusive use of electronic labeling for devices licensed by the Federal Communications Commission, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2583

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 ''Enhance Labeling, Accessing, and Branding of Electronic Licenses Act of 2014'' or the ''E–LABEL Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The Federal Communications Commission (referred to in this section as the ''Commission'') first standardized physical labels for licensed products such as computers, phones, and other electronic devices in 1973, and the Commission has continually refined physical label requirements over time.

(2) As devices become smaller, compliance with physical label requirements can become more difficult and costly.

(3) Many manufacturers and consumers of licensed devices in the United States would prefer to have the option to provide or receive important Commission labeling information digitally on the screen of the device, at the discretion of the user.

(4) An electronic labeling option would give flexibility to manufacturers in meeting labeling requirements.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION FOR FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION TO ALLOW ELECTRONIC LABELING.

Title VII of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 720. OPTIONAL ELECTRONIC LABELING OF COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

''(1) the term 'electronic labeling' means displaying required labeling and regulatory information electronically; and

''(2) the term 'radiofrequency device with display' means any equipment or device that—

''(A) is required under regulations of the Commission to be authorized by the Commission before the equipment or device may be marketed or sold within the United States; and

''(B) has the capability to digitally display required labeling and regulatory information.

''(b) REQUIREMENT TO PROMULGATE REGULATIONS FOR ELECTRONIC LABELING.—Not later than 9 months after the date of enactment of the Enhance Labeling, Accessing, and Branding of Electronic Licenses Act of 2014, the Commission shall promulgate regulations or take other appropriate action, as necessary, to allow manufacturers of radiofrequency devices with display the option to use electronic labeling for the equipment in place of affixing physical labels to the equipment.''.

SEC. 4. SAVINGS CLAUSE.

The amendment made by section 3 shall not be construed to affect the authority of the Federal Communications Commission under section 302 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 302a) to provide for electronic labeling of devices.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPROVAL OF THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SHUSTER. 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 H.R. 5682.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 748, I call up the bill (H.R. 5682) to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 748, the bill is considered read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5682

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

SECTION 1. KEYSTONE XL APPROVAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, L.P. may construct, connect, operate, and maintain the pipeline and cross-border facilities described in the application filed on May 4, 2012, by TransCanada Corporation to the Department of State (including any subsequent revision to the pipeline route within the State of Nebraska required or authorized by the State of Nebraska).

(b) ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT.—The Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement issued by the Secretary of State in January 2014, regarding the pipeline referred to in subsection (a), and the environmental analysis, consultation, and review described in that document (including appendices) shall be considered to fully satisfy—

(1) all requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.); and

(2) any other provision of law that requires Federal agency consultation or review (including the consultation or review required under section 7(a) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1536(a))) with respect to the pipeline and facilities referred to in subsection (a).

(c) PERMITS.—Any Federal permit or authorization issued before the date of enactment of this Act for the pipeline and cross-border facilities referred to in subsection (a) shall remain in effect.

(d) FEDERAL JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Any legal challenge to a Federal agency action regarding the pipeline and cross-border facilities described in subsection (a), and the related facilities in the United States, that are approved by this Act, and any permit, right-of-way, or other action taken to construct or complete the project pursuant to Federal law, shall only be subject to judicial review on direct appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

(e) PRIVATE PROPERTY SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this Act alters any Federal, State, or local process or condition in effect on the date of enactment of this Act that is necessary to secure access from an owner of private property to construct the pipeline and cross-border facilities described in subsection (a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER), the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO), the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. WHITFIELD), and the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) each will control 15 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 5682, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline.

Pipelines are the energy lifelines that power nearly all of our daily activities. Pipelines are a very safe and cost-effective means to transport the products that fuel our economy. In fact, pipelines today supply more than two-thirds of the energy used in the United States. The Keystone XL project will be a critical addition to this extensive network, increasing our Nation's supply of oil and, thus, helping to reduce the cost of oil.

H.R. 5682 closely follows H.R. 3 that this House passed last year. Since the passage of H.R. 3, the State Department completed its Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on January 31 of 2014. However, there has still been no action by the administration on the pipeline. There have been excuses, the most recent of which is pending litigation in the State of Nebraska. However, H.R. 5682 takes that into account and allows for the rerouting in that State. There is simply no further reason to delay this important project, especially given the numerous benefits it will provide our Nation.

This pipeline will be a boon to economic development. Of particular interest to taxpayers, this pipeline doesn't require one Federal dollar to build. Further, the very nature of infrastructure creates jobs, and the Keystone XL is no exception. The U.S. State Department reconfirmed all of this last January. The State estimated that the Keystone XL will produce 42,000 jobs and $2 billion in employee earnings. This project will have a significant positive economic impact, including an estimated $3.1 billion in construction contracts, materials, and support services. Furthermore, the State confirmed that the estimated total property taxes for the project will be over $55 million spread across 27 counties. The State Department called this impact ''substantial for many counties.''

The Keystone XL pipeline is the most extensively studied and vetted pipeline

project in the history of this country. The project will include 95 special mitigation measures, including 59 recommended by PHMSA, to prevent spills and to make this the safest pipeline ever built. In fact, I would argue that we are facing a manufactured stalemate, one that could be described as ''paralysis by analysis.''

The majority of Americans knows this is the right thing to do, so the Congress, through this bill, will lead where the President has refused. This project will create jobs, improve the Nation's economy, strengthen our transportation system, and help improve the Nation's economic security.

I urge my colleagues to support this vital piece of legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

The gentleman mentioned taxpayers. I think taxpayers might be concerned that this foreign entity which will ship our oil over 1,700 miles across America will be exempt from a fee that all of the American companies and others using our current pipelines have to pay because of a bizarre ruling from the IRS, which often makes bizarre rulings. Tar sands oil will not be required to contribute toward the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund.

I think U.S. taxpayers might be concerned that a foreign entity which is going to ship tar sands oil 1,700 miles through the United States to an export zone, in all probability to be processed and exported in a tax-exempt area, won't be paying much, if any, taxes in the U.S. except some property taxes, and it won't have to contribute toward this trust fund. In case there is a spill with this line, the U.S. taxpayers and other entities in the U.S.—mostly U.S. companies—will be liable to pay for their mess. So I have a concern about taxpayers.

Another part of this is three citizens of the State of Nebraska brought litigation because this bill would give a foreign entity the right to take their private property in the United States of America—in Nebraska—by eminent domain. I don't know. I am not aware of any other time we have given a foreign entity the right to take the private property of U.S. citizens. These same citizens won a case in district court, and this bill would essentially nullify the ruling that they won, which is still under appeal to the Supreme Court in that State.

So here we have a foreign entity that won't pay taxes that other oil companies and others who ship by pipelines will be required to pay, a foreign entity that will be given the right to take the private property of U.S. taxpayers and residents—and for what? Yes, there will be construction jobs, and jobs are good, but those are fairly ephemeral, and there is a lot of other construction going on, particularly in the fracking area and with some proposed liquid natural gas export facilities that will help provide employment in the construction trades. In this case, there will be 35 permanent jobs for this tax-exempt sludge that will be shipped to a zone in Texas where it is most likely to be exported.

□ 1800

Do we need to export more oil, gas, and diesel from the United States of America? Is that going to help lower the price at the pump for Americans? I don't think so.

And, in fact, we are today exporting 422,000 barrels of gasoline a day, 1.3 million barrels of diesel every day, and yet truckers are still being pretty well extorted at the pump. That is 54.6 million gallons of diesel, and yet our truckers are still being gouged at the pump because there is a diesel shortage.

Well, wait a minute. We are exporting that, and now we are going to take this tar sand goop, process it in the U.S., and export it. That is not going to help the truckers. It is not going to help the American consumers.

And then there are some minor environmental issues. You know, tar sands do create 81 percent more greenhouse gas than most other forms of fossil fuel extraction. They are going to destroy forever large portions of boreal forest. Now, sure, that is a Canadian issue. If I lived in Canada, I would be protesting this. I don't. But we don't need to facilitate it in the United States of America by building a pipeline there.

They will use precious water resources, create huge waste pits that will be polluted with the extract, except for the part which is shipped south to be processed and shipped overseas.

So I really don't see this as something where we should preempt the laws of the United States. There were 2.5 million comments. Apparently the Republicans don't care much about the public comments. There are 2.5 million comments that are still being meaningfully evaluated that are raising concerns about various aspects of this project.

But here I will say, bad legislation; good politics. We are trying to help someone get elected to the Senate who is currently a Member of the House. The Senate is moving potentially ahead with this bill. So the House, with very little notice, decided they would bring up this bill which we have passed in one version or another eight previous times. So this is nothing but bare, naked politics and the use of the House to promote someone's candidacy to the United States Senate, which I think is really a disgrace to this institution.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is now my pleasure to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. DENHAM), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials.

Mr. DENHAM. I thank the chairman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, as was duly noted, this bill is about jobs. This will create jobs, tens of thousands of American jobs, which are long overdue, to enhance our energy independence and strengthen our national security.

However, today I want to simply talk about the safety of this pipeline. As the chairman noted, TransCanada has agreed to a number of additional mitigation measures to make the Keystone XL pipeline the safest ever built. These 59 special conditions were recommended by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration and go above and beyond current regulations.

Several conditions will help ensure the use of high-quality steel welds, both of which will reduce the chance of a pipeline release. The pipeline will also include automatic shutoff valves and increase the depth of coverage.

In many places, the pipeline will be buried a foot deeper than the regulations require. Furthermore, TransCanada will provide enhanced right-of-way inspections and greater transparency.

I believe in an all-of-the-above energy solution which includes this important pipeline that will not only create jobs but will help us to be energy independent. This project will create private sector jobs while being the safest pipeline ever built.

This project, again, has been bipartisan. It passed out of three committees with bipartisan support. I urge my colleagues to support this critical legislation at a very important time, when we need those American jobs.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, would you tell me the time remaining, please.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Oregon has 10 minutes remaining. The gentleman from Pennsylvania has 11 minutes remaining.

Mr. DEFAZIO. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT).

Mr. HOLT. I thank my friend from Oregon.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this bill. We have heard about the nature of this very dirty material that is dug, rather than pumped, and the fact that it will go through America, not to America.

Now, we might ask, on a day when U.S. oil production was announced to reach a 30-year high of more than 9 million barrels, why we would be even considering this. Well, it is not because this fits into our energy picture.

We will risk oil spills that are a mess to clean up. And we hear, oh, but oil spills won't occur. Well, the TransCanada pipeline, also known as Keystone, had 12 separate oil spills in its first year of operation, tens of thousands of gallons. It is hard to clean up. And, as you have also heard from my friend, this doesn't count as petroleum, and, therefore, they don't pay into the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund. So taxpayers are on the hook for this difficult cleanup.

But the real problem is none of these points. It is that it is taking us down the road where we should not be going. This is the most carbon-intensive liquid fuel—if you want to call it liquid—that we could possibly use. It is changing our very climate in ways that are deadly and costly. We shouldn't be going in this direction. It is that simple.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I now yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN).

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, it is baffling to me that after 6 years, the Keystone pipeline debate is still going on.

We have an opportunity to provide jobs, reduce our dependency on overseas oil, and spur real economic development, yet many would rather play political gamesmanship.

I am especially frustrated because I see the benefits the southern leg has already had on my district, and I know this approval will enhance those effects. This pipeline would provide high-paying jobs that are well above minimum wage—exactly the types of jobs this body likes to talk about. Yet despite the economic benefits this pipeline would provide, there has been zero action by this President and his administration.

So today I stand in support of H.R. 5682 as a call to this President and the Senate that it is time to approve the Keystone pipeline. If they truly want to help the American people, they will join us in moving this legislation forward.

Mr. DEFAZIO. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN).

Mr. HUFFMAN. I thank the gentleman from Oregon.

Mr. Speaker, we are considering today yet another bill to force approval of the Keystone XL pipeline outside of the regular order required for all other international energy infrastructure projects.

This is a very early Christmas present from the United States Congress to one specific Canadian company. The vote effectively exempts TransCanada from the rigorous analysis and the permitting standards that all American companies are held to. Worse yet, TransCanada will be exempt from paying into the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund that all conventional crude companies are supposed to pay into. So merry Christmas, TransCanada.

And what gift can we expect in return? Well, carbon pollution and heavy crude shipped through our country to export terminals and higher gas prices. Let's remember: TransCanada is on record saying that the Keystone XL pipeline would increase the price of oil in the United States.

So instead of rigorous, deliberative process, the GOP majority is rushing to raise gas prices in this country. This Christmas present to TransCanada is actually like a lump of coal for U.S. consumers at the pump. It is certainly a lump of coal for communities who are sure to be impacted by this pipeline when something goes wrong. And it is absolutely a huge lump of coal for our global climate.

Congress should reject this massive corporate giveaway. We still have another 41 shopping days until Christmas. There is no need for us to play Santa for TransCanada today.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I now yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from western Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLY).

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, this is a jobs bill. It is a jobs bill not only in the House of Representatives, but it is a job bill in the Senate.

Now, in the House of Representatives, Dr. CASSIDY's bill is about creating tens of thousands of jobs for hardworking Americans. It is about an $8 billion private investment that will not cost the American taxpayer one cent. It is about energy independence, and it is about America taking the lead in energy.

For 6 years, this House has passed pieces of legislation that would have created the Keystone pipeline. Every one of those pieces of legislation died in the Senate. Now, miraculously—and I will call it a job bill—the Senate now is entertaining this because of one job.

The tens of thousands of jobs of all these Americans, who you turned a deaf ear and a blind eye to, are now being answered by the Senate because of one job, one Senator who has the possibility of losing her seat because of the Keystone pipeline not being able to go through the Senate.

Isn't it ironic that we sit here today and we try to spin this into something it is not? It is truly a jobs bill. It is an American bill. It is a bill that is going to create billions of dollars in revenue.

And I would just ask my friends on the other side: Please look no further than last Tuesday. Last Tuesday's vote was a referendum on incompetency, not on incumbents.

I would like you to please open your eyes and your ears to the American people and let them rise. Let us create jobs. Let us reach the energy independence that we need to succeed in the global economy.

This is tomfoolery, what is going on tonight. Is it really about one job in the Senate or is it about thousands of Americans who have been held hostage by an administration that refuses to move forward a jobs bill in a time when they said we have created thousands or saved jobs?

The one job they are trying to save right now is in the Senate, ladies and gentlemen. It has nothing to do with policy. It is all politics.

Mr. DEFAZIO. I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. MCALLISTER).

Mr. MCALLISTER. Mr. Speaker, it has been more than 6 years since the application was filed for the Keystone pipeline.

This is my background. This is where I made my living to come up. Despite the opposition from environmental groups, the benefits of the pipeline will far outweigh any potential negative impacts. Approval of this should be a no-brainer.

Construction will lead to thousands of jobs, well paying jobs at a time when Americans are struggling to find work. Importing an efficient, reliable source of energy has the potential to decrease gas prices in the future, expand oil refineries along the gulf coast, and lessens our dependence on foreign energy sources.

In addition to the economic upsurge, this pipeline signifies a secure source of energy for our country, if needed. It is not merely an economic issue but a security issue as well. And each day that it is delayed is another day thousands of Americans are out of work.

I challenge you, Mr. Speaker: for those that say these are temporary jobs, talk to the men and women where I come from who have bought cars, bought houses, put children through college with these temporary jobs, as you call them. What, are they temporary legacies? Are they temporary retirements? Because that is what our community is built on.

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

Mr. SHUSTER. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. MCALLISTER. I commend the gentleman from Louisiana, Congressman CASSIDY, for introducing this bill, which not only fulfills the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 but also protects the rights of private property owners should they be affected by the pipeline route.

With my past experience in pipeline construction, I can say that this project is no different from the thousands of other pipelines we lay each year—with one exception: it crosses national borders, giving President Obama the ability to delay it. The President is making political promises when it should be deemed practical.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, let's just sum up.

We have the most carbon-intensive way of creating ultimately diesel and gasoline by extracting these tar sands. They contribute 81 percent more greenhouse gases. Of course many on the other side believe that greenhouse gases are potentially beneficial or aren't a problem.

We have a foreign entity here that will be exempt from paying taxes, like U.S. entities do, into the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund. And U.S. taxpayers will be stuck with the bill should a spill occur.

We have a foreign entity—granted, they are our friends and neighbors in Canada—but still, a foreign private corporation being given the right of eminent domain over citizens of the State of Nebraska.

□ 1815

We have, in fact, this company saying that it is likely, if this pipeline is completed, that gasoline prices will go up in Midwestern areas of the United States and their production will be exported from the United States; so it is not going to be a direct benefit to Americans or deal with energy independence, which we heard earlier.

Of course, we are cutting short the evaluation process that every other energy-producing entity in America has to go through in terms of environmental reviews, and of course, we are cutting off any meaningful consideration of the 2.5 million comments that have been received by the State Department.

But, hey, it could help a House Member beat a Senate Member and get elected to the Senate, so I guess it is a bad bill whose time has come.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I just want to reiterate the numerous benefits this project will bring to our country, including jobs, energy security, safety, efficiency, and I would argue that more supplies of oil generally drive prices down, not up.

First, this pipeline safety, it is officially moved through this country safely. It is the safest way to move these products. There have been numerous additional mitigation measures. The State Department said it will reduce the risk of release.

Second, the State Department has explained this project will create over 40,000 jobs, over $3 billion in construction contracts.

Finally, as I said, from sourcing more crude oil from our friendly neighbor in the north, it will reduce our reliance and most likely reduce the cost of energy to the American people.

For these reasons, Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of our Members to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Louisiana, Dr. BILL CASSIDY, the author of this bill, a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, a real leader in trying to bring about energy independence in America.

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. Speaker, it has been over 6 years since backers of the Keystone XL pipeline first submitted an application to the U.S. State Department, on September 19, 2008, to build this energy infrastructure project and bring jobs and greater energy security to America.

Now, building the Keystone XL pipeline would create more than 40,000 average annual jobs over a 1- to 2-year construction period, putting $2 billion into workers' and their families' pockets and giving a much-needed boost to the American construction sector.

In addition, tens of thousands of jobs would be supported throughout the supply chain, jobs for manufacturers that make the steel pipe, the thousands of fittings, valves, pumps, control, and safety devices required for a major pipeline.

In addition to my home State of Louisiana, manufacturers in Georgia, West Virginia, and throughout the country would benefit from the construction of this infrastructure project.

Now, economists have found that the pipeline would create 20,000 manufacturing jobs, an additional 118,000 spin-off jobs, including jobs within the U.S. refinery and petrochemical facilities. This would employ and improve the jobs for Americans who right now are struggling.

Refiners in Louisiana and along the gulf coast would benefit from a reliable supply of heavy crude transported through the Keystone XL pipeline. These petrochemical plants employing the families that right now are having the hardest time in this economy, this gives them those better jobs.

The final State Department review found the pipeline would create over 40,000 jobs without significant environmental impact.

Now, note, Canada's oil sands are going to be developed with or without this pipeline. The Canadian Government is already on record stating that oil sands derived from crude oil will be exported to overseas markets like China. It will be shipped on rail and in oil tankers, which may actually increase greenhouse gas emissions versus transportation to the U.S. by pipeline.

Now, the case for proving the Keystone XL pipeline is clear and obvious, so why hasn't the President approved it? And, up to this point, why hasn't Senator REID allowed a vote on approving Keystone? If there was ever legislation that should not be difficult to get through the Senate, it is the Keystone XL pipeline.

By the way, Pew Research reports that over 60 percent of Americans support it, as do major labor unions, every State along the pipeline's route, and a majority of the House of Representatives on eight separate occasions voting on similar bills in the affirmative.

So here we are on the ninth attempt. It has been 539 days, about a year and a half, since the House first sent a Keystone approval bill to the Senate in this Congress. That legislation could have been considered, amended, passed, or completely replaced; yet the bill has collected dust on Senator REID's desk. The bill considered today that I introduced is the language asked for by the Senate.

So we are going to make it as easy as possible for the Senate to finally get a bill to the President's desk that approves this long overdue Keystone XL pipeline.

Thanks to the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, the Energy and Commerce Committee, the Natural Resources Committee, the Rules Committee, and House leadership for working with me to clear a path for this expedited consideration.

Upon passage of this bill in the House, it will go to the Senate for approval, then to the President, where I hope he signs H.R. 5682 into law.

I want to thank Chairmen UPTON, WHITFIELD, SHUSTER, SESSIONS, and HASTINGS for their work on this important legislation.

I particularly want to thank the American people for sending a signal in this last election that they want us in Washington, D.C., to work together to accomplish commonsense legislation that will create jobs for families which are struggling now, but because of legislation like this, we will have more opportunity and a better future. This is a perfect example of what the American people have asked us to do.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in approving the Keystone XL pipeline to finally provide 40,000 promised jobs to the American people.

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

Today, we are voting once again to grant special treatment to TransCanada's Keystone XL tar sands pipeline. This is the third time this Congress and the eighth time since Republicans took control of the House.

Instead of helping families deal with pressing problems, we are helping Canadian tar sands producers and pipeline builders. We are spending our time trying to exempt a foreign company from the rules that every other company in America has to follow.

This bill is not an energy policy. It is about a single pipeline that will allow Canadian tar sands to flow across our country for export to other countries. That is oil going through the United States but not to the United States.

We don't need this oil. We have our own sources of oil, and we are using less oil because of our efficiency in new cars getting better mileage.

This bill will not lower gasoline prices by a single penny. It may even raise them in some places. It will, at most, create just a few dozen permanent jobs. There will be some temporary jobs for construction. Once they are gone, they are gone.

This bill is a regulatory earmark. It will waive applicable environmental review requirements and risk our farmlands and our water supplies. In fact, it even exempts the Keystone pipeline from paying into the oil spill fund that other oil companies have to contribute to.

That means if there is a problem with that pipeline, well, there is no payment by Keystone XL to that fund to make those who are hurt whole. That means that if there is a spill, there won't be the money to clean it up.

The Keystone XL tar sands pipeline is a terrible deal for America. We get all the risks while the oil companies reap the rewards. But even if you support it, this bill is a harmful and unnecessary piece of legislation.

The State Department is carrying out their review of this highly controversial project. They have got millions of comments, and the Federal

agencies are reviewing these comments.

H.R. 5682 would approve the pipeline by fiat, lock out the public, eliminate the President's authority to balance competing interests, and stop Federal agencies from ensuring that if the project does go forward, we do it as safely as possible.

Forget about those comments. We will just pass a bill and make it happen rather than consider all the other issues that would be appropriate to look at in approving or disproving this pipeline.

I oppose this legislation for all these reasons. There is one more important reason why I oppose the bill. The tar sands pipeline will worsen climate change. Keystone XL would create a dependence on tar sands crude, reversing the carbon pollution reductions we have been working so hard to accomplish.

According to some experts, building the Keystone XL pipeline will triple production of the tar sands. That is totally inconsistent with any future scenario for avoiding catastrophic climate.

Just this week, the United States and China agreed to mutual pledges to fight climate change, and I commend President Obama and President Xi for that accomplishment.

This is a really important development. For the last two decades, antagonisms between the United States and China have stymied efforts to reach a global climate agreement. Those days, we hope, are finally over. The U.S. and China are now both pledging strong joint action. The world has been waiting decades for the U.S. and China to reach an understanding on climate.

Now that moment has finally arrived; yet instead of working on a real energy policy, one that would move us toward a new, low carbon energy future, instead of working on a clean energy future that would create lots of new jobs, real jobs, permanent jobs, and keep pace with China's clean energy investments, instead of trying to protect our irreplaceable environment and our drinking water supplies, Republicans have set their sights on passing a special law for a special interest.

I urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on this legislation. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I yield 3 minutes to gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE), the distinguished majority whip and member of the Energy and Commerce Committee and a strong leader for energy independence for America.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Chairman WHITFIELD for yielding, and I especially want to thank my colleague from Louisiana, Congressman CASSIDY, for the leadership that he had in fighting hard to get this bill brought to the floor so we can finally get the Keystone pipeline built.

If you look at this issue, this is all about jobs, and it is all about American energy security, Mr. Speaker. What does the Keystone pipeline mean for America? According to the Obama administration, 40,000 jobs will be created here in America, good jobs that our economy needs.

In fact, this is not a partisan issue; this is a very bipartisan issue. Republicans and Democrats alike have come together and said, ''Build the Keystone pipeline.'' Even the labor unions have said, ''Build the Keystone pipeline.''

Unfortunately, just a small group of radical environmental extremists have held this project hostage, and President Obama has hidden behind studies and subterfuge to say, ''Don't do it.''

Now, Congress can come together in a bipartisan way and say, ''Let's get this thing done.'' Let's actually work with Canada, who is a friend, Mr. Speaker, and bring almost a million barrels a day of oil from Canada that we will no longer need to get from countries who don't like us. This isn't about a million new barrels coming into America; it is about deciding who we are going to do business with.

When we trade with Canada, we get about 80 cents on the dollar back. When we send billions of dollars to Middle Eastern countries, sometimes that money is used against us, against our troops, and we get less than 50 cents on the dollar back.

Everything about this says do it, says ''yes.'' Stop staying ''no'' to American jobs. Stop saying ''no'' to American energy security.

□ 1830

This is an issue that brings people together, and there was a message that the American people sent last week. They don't want a go-alone President. They want a Washington that can work for them. This is a classic example of how Republicans and Democrats can come together and say ''yes'' to a project that creates good jobs for our country and creates American energy security for our Nation.

The time for studies is over. This has been studied to death for 6 years. Everybody that looks at this says, ''You have got to do it.'' All we are saying is let the United States agree with Canada to cross the border. They still have to get the permits from each State that this pipeline would go through and all those great jobs that would come with that pipeline and the billions of dollars of private investment.

The time for studying is over, Mr. Speaker. It is time for action. It is time for those great American jobs. It is time to say ''yes'' to the Keystone pipeline. I urge approval from my colleagues for this bill.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, the last gentleman that spoke said everybody is for this.

Well, everybody in Louisiana is clearly for it. The Senator from Louisiana has been a strong supporter of it, and the would-be replacement Senator is strongly for it. The Republican whip from Louisiana is strongly for it. The oil companies are strongly for it.

But to say that those who oppose it are radical environmental extremists seems to me quite a stretch. There are a lot of very responsible people against this legislation, even some who support the pipeline, because they would argue this is not the way to make a decision: put a bill on the floor, to ignore all the comments, all the evaluations, all the considerations.

The people in Nebraska are not going to be happy about that. Maybe in Louisiana, they will be, but other places would like to know that pipelines are safe and their aquifers for drinking water are not going to be jeopardized.

At this time, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RUSH), a distinguished member of our committee who is also the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Energy and Power.

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I certainly want to begin by thanking the ranking member of the full committee, Mr. WAXMAN, for his outstanding leadership on this and other matters that have come before the Energy and Commerce Committee. I want to say to him that his leadership has been inspiring on so many issues.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly disagree with the process that the majority's side has undertaken in order to hastily bring H.R. 5682 to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, the Keystone pipeline is not key to America's energy future. If we just disregard the merits or the lack thereof of the Keystone pipeline itself, the majority just recently in the past couple of weeks has made promises to the American people that it will return to regular order for bills to be brought to the floor of this Congress. Mr. Speaker, here we are once again: promises made, promises broken. This bill was brought to this floor after 1 hour—1 measly hour—of debate and without the ability for the minority side to bring forth any amendments. Not one amendment can we bring to this bill. Where is the promise of bipartisanship of the other side on this particular matter regarding this bill?

Promises made to the American people equals promises broken by the majority.

Mr. Speaker, this bill will automatically approve the Keystone XL pipeline even though this pipeline has no legal route through the State of Nebraska, where there is a case pending in a court before a local judge regarding some of the siting issues that surround this illegal pipeline. Why can't the people of Nebraska, the citizens of Nebraska, have the time and the consideration just to make sure that this pipeline is safe for them and their aquifers and also for their environment? There are other States that this pipeline is going to be traveling through.

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

Mr. WAXMAN. I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman.

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, as President Obama pointed out, there is an independent process taking place, and this

bill shortcuts the approval process and would allow, Mr. Speaker, this bill would allow a foreign company to preemptively seize property from American people, from the landowners, particularly those in Nebraska.

Additionally, this bill seeks to usurp the President's ability and authority to ultimately approve or reject the project and instead uses this pipeline as a political football to score some elective advantages.

Mr. Speaker, eight times we have brought this bill or a version of this bill to the floor. Eight times. Don't we get it. As the popular TV series used to pronounce to us all, ''eight is enough.'' Eight is enough.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. OLSON), a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Kentucky.

Mr. Speaker, this week the House will pass a bill to complete the Keystone pipeline system. The first pipeline in the system is known only as Keystone. That pipeline has been sending 600,000 barrels a day from Canada to Patoka, Illinois. It has been 4 years and counting, and the water in Nebraska is still clean.

The second pipeline in this system is called the Keystone XL. It sends the same oil into America as the Keystone does but on a slightly longer and different route.

Secretary Clinton twice has approved Keystone XL. Secretary Kerry has approved it once. And yet the Politician in Chief has threatened to veto the Keystone XL pipeline.

Canada will export their oil. Either it comes to America or it goes to China. President Obama has a simple choice: oil for America or oil for China. Oil for America or oil for China.

Please join Congress in choosing America.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time we have on each side.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California has 4½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Kentucky has 5½ minutes remaining.

Mr. WAXMAN. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK).

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman WHITFIELD.

Mr. Speaker, for years I and Members of this body have come to the floor in support of the Keystone pipeline project, asking for the Senate and the White House to put politics aside in favor of this critical project.

With bipartisan support, the House has passed eight separate pieces of legislation to clear the way for the approval of the most studied pipeline in American history. Yet each time these measures were blocked in the Senate and condemned by a President crippled by indecision on a project that would put tens of thousands of Americans to work. So once again I rise in support of the Keystone XL pipeline, joining my colleagues in both parties in backing H.R. 5682, which would immediately certify the Secretary of State's final environmental impact statement from nearly a year ago and truly put our Nation on a course toward American energy independence.

Sadly, while the House has continued to take definitive bipartisan action to advance this critical goal, it appears the Senate has waited only until it is politically advantageous to do so, even as it enjoys majority support in that Chamber.

While I am pleased about the Senate's newfound interest in the wide-ranging benefits of this commonsense project which will grow our economy and strengthen our national security, it is a shame that it took election-year politics and not the best interests of American workers and the families that they represent for Senate leaders to act.

This pipeline is a vital piece of a plan that creates better jobs and more opportunity. I encourage the Senate and President to deliver on the promise of embracing an all-of-the-above energy strategy that works for the American people.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY).

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for so much, including his voice and his leadership on this issue.

There are three numbers that we all ought to know as we consider this bill approving the Keystone XL:

2 degrees Celsius—the amount the Earth can warm before climate change becomes truly catastrophic and irreversible;

565 gigatons—the amount of carbon dioxide that can be emitted before we reach irreversible global warming;

240 gigatons—the amount of carbon that would be emitted if the Alberta tar sands are fully developed, nearly half of all the carbon the world can burn.

Keystone XL is the fastest and perhaps the only way to fully develop the Alberta tar sands.

Keystone XL would move almost 1 million barrels per day of the dirtiest oil on Earth directly through the middle of our country. It would pass through some of our Nation's most important land and water sources, including the Ogallala Aquifer, which supplies 30 percent of the United States' irrigation and drinking water to millions of Americans.

And those who claim there is no serious risk of a spill have a very short memory. There were 12 spills in the first year of operation of the original Keystone pipeline, and there have been 30 spills in just over 4 years.

So what I am saying today is that this is dangerous, and it is also not the best way to create jobs. Three times as many jobs are created for every dollar invested in renewable energies over the pipeline. And so if we want jobs, if we want clean energy, we want a good environment, we should vote down this legislation.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, we have no further speakers and I think I have the right to close, so I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLEAVER).

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member.

This legislation is very likely going to be approved, and that is sad for a number of reasons.

□ 1845

Let me just declare here what I declare in my district and anywhere else. I believe in earmarks because I think it is constitutional. I think it is almost politically obscene to give what the Constitution says is our responsibility to the White House no matter who is there. That is why I have some serious concerns about this special interest earmark that will make the U.S. a permanent conduit to international markets for one of the dirtiest fuel sources on the planet.

This is an earmark for TransCanada. Maybe the worst abuse in this legislation is that it exempts TransCanada from all Federal permitting requirements and other Federal environmental laws. Other U.S. companies will have to abide by laws that we will exempt for TransCanada. It exempts TransCanada from paying into the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund, which helps the government respond to oil spills.

Now, this particular company already has had major oil spills. We will have oil spills. So what we are saying when we approve this legislation are these things:

One, we are going to give an earmark to TransCanada. It is okay give it an earmark, special interest earmark, but we just can't do it here in the United States;

Number two, we are saying that TransCanada will have the ability to bypass environmental laws that Americans cannot bypass;

And number three, we are saying that this company does not have to pay one penny into the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund, which means that the people who are watching this debate tonight will pay when an oil spill occurs, and I think that is obscene.

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

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, may I ask how many minutes I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Kentucky has 4 minutes remaining.

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

I would like to, first of all, thank Mr. WAXMAN of California for the many

contributions that he has made while a Member of the House of Representatives. I have had the opportunity to serve with him on the Energy and Commerce Committee for many years. He has very strong beliefs; he is committed; and I just want to wish him the very best in his future endeavors. I know that he won't be retiring. He'll be very active in some worthwhile cause, and I just want to tell him how much we admire and respect the work that he did. Although I personally didn't agree philosophically with some of it, as I am sure you do not agree with many of mine, I do wish you the very best, Mr. WAXMAN, as you move forward.

In conclusion, on this important debate, I would like to say this is not a new piece of legislation. It has passed the House of Representatives on eight separate occasions, and we really did not plan to bring it up in this lame-duck session except that Senator REID, the leader of the Senate, the Democratic leader of the Senate, changed his mind and decided to bring it up on the Senate side. So when we found out about that, Mr. CASSIDY introduced this legislation, which mirrors the bill on the Senate side, and we are thrilled that we have an opportunity to pass this legislation, and I expect that we will pass it.

I might add that it has been studied for over 6 years. There have been four complete environmental studies completed. The Secretary of State's office on more than one occasion—two occasions, three occasions—has said it would have a negligible environmental impact. In fact, in one place they said they would be better off to build this pipeline than not to build it because the environmental degree of moving it by pipeline would be better than the alternative in which it is being moved today. So I think it is a win-win-win situation for America.

Many people have said, well, they are simply bringing this oil through the United States and then it is going to be exported. We have had many hearings. Some of it will be exported, but some of it will be refined right here in the U.S. It will be 850,000 barrels of oil a day, which is about half of what we are importing from the Middle East. It will make us less dependent. Some labor unions support this legislation. The Governor of Nebraska supports this legislation. So I think it is a win-win-win for everyone.

There are additional safety requirements on this pipeline that are not required on other pipelines. I think there are going to be adequate safeguards. We have had so many hearings on this. I would urge the body, the House of Representatives, to pass this legislation and give us the opportunity to send it down to the White House for the President's consideration.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to today's legislation to grant automatic approval of the Keystone XL pipeline, bypassing the legal review process.

Today's bill grants immediate authority to Canadian company TransCanada to "construct, connect, operate, and maintain" the pipeline as described in their 2012 application to the State Department. However, as the bill itself acknowledges, there are still outstanding issues with that application. Notably, there is no legal route through Nebraska due to an ongoing court case over private property rights and eminent domain. This bill does nothing to resolve that case. It gives blanket approval without knowing what the pipeline route will look like in Nebraska.

I am also deeply concerned that tar sands oil, which would be transported in the pipeline, is exempt from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund that is used to respond to leaks and accidents. If there is an accident along this pipeline, taxpayers will be on the hook for cleanup. We need to close that loophole and ensure that the American public is not bearing the risks for TransCanada's pipeline.

The State Department continues to review the 2.5 million comments it has received on this project and is awaiting a final route from Nebraska to make its determination on whether this project is in the best interest of the American people. We should allow that process to continue.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5682, a bill to approve the northern portion of Keystone XL pipeline.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill because I support North American energy development.

But I also rise in support of the bill because the Keystone XL pipeline has become an obstacle created by indecision and inaction.

Keystone XL is not the first cross-border pipeline project built in North America.

But if some opponents had their way, Keystone XL pipeline would be the last pipeline we built in North America.

Today, the United States, Canada and Mexico are revolutionizing the world and the world of energy.

These three North American partners are reshaping the geo-political balance of the entire world.

Between the three countries, we can satisfy our own energy needs for the first time in memory.

But to accomplish this feat, we must be able to move products to market.

My colleagues who oppose Keystone XL have forgotten that just because there isn't a pipeline doesn't mean the products aren't moving.

In fact, they are moving just as rapidly as ever.

Unfortunately, the products are moving to market at the expense of other commodities and even at the expense of people's schedules.

Opponents cannot deny that pipelines are the safest, most effective way to move products to market.

Opponents cannot say the State Department has failed to consider the environmental consequences of the pipeline.

Opponents cannot say this project hasn't been reviewed by the proper authorities.

If they do, they are incorrect.

The Keystone XL pipeline is the most scrutinized project in as long as I can remember.

If we built railroads, the way we built KXL, we wouldn't have a rail system.

If we built roads, the way we built KXL, we wouldn't have a highway system.

As we face the 114th Congress, we have real problems we need to address.

Keystone XL pipeline is good for the United States, it's good for North America and we should support this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 748, the previous question is ordered on the bill.

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

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

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentlewoman opposed to the bill?

Mrs. CAPPS. Yes, I am opposed.

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

The Clerk read as follows:

Mrs. Capps moves to recommit the bill H.R. 5682 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT THAT TRANSCANADA KEYSTONE PIPELINE, L.P. PAY FOR ANY OIL SPILL CLEANUP ON AMERICAN SOIL.

In the approval process authorized under this Act, TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, L.P. shall certify to the President that diluted bitumen and other materials derived from tar sands or oil sands that are transported through the Keystone XL pipeline will be treated as crude oil for the purposes of determining contributions that fund the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund.

Mr. WHITFIELD (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I reserve a point of order against this motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. A point of order is reserved.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk continued to read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California is recognized for 5 minutes in support of her motion.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer the final—and only—amendment to this bill. Passage of this amendment will not prevent the passage of the underlying bill. If it is adopted, my amendment will simply be incorporated into the bill and the bill will be immediately voted upon.

Mr. Speaker, it is no secret that we are still primarily dependent on oil and other fossil fuels for our energy needs. This dependence does have the effect of polluting our planet, harming public health, and threatening our national security. Recent advances in clean, renewable energy technologies have demonstrated that it doesn't have to be this way. But rather than pursuing this sustainable energy future we know we need, H.R. 5682 and the Keystone pipeline double down on fossil fuels and

push us further down this destructive path.

No matter if you support or oppose Keystone XL, we can all agree that drilling and transporting oil has serious risks. It only takes one small crack, one small mistake, to cause a major oil spill and catastrophic, irreparable harm to the surrounding communities.

In 1969, my home district experienced one of the worst oil spills in U.S. history. I saw firsthand the devastating damage to our local economy, to human health, property, and natural resources. We have seen this happen far too many times since then in communities around the country. The Deepwater Horizon disaster cost 11 lives, billions of dollars in economic damages, and untold devastation to the delicate ecosystem of the gulf.

That very same year, we saw a terrible spill in Kalamazoo, Michigan. This spill was particularly noteworthy because it involved tar sands oil, which is the same type of oil that would flow through the Keystone pipeline. Tar sands is much harder to clean up than standard crude, which is one of the reasons that spill took nearly $1 billion and several years to fully clean up.

Mr. Speaker, history has shown us that there is simply no such thing as a spill-proof well or pipeline. Accidents do happen. In fact, accidents have already happened 14 times on the existing Keystone pipeline. Despite numerous assurances that Keystone XL will be safer and that spill risks will be minimal, safer simply does not equate to safe.

That is why we have the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund, which is funded by an 8-cents-per-barrel excise fee on crude oil and petroleum products. This fund ensures that the oil companies that create these messes also pay to clean them up. But TransCanada is currently exempt from contributing to the trust fund for Keystone because tar sands oil is not considered crude oil for purposes of the program.

If Keystone XL is approved, the pipeline's tar sands oil will literally get a free ride through the United States. If there is a spill, taxpayers and local communities—not those responsible—could be stuck with the cleanup bill. This makes no sense. TransCanada and all tar sands oil companies should have to pay into the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund just like every other oil company.

That is why I am offering this very straightforward amendment. My amendment would simply require TransCanada to certify that it will pay the same per-barrel fee for its tar sands oil as it does for its regular crude. It would ensure that TransCanada—and not our taxpayers—would pay to clean up its own mess in the event of a spill.

Mr. Speaker, if we as a Nation—and these are our natural resources as taxpayers—if we as a Nation are going to bear 100 percent of the spill risk, the least we can do is to ensure that those responsible pay to clean it up. This is a commonsense idea that should have bipartisan support.

I urge my colleagues to adopt this amendment to protect American taxpayers and ensure that oil companies pay what is only their fair share, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of a point of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The reservation of the point of order is withdrawn.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I claim the time in opposition to the gentlewoman's motion.

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

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to remind the gentlewoman that President Obama, through a regulation, decided that diluted bitumen is not crude oil for the purposes of the trust fund tax, so the problem was created by President Obama and the IRS.

We are in the process of trying to address that issue. It is under the jurisdiction of the Ways and Means Committee. In their tax reform package, that is an issue that they are looking at. But if we try to change that now in this bill, we would be treating TransCanada differently than all other pipelines are being treated bringing bitumen into the United States.

I would also point out this pipeline's greater safety characteristics. It has more safety characteristics than any other pipeline built. We would think you would want to incentivize its use and not punish it with further taxation.

So, in my opinion, while I have great respect for the gentlewoman from California, this is simply a ruse to kill the bill.

I would respectfully ask our Members to oppose this motion to recommit and pass H.R. 5682. The Senate has said—Senator REID has said—that they will take it up in the Senate. That is precisely what we would like to see.

I urge defeat of the motion to recommit, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of H.R. 5682 is postponed.

D.C. ASKS CONGRESS TO RESPECT THEIR LOCAL MARIJUANA INITIATIVE

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, thank you to the two Democratic Representatives, BLUMENAUER and POLIS, and Republican Representative ROHRABACHER who stood with the District of Columbia for letting our marijuana reform bill stand today.

Although Blacks and Whites smoke pot at the same rate, the majority of those convicted of possession of small amounts in the District of Columbia and nationwide are Black. Your State may not be counted among the 58 percent of Americans who want cannabis legalized. D.C. doesn't ask you to support marijuana. D.C. asks only that the Congress respect our local marijuana initiative, which is every bit as much a local control matter as the decision made by four other States on this very same issue.

□ 1900

THE PASSING OF FORMER CONGRESSMAN LANE EVANS

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise on Veterans Day Week to pay tribute to our dear friend and longtime former colleague, Congressman Lane Evans.

An honorable man and Marine Corps Vietnam veteran, Lane was elected in November 1982, and sworn in January 1983 as a member of a large freshman class that comprised the 98th Congress. He hailed from a working-class district and was a son of the working class. So few Members are grounded in that heritage. He was intelligent, committed, a true gentleman, and a patriot.

The economy and social benefit programs consumed the attention of that Congress. Very high unemployment levels hung over our Nation, mired in the aftermath of a very deep recession following the first Arab oil embargo and economic policies of the Reagan administration that did not relieve the dire circumstances of unemployed workers. Extending unemployment benefits occupied that Congress as a lifeline to millions of workers that saw their livelihoods evaporate almost instantaneously. In the spring of 1983, Congress passed the historic refinancing of the Social Security program to assure the system would be sound for generations to come. Lane had fought to be a Member to fight for that, and he was a ''yes'' vote on that historic measure.

During the first decade of Lane's service, we served together on the Veterans' Affairs Committee. After an extended fight, legislation was passed to allow Agent Orange-affected Vietnam veterans to receive benefits as a moral obligation to these veterans who had served. Today, Lane's legacy lives on as we continue to build on the foundation he laid.

During his distinguished career, Mr. Evans led the effort to fight for veterans returning home with PTSD and TBI. His efforts in Congress laid the groundwork for a new chapter in the way American cares for those suffering from mental illness and the stress-related conditions of battle.

Mr. Evans was taken from us far too soon. He was only 63 when he passed away last week after a very long, courageous, and difficult battle with Parkinson's. He will be dearly missed.

Always true to the Marine Corps motto, Lane was ''always faithful.'' May God bless him. May he be elevated to a very high position in heaven. I feel so privileged to have had the opportunity to serve with him as a Member of the 98th Congress and those that followed.

HONORING THE LIVES OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVES PHIL CRANE AND LANE EVANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCALLISTER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate my colleague from Ohio mentioning Lane Evans. The point of this time is to recognize two of our colleagues who have have passed. We want to remember them. I appreciate Marcy for those kind words about Lane Evans.

I am going to manage this hour. So with respect to my colleagues who are down here, I would like to yield to Congressman HULTGREN.

Mr. HULTGREN. I want to thank my good friend, Congressman SHIMKUS, for this time and for this important time to honor these wonderful colleagues.

Before I get started, I will enter into the RECORD an article titled: ''Philip M. Crane: Teacher, Lecturer, Author, Congressman and Friend,'' written by Ed Feulner, former president of the Heritage Foundation.

PHILIP M. CRANE: TEACHER, LECTURER, AUTHOR, CONGRESSMAN AND FRIEND

(By Ed Feulner, Former President of the Heritage Foundation)

Former Rep. Phil Crane, R–Ill., died Nov. 7 after a struggle with lung cancer.

His passing reminded all of us who knew Phil what a unique contribution to the modern conservative movement he had made.

On some days he was giving his famous lecture, ''The Blessings of Liberty,'' to audiences around the nation. For many months he was stumping for Barry Goldwater, Ronald Reagan, fellow congressional candidates and many other conservatives running for office at every level in our nation.

After his election to the U.S. House of Representatives, he played a key role advising and leading conservatives both inside and outside of the Capitol on legislative tactics and institution building always based on principles of our Founding Fathers.

I met Phil when he was a lecturer for the Intercollegiate Studies Institute in the early 1960s. He was teaching history at Bradley University, in Peoria, Ill., before founding a private school in the Chicago suburbs.

Phil's reputation was that of an emerging leader: a great speaker, a motivator of the grassroots and an original thinker.

Most significantly to me, Phil was a man who understood the power of ideas. After all, he had attended Hillsdale College (and served on its board of trustees for many decades), and then earned his Ph.D. in history from Indiana University, where ''his academic record had never been exceded.'' Phil was the author of an important early book on the philosophical issues that defined the difference between conservatives and the reigning progressive orthodoxy, ''The Democrats Dilemma'' (Regnery, 1964).

His vision for the future, based on the underlying principles of America's Founders' commitment to liberty, was an inspiration to all of us who knew him and who worked for him and with him.

Phil was elected to succeed Don Rumsfeld in the Congress in a special election in 1969, against a field of seven other candidates. Many of us were rooting for him as the principled conservative in this large and complex field, but we weren't certain that he could really do it. Phil was a principled conservative—a tea partier long before there was a tea party. But throughout the primary process, his message of principled conservatism rang true to his constituents-to-be. He won that special election, then won 17 more times.

He stuck to his guns, whether he was in the minority or in the majority, throughout his 35-year tenure in Washington.

When Phil was sworn in as the newest member of the U.S. House of Representatives, he was a representative of a minority (committed conservatives) in the minority party (the Republicans). When he left the Congress in 2004, he had helped make conservatism the mainstream of the Republican Party and of the entire U.S. political arena.

In his early Washington years, when I had the great privilege of serving as Phil's legislative director (1970–71) and then as his chief of staff (1971–74), he was the leading light of elected conservatives in Washington.

It was Phil Crane who passionately argued that private American citizens should be permitted to own gold. It was Phil who argued as a matter of principle that federal spending for subsidies for urban mass transit systems—even in his home city of Chicago—was not an appropriate use of federal taxpayer funds. Big arguments over foreign policy and domestic issues involved Phil as a leading conservative figure in Washington and around the nation.

Battles like these—some won, others lost—may be forgotten, as the media focus on Phil's battle to preserve the Panama Canal as an integral part of the United States. Of course, on the Panama Canal he fought side-by-side with the former governor of California, Ronald Reagan.

For those of us who worked for Phil, we remember the late-night meetings of conservative congressmen, staffers and activists, who looked to Phil Crane for leadership on policy issues.

It was during these legislative battles that Phil formed the idea of a coordinated effort among House conservatives. These conceptual discussions resulted in Crane's vision for the Republican Study Committee to counter the long-established Democrat Study Group of liberal House members. Today, the RSC is the largest faction within the membership of the House Republicans, and it exists because Phil Crane envisioned its potential.

But my fondest memories of Phil will be of long discussions about conservative ideas and how they best can be advanced in the political milieu of Washington.

We talked about how conservatives can communicate more effectively with grassroots leaders around the nation. And we discussed how to build a conservative infrastructure to counter the establishment interests of Washington.

We decided that America needed a number of new institutions, including a new form of a policy research and communicating organization. From these discussions, Phil became an early advocate of that new conservative think tank, The Heritage Foundation. And for that, all conservatives should be grateful.

And speaking very personally, a picture of Phil holding our month-old son, flanked by Linda and me, has a special place of honor in our living room. That son is now 43 years old, by the way.

Rest in the peace of the Lord, which you have so eminently earned, my friend.

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and respect to former Congressman Phil Crane, who we lost this week.

As a fellow committed conservative Representative of the west and northwest suburbs of Chicago, I have always had a special connection to Congressman Crane. For 35 years, he represented sizable portions of what is now the 14th Congressional District, the district I represent in Congress. When Illinois was redistricted following the 1990 Census, Phil Crane was willing to give the McHenry County portion of his old district to the newer 16th District in order to present the Republican nominee, Don Manzullo, with a better chance of recapturing the district for the GOP. And he did this, arguably, to the detriment of his own reelection prospects down the road.

Twenty years later, most of McHenry County is in the 14th Congressional District, and I am proud to represent his former constituents, who were stalwart supporters of his.

When he left office in 2004, he was at the time the longest-serving House Republican. In his book: ''The Sum of Good Government,'' Crane wrote:

> Once people are willing to admit the possibility of alternatives, the battle is more than half won and the time for refinements of a ''conservative reform platform will be at hand.''

Phil pursued that platform as a leader of the conservative movement both in and outside of Congress. He served as chairman of the American Conservative Union, a prominent think tank and advocacy organization. In 1973, he founded the preeminent conservative organization in the House, the Republican Study Committee, of which I am a proud member. Today, the RSC is the largest Member organization of House Republicans and drives much of the conservative agenda.

Congressman Crane spent most of his career pursuing that agenda on the Ways and Means Committee. There, he championed many of the ideals I and many of our shared constituents subscribe to. These include lowering taxes on everyone, simplifying the Tax Code so that it is fair and transparent, defending free market economics, and promoting free trade with other nations.

His work propelled him to become the ranking member and eventually chairman of the Ways and Means Trade Subcommittee. While there, he led the effort to pass numerous free trade agreements, including the North American Free Trade Agreement, which opened up economic opportunities with our northern and southern neighbors.

He also was very active in efforts to reduce or limit government spending and authored and supported hundreds of bills and amendments to bring overspending under control.

In addition, Phil had a passion for and deep knowledge of American history. Citing historical events in the Constitution to make one's case during floor debate and public speeches is not a recent phenomenon. Congressman Crane did this regularly when fighting for his principles and policies.

Every day, he looked for opportunities to demonstrate his love for robust discussions on conservative ideals. But he didn't let his firm positions on issues drive a wedge between him and other Members of Congress. He built relationships with those with whom he disagreed, and was well-liked on both sides of the aisle, handwriting letters to colleagues, especially thoughtful notes to those who were going through tough times or had lost a relative or loved one.

Most importantly, he wrote letters to, and spent time with, his constituents whom he represented. To him, they were his most important relationship. They were his boss, as they are to all who are privileged to enter Congress on their behalf.

Every day, I strive to represent my district with the same commitment and dedication as Congressman Phil Crane did, and to stand up for the principles that make this country great.

Mr. SHIMKUS. I thank my colleague. It is great that you took the time out to come. A lot of our colleagues want to come down but are caught up with time issues.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SHIMKUS. As I said, Mr. Speaker, we want to recognize two colleagues whom I served with. Congressman HULTGREN mentioned Phil Crane and Congresswoman KAPTUR mentioned Lane Evans. Both were colleagues of mine that I was fortunate to serve with, so I am going to talk about both of those at this time.

Lane was born in Rock Island, Illinois. On August 4, 1951, he joined the Marines at the age of 17. He had orders for Vietnam, but he served in Okinawa, Japan, as a security guard because his older brother was already deployed in the war.

In 1982, Lane was first elected from his western Illinois district and served for an additional 12 terms. He worked for more than a decade after his Parkinson's diagnosis, but announced in 2006 that he wouldn't seek reelection because of his deteriorating health.

As a Congressman, he fought for the rights of veterans and became the senior Democrat on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee. He pushed legislation to help those exposed to agent orange and to give former servicemembers' rights to judicial review in pursuing their benefits. He also campaigned for veterans grappling with post-traumatic stress disorders and other health problems.

As I know Lane, he was very adamant and focused on serving the veterans. He also was one of the first to start talking about the concerns of veterans in finding jobs after their service. President Obama credited Lane Evans with aiding his own political rise, saying once that he wouldn't have made it to the U.S. Senate without early support from his fellow Illinoisan.

Lane is survived by his three brothers.

Lane and I bordered each other in our congressional districts. We split the community of Adams County and a little bit of a town called Quincy. When you share congressional border lines with a colleague, you do numerous events together. And when they are of different parties, they are even more important because there are so many things that unite us. A lot of times there is a view that there is always division here, but back home when we are working on issues like infrastructure, roads, bridges, and veterans' benefits, it really is a chance for the public to see Members working together.

So I relished my time meeting and serving with Congressman Evans as we shared a congressional boundary line. He gave his all to his country. He gave his all to this country through his service as a Member of Congress, and he fought a very tough fight against Parkinson's. He would still be here today had he not had this debilitating disease that forced him to leave public service.

I will remember Lane well. I wish God's blessing to his family.

We also want to take this time to remember Congressman Phil Crane.

Congressman Crane was born in Chicago, Illinois, on November 3, 1930. He received his undergraduate degree from Hillsdale College in 1952, and went on to earn a Ph.D. in history from Indiana University in 1963. He also served in the United States Army from 1954 to 1956.

In 1969, Phil Crane won a special election race triggered by the appointment of then-Illinois Congressman Donald Rumsfeld to the Nixon administration. He served in that seat from 1969 until his defeat in 2004.

In the 1970s, Congressman Crane was instrumental in founding, as was mentioned by my colleague, Congressman HULTGREN, the Republican Study Committee, the Heritage Foundation, and the American Conservative Union, stalwarts of the view of conservatism who lead the way in the debate of conservatism in this country.

So I reached out to friends of mine this afternoon, Don and Wanda Weder, who reside in Highland, Illinois, because they were very close to Congressman Crane, and I would like to read from some remembrances that were put down on my behalf to submit for the Record:

> We met Phil in 1964 when my father arranged for Barry Goldwater, Jr., and Phil to speak at the Highland High School auditorium concerning the Presidential campaign of Barry Goldwater. Phil and Barry, Jr., delivered excellent speeches. My father, Wanda, and I were amazed at Phil's intellect and the fact that he spoke eloquently, including detailed budget numbers and cogent economic theory, all without notes.

Let me interject here, for those of us who served with Phil, that was true then and it was true when he served here in Washington.

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> At that time, Phil was a professor of history at Bradley University. In 1966, I transferred from the University of Illinois to Bradley, at my father's suggestion, to enable attending Phil's classes and those of Professor Nicholas Nyaradi, the former Minister of Hungary prior to and during World War II. The first of Phil's classes I attended was a lecture series with about 300 students.
>
> Phil typically arrives in the auditorium about 5 minutes after his aides had imposed order on the students. He entered impressively, at a brisk pace, and with the Chicago Tribune and other papers under his arm.
>
> Placing the papers on the podium, he greeted the class and began a wonderful lecture, citing facts, dates, describing personalities, and humorous anecdotes, all with no reference to notes. His most memorable lectures were those on the Spanish American War and Colonel Theodore Roosevelt.
>
> His lecture on TR was so memorable that I could recite most of it today: TR commandeering two leaky boats to transport the Rough Riders to Cuba; TR being down to his last pair of glasses at the time of the charge up San Juan Hill; the deficiencies of the Rough Riders' lever-action Craig rifles being outranged by the Spanish 1898 Mausers; and the real hero at the Battle of San Juan Hill, a young second lieutenant recently graduated from West Point and leading a platoon equipped with Gatling guns.
>
> In 1969, Donald Rumsfeld was appointed by President Nixon to head the Office of Economic Opportunity, and Phil decided to run for the congressional seat vacated, the 13th Illinois District.
>
> I graduated from Bradley that spring and spent a good deal of my time attempting to be of some service to Phil in his campaign. He referred to his philosophy as conservatism, an approach I thought daring at the time. He attended many ''teas'' throughout the district and was always received, especially by the lady voters who were the primary attendees.
>
> In subsequent campaigns, I had the privilege of flying Phil around Illinois. Phil frequently introduced me generously as his best student and a Bradley summa cum laude.
>
> I recall him sitting next to me in a single-engine Cessna on a trip from Springfield to Vandalia when I asked him what he intended to say to the group of voters in Vandalia. Phil commented, ''I have no idea. I will have to think fast.''
>
> On another occasion, I asked him if his exceptional speaking skills came to him naturally. He said, ''No. I developed them by forcing myself to speak publicly and turn the cobwebs in my brain into high voltage electrical cables.''
>
> Phil was not only exceptional mentally. Hunting rabbits and quail with my father and me, he demonstrated considerable skill

with a shotgun. His endurance was phenomenal.

In 1980, Phil ran in the primaries against Ronald Reagan, John Connolly, and others. Phil campaigned on an intellectual plane. He was obviously the most capable and sincere candidate.

Had Phil been elected, he would have made his best efforts to move the country to smaller government, greater personal liberties, and a more nearly free market economy. Phil enjoyed the New Hampshire debates and commented that Reagan was well-received, primarily as a result of the old B movie lines he used.

During President Reagan's second term, I commented to Phil that the President had not actually made any real progress in reducing the size of government and establishing a free market economy. He invited my father and 11 other people to meet about twice monthly in Washington to advise him.

My father was hospitalized prior to an early meeting of this group, and Phil asked me to attend. Thereafter, the group asked me to be the 13th member of group. Phil's campaign accountant left the campaign. We could not find the financial records. His political adviser had not had a bad day. He also left the campaign.

His lead staff person left the campaign and joined the Reagan campaign, later to receive an appointment under the Reagan administration. Phil wound down the campaign and stumped for Reagan.

A few months later, he commented to me, ''I have not had a bad day since the campaign ended.'' In 1987, Phil told me that President Reagan always treated him courteously but seldom sought his input. He believed that the First Lady was adverse to him because he sought the nomination in 1980.

Phil and Barry Goldwater, Jr., delivered eulogies at the funeral of my father and mother in 1987 and 2005. Both recalled many years of happy times and were most touching.

You know better than I Phil's legislative contributions. Two major successes in which he played a significant part were the bill that legalized ownership of gold by private citizens and the Freedom of Information legislation.

Phil was an inspiration to his students, his constituents, and the many advocates of personal liberty who heard him speak or read his literary works. His passing represents an irreplaceable loss of knowledge, capability, and spirit to our society and all who pursue the ideal of liberty.

So I couldn't put into words any better than what my good friends Don and Wanda Weder did in a short time in doing remembrance of someone they knew very well.

I know I have other colleagues coming down to make sure they make their voices heard. I was fortunate to serve with Phil. I was fortunate to go sit in his office in the Cannon Building, around with colleagues talking about public policy issues of the day. It will be times that I fondly remember.

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

HONORING THE LIVES OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVES PHIL CRANE AND LANE EVANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the Majority Leader.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is great to follow my colleague, but we have some other colleagues here tonight that I want to make sure that they get an opportunity to talk about their experience with the two Members that we are here to honor tonight, Congressman Phil Crane and Congressman Lane Evans.

For that reason, I yield to my colleague from the great State of Georgia (Mr. WOODALL).

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate my colleague from Illinois yielding to me.

If Phil Crane were sitting here on the front row tonight, he wouldn't have any idea who I am, but when you do great things, you don't ever know who those efforts, who that toiling, that sweating, that genuine effort that goes into what you do, you never know who that is going to affect.

You have heard it here tonight. It was 1973. Folks were talking about how it is that we could bring conservatism to the United States Congress. It is Paul Weyrich, it is Phil Crane, and the RSC, the Republican Study Committee, is born.

At that time, they thought the Republican leadership was a little too liberal in the House. They thought we needed another voice to kind of balance that leadership out. Imagine that, the audacity that a young Congressman—he had been on the Hill about 4 years at that time, won in a special election in 1969—the audacity that Phil Crane had, as a young Congressman, was to say, ''Maybe we need some balance in the discussion. Maybe we need a place to debate.''

Now, that is 1973. Fast forward, it is 2014, and if you go and visit with colleagues today who are members of that Republican Study Committee that has survived and grown under Phil Crane's leadership and others, they will tell you that when it comes to healthy debate, that may be the single best location in the entire United States House of Representatives. I want you to think about that.

Again, if Phil Crane were sitting here on the front row, he would not remember the times that we have met because I was a minor blip on his radar, but what he dreamed has become the single largest and most productive forum for the discussion of ideas that exists in the people's House in the United States of America.

I always wonder about the dreams that we don't hear about, those dreams that had they materialized would have affected dozens of lives, hundreds of lives, thousands of lives, but because the dreamer did not press on and the dream was never materialized, we will never know.

Phil Crane was not just a dreamer. Phil Crane was a doer, and because of the work, the sweat, the toil that he invested, not dozens, not hundreds, but thousands of Members of Congress who have followed have had an opportunity to be among their colleagues and grapple with the pathway forward.

So much of what we do here on the House floor seems so scripted today. What Phil Crane wanted was an opportunity for us to discuss, an opportunity for us to challenge one another, an opportunity for us to make each other better.

For all the things that Phil accomplished, for all the impact he had on his family and his friends, this may seem minor, but if you are a young Member in the U.S. House of Representatives, the legacy that Phil Crane left behind isn't something; in many cases, it is everything.

I cannot imagine what this institution would be today without the groundwork that he laid those many years ago and continued groundwork he continued to lay until the day he left this institution. It is a proud legacy from the great State of Illinois, and I am grateful to my friend for allowing me to come down and talk about that tonight.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia. The gentleman from Georgia mentioned the great legacy that Phil Crane left, and it was a great legacy that not only former Congressman Phil Crane left for those of us who follow him in Illinois, it is a great legacy for former Congressman Lane Evans that he left too.

My colleague from Georgia also mentioned what would a young Member of Congress say if Phil Crane were here today and the inspiration that he gave to all of us.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to my colleague and my good friend from the great State of Illinois (Mr. SCHOCK), one of the youngest Members of Congress to offer his remarks.

Mr. SCHOCK. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from Illinois for yielding the time.

I also want to thank my colleague from Illinois, the distinguished dean of the Illinois Republican delegation for organizing the tribute to the late Phil Crane.

The history of American conservatism, I believe, cannot be written without mentioning Phil Crane. Phil was born into a large family, to stalwart Republican parents. Crane's bedtime stories may well have been the Federalist Papers or the collected works of Edmund Burke.

After completing his Ph.D. in history at Indiana University, Phil moved to my hometown of Peoria, Illinois, and he began teaching history, philosophy, and economics at my alma mater, Bradley University. For years, Crane filled his classes with students captivated by his engaging lectures, and he inspired them by his commitment to America's founding principles.

All the while, he worked to build conservative youth movements from the ground up, creating leading groups like

the Young America's Foundation and the American Conservative Union. Together with the pantheon of American conservatism, William F. Buckley, Ed Feulner, Stan Evans, Phyllis Schlafly, Barry Goldwater, and even Ronald Reagan, Crane helped lead the Republican Party out of the wilderness.

I don't think it is an overstatement to suggest that a governing Republican majority would never have been possible without the gentleman from Illinois, the Honorable Phil Crane.

He was willing to enter the arena, to confront the ideologies of socialism, communism, and Big Government liberalism head on. He armed conservatives with the intellectual firepower they needed to assault the bulwark of Big Government, and he lived long enough to see the New Right emerge strong and resilient.

In Congress, he was a fierce advocate for free trade and pro-growth economic reforms, and he was a champion of commonsense pension reforms that were needed to help the middle class.

A few years ago, Phil was honored at a dinner here in Washington for his contributions to the conservative movement. That night, surrounded by the men and women he had worked alongside for more than three decades, he reflected on his earliest memories growing up as a conservative in Illinois.

He told the crowd that night how every time when he was a young boy going to visit his grandfather, that his father would make him shake his grandfather's hand, and he would say, ''Son, remember shaking that hand. That hand has shaken the hand of Abraham Lincoln.''

Phil Crane grew up with a deep sense that he had a responsibility and a calling to keep the party of Lincoln tied forever to the principles of free enterprise, individual liberty, and peace through strength.

Through his entire public service, Phil Crane fought hard for the things he believed in, and along the way, he managed to mentor and train an army of young conservatives to join him.

There is something poignant about the fact that Phil Crane lived long enough to see the largest Republican majority in the House of Representatives in his lifetime. He even got to see his home State of Illinois elect a Republican Governor, the first time since 1892 that a sitting President's home State Governor switched parties.

In his eight decades, Phil labored to build the conservative movement. In his final days, he surely sensed that his labors were not in vain.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Thank you to my good friend from Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, I would remiss if I wasn't able to offer my prepared remarks on Congressman Crane and also Congressman Evans before we recognize some of our other friends who are here tonight.

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Mr. Speaker, I want to say it is a privilege for me to be able to stand on the floor of this House to recognize the life and accomplishments of two great leaders from the State of Illinois.

Congressman Phil Crane was first elected in the 13th District of Illinois to represent the northwest Chicago suburbs in 1969, and he held that office for nearly 40 years. At the end of his career, he was the longest-serving Republican Member of the U.S. House of Representatives. Congressman Crane was, in a word, a legend. He was one of those larger-than-life politicians that we often talk about or read about in history books but who rarely exists today.

We also take the time today to mourn the loss of former Congressman Lane Evans. Last week, former Congressman Lane Evans passed away after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. Mr. Evans, a former marine, was elected in 1982, at the age of 31, and served the people of the 17th District for parts of three decades. In fact, over the course of his tenure, Mr. Evans served the many parts of Illinois that I am now lucky and proud enough to represent. During his 24 years in the House, he was a staunch advocate for our Nation's veterans and for America's working men and women, and his service to his constituents was second to none. He will be remembered as a fighter both for the people he represented and against the disease that eventually took his life.

It is fitting today that Republicans and Democrats together have come to the floor to honor the lives of two great public servants from Illinois and to thank them for their service to our country. We send our thoughts and prayers to the families of Congressman Evans and Congressman Crane during this very difficult time.

Mr. Speaker, I mentioned Republicans and Democrats coming to the floor of the House to honor these two great men, and it gives me great privilege to yield to my good friend and colleague from the great State of Illinois, Mr. DAN LIPINSKI.

Mr. LIPINSKI. Thank you, Mr. DAVIS.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor two of our former colleagues, Phil Crane and Lane Evans.

First, I didn't have the opportunity to serve with Mr. Crane, but Phil Crane was certainly a giant, as some of our previous speakers have said—a giant of the conservative movement. He certainly served here in this institution but also just in the wider circles, especially in the eighties. He ran for President in 1980 but lost to Ronald Reagan. Yet many of those things that Ronald Reagan brought forward and saw through were things that Phil Crane stood for. While I may not agree with everything that Phil Crane did, there is really no denying the fact that he stood up for what he believed in. He fought very hard for what he believed in, and he was a great American patriot. I really, truly believe that.

I also want to honor our former colleague and a friend and a mentor of mine, Lane Evans.

From his time in the Marine Corps to nearly a quarter century in this House, Lane always put his country first. He bravely served in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam war. His experience in the military and his firsthand knowledge of veterans' issues led him to become a leading advocate for veterans during his time in Congress. Certainly, many would say he was the leading advocate on issues critical to veterans, such as posttraumatic stress disorder, the effects of Agent Orange, and homelessness. He was consistently a leader in crafting real policy solutions. In addition to the great work on veterans' issues, Lane always dutifully served his constituents in the State of Illinois. He was a strong advocate for working people, and he was one of the first to see the need for renewable energies.

Personally, my own experience in Congress began about 30 years ago when I interned for Lane Evans. During my time in his office, he certainly showed me how to be a truly compassionate and effective leader in the House. Lane really cared about people, and that showed through in everything that he did. He was very passionate in all that he did. During his final years, he again showed his courage and strength in his fight with Parkinson's disease. If this terrible disease had not afflicted Lane, I am sure he would still be here today, fighting for his constituents, for hardworking families, and for all of our veterans, especially those who are coming home today.

I send out my prayers to Lane and his family. We truly miss him. I had the opportunity to serve 4 years with Lane before he had to retire because of Parkinson's, but I really miss having Lane around. I think the example that he gave is truly something that we can look up to and emulate in what he did for the State of Illinois, along with what Phil Crane did for the State.

We had two men who were very passionate. They had very different ideas, but they were very passionate about what they believed in. They fought hard for those things, and that certainly deserves our great respect. Our prayers go out to their families on this loss.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Thank you to my good friend from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI), who had the opportunity to get to know Lane Evans not only as an intern but also as a colleague.

I never had that opportunity to serve with either Mr. Crane or Mr. Evans, but I had the opportunity to be able to work for the dean of our Republican Illinois delegation, Mr. SHIMKUS, who was here earlier tonight, and I got to meet both of these men during my time in working for Mr. SHIMKUS in the late nineties and throughout the last decade. I can tell you that both gentlemen

were pillars of public service for very different reasons. They both served their State well. They served their districts well, and they served their constituents well.

As a matter of fact, I had the opportunity—and it might have been during one of the times that Mr. SHIMKUS mentioned. It was a flight that Mr. Crane was taking through Springfield that ended up in Vandalia, where Mr. Crane appeared at an event on behalf of Mr. SHIMKUS, and I got a chance to hear him speak personally. His passion for free markets, his passion for economic development and economic growth, and his passion for free trade was evident during his discussion. That was one of the few times I got the chance to actually experience what many, when I was growing up, experienced when watching Phil Crane, in person, run for the Presidency in 1980.

Let me remind you, Mr. Speaker, that, in 1980, we had many Illinoisans vying to send to the Presidency; not only President Reagan, who was born in Illinois—in Dixon, Illinois—but we also had Mr. Crane, Congressman Phil Crane, and also John Anderson, Congressman John Anderson. It looks like Illinois was the center point of the Presidential election in 1980, and Illinois still, obviously, plays a great role in the White House today. This is an opportunity that we have to stand here to talk about bipartisanship in Washington, D.C., something that, when many people turn their TVs on, they don't see. They don't see the bipartisanship that we are seeing here tonight.

That chance to see Congressman Crane in action helped inspire me to want to become a Member of this institution. He served the 13th District that I am now blessed enough to represent—that district starting with Marguerite Church and Donald Rumsfeld and then Phil Crane. Then we had Robert McClory and John Erlenborn, Harris Fawell, and Judy Biggert, who served the 13th District of Illinois before I did. Now I get the opportunity to follow in the footsteps of people like Phil Crane and those aforementioned Members of this great institution, and it humbles me every day to know that I get the chance to follow in their footsteps.

With Congressman Lane Evans, I got a chance to know him and his successor, Congressman Phil Hare, who was once a fellow staffer for Lane Evans. We sat next to each other in Hillsboro, Illinois, talking about how Republicans and Democrats can work together to make sure that water infrastructure needs and sewer infrastructure needs are addressed in Montgomery County, Illinois. I now get a chance to serve Montgomery County, Illinois. I think back to that time when Lane Evans never thought he would leave the Rock Island area and the Adams County area and represent places like Montgomery County, Illinois, but he did, and he did it well. We got a chance to work together as fellow staffers—Phil Hare and I and Jerry Lack, who was another one of his economic development coordinators in the district that I worked so closely with. Opportunities like that to see leadership in action and bipartisanship in action is another reason I wanted to be a Member of this great institution.

Lane Evans never thought that he would come down and represent areas like Pana, Illinois, and my home county, Christian County, Illinois. With Lane Evans, I remember the first time he was in Pana and actually called it ''Pannah.'' Do you know what? Lane Evans was the type of guy who could laugh at himself. If you make a mistake in this business, sometimes that mistake is turned into a 30-second ad, but Lane Evans was able to take that mistake and turn it into humor and to represent Pana, Illinois, extremely well.

Mr. Speaker, I learned a lot about constituent service from my former boss, JOHN SHIMKUS, but I also learned a lot about constituent service from Lane Evans. Lane Evans taught many of us that it is the most important part of our job to make sure you answer every phone call, that you answer every time a constituent writes you a letter—or, in today's day and age, an email—and that you make sure you respond to their requests because members of our communities—the citizens of the 13th District of Illinois—don't call us at the beginning of their problems. They call us to help break through the bureaucracy of Washington, D.C., when they are at the end of their ropes, when they have already called the Federal agencies, when they have already not gotten the answers that they needed or deserved. What JOHN SHIMKUS and Lane Evans taught me while seeing them in action was that responding to our constituents' needs is what matters most, and it is a part of our job that I appreciate the most.

Now, I mentioned Lane Evans came down to central Illinois in a new district that included a county that I now am blessed enough to represent. It is Macoupin County, Illinois. I would be remiss if I didn't take this opportunity in this time that we are honoring the service of Congressman Phil Crane and honoring the service of Congressman Lane Evans to honor another gentleman, another public servant from Macoupin County, Illinois, who also passed away unexpectedly at the age of 50 this week. His name is Brad Demuzio. Brad was the son of longtime State Senator—an institution in central Illinois—Vince Demuzio.

I got to know Brad when I got the chance to meet his dad, Vince, and Vince was a powerhouse in Illinois politics. We didn't share the same partisan affiliation, but what we shared was friendship and opportunities to serve central Illinois together. Vince passed away from colon cancer a few years back, and he was succeeded in the Illinois State Senate by his wife, Deanna, who happens to currently be the mayor of Carlinville, Illinois, and somebody I am blessed enough to be able to work with today. Before her, Brad Demuzio served Macoupin County and Carlinville as mayor for multiple terms. Brad was also the director of the Illinois Secretary of State Police. Brad served in that position until he passed away unexpectedly last week. Brad was a public servant, true and true, for his community and for our communities.

There was a time in the Illinois State Capitol when we had somebody who was mentally ill walk in with a loaded gun and fire a shot that killed a friend of mine, Bill Wozniak, who was guarding the door. Brad Demuzio helped lead the charge to make sure that we created an Illinois State Capitol Police force that secured the Illinois State Capitol to ensure that Bill Wozniak was the last person to be killed in the line of duty, guarding the Illinois State Capitol. Brad Demuzio worked with our secretary of state, Jesse White, to make sure that this police force was put into action.

That is true leadership. That is public service. That is why I stand here, on the floor of the House today, to also honor my friend who died way too young, at age 50—former mayor, former director of the Illinois Secretary of State Police, and my friend, Brad Demuzio.

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So it gives me great pleasure tonight to honor these three great men because they are inspirations to me, and they are going to be inspirations to future generations of central Illinois' public servants.

Thank you, Phil Crane, for your service to this country and to our great State. Thank you, Lane Evans, for your service to this great institution. And thank you, Brad Demuzio, for your service to the great State of Illinois and Macoupin County.

And with that, I see no other Members down here to recognize the service of these great men, so, Mr. Speaker, I will take this opportunity to yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 46 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, November 14, 2014, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

7675. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting Fiscal Year 2015 Budget amendments to fund Overseas Contingency Operations; (H. Doc. No.

113–173); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

7676. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the System's ''Major'' final rule — Liquidity Coverage Ratio: Liquidity Risk Measurement Standards [Regulation WW; Docket No.: R-1466] (RIN: 7100 AE-03) received October 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7677. A letter from the Regulatory Specialist, LRAD, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's ''Major'' final rule — Liquidity Coverage Ratio: Liquidity Risk Measurement Standards [Docket ID: OCC-2013-0016] (RIN: 1577-AD74) received October 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7678. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's ''Major'' final rule — Credit Risk Retention [Release No.: 34-73407; File No. S7-14-11] (RIN: 3235-AK96) received October 29, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7679. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations. (Centerville, Texas) Station KKEE, Centerville, Texas [MB Docket No.: 14-56] [RM-11718] [File No.: BMPH-20140324ADD] received October 6, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7680. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 14-099, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7681. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 14-111, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7682. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 14-084, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7683. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 14-085, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7684. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 14-074, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7685. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 14-098, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7686. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 14-060, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7687. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 14-077, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7688. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 14-097, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7689. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 14-118, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7690. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-453, ''Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Temporary Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7691. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-458, ''Protecting Pregnant Workers Fairness Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7692. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-452, ''Georgia Avenue Great Streets Neighborhood Retail Priority Area Temporary Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7693. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-451, ''Rent Control Hardship Petition Limitation Temporary Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7694. A letter from the Acting Director, Regulation Policy and Management, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's ''Major'' final rule — Copayments for Medications in 2015 (RIN: 2900-AP15) received October 29, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

7695. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's ''Major'' final rule — Medicare Program; End-Stage Renal Disease Prospective Payment System, Quality Incentive Program, and Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies [CMS-1614-F] (RIN: 0938-AS13) received October 31, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

7696. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's ''Major'' final rule — Medicare and Medicaid Programs; CY 2015 Home Health Prospective Payment System Rate Update; Home Health Quality Reporting Requirements; and Survey and Enforcement Requirements for Home Health Agencies [CMS-1611-F] (RIN: 0938-AS14) received October 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

7697. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's ''Major'' final rule — Medicare and Medicaid Programs: Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment and Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment Systems and Quality Reporting Programs; Physician-Owned Hospitals: Data Sources for Expansion Exception; Physician Certification of Inpatient Hospital Services; Medicare Advantage Organizations and Part D Sponsors: CMS-Identified Overpayments Associated with Submitted Payment Data [CMS-1613-FC] (RIN: 0938-AS15) received October 31, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

7698. A letter from the Deputy Director — ODRM, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's ''Major'' final rule — Medicare Program; Revisions to Payment Policies under the Physician Fee Schedule, Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule, Access to Identifiable Data for the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation Models and Other Revisions to Part B for CY 2015 [CMS-1612-FC] (RIN: 0938-AS12) received October 31, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

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. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. WOLF, and Ms. PELOSI):

H.R. 5696. A bill to reinstate reporting requirements related to United States-Hong Kong relations; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BRADY of Texas (for himself and Mr. NEAL):

H.R. 5697. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the windfall elimination provision and protect the retirement of public servants; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MCCAUL:

H.R. 5698. A bill to create an independent advisory panel to comprehensively assess the leadership structure, protocols, training, tools, and capabilities of the United States Secret Service and make recommendations to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California:

H.R. 5699. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire approximately 44 acres of land in Martinez, California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. BUSTOS (for herself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. RUSH, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. ENYART, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. HULTGREN, and Mr. ROSKAM):

H.R. 5700. A bill to designate the community based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs located at 310 Home Boulevard in Galesburg, Illinois, as the ''Lane A. Evans VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic''; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. DEFAZIO (for himself and Mr. SCHRADER):

H.R. 5701. A bill to require that certain Federal lands be held in trust by the United States for the benefit of federally recognized tribes in the State of Oregon, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 5702. A bill to provide for the issuance of a commemorative postage stamp in honor of Ebenezer D. Bassett, the first African-American diplomat; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. ENGEL (for himself and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey):

H.R. 5703. A bill to protect and preserve international cultural property at risk of destruction due to political instability, armed conflict, or natural or other disasters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Armed Services,

and 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. HOLT:

H.R. 5704. A bill to amend title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish a Master Teacher Corp program; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. LATTA (for himself and Mr. WALZ):

H.R. 5705. A bill to modify certain provisions relating to the Propane Education and Research Council; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. LANCE, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. KILMER, Ms. SPEIER, and Mr. COHEN):

H.R. 5706. A bill to deny Social Security benefits and other benefits to individuals whose citizenship has been revoked or renounced on the basis of their participation in Nazi persecution; to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. YOHO (for himself, Mr. STOCKMAN, and Mr. POSEY):

H.R. 5707. A bill to direct the President to take action to protect against the transmission of Ebola virus from individuals traveling to the United States from abroad, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

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. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 5696.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. BRADY of Texas:

H.R. 5697.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, ''The Congress shall have the power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises * * *''

By Mr. MCCAUL:

H.R. 5698.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California:

H.R. 5699.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution.

By Mrs. BUSTOS:

H.R. 5700.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. DEFAZIO:

H.R. 5701.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Const. art. I, sec. 8, cl. 3

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes;

U.S. Cont. art. IV, sec. 3, cl. 2, sen. a

The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rule and Regulations respecting the Territory of other Property belonging to the United States;

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 5702.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. ENGEL:

H.R. 5703.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution.

By Mr. HOLT:

H.R. 5704.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I of the United States Constitution

By Mr. LATTA:

H.R. 5705.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, cl. 3

The Congress shall have the power . . . to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the states, and with Indian Tribes,

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 5706.

Congress has the power to enact the legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mr. YOHO:

H.R. 5707.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution of the United States, which grants Congress the Power to ''provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States.''

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 171: Mr. BRALEY of Iowa.
H.R. 303: Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 318: Mr. PITTS and Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 477: Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 640: Mr. CLAWSON of Florida.
H.R. 725: Mr. GUTIÉRREZ.
H.R. 786: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.
H.R. 975: Mr. RIBBLE.
H.R. 1015: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 1070: Mr. YOUNG of Indiana, Mr. RIBBLE, and Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 1074: Mr. PETERSON, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. Kelly of Pennsylvania, and Mr. HECK of Washington.
H.R. 1078: Mr. JOYCE.
H.R. 1146: Mr. HECK of Washington.
H.R. 1150: Mr. DEUTCH and Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 1179: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York and Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico.
H.R. 1250: Mr. BARTON.
H.R. 1257: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 1274: Mr. HECK of Washington.
H.R. 1286: Mr. HECK of Washington.
H.R. 1324: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.
H.R. 1339: Mr. NEAL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, and Mr. ROONEY..
H.R. 1507: Mr. HECK of Washington.
H.R. 1563: Mr. SERRANO and Mr. KIND.
H.R. 1737: Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 1761: Mr. HIMES, Mr. PETERSON, and Mr. HECK of Washington.
H.R. 1981: Mr. SABLAN and Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 2003: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 2028: Mr. HECK of Washington.
H.R. 2073: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.
H.R. 2313: Mr. YOHO.
H.R. 2355: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.
H.R. 2452: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 2529: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 2536: Ms. MATSUI, Mr. HOLT, and Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.
H.R. 2591: Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 2607: Mr. DOYLE.
H.R. 2772: Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H.R. 2851: Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
H.R. 2921: Mr. MCDERMOTT and Mr. DEFAZIO.
H.R. 2955: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 3116: Mr. KLINE.
H.R. 3172: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 3279: Mr. ROONEY and Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 3322: Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico.
H.R. 3367: Mr. ROE of Tennessee.
H.R. 3426: Mr. TONKO, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. POMPEO, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. PAULSEN, and Mr. WALDEN.
H.R. 3465: Ms. MENG.
H.R. 3471: Mr. HECK of Washington.
H.R. 3662: Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 3708: Mr. BENISHEK.
H.R. 3712: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 3836: Mr. ENGEL, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. KIND, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. WELCH, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. FARR, Mr. COBLE, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. HANNA, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mr. COOK, Mr. SALMON, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. STOCKMAN, and Mr. KING of New York.
H.R. 3850: Ms. SHEA-PORTER and Ms. TSONGAS.
H.R. 3852: Mr. AMASH.
H.R. 3877: Mr. TERRY, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. HARPER, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Ms. JENKINS.
H.R. 4145: Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 4172: Mr. KIND, Mr. SIMPSON, and Mr. RAHALL.
H.R. 4221: Ms. PINGREE of Maine.
H.R. 4240: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 4347: Mr. HIGGINS.
H.R. 4351: Mr. SESSIONS and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
H.R. 4418: Mr. YOUNG of Indiana.
H.R. 4504: Mr. RAHALL.
H.R. 4551: Mr. YOUNG of Indiana.
H.R. 4567: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 4634: Mr. LANCE.
H.R. 4664: Mr. HECK of Washington.
H.R. 4693: Mr. FARENTHOLD, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. LANCE, Mr. WELCH, Mr. CLAWSON of Florida, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. HONDA, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CARSON of Indiana,

Mr. WALZ, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. Clark of Massachusetts, and Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 4748: Mr. RENACCI.

H.R. 4790: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 4793: Mr. BARBER, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. KIND, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. LOBIONDO, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. SIRES, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. MULVANEY, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. VALADAO, and Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.

H.R. 4815: Mr. HOYER.

H.R. 4837: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, Mrs. BLACK, Mr. MARINO, and Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS.

H.R. 4879: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 4885: Mr. MARCHANT.

H.R. 4886: Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. SCHRADER, and Mr. Lamborn.

H.R. 4887: Mr. RUIZ.

H.R. 4905: Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 4977: Mr. LAMBORN and Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 4991: Ms. MCCOLLUM.

H.R. 4998: Ms. MATSUI.

H.R. 5014: Mrs. ELLMERS and Mr. MASSIE.

H.R. 5052: Mr. LATTA.

H.R. 5063: Mr. HECK of Washington.

H.R. 5126: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 5133: Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 5182: Ms. FRANKEL of Florida.

H.R. 5212: Mr. CÁRDENAS.

H.R. 5213: Mr. LATTA.

H.R. 5217: Ms. CLARK OF MASSACHUSETTS.

H.R. 5242: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 5262: Mr. HANNA and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.

H.R. 5271: Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. HONDA.

H.R. 5277: Mr. HUFFMAN.

H.R. 5285: Mr. LANKFORD.

H.R. 5287: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 5288: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

H.R. 5336: Mr. TIBERI.

H.R. 5354: Mr. HUFFMAN.

H.R. 5369: Mr. COOK, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, and Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 5380: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mrs. MILLER of Michigan.

H.R. 5403: Ms. DELBENE, Mr. BENISHEK, and Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 5441: Mr. COHEN and Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois.

H.R. 5450: Mr. ROKITA and Mr. COFFMAN.

H.R. 5459: Ms. BROWN of Florida.

H.R. 5475: Mr. VALADAO and Mr. CARTER.

H.R. 5478: Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. FARR, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. PERLMUTTER, and Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 5480: Mr. HALL.

H.R. 5484: Mr. LATTA.

H.R. 5494: Ms. NORTON, Mr. PETERS of California, Mr. HIGGINS, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. HOLT, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. LOEBSACK, and Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 5544: Mr. CRAMER, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. LIPINSKI.

H.R. 5551: Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California and Mr. NUNNELEE.

H.R. 5559: Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. ESHOO, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN.

H.R. 5580: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 5611: Mr. BISHOP of New York.

H.R. 5617: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 5644: Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. KAPTUR.

H.R. 5646: Ms. DELBENE, Mr. MARCHANT, and Mr. MATHESON.

H.R. 5650: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.

H.R. 5656: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 5665: Mr. MULVANEY.

H.R. 5680: Mrs. BEATTY.

H.R. 5682: Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. MILLER of Florida, and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.

H. Res. 72: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H. Res. 109: Mr. KENNEDY and Mrs. CAPPS.

H. Res. 147: Mr. BYRNE.

H. Res. 319: Mr. LEVIN.

H. Res. 456: Mr. GRIMM, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, and Mr. GUTHRIE.

H. Res. 584: Mr. COURTNEY.

H. Res. 667: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H. Res. 711: Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. MARINO, Ms. WATERS, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. COSTA, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, and Ms. MENG.

H. Res. 728: Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. HANNA, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. KING of Iowa.

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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 160 WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2014 No. 138

Senate

The Senate met at 2:15 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Dr. George S. Dillard III, pastor of Peachtree City Christian Church of Peachtree City, GA, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Father, You are the maker of us all. You are sovereign over every nation. You are the giver of wisdom, and Your wisdom teaches all of us and most certainly our leaders in this Senate, whom I lead in prayer today.

I ask You to help them to heed Your wisdom which teaches all of us to be humble, to help them seek humility, to be honest with themselves first, then each other and then us, to be just and seek justice for all. Teach them to hunger and thirst for righteousness and not self-righteousness, to embrace repentance when they fall. Most of all, teach them to walk in integrity and not to fear accountability and most of all to seek unity and not position. Have mercy on us. Give us grace. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on Earth, in this Nation, and in this Senate, as it is in Heaven.

Through Jesus, I lift this prayer to You, O God.

Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HIRONO). The assistant Democratic leader is recognized.

Mr. DURBIN. It is my understanding the Senator from Louisiana has a unanimous consent request.

Ms. LANDRIEU. I ask unanimous consent to have up to 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I note that we are going to have some discussions between the leaders about the agenda coming up. I would like to take a few minutes to make it perfectly clear that I think one of the first steps we need to take to assure voters that we have heard the message and that I myself have heard that message is to get our work done on the floor of the Senate.

I am a centrist. I am a proud centrist. The record expresses that I am a centrist. As I have said a thousand times on the floor and 10,000 times at home, I have been part of the coalition that has helped make this place work when it did, and I have been part of the coalition that has tried to make this place work even when it didn't. The record is clear. I don't have to say more about that.

But yesterday when I arrived in Washington thinking that it would be a very good time to begin our work and came to the Senate floor, I was actually very surprised that neither leader on either side—neither HARRY REID nor MITCH MCCONNELL—was prepared to move us to a vote that is so obvious that we should do and has been obvious for a long time, and that vote is on the Keystone Pipeline.

As chair of the energy committee, I moved this out of my committee months ago—I said I would, and I did—and worked every day that I could to get this vote up on the Senate floor.

I wish to submit for the RECORD and talk for a few minutes about it because I came here at 2:00 yesterday—it has been 24 hours. What a difference 24 hours can make when a Senator is willing to stand up and speak and lead. My leadership didn't give me permission to do this. Nobody asked me to do it. And I waited for MITCH MCCONNELL and JOHN CORNYN to call for a vote on the Keystone Pipeline, and neither one of them did.

I would like to read what Leader MCCONNELL said yesterday because at 4:00 he is going to come to the floor and try to convince us he said something else. But the reporters have the RECORD, I have the transcript, and I am going to take just a minute to read it now.

I am going to get to that in just 1 second because I have it, but I am going to paraphrase it now while the staff brings it to me.

MITCH MCCONNELL came to the floor—and I was here when he spoke, so I know it pretty well—he came to the floor, and then he took a few bows for the win, and then he said there is some work we need to do in this lameduck session. He did not mention the Keystone Pipeline. It is not in the transcript. He said three things: He said something about the budget, he said something about retroactive taxes, and he said a third thing. I will read the transcript into the RECORD in just a minute.

So I waited patiently, hoping he would say something about the Keystone Pipeline since it was talked about a lot on the campaign trail last year, but he didn't. He said that he has his agenda and that it was clear there were a few things we had to do in the lameduck, but the Keystone Pipeline wasn't one of them. So I was disappointed.

I had to wait for the second leader on the Republican side, JOHN CORNYN, to speak. There is a likely transcript that he has—here it is. Here is the McConnell transcript. This is what Mr. MCCONNELL said yesterday. This is 24 hours later, after this Senator stood on the floor and made some pretty pointed

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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remarks about the leadership on both sides here. This is 24 hours later. But this is what Leader MCCONNELL said yesterday:

> In the weeks that remain in this Congress, we should work to accomplish the essential task of funding the Congress and preventing retroactive tax increases. We must address the expiring authority passed earlier this session for the Department of Defense to train and equip moderate, vetted Syrian opposition, and we must continue to support the efforts to address the Ebola crisis.

No mention of Keystone. Not one. If I were the leader of the majority party and came back and said there is some unfinished business, after talking incessantly about Keystone for the last 6 years, the first thing I would do is say——

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Ms. LANDRIEU. I ask unanimous consent for 5 more minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. LANDRIEU. We can have a short Thanksgiving break. We don't have to have a long break for Christmas. The problem is we haven't been working.

Here is my list. He mentioned three things; Keystone was not on them.

Then, to shorten this, JOHN CORNYN, the Senator from Texas, came to the floor and he gave a very long list. He did in fact mention Keystone, but it was in the context of, as soon as we convene again in January—a long list—we will vote on Keystone.

I came to the floor yesterday and said that was not good enough to the leader of my leadership and the leadership of the Republican Party and said: You know what, I would like to vote on Keystone now.

So yesterday, because I gave that speech and because the public wants us to do this—more than I, the public wants a vote on Keystone and has wanted it for a long time. The House of Representatives took the bill that Senator HOEVEN and I had drafted, stripped the language of theirs, which would never have passed the Senate of the United States and would never have gotten to the President's desk, and put our language in—like I would be upset about that. I am not upset about that. I am happy about that. I am grateful that I was able yesterday, in 3 hours, to move the leadership of the Democrats in the Senate, the leadership of the Republicans in the Senate, the Republican leadership in the House to get a vote on Keystone on Tuesday.

So I am going to come back and say more about this, but for the reporters who are not used to people being as direct as I am being now, go read the transcript for yourselves so when they call press conferences later today and claim victory, please remember who was on this floor talking about it. MITCH MCCONNELL didn't mention it—the transcript is right here—did not mention the word ''Keystone.'' JOHN CORNYN mentioned the word ''amnesty'' several times and ''Keystone'' once. I am the Senator who came to this floor as chair of the energy committee to say: Let's get our business done; let's start now. And that is what we are going to do. I am glad we are going to be voting very soon.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 3 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

WELCOMING THE GUEST CHAPLAIN DR. GEORGE DILLARD

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Madam President, I rise today to welcome my friend and fellow Georgian, Dr. George Dillard—who is the senior minister at the Peachtree City Christian Church in Peachtree City, GA—as he prayed so eloquently, as is our tradition here in the Senate. I am very pleased Dr. Dillard had a chance to come join us today.

He and his wife Renee have been married for 26 years and have three children: Tiffany, Alexis, and Stewart. I appreciate them sharing him with us today.

George has been my dear friend for many years. I have had the opportunity to pray with him in public, pray with him in private, and hear him preach in his church. He is a very eloquent individual and such a great Christian public servant in that he is so active not just in the Peachtree City Christian Church but all over the community of Peachtree City. He has been the guest Chaplain across the Capitol with our neighbors, the House of Representatives, on a couple of occasions. He regularly is the guest pastor in the Georgia Legislature under the gold dome in Atlanta. I am very pleased he is here today. I thank him for taking time to join us and for his well-spoken words getting us started in the Senate today.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. ISAKSON. Madam President, I wish to join the senior Senator from Georgia, who was kind enough to invite our guest Chaplain today.

George Dillard is a great chaplain in our State, a great civic leader, a great Christian leader, and a great leader in our State for many other things. He has been a dynamic chaplain in his church, a dynamic minister, and has his doctorate in biblical studies. We are delighted to welcome him to Washington, DC, where we need all the biblical help we can get. We appreciate George Dillard for his prayer, his devotion, and his faith.

I yield back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Ms. LANDRIEU. I ask unanimous consent to speak immediately after the vote for 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF RANDOLPH D. MOSS TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

NOMINATION OF LEIGH MARTIN MAY TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nominations of Randolph D. Moss, of Maryland, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia; and Leigh Martin May, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia.

VOTE ON MOSS NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there is 2 minutes of debate equally divided before a vote on the Moss nomination.

Who yields time?

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Madam President, we yield back the time on our side, and I ask unanimous consent to be allowed to speak on behalf of the Northern District of Georgia on the appointee, Leigh May.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Reserving the right to object.

That is fine. Thank you.

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, we yield back all time on this side.

Mr. ISAKSON. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Randolph D. Moss, of Maryland, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia?

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 54, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 273 Ex.]

YEAS—54

Baldwin	Hagan	Murray
Begich	Harkin	Nelson
Bennet	Heinrich	Pryor
Blumenthal	Heitkamp	Reed
Booker	Hirono	Reid
Boxer	Johnson (SD)	Sanders
Brown	Kaine	Schatz
Cantwell	King	Schumer
Cardin	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Carper	Landrieu	Stabenow
Casey	Leahy	Tester
Collins	Levin	Udall (CO)
Coons	Markey	Udall (NM)
Donnelly	McCaskill	Walsh
Durbin	Menendez	Warner
Feinstein	Merkley	Warren
Franken	Mikulski	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murphy	Wyden

NAYS—45

Alexander	Fischer	McConnell
Ayotte	Flake	Moran
Barrasso	Graham	Murkowski
Blunt	Grassley	Paul
Boozman	Hatch	Portman
Burr	Heller	Risch
Chambliss	Hoeven	Roberts
Coats	Inhofe	Rubio
Coburn	Isakson	Scott
Cochran	Johanns	Sessions
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Shelby
Cornyn	Kirk	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Toomey
Cruz	Manchin	Vitter
Enzi	McCain	Wicker

NOT VOTING—1

Rockefeller

The nomination was confirmed.

MAY NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 2 minutes of debate equally divided before a vote on the May nomination.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I yield my time to the Senator from Georgia, Mr. CHAMBLISS.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. I thank Senator LEAHY for yielding time.

It is important that we work through the process so we can get several Georgia judges to the floor of the Senate for a vote. We have some emergency positions that need to be filled, and Senator LEAHY has been very cooperative in helping us do that. On behalf of my colleague Senator ISAKSON and myself, I encourage all of my colleagues to support the nomination of Leigh May to be a judge for the District Court for the Northern District of Georgia.

Ms. May is a graduate of our two flagship institutions—Georgia Tech and the University of Georgia Law School. She practiced law with the Butler Wooten firm for many years and has been involved in many high-profile cases. She brings intellect and integrity to the bench. She will be a great addition to the Northern District of Georgia, and I encourage my colleagues to vote in support of this nominee.

I thank the Presiding Officer and yield back.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HIRONO). Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Leigh Martin May, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia?

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. WARREN). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 99, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 274 Ex.]

YEAS—99

Alexander	Franken	Moran
Ayotte	Gillibrand	Murkowski
Baldwin	Graham	Murphy
Barrasso	Grassley	Murray
Begich	Hagan	Nelson
Bennet	Harkin	Paul
Blumenthal	Hatch	Portman
Blunt	Heinrich	Pryor
Booker	Heitkamp	Reed
Boozman	Heller	Reid
Boxer	Hirono	Risch
Brown	Hoeven	Roberts
Burr	Inhofe	Rubio
Cantwell	Isakson	Sanders
Cardin	Johanns	Schatz
Carper	Johnson (SD)	Schumer
Casey	Johnson (WI)	Scott
Chambliss	Kaine	Sessions
Coats	King	Shaheen
Coburn	Kirk	Shelby
Cochran	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Collins	Landrieu	Tester
Coons	Leahy	Thune
Corker	Lee	Toomey
Cornyn	Levin	Udall (CO)
Crapo	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Cruz	Markey	Vitter
Donnelly	McCain	Walsh
Durbin	McCaskill	Warner
Enzi	McConnell	Warren
Feinstein	Menendez	Whitehouse
Fischer	Merkley	Wicker
Flake	Mikulski	Wyden

NOT VOTING—1

Rockefeller

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Madam President, very quickly, I ask unanimous consent that the next vote be 10 minutes in duration, and it will be the last vote prior to a 5:30 p.m. vote on Monday.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table. The President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume legislative session.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 1086, an Act to reauthorize and improve the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990, and for other purposes.

Harry Reid, Tom Harkin, Barbara A. Mikulski, Mazie K. Hirono, Richard J. Durbin, Angus S. King, Jr., Jon Tester, Richard Blumenthal, Bill Nelson, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Elizabeth Warren, Brian Schatz, Patrick J. Leahy, Al Franken, Sheldon Whitehouse, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tim Kaine.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that the debate on the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 1086, an act to reauthorize and improve the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) is necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) would have voted ''no.''

The yeas and nays resulted —yeas 96, nays 1, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 275 Leg.]

YEAS—96

Alexander	Gillibrand	Murkowski
Ayotte	Graham	Murphy
Baldwin	Grassley	Murray
Barrasso	Hagan	Nelson
Begich	Harkin	Paul
Bennet	Hatch	Portman
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Pryor
Blunt	Heitkamp	Reed
Booker	Heller	Reid
Boozman	Hirono	Risch
Boxer	Hoeven	Roberts
Brown	Inhofe	Rubio
Burr	Isakson	Sanders
Cantwell	Johanns	Schatz
Cardin	Johnson (SD)	Schumer
Carper	Johnson (WI)	Scott
Casey	Kaine	Sessions
Coats	King	Shaheen
Cochran	Kirk	Shelby
Collins	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Coons	Landrieu	Tester
Corker	Leahy	Thune
Cornyn	Levin	Toomey
Crapo	Manchin	Udall (CO)
Cruz	Markey	Udall (NM)
Donnelly	McCain	Vitter
Durbin	McCaskill	Walsh
Enzi	McConnell	Warner
Feinstein	Menendez	Warren
Fischer	Merkley	Whitehouse
Flake	Mikulski	Wicker
Franken	Moran	Wyden

NAYS—1

Lee

NOT VOTING—3

Chambliss	Coburn	Rockefeller

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WALSH). On this vote the yeas are 96, the nays are 1. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT OF 2014—Resumed

Pending:

Reid motion to concur in the House amendment to the bill.

Reid motion to concur in the House amendment to the bill, with Reid Amendment No. 3923 (to the motion to concur in the House amendment), to change the enactment date.

Reid Amendment No. 3924 (to Amendment No. 3923), of a perfecting nature.

Reid motion to refer the House Message on the bill to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 3925, to change the enactment date.

Reid Amendment No. 3926 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 3925), of a perfecting nature.

Reid Amendment No. 3927 (to Amendment No. 3926), of a perfecting nature.

MOTION TO CONCUR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for up to 10 minutes; that following my remarks Senator WARREN be recognized for 2 minutes; that Senator LANDRIEU then be recognized to speak for up to 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER CONGRESSMAN LANE EVANS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, in this week of Veterans Day, I would like to take a few moments to speak about a very brave marine who was a great friend of mine and a true champion of America's veterans. Congressman Lane Evans of Illinois passed away last Wednesday. He was only 63 years old. Lane had been battling Parkinson's disease for nearly 20 years. A few years ago, another illness, Lewy body disease, began attacking his memory. One cruel disease ravaged his body as the other assaulted his brain. But his spirit and his quiet courage remained unbroken to the end.

Lane Evans and I were both elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1982, two surprised Democrats who were elected in traditionally Republican, conservative, downstate congressional districts. We were both sons of blue-collar families. We both learned our values from our parents, our neighbors, the nuns and priests at school. We both learned from politicians who were leaders in our State, such as Senator Paul Simon.

Lane and I worked closely together in Congress. Parkinson's forced Lane Evans to retire from Congress in 2007, long before his time. We remained friends. I used to visit him. When I did, we would share our favorite stories about political adventures. Lane Evans was a kind and good person. He was funny, with a razor-sharp intellect, and he was courageous.

He joined the Marines 2 weeks after graduating from high school. It was 1969. Lane was 17 years old. Military service was a tradition in the Evans family. Lane's dad had served in the Navy. One of Lane's brothers was already serving in Vietnam so Lane was stationed stateside and then in Okinawa. After 2 years in the Marines, he came home and used the GI bill to earn a college degree, graduating magna cum laude from Augustana College in Rock Island. Then he earned a law degree from Georgetown. He came home again and started a successful law practice in Rock Island serving children, the poor, and working families.

In 1982, Lane Evans decided to make a run for Congress. He may have been the only person in the beginning who thought he had a prayer of winning. He had never run for office before. He was all of 31 years of age. He looked as though he was 21 on a good day. History was against him. Voters in that district had only elected a Democratic Congressman once in the previous century. That had been only for 2 years.

Lane Evans worked hard. He got lucky when the incumbent Congressman, a lifelong Republican and moderate, lost to a hard-right challenger. On election night in 1982, Lane Evans and I were both elected to the U.S. House of Representatives for the first time. It was my third try to get elected. It was Lane's first. He never lost after that. He served 24 years in the House. His voting record was often to the left of many of his constituents, but he was unapologetic. Voters reelected Lane over and over because they knew he was honest, forthright, and he cared about them. He was straightforward and sincere. People knew he was a man of principle who would always vote his conscience no matter what.

When it came to constituent service, Lane Evans set the standard. Lane and his staff were so good at cutting through bureaucratic redtape that the chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee once joked that ''two-thirds of the people in his district think that he signs their Social Security checks.''

Lane's speeches were always packed and not because he was a great speaker. People came to Lane's speeches because of what happened after. He never left a speech until everyone in the audience who wanted to speak to him had their chance. Lane's dad was a firefighter, his mom a nurse.

In the blue-collar neighborhood where he grew up, their steady incomes made the Evans family better off than most of their neighbors. As a young lawyer and Member of Congress, Lane Evans fought for people such as the parents of his childhood friends who worked shifts in factories and fire houses. He was a champion of blue-collar workers and senior citizens.

Lane fought for fair trade, a fair minimum wage, and the right to collectively bargain. He worked for a cleaner environment and protection of family farmers. He fought to give students from working-class families the same chance he had to get a good college education. He was a giant on the House Armed Services Committee. He understood the Rock Island Arsenal was more than just an arsenal for our Nation's defense, it was a major, important employer in his district. Most of all—most of all—Lane Evans fought for veterans. This week of Veterans Day is a good time to remember how much Lane Evans of Illinois meant to America's veterans and their families. He made veterans's concerns the cornerstone of his congressional career. He was the first chairman of the Vietnam-era Veterans Congressional Caucus and the first Vietnam-era veteran to serve as ranking member of the House Veteran's Affairs Committee.

He was also the ranking member of the House Armed Services Committee. During his time in Congress, there was no Federal program for veterans that did not bear Lane Evans' mark. Veterans today enjoy increased education benefits, improved health care, strengthened home loans, judicial review of their benefits, additional opportunities for veteran-owned businesses, and a host of other improved benefits because of the leadership, determination, and heart of Lane Evans.

From his earliest days in Congress, Lane Evans pushed for action on issues helping Vietnam veterans. He was an outspoken advocate to address the problems and embarrassment of the homeless and substance abuse among Vietnam veterans. In his first term he led the effort to create a pilot tram establishing community-based veterans centers to help with job and marriage counseling and post-traumatic stress syndrome long before it was a popular term.

The program has since grown to include veterans centers all across America. Lane Evans led the fight to give compensation for Vietnam veterans exposed to Agent Orange and for their kids born with spina bifida as a result of that exposure. It was not just his war that concerned him. He was one of the first Members of Congress to push for more information about the Gulf War Syndrome. He supported increased opportunities for women in the military, an early supporter for full civil rights for gays in the military.

Paul Rieckhoff, the CEO of Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, here is what he said about Lane:

In the early days of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, Lane was one of the first members of Congress to take on issues like PTSD and TBI.

Traumatic brain injury.

He helped put our issues on the map.

Lane Evans worked to include Parkinson's research as part of funding for the VA, to make sure veterans suffering from this disease received the best possible care. He worked with Senator LEAHY, then-Senator Hagel, and the Vietnam Veterans of America to push for a U.S. and international ban on the production of antipersonnel landmines.

He was awarded the Vietnam Veterans of America's first annual President's Award for Outstanding Achievement in 1990. In 1994, the AMVETs gave him the Silver Helmet Award, known as the ''Oscar'' of veterans' honors.

This is how Lane explained his commitment to veterans. He said:

Our veterans—those returning from Iraq, those who scaled the cliffs above the beaches of Normandy, those who walked point in the jungles of Vietnam, those who survived the brutality of Korea and other battlefields, all who honorably served or who are now serving, have earned the assurance that VA—their system—will be there when they need it. ''Just as we practice on the battlefield that we leave no one behind, we should not slam the door on any veteran who needs the VA system.''

The best way we can honor Lane Evans' memory is by more than just a speech on the floor of the Senate, it is to continue his work on behalf of America's veterans, continue to work to make the VA responsive to the massive number of disability claims that have been filed since Iraq and Afghanistan, and make sure every veteran receives respect, health care, job training, and the opportunities they have earned.

There is another way we can honor this champion of veterans; that is, by naming the year-old VA medical center in Galesburg, IL, the Lane A. Evans VA Community-Based Outpatient Clinic. This center is in the heart of what was Congressman Lane Evans' congressional district for so many years.

Nearly 4,000 veterans a year seek services there. I am honored it is a bipartisan effort to name this center after Congressman Evans, led in the House by Congresswoman CHERI BUSTOS. Lane used to say he loved the Marines because the Marines salute their lowest members. I hope my colleagues will join me in honoring one of the Marines' finest members by supporting this proposal to name the VA outpatient clinic in Galesburg, IL, in honor of Congressman Lane Evans.

Lane Evans was laid to rest at the Rock Island Arsenal on the date of the 239th anniversary of the Marine Corps. I remember so many years ago—18 years ago—when Lane and I were in a Labor Day parade in Galesburg, IL. I did not think much of it at the time. It was just another parade in another campaign. Lane told me later that he noticed something was wrong on that date. As he was waving his left hand, he realized it was numb and he had no feeling.

He continued to work even after he had been diagnosed with early Parkinson's. It made it difficult for him to stand without pain or to even smile easily. He never, ever complained. When his legs locked up when he was in terrible pain, he would tell his closest friends: I am so lucky. I couldn't carry mail, I couldn't be a meat cutter, but I can still do my job as a Congressman.

As we say in Illinois, thank heavens for Lane Evans, and I thank the good Lord he devoted so much of his life in Congress to the people he loved in his district and to the veterans of America.

I offer my condolences to Lane's family, especially his three brothers, to his brothers and sisters in arms, and to all of us who loved him and were touched by his gentle life.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

REMEMBERING TOM MENINO

Ms. WARREN. I rise today to honor a departed friend and committed public servant, Tom Menino. He was a devoted husband to Angela, loving father to Susan and Tom Junior, and adoring grandfather to six grandchildren.

For 20 years Tom served as mayor of Boston and led the resurgence of our city. He believed in economic growth and building communities, fighting for hospitals, scientific research, and innovation, while simultaneously strengthening our neighborhoods, expanding our parks, and knitting diversity into a community of equals.

Mayor Menino succeeded because he knew all along that our fortunes depend on our working together as one people, one community, one Boston, and he did everything he could to create that united Boston.

Reports are that Mayor Menino had personally met more than half the residents of Boston, and we believe it. In our happy moments—Red Sox championships—and in our darkest moments—when smoke arose at Copley Square—we knew we could always count on Tom Menino to be there.

Mayor Menino's Boston lived up to the vision of its founders: a city that all eyes can see is a model for the country and for the world.

On behalf of a grateful people, I urge my colleagues to come together to pass a resolution that was introduced only yesterday by Senator MARKEY and me celebrating the life of Mayor Tom Menino.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

KEYSTONE PIPELINE

Ms. LANDRIEU. I thank my colleagues for allowing a 10-minute discussion today by unanimous consent on an important issue the Congress is taking up today.

On the House side, debate on the Keystone Pipeline is starting, and I understand there could potentially be a vote as early as tomorrow. I am so pleased to have been one of the spark plugs that helped to get us moving not in the next Congress but in this lameduck session of this Congress.

The American people spoke loudly and clearly not only in my State of Louisiana but around the country, wanting us to work together to get the job done.

I was very pleased that the Republican leadership brought to the floor the early childhood education bill that Senator LAMAR ALEXANDER has been leading. It is a very important bill. I, frankly, don't think it is more important than the Keystone Pipeline, however. So I was pleased yesterday to come to the floor and offer, as chair of the energy committee, my own priority list of what I think is most important. I say that with sincerity because I actually support both very strongly.

I have several amendments to Senator LAMAR ALEXANDER's bill which have not been adopted and which I understand, unfortunately, will not be allowed for debate. So I don't know if I will be able to vote for cloture on his bill, although I strongly support it. My record is as strong as anyone's in this Chamber. So I will be interested to see if amendments to the Lamar Alexander bill will be allowed on the floor. I am hoping they will. If I can get at least a vote on the amendments I have pending to that bill, I will absolutely—whether my amendments pass or fail—vote for it because it is the will of the body and we must do something. We must invest more money. We must have more quality programs for early childhood education. It is an absolute cornerstone of strengthening and building the middle class.

In my State, that is what we are focused on, and I can't go anywhere without people telling me: Senator, thank you for your fight for education. Senator, thank you for your fight for early childhood education. Senator, thank you for fighting to take student loans down from 11 percent—the rate on student loans—to 3 percent.

On almost every day of this last election cycle, that is what I was talking about at home, and I know Members who were in elections or even not in elections heard clearly from the American people, during the time we were home working, how much what we do in Congress can matter, can make a difference in their lives. They don't want government intrusion, but they do want government to function so they can get a good college education, so they can get good job training, so they can start businesses that can grow profits for themselves and their communities.

I look forward to that debate, and I am very happy the Republican leadership rushed to the floor to put down a bill on early childhood education because I think they heard from the American people that just talking about tax cuts for the wealthy, tax cuts for people making over $1 million a year, and tax policy—yes, it is important, but what is very important is fighting for the middle class.

I say congratulations to Senator LAMAR ALEXANDER of Tennessee. That is the first bill the Republicans have put down in this lameduck, and I look forward to working with him.

But the first bill that we put down and I put down as chair of the energy committee—unusual for Democrats because we don't have our whole caucus supporting it, but we have a good strong part of our caucus supporting it—is a bill that is going to actually create immediate high-impact jobs for this country today, soon, as it is being built. As soon as this bill passes and as soon as the President signs it into law, there will be an immediate, dramatic push from the oil and gas industry and

from the energy industry broadly—alternative energies, wind, solar, coal, and clean coal technologies—because the vote on Keystone and the President's signature on Keystone is a signal, a strong signal, it is a green light that America is ready to go, that we are following the science, that we are following our process, that we are respecting private property rights. And, yes, we are respecting States in their views of where these pipelines should be sited. No State—not Nebraska, not West Virginia, and not Louisiana—wants to be told by the Federal Government where pipelines are coming through on private property. No State. So Nebraska does have an issue that has to be resolved. They have an issue that has to be resolved about where that pipeline should be laid, and the Republican Party should most certainly respect States rights on where that pipeline should be laid.

The bill Senator HOEVEN and I have acknowledges that process. It also acknowledges private property rights, and it says it is time to build the Keystone Pipeline.

This was not a last-week election wake-up call; I have been working on passing the Keystone Pipeline before I was the chairman, all during my chairmanship, years ago, as a senior member of the committee, and now as chair. I have not stopped and came very close to getting a vote on this floor before the election. Frankly—and the reporters should know this—it was really held up by the politics of both sides. That is not what is said, but that is the actual truth—the politics of both sides. I see Senator MANCHIN on the floor, who is a strong supporter, and he might talk a little bit about that. Both sides have some blame as to why we couldn't get to a vote, but I will let the record speak for itself.

This is the pipeline. This is what has to be built. As you can see, it doesn't come into Louisiana, but it most certainly impacts my State. It impacts the entire country.

These are already pipelines that we have in America. This is just another important pipeline because it connects Canada—our greatest ally and our great economic partner—with the refining strength of America, which is not only in Louisiana and Texas but primarily in Louisiana and Texas. It begins to move a great product, produced with the highest environmental standards in the world, approved by this administration's environmental department saying it meets the environmental standards of transportation, et cetera, and it meets the standards of this administration's State Department when it comes to, is it in America's interests. They said yes, it is in America's interests. That standard has been met. So let's build the pipeline.

I came to the floor yesterday. The Republicans brought their early childhood education bill to the floor. I am so proud they did. I brought Keystone Pipeline. Because I did, it seemed to have moved lots of things, which I am pleased about, and I think the Senator from West Virginia may wish to comment. But it seemed to have shaken up a few things and moved a few things, and that is good because Senators who are energetic and motivated and can build coalitions—like Senator MANCHIN and I do every day when we are here—can actually get things done.

Mr. MANCHIN. Will the Senator yield?

Ms. LANDRIEU. I yield to the Senator from West Virginia for a question.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Let me say to all of our colleagues and all of my friends on the Republican side and my friends on the Democratic side that this is the greatest opportunity we have had in the 4 years since I have been in the Senate to have truly a jobs bill, a quality jobs bill that pays high wages. Almost every State in the Nation benefits by the Keystone Pipeline.

If you want to take politics out of this, take all of our names off. Senator LANDRIEU says take her name off. Take my name off. Take everybody's name off, and let's find out who really rises to help Americans.

This is one bill that we have been trying to bring to the forefront. Senator LANDRIEU has brought it how many times? She was the first person—I said yesterday—who, 4 years ago when I came to the Senate, explained to me how important it was and how it interconnected all of us. I am very appreciative of that.

Now MARY is in the political fight of her life. I pray to the good Lord that the good people of Louisiana understand the fighter she is and what she produces for America every day.

With all that being said, she is willing to take her name off if this piece of legislation will move forward so that the Presiding Officer in Montana and I in West Virginia can get some high-quality jobs. We all benefit from this.

Next, it makes our Nation secure. If you want to protect your people, have a secure nation and don't go chasing energy all over the world. It takes us places we don't want to be and shouldn't be. This does all of that as far as securing our energy and making us energy independent.

But I just saw after the election—and we accept that. I am on the Democratic side. I heard loud and clear the people of West Virginia and the changes they want. What they really told us is: We want you all to do something. If you have a chance to help us with a good job, do it. Don't argue over your politics. It seems as if you are more concerned about your own status of being a politician or being an elected official than you are about mine, which is basically paying my bills, taking care of my family, and being able to be a good American.

What we are saying, we thought we heard that loud and clear. So I will say to all of my friends on the Republican side and all of us on the Democratic side, take a moment and listen to what was just told to us. What was told to us is to do our job—that is what Senator LANDRIEU was trying to do—move this important piece of legislation forward and do the job we are supposed to.

The best politics is good government. If we do something good as a Republican and as a Democrat, we all get credit for it. We do something bad, and then we try to blame each other—who did it worse than the other. We all get blamed for it. This is the best thing we have had for the last 4 or 5 years. We have had a hard time getting to this point, to almost get a vote for it, and now they want to say: Well, one-upmanship—we will see if it can come over from the House side with a person who is involved in a race against Senator LANDRIEU. Forget about those people.

Forget about all of us who cosigned and cosponsored this bill, apparently.

Just pass it. Give us a vote and pass it. That is all we are asking for. I think if we do that, the people will say: I think they heard us, and I think they are starting to do something. That is why I am on the floor with Senator LANDRIEU and the people willing to fight for the jobs that Americans need—not just in Louisiana but in West Virginia, too, and also in Montana.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, how much time do I have remaining?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has consumed 10 minutes

Ms. LANDRIEU. I ask unanimous consent for 1 minute to close.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. LANDRIEU. I think the Senator pointed out some key points—not only how important this pipeline is for the middle of America but for the economy of the whole country.

The pipeline and the supplies that are coming and the workers to build this pipeline come from all over the country. The businesses that supply the gadgets, the widgets, the steel, the trucks, the forklifts, the equipment, the cranes that come to build this pipeline come from all over the country.

But more important than the pipeline itself, which is going to move hundreds of thousands of barrels of crude oil from Canada—which we would much prefer to deal with and trade with, than, let's say, Venezuela or some other countries that don't share our values. More importantly than that, it is going to transport it in the safest way.

Without this pipeline, this oil will be produced. We cannot stop Canada from producing it. They are going to produce it, and it is going to be moved east and west by rail or moved south by truck. We cannot put any more trucks on our highways, and we can't crowd our rails.

I know there are people, like my good friend from Massachusetts, Senator MARKEY, who is going to surely speak against this pipeline and why, from his perspective, it is not the right thing to

do. And I respect those views. I strongly disagree with him, but I respect him. I strongly disagree with his arguments—and we will have this debate in the coming days—and I respect him.

But the point is this. Whether you support the Senator from Massachusetts' or you support the Senator from Louisiana's views, the point is we need to vote. That is the process. I believe we have the 60 votes on this floor to pass this bill. I believe we have always had the votes to pass this bill, if we can just get it to a vote.

Now, as is the process, the Senate has to pass the bill, it has to go to the House, and then it has to go to the President. He can sign it or he can veto it. I do not have at this date any indication that he will veto this bill. He could issue a veto warning on it in an hour, he could do it tomorrow, he could do it next week. That is not the point.

The point is the Senate must begin to be the Senate again. Let the President worry about being the President. Let the House worry about being the House. Let the Senate be the Senate.

I ask unanimous consent for 30 more seconds.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered

Ms. LANDRIEU. Let the Senate be the Senate. That is what my voters said. I think that is what voters in Tennessee said. I think that is what voters in North Carolina said, and I think that is what the voters in Massachusetts said. Let the Senate be the Senate.

We are the greatest deliberative body in the world. Let's debate. Let's vote. Let's get the work done. Let the chips fall where they may. The public can accept that. They cannot accept—and they should not have to accept—gridlock, game playing, and raw politics on the great floor of this Senate.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 3 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I respect the Senator from Louisiana, and there is no more fierce advocate for this pipeline in our country. She has been a relentless advocate for that pipeline. I am not going to speak on this issue today, but I look forward to a much more extensive debate that we will have next week. But there is no one more vulnerable than the Senator from Louisiana in her advocacy.

REMEMBERING TOM MENINO

I rise today to speak about Tom Menino, our great mayor from the city of Boston who just passed in the last month. He always looked out for the little guy. He always stayed true to the people who elected him, and he stuck by his principles.

In every neighborhood across the city, Boston mourns the loss of our great mayor, Tom Menino. We mourn along with his wife Angela, his family, and everyone who ever was touched by Mayor Menino. But we will fill that void with the love and respect that we have for the life and the legacy of this extraordinary man.

Boston loves Tom Menino because Tom Menino loved Boston with all of his heart. Tom Menino wasn't satisfied with leading the best city in America. He wanted Boston to be the best city in the world. He was an urban architect without equal, attuned to every detail in every neighborhood. He forged a more inclusive Boston, where diversity is embraced. Tom Menino was everyone's mayor.

In a poll a few years back, half of all Bostonians in the poll said they had personally met Tom Menino. That really captures how Tom Menino approached his job, but we all know how he viewed those poll results—that his job was only half done.

Yet Mayor Menino's vision for Boston was global, and he pushed the city into a new era of innovation. He helped our shining city on a hill illuminate its light of innovation across the world, building a beacon of entrepreneurship and ingenuity. He laid the foundation for Boston's economic leadership in the 21st century, including spearheading Boston's Innovation District and developing the seaport area.

The Innovation District is supporting the companies and industries that are creating jobs today, and Mayor Menino has ensured that Boston will continue to be a national leader in biotechnology, clean energy, and health care for generations to come. He did all of this while keeping Boston's historic character alive. Tom knew what potholes needed filling, but he also knew when to leave the cobblestones alone.

So today, if you take a drive around Boston—or, as Tom would want you to do, take a bike ride—you would see there is no place in Boston that hasn't felt the caring imprint of Tom's hand: kids playing on new playgrounds in safer neighborhoods; poor communities with better access to life-saving health care; entrepreneurs and investors collaborating on the next big thing.

Boston will move into the future a stronger, brighter, safer, and healthier city because of Tom Menino. So today we honor his life and his legacy. Tom Menino is a man and a mayor for the ages.

Rest in peace, Mayor Tom Menino.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 2650

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I will be asking a unanimous consent request to bring up S. 2650, the Corker-Graham-McCain-Ayotte-Rubio legislation. Senator MURPHY, I think, is going to speak here in a second, but if I may do two things: I wish to reserve 20 minutes of time to be divided between myself, Senator CORKER, and Senator RUBIO to speak about the topic. But I would now like to make a unanimous consent request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRAHAM. I ask unanimous consent that at a time to be determined by the two leaders, but no later than November 24, 2014, the Committee on Foreign Relations be discharged from further consideration of S. 2650, that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration, the bill be read a third time, and the Senate proceed to a vote on passage of the bill with no intervening action or debate. Further, if passed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the request?

The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, just to make a few brief comments prior to my colleagues speaking on their request on the underlying bill, it is my understanding that the request is to bring a bill to the floor that would create an extraconstitutional process by which the House and the Senate would convene on a possible statement or resolution of disapproval on an agreement that has heretofore not been negotiated between the United States and our allies and Iran with respect to that country's nuclear program and nuclear ambitions.

I think we are all of one mind in that we are hopeful that these negotiations are concluded successfully, that we are able to stand together and say that we have used diplomacy rather than military might in order to dislodge from Iran any prospect of obtaining a nuclear weapon. But we are at an absolutely critical moment in these negotiations, and I believe the underlying bill which is being asked to be brought to the floor today would undermine those negotiations by sending a message that Congress does not stand with the President as he and his team negotiate these final agreements.

There is going to be a legitimate question as to what Congress's role is, but we won't know that until we see the agreement. We won't know whether it rises to the level of a treaty. We won't know whether we need to pass legislation to immediately repeal sanctions versus having them temporarily suspended. This bill has not gone through the committee process.

While it raises, I think, some legitimate questions of what Congress's role is going to be, if there is ultimately an agreement worked out between the P5+1 and Iran, it is premature at this point to set into law a process by which we would vote an agreement up or down until we understand what the agreement is in the first place.

That is my primary reason for standing here and ultimately registering an objection. I do worry as well that it would send a fairly chilling message to our negotiators and to those who are in the room if the signal is that the Congress is not giving the full authority to

this President under the Constitution in order to negotiate an agreement which is ultimately going to be, we hope, to the benefit of the United States and global security.

I know my colleagues have time constraints and want to speak on this underlying bill. So, with that, I object to the unanimous consent request

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). Objection is heard.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I appreciate my colleague very much for speaking in a way so we can all have time on the issue.

No. 1, about the chilling messages, this is a chilling message from the Supreme Leader of Iran about 3 days ago: Nine questions about the elimination of Israel. In this tweet—and I will read some of it later—the Ayatollah, the Supreme Leader in Iran, talks about how to annihilate the State of Israel during the negotiations.

Also, recently an IAEA inspector was talking about elements of the Iranian nuclear program that have been hidden that would make it larger than we all suspect.

What are we trying to do? I would like to bring the Iranian nuclear program to an end through peaceful means, and by an end, I mean the following: I would welcome a deal that would allow the Iranians to produce peaceful nuclear power but without the capability of turning that program into a weapons program.

I fear that we are on the road to a North Korean outcome, where the international community gave a rogue regime a small nuclear program to be monitored by the United Nations—and the rest is history regarding North Korea.

I have asked several times to the administration: Tell me the safeguards that exist in these negotiations with Iran that did not exist in North Korea, and I have yet to get an answer.

It is pretty openly known that the administration and the P5+1 have conceded a right to enrich uranium as part of any deal with Iran. To that I say: Of all the nations on Earth, given their behavior, name one country that you would put in the category ahead of Iran when it comes to denying them the ability to have a centrifuge that one day could be used to make a weapon. The idea of giving an enrichment capability to the Iranians, given 30 years of lying, deceit, American blood on their hands, and recent tweets about annihilating Israel to me is insane.

So all we are asking is that any deal negotiated between the P5+1 come to this body for a discussion and a vote. Senator CORKER is the primary author of this legislation.

Here is what I can tell the world: Nobody wants any more war. But we do not want to allow the Iranians, given their behavior, the capability one day to develop a nuclear weapon, and that is exactly what they have been trying to do. They have lied about their program. They have been deceptive about their program. They have blood on their hands when it comes to killing Americans in Iraq. They are one of the largest state sponsors of terrorism in the world.

The idea that we would give them an enrichment capability just astounds me. We are telling our allies—South Korea, and the UAE: If you want a nuclear program, fine—don't enrich the uranium.

There are 15 nations in the world that have nuclear programs without an enrichment capability. To concede one to the Iranians is the ultimate act of throwing the Mideast into further chaos, because the Sunni Arabs, the mortal enemy of the Shia Persians, will want a capability of their own of like kind or greater. The worst possible outcome is to give a regime this dangerous the capability or the potential to one day make a bomb. One centrifuge in the hands of people with this mentality is one too many.

To the Iranian people, my beef is not with you. My beef is with your leaders who have taken the world down a dark path.

This legislation is pretty simple. Bring the deal to the Senate. We will have a right to file a motion of disapproval. We will have a vote, we will have a debate, and if it is a good deal, it will be approved. If it is a bad deal, we will stop it.

I cannot imagine the Senate and the House sitting on the sidelines and ignoring something this important.

To Senator CORKER, who will soon be the Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, this was his original idea. We have tried to perfect it, but what I really believe is what he tried to do months ago to make sure the Congress would have a check and balance over any deal with the Iranians was smart. It would enhance the administration's hand when it comes to negotiating because they would have to tell the Iranians, it is not just us you have to please, you have to go before the representatives of the American people. That would lead to a better outcome. If it truly is a North Korea in the making, we will have a chance to stop it.

President Obama wants a deal too badly, in my view; but at the end of the day, let's wait and see what happens. I just want to let the Iranians and the administration know beforehand, we will not sit on the sidelines and watch you go it alone. This is one decision the President will make that the Congress has to be read in on and have a say about. This is not the time to let President Obama go it alone. The stakes are too high for Israel, for the United States, for the world at large.

What do I fear the most? I fear that over time we will give the Iranian ayatollahs the capability to develop a nuclear weapon. Name one technology they developed that they haven't shared with terrorists. And it will surely come our way.

To our friends in Israel: No Israeli mother can ever go to sleep at night thinking her children are safe and the future of that country is secure if the Iranians have a nuclear capability. When the ayatollahs say openly they wish to destroy the State of Israel, to annihilate the State of Israel, I believe they mean it. When the Jewish people say never again, they speak based on past experience.

Of all the scenarios in the world that could throw this world into a chaotic situation beyond what you see today, it would be to allow the ayatollahs a nuclear weapon. The Sunni Arabs will have one of their own. Israel will never know a minute's peace, and I fear that it would come our way.

I would like to now yield to Senator CORKER who can explain the details of the legislation, why we are asking this to be taken up before the end of negotiations.

A week from Monday the deadline comes to an end. I want everybody at the negotiating table to know this deal is so important to the United States and the world that the Congress needs to have a say. Barack Obama should not be able to make any deal with the Iranians that is binding unless the Congress approves, and the Iranians should never be allowed to have a nuclear capability, period, that could be turned into a weapon.

With that, I yield to Senator CORKER.

Mr. CORKER. I thank the Senator. I want to thank the Senator from South Carolina for his distinguished leadership on so many national security issues. I understand his frustration with our inability to actually take a vote on something that is such a commonsense measure. I also respect the committee process, as you could imagine, with the role I play and wished that our committee would actually take up this piece of legislation.

I actually tried to offer something very similar to this in committee, and I actually did offer it, and the bill that was being offered, too, was taken down and no votes taken, because, again, of not wanting to deal with this issue.

So I thank the gentleman from South Carolina for desiring to make something happen on this. As he mentioned, all of us want to ensure a successful negotiation. I cannot imagine there is a person in this body who doesn't want the negotiations between the P5+1 to end up with a good long-term conclusion. I agree based on the signals that are being sent. There are a lot of bipartisan concerns that have been expressed on this floor by people of both sides of the aisle, because people understand that this body, along with working with the House, put in place the sanctions that have actually gotten us to the place where we are in the negotiations. The initial agreement that was put in place was so much weaker than even the U.N. security resolutions that passed over and over and over relative to Iran.

So I agree that by having us making the final say on this negotiation that it gives the administration some added

strength that they were unable to show in the beginning. Obviously Iran is trying to tilt toward those within their own body, their own citizens, who certainly are concerned about negotiations and continue to bring that out throughout the negotiations. It seems to me that Congress would be an outstanding countervailing force. And obviously something of this magnitude—especially when Congress brought us to the table—this is the kind of thing that should be weighed upon.

What the bill would do is obviously give us the opportunity within a defined amount of time to vote up or down on whether we agree that this should be put in place. It also puts in place some enforcement mechanisms. Then it also puts a clock on the negotiations, so, again, we cannot have these continual extensions.

I recently read the newest book Henry Kissinger wrote. It was a great book to read, but it put in place one of the chapters that focused on these Iran negotiations and lays out the fact—and I know the distinguished Presiding Officer today knows this well because he focuses so much on nuclear issues and, like me, is very concerned about proliferation around the world. I have enjoyed working with him on the Foreign Relations Committee. Interestingly, one of the chapters lays out the progression that occurs. And Iran, just by stalling each time these negotiations take place, ends up in a better place. Again, I think all of us were very shocked with the interim agreement that was put in place first. I think this is a very commonsense piece of legislation.

Let me point out something my friend from South Carolina did not point out. Without this, this is what is going to possibly happen—I hope it doesn't, but possibly happen. The administration can enter into a deal. The way we have crafted the sanctions, no permanent—no permanent—arrangement can be made to undo the sanctions. Only Congress can do that. But the way the sanctions regime has been put in place, the President in many cases does have the ability on a temporary basis to do away with the sanctions. It is evident that the administration very much wants something to happen. I want to see something happen, but the way this has gone, it appears they want something to happen that possibly will not stand the test of time.

Let's say they enter into an arrangement by November 24. They undo the sanctions temporarily. If that happens, basically the work that has been done around here for years is over. It is done because it will be impossible from a practical standpoint to ever get those sanctions back in place, especially sanctions with the many other countries that are involved.

So if the President enters into an agreement and temporarily does away with sanctions, I think everybody in this body understands it is going to be almost impossible for those to be put back in place. So the damage is already done. And that is why it is so important from my perspective, with Congress having played the role that Congress has played to help put us into this position, very important for Congress to have the opportunity to have the congressional review this bill lays out.

Look, I think it is pretty evident with the denying, if you will, of this bill coming to the floor, which was expected, I think it is very evident that Congress is not going to have the opportunity between now and the 24th to weigh in. It is my hope that somehow if these negotiations unfortunately end up putting us in a very bad place—I hope that doesn't happen. I hope the outcome is much better than what is anticipated. But if it ends up unfortunately being something that is not good for our country, I hope what will happen is the next time we ask to bring this bill up—because of time being of the essence, the next time it would be brought up, hopefully Members of this body would agree that Congress would weigh in in a rightful manner. Congress would weigh in to make sure we don't enter into a deal as a nation that puts us in a very bad place in the longer term relative to what Iran is doing.

I thank the Presiding Officer for allowing me to speak. I do not see Senator RUBIO here in the body.

I yield the floor. It is my sense that Senator RUBIO may come down and want to speak to this.

But I do want to say in closing, all of us here hope the administration puts our Nation and the world in a place to know that Iran will not have the capability of developing nuclear weapons. That is what this piece of legislation is about. Without it, I hope the administration still does that, obviously, and that we wake up on November 25 surprised—but happily surprised—that we ended up in a place that will stand the test of time.

I yield the floor and it has been a while, but I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded and that I be allowed to speak for up to 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

KEYSTONE PIPELINE

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, as you know—and many know—I have come to the floor now on several occasions since we arrived back here at 2 p.m. yesterday to talk about an important piece of legislation I have cosponsored with Senator HOEVEN. I understand Senator HOEVEN is going to be speaking about the Keystone Pipeline in a few moments, and the Republicans have reserved some time to speak this afternoon. I will only take 5 minutes and will stay as the discussion on the Keystone Pipeline goes forward.

Yesterday at 2 o'clock I came to the floor of the Senate when the Senate opened to say how important I thought it was that we listen and hear what the voters said not only in my State but in Kentucky, Texas, South Dakota, North Dakota, and all over the country. Regardless of whether the people were Democrats, Republicans, left or right or center, they want us to get our job done.

I think one of the most important jobs we have as Senators is to vote, and I have been frustrated, along with many Members on both sides of the aisle, about why we have not been able to vote on some very important pieces of legislation.

This is one of the most important pieces of legislation, and that is why I came down at 2 o'clock to claim time at my seat. I have been here for 18 years. This is Louisiana's seat. One of the things we have to talk about right now—not next year or not next week—is the Keystone Pipeline.

I know the Presiding Officer and other Members of this body, mostly on the Democratic side, are not strong supporters and have expressed that view. I understand it, I respect it, but I don't agree with it. It is time for us to have a vote.

Because of the advocacy yesterday when the Senator from West Virginia and the Senator from North Dakota, Senator HEITKAMP—she has been a very strong and effective advocate. I wish to give a shout-out to both of my colleagues from West Virginia and North Dakota. They have been tireless in their effort to try and build a 60-vote margin.

In the old days we could pass bills with just 51 votes, and some people want to go back to that. I have mixed feelings about it, but it would be great if we could pass things by a simple majority. But the rules of the Senate which we operate under—and have not requested to change, and I don't believe will change any time in the near future—requires us to have 60 votes.

We worked and worked and worked to try to get 60 votes. Since May, if we could just get this vote to the floor, I believe we have the 60 votes to pass it. It looks like that is going to happen, and I could not be happier. I could not be more grateful to the House of Representatives for taking up not their bill but Senator HOEVEN's bill and my bill. They are debating it right now, and I believe we will pass it.

I don't know how many Democrats will vote for that bill, but I think there will be some Members who will vote for that bill. I don't know how many, but I believe there are 60 votes in this Senate to pass the Keystone Pipeline bill and send it to the President's desk.

What President Obama does with it, I don't know. I am urging him to sign it. Seventy-five percent of the people in our country want this Keystone Pipeline built. There are jobs at stake. It is

a signal that America is ready to be energy independent.

When I say ''energy independent''—to my good friend, the Presiding Officer from Massachusetts—I, of course, mean more oil and gas. I am from an oil-and-gas State. We have coal States, but we also have States that have solar and wind and drop-in fuels and new technologies.

This pipeline is a symbol that America is ready to do what it takes to become energy independent and to use our resources so we can create jobs for the middle class.

I see the Republican leader, and I appreciate that signal. So I will just conclude with my statement, but I do wish to be a part of this colloquy today, if allowed, so I may continue to talk about the importance of this issue.

I am happy the House has taken up the Hoeven-Landrieu bill—the exact language of the bill. We can call it whatever they want. They can put any name they want on the bill as long as it gets passed because that is what we need to do for the American people.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, for 6 long years the Obama administration has been dragging its feet on the Keystone Pipeline. For as long as anyone can remember one Senator has worked harder than any other to ensure that those feet are always held to the fire; that is, our friend the senior Senator from North Dakota.

Senator HOEVEN has been a tireless advocate for the shovel-ready jobs project. The people of North Dakota are lucky to have him in their corner. Similar to the experts, Senator HOEVEN knows the Keystone Pipeline will create literally thousands of jobs, and similar to the experts, Senator HOEVEN knows the Keystone Pipeline would have almost zero net effect on our climate, and similar to the people we represent, he understands that the Keystone Pipeline is just common sense. He has done just about everything possible to make the administration come to grips with that obvious point.

Senator HOEVEN, along with leaders in the House, such as Congressman CASSIDY, succeeded in assembling and leading an impressive Keystone coalition that literally crossed party lines. That is why the opponents of Keystone have been so afraid to allow the Senate to take a free and open vote on it, because they feared Senator HOEVEN and Congressman CASSIDY were right; that there is overwhelming bipartisan support for ending the President's blockade of these very good jobs.

After so many years of obstruction, we finally get the vote. After 6 years, we finally get the vote. We can credit the people's choice of a new Senate majority for finally getting these gears turning. But we never would have gotten to this point without the tireless leadership of Senator HOEVEN in the Senate and Congressman CASSIDY over in the House.

I wish to thank Senator HOEVEN for all of his great work on this matter. We hope we can soon celebrate a well-deserved victory for the American people.

I understand we have colleagues on the floor as well, and I will be happy to yield at this time for any thoughts or questions they may have.

Ms. LANDRIEU. I have a question, if I could ask the Republican leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Does the Senator from North Dakota have a question? I believe I have the floor, and I believe Senator HOEVEN is going to ask a question.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota is recognized.

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I wish to thank the minority leader, but I ask him to repeat his question.

Mr. MCCONNELL. As the Senator from North Dakota was engaged in conversation, I was talking about his leadership role in this endeavor the last 6 years and the difficulty of getting action here in the Senate. It almost seems to me as if it took an election by the American people to choose a new majority for next year to begin to get the attention of the current majority to go forward on the issue that Senator HOEVEN has been talking to us about on a virtually daily basis here for 6 years.

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I wish to respond to the minority leader. That has been the case, that we have worked for some time to get a vote on this important issue. We actually had passed a measure back in 2012 attached to a payroll tax holiday. At that time the President turned down the Keystone XL Pipeline project on the basis of the route in Nebraska. So that work has been done. It has been rerouted.

Some time ago, we put together a bipartisan bill. It is a bill I drafted and wrote. Senator LANDRIEU from Louisiana agreed to cosponsor it. We have all 45 Republicans on the bill, and we have 11 Democrats. We have 56 cosponsors on the legislation, but we have not been able to bring the bill to the floor. So I really had anticipated that we would have to wait until the new Congress in order to get a vote on the bill, because as the minority leader said, the American voters spoke. And particularly with the new Members we have coming, we will have more than 60 Senators who support the legislation. So I had anticipated that we would have to go into the new Congress to get a vote on the bill.

However, the cosponsor on the bill, Senator LANDRIEU, yesterday requested that we call the bill up, and she worked on her side and we have worked on our side to get unanimous consent to get a vote on the bill. So we are certainly happy to vote on this important issue for the American people. We will have a vote in the House on the very same bill. They now have taken up the very same bill. I believe it will pass easily tomorrow in the House. And then on Tuesday, we will have a vote on our bill here, S. 2280. We will have 45 Republicans, and we hope to have 15 Democrats. And if we do, we will pass the bill and send it to the President for signature.

If we don't get to the 60 votes, I believe we will still be able to bring the bill back in the new Congress and have the 60 votes. So I believe we will now be able to advance this bill to the President. The question is, What will the President do? The indication was from one of his spokespersons traveling with him yesterday that he may well veto the legislation. If that happens, I still think, again, based on the fact that the American people overwhelmingly support this legislation, that we will be able to come back, work with our colleagues on a bipartisan basis and perhaps make this legislation part of a broader energy bill, or attach it to an appropriations measure. But I think we will be able to find other legislation that we can attach approval of the Keystone XL Pipeline—this bill—to. That makes it very likely that we could either override a veto or maybe the President wouldn't veto it. Because at the end of the day, what this is all about is more energy for this country, produced here and working with our closest friend and ally, Canada.

This is about jobs. By the State Department's own environmental impact statement, 42,000 jobs. So it is about energy. It is about jobs. It is about the infrastructure we need to build the right kind of energy plan for our country. Whether one comes from North Dakota or Kentucky or Texas or Louisiana or wherever, we have to have infrastructure as part of our energy plan.

It is also about national security. Americans do not want to have to depend on getting oil from the Middle East. They want to produce it here at home, and they want to work with our closest ally, Canada, and we want the jobs and the economic activity that come with it.

So that is where we are. That is the game plan, to get this important legislation passed, and that is what this is all about. This is about moving forward on approving the Keystone XL Pipeline. When asked, the American people in the polling showed anywhere from 65 up to about 75 percent overwhelmingly support it. So that is what this issue is all about.

Now is our chance to show that we can move forward, and in a bipartisan way, and get this done for the people of this great Nation. We are hopeful that we can get it in the lameduck. That is great. We have cleared the way to get a vote, and if we can't, then we will be right back to work on it in the new Congress.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if I could, it strikes me that there was some intervening event here between the difficulty of getting a vote over the past few years and the apparent ease of getting a vote now. It strikes me—and I would be interested in the observations of my colleague from North Dakota—it strikes me this intervening

event was the election and it could be that the voices of the American people have already altered the agenda in the Senate even before the Senate officially changes hands in January. Maybe the voices of the American people have finally been heard on this important issue that the Senator from North Dakota has been speaking about week after week after week for a very long time.

I would say to the Senator from North Dakota, when there is a new majority here, if we come up short between now and the end of the year, we will be back and back and back, looking for ways to make sure that the voices of the American people are heard, and all of these new jobs are created.

So I hope—the Senator from North Dakota has indicated we will come to a favorable conclusion sooner, but I assure the Senator from North Dakota that we will come to a favorable conclusion later, if not sooner.

I see the Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. MCCONNELL. I will, yes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican whip.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I agree with the Republican leader that our leader on this issue for years now in the Senate has been the Senator from North Dakota, and North Dakota is a big energy-producing State—second, I must point out, to my State of Texas, but they are making some rapid developments in that area, and a lot of Texans have gone temporarily to North Dakota to help them with the technology, and they are doing a great job. Believe me, it is creating a lot of jobs. These aren't minimum wage jobs, these are high-paying jobs. As a matter of fact, there are labor shortages, and what we need to do is train more people to qualify for these good, high-paying jobs.

But I wonder whether the Republican leader—or really I would be interested in anybody's point of view—beyond the election, I think there are going to have to be some changes of heart on the other side of the aisle, because as the distinguished Senator from North Dakota pointed out, we have gotten close, but never quite achieved that 60-vote goal. So if we are going to vote on this now as a result of the intervening election, there are going to have to be some folks on the other side of the aisle who are going to have to have a change of heart and vote for the bill, which I hope they do.

But this has been the main impediment—no opportunity for a vote—because the majority leader, Senator REID, has refused to grant a vote up until this point. He has changed his mind. That represents progress. But I think we have two impediments. One is the need for additional Democratic votes to actually meet that threshold; and then, as the Senator from North Dakota points out, we don't know whether the President has been chastened or has learned anything from the election, or if he is going to be influenced at all in his decision.

I know the Senator from North Dakota has been a bulldog on this issue. He is not going to let this one get away from him, nor should he, for all the reasons mentioned earlier, including the 42,000 jobs. Also, a lot of this oil, if it doesn't come in this pipeline across from Canada to the United States, most of it is going to be refined in southeast Texas and turned into gasoline and jet fuel, which is going to help bring down prices, because we will see a glut of additional supply. But if we don't use it in the United States, this is going to be shipped to China or other places that are rapidly buying natural resources.

So I would be interested if the Republican leader has a view of how we get over those final hurdles of getting Democratic votes next Tuesday to get to that 60-vote threshold. Then, how do we get the President to sign this, for a President—at least so far—who has refused to listen to the American people?

Mr. MCCONNELL. I would say to my friend, we were both in an election this year and there is no question that this jobless recovery is the biggest issue in the country. Here we have had a project which has cleared all of the environmental hurdles, it has been sitting around for literally 6 years, and—I don't know what the latest estimate of job creation is. I would ask my friend from North Dakota, what is the latest estimate on that? How many new people would be put to work constructing this pipeline—ready to go to work?

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, there have been a whole range of numbers offered. But I think to cut through to a number that people should be able to accept and to agree on is to take the number the State Department has put forward in the environmental impact statement. As a matter of fact, I think there have been either four or five environmental impact statements done on this project over a 6-year period, going all the way back to starting in September 2008 when TransCanada initially applied for approval of the Keystone XL Pipeline, which is the sister pipeline to the Keystone Pipeline, which was already built—permitted in 2 years and built in 2 years—and that happened when I was Governor. I actually started working with this project when I was Governor and it continued when I came to the Senate. But TransCanada originally applied for their permit back in September of 2008. So for 6 years this has been going on, and in the final environmental impact statement, which stated the project will have no significant environmental impact—it stated that very clearly—they also said it will create about 42,000 jobs. And these are good-paying jobs, construction jobs and other types of jobs that are good-paying jobs.

So here is a project, when we include Canada, about $7.9 billion. It is not going to cost the government one penny—not one penny. By the State Department's own admission, it will create 42,000 jobs. It will generate hundreds of millions in tax revenue to help the States and help with our deficit and debt, and it is to move oil not only from Canada, but from my State of North Dakota and Montana to refineries in Texas and Louisiana and other places that need the crude, and right now that crude is coming from places such as Venezuela or the Middle East.

It is a job creator, and there are all of these other benefits. Again, it is an excellent example of the kind of infrastructure we need to build the energy plan this country needs.

I ask the minority leader if I have answered his question adequately.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if I may, it strikes me what the administration is best at is either destroying jobs or preventing new jobs from being created. In my State, as a direct result of the Environmental Protection Agency, we have lost 7,000 coal-mining jobs during the Obama years. For every coal-mining job, we lose three more jobs. We have a literal depression in eastern Kentucky, largely caused by the Obama Environmental Protection Agency. So you begin to get the picture.

Whether it is preventing 42,000 people from going to work or taking the employment away from up to 21,000 Kentuckians, what this administration seems to be best at is either destroying existing jobs or preventing new jobs from being created. I am happy there was an energy bill in Texas and an energy bill in North Dakota. I am pretty darn unhappy we don't have an energy bill in Kentucky. We have a depression again as a result of this administration and its Environmental Protection Agency.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HEITKAMP). The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, would the Senator yield for another question?

Mr. MCCONNELL. Yes, I would be happy to yield.

Mr. CORNYN. I ask the Senator from Kentucky—I think you described how the administration appears to not just have a war on coal but a war on hydrocarbons, a war on anything other than wind turbines and solar panels.

The President said he is for all of the above. We are a big ''all of the above'' State. We have a lot of sunshine and wind. We actually produce more electricity from wind energy than any other State in the country, but it is hard to understand this ideological battle against coal and oil and gas from anywhere other than just an ideological perspective.

I think the Senators have pointed out well—both the Senator from North Dakota and the Senator from Kentucky—that these are good, high-paying jobs. One of the biggest problems we have had in the country for the last 30 years has been stagnant wages.

The middle-class wage earners are not seeing their wages go up. One of the surefire ways to make them go up is to develop more domestic energy, whether it is coal or whether it is oil or gas, because these are good, high-paying jobs.

I can tell you not just in North Dakota, where I am sure it is hard for restaurants to find people to work there because there is so much demand in the oil and gas business, but the Permian Basin, in the Midland Odessa area, where I know the Senator from Kentucky visited many times, there is a shortage of labor, and wages skyrocketed because of the demand as a result of taking advantage of this natural resource.

I would just ask—obviously the Members of the Senate who have been vitally interested in this issue under the leadership of our friend, the Senator from North Dakota—it has been acknowledged, but I think it is only fair, wouldn't the Senator say, to acknowledge the leadership in the House of Representatives of Congressman BILL CASSIDY. As a matter of fact, the bill that the House will pass tomorrow and send over here is chiefly the work product of Congressman BILL CASSIDY.

Mr. MCCONNELL. It certainly is. We commend him for his good work and that bill will be headed over this way. I would also make the observation with regard to the President's approach to energy, the announcement in China yesterday which, as I read it, gives the Chinese 16 years to do anything to reduce their carbon emissions while we are going full speed ahead here, visibly destroying American jobs or trying to prevent the creation of new jobs in North Dakota.

My goodness, as I said earlier, it seems to me what this administration is best at is either destroying existing jobs or preventing new jobs from being created because of this obsession, as the Senator from Texas pointed out, with hydrocarbons of any kind.

I see the Senator from South Dakota here as well and wonder if he may have a question.

Mr. THUNE. Yes. I would say to my colleague from Kentucky—and I appreciate the leadership of our colleague from North Dakota in constantly, persistently trying to get this in the Senate for a vote. My State of South Dakota, similar to so many others, stands to benefit enormously from this. We wish we had the direct energy production that the Senator of North Dakota has. We have a lot of indirect benefit from that. In fact, the State Department, the President's own State Department—not the oil companies—the State Department has said that in my State of South Dakota it would create 3,000 to 4,000 jobs, add $100 million to the economy, and generate $20 million in property tax revenue.

I happen to come from a county through which the pipeline would pass, a small rural county in South Dakota. My father still lives there. He is 94 years old. The school district there is very concerned about staying open. They know that when this pipeline is built, the easement they will have to get will generate property tax revenue that very well could keep the school district going. So many of the local governments out in my area in the State are very supportive of this important project.

I guess as I have looked at this—we have now had plenty of time to look at it since it has been kicking around here for about 6 years and five now environmental impact statements, all of which came back and said they have minimal impact on the environment.

If we are serious about job creation, and we have all talked on our side about the jobs this would create, the economic activities it would create, and the lessening of the dependence we have on foreign sources of energy—I have to say one other thing about my State; that is, we have a rail crisis. We have been battling now for a long time with the limited capacity in rail and much of the oil moving out is going on rail.

That makes it harder for us to get our agricultural commodities to the marketplace, and so what is happening is that we are consistently stressed. The one thing the pipeline would do in addition to moving Canadian oil down is it would allow for about 100,000 barrels a day of that—what do you call it—sweet light crude—to be put on the pipeline and therefore not on the rail car. That saves about a unit train a day, which is significant.

I guess I would say to my colleague from Kentucky—and I appreciate the arguments he has made not just with respect to this specific issue but also with what the administration's policies are doing to energy production in this country and the cost of energy and what that means for middle-income families, what that means for businesses, and what that means for jobs. It is like an all-out assault.

The Keystone Pipeline is one example of many of policies where this administration is in a position to do something good for the economy, something good for jobs, and something good for energy development in this country, lessening the dangerous dependence we have on foreign oil sources of energy.

I would say to my friend from Kentucky and I would ask him in terms of—the Senator doesn't have the direct and indirect benefit we have in North and South Dakota, but I know he has an awful lot of energy development in his State—what these policies are doing to jobs in a State such as Kentucky.

I know the Senator hears every day from his constituents about this administration's assault on the industries that are so basic and so important to our economy, so important to jobs, and providing a better, stronger, if you will, future for middle-income families in this country.

I would be curious to know if the Senator from Kentucky shares the same concern about the jobs and economy and cost of energy and everything else that I do and that we do in the northern part of the country.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I thank my friend from South Dakota. I think the energy revolution is wonderful and we ought to embrace it. As I was saying earlier, what has happened in my State as a result of the war on coal, 90 percent of our electricity in Kentucky comes from coal-fired generation. We have been among the top five of the lowest utility rates in the country in any given year for as long as anyone can remember.

The war on coal is not only a war on coal miners. It is a war on all of Kentucky because our utility rates are beginning to go up, which is going to make the energy less affordable for people on fixed incomes in my State and make us less able to compete for other industries.

I repeat. I am thrilled at what is going on in North Dakota and what is going on in Texas. We would like to have some of that job growth ourselves and calling off this Environmental Protection Agency which seems to be just hell-bent to take coal out of the equation.

It is a heavy price to pay for this ideological crusade which the President seeks to lead on a worldwide basis and says to the Chinese they don't have to do anything for 16 years while we take away our own jobs and opportunity.

Mr. CORNYN. I wonder if the Senator would yield for one last question. I see the Senator from Alaska, and I hope she will join us in this discussion.

To follow up on a very important point made by the Senator from North Dakota that hadn't been explored a lot, he talked about the implications of more North American energy self-sufficiency and what that might mean in terms of geopolitics.

We know, for example, that Vladimir Putin used his energy as a weapon in Ukraine and Europe to try to intimidate people and to keep them from resisting his invasion of independent republics such as Ukraine.

I think it is significant because for so long we have been dependent on imported energy from the Middle East, which we know has been a real challenge because of the instability there, millennia old conflicts and sectarian strife.

I would be interested if the Senator from Kentucky or perhaps other Senators have observations about what this means in terms of the safety and the security of the United States as we become increasingly North American energy self-sufficient. We haven't even talked about New Mexico. They are just now beginning to open their domestic energy production to the kinds of things we are already seeing in North Dakota, Texas and Alaska and elsewhere.

It promises not only jobs but a great opportunity for us to become a safer

and more stable source of this necessary energy supply.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, obviously what is happening is America is on its way to being energy independent in natural gas and oil. We have the ranking member of the energy committee on the floor as well. I wonder if she had a question.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, and to our leader on the floor and to the colleagues who have come together to talk about this important issue for us as a nation from an energy perspective—and we mentioned the jobs and the benefits that flow to our Nation's economy. When we talk about the issue of energy independence, there was a time when people would scoff at the notion that as a nation we would ever have a level of independence. I guess I look at it and say energy independence to me is a place where we are no longer vulnerable for our energy sources from those who would wish us ill. What has happened to this Nation in the past half dozen years has been transformational.

We talk about the shale revolution. We talk about a renaissance. What this means to us is that we are truly approaching that point where we are more energy secure and from a national security perspective. The vulnerability we once had is greatly lessened because of our own ability to produce our own resources for our people.

It is not just within the continental United States. It is Alaska as we point out, but it is North America. We are talking about North American energy independence and what that entails and what that means. When we think about where we have come and the fact that next year we will be producing more oil than Saudi Arabia, who would have thought that the United States would be in this perspective. Who would have thought we would have a conversation about energy abundance rather than energy scarcity.

It hasn't happened because this oil has just suddenly migrated to North America. It has always been there. It has been our technology. It has been our ingenuity that allows us to access it. Think what we can do when we partner with our friends and neighbors whether it is Canada to the north or Mexico to the south. So when we talk about energy independence and energy security, the Keystone XL Pipeline is kind of that corridor that helps connect us as two nations. The benefits that derive to both of us are quite considerable.

We are talking about jobs for America and we should be. I think we also need to recognize that when we are talking about the Keystone XL Pipeline, it is about a trade relationship with our closest neighbor and truly our closest ally and the benefits that come to both of us because of this relationship.

There is a phrase that is used. We say the United States and Canada are joined at the well—literally joined at the well. This is something the Congressional Research Service actually says.

There are currently 19 cross-border oil pipelines that are already operating between the United States and Canada or Mexico. This is in addition to all of the dozens of natural gas, electric transmission lines. These are oil pipelines that are crossing the border with Canada into Montana and into North Dakota, into Michigan, into New York, into Washington, into Vermont.

One would think this Keystone XL was the first pipeline to ever cross the border from the north to the south. It is some new precedent setting. There were 19 cross-border oil pipelines.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Back in 2009 this administration, this Obama administration, came to a decision about the Alberta Clipper project. This was yet another pipeline from Canada to the United States. There were arguments for and against. But ultimately Clipper was approved just as Keystone XL should be approved. So when we are talking about plowing new ground here, I think it is important for people to recognize there is no new ground that we are plowing here. This is just a reticence and a reluctance from an administration to do what I think people across the country believe is the right and the reasonable thing, not only from a jobs perspective, from an economic perspective, but from an energy security perspective as well as a relationship with our closest friend and ally.

I know my colleague from Kentucky had an opportunity to serve with our former colleague here, Senator Ted Kennedy. I am not going to ask the Senator whether he recalls the quote, but I think it is important to kind of put this in context. We have not as a nation always been opposed to importing this crude from Canada. As I mentioned, 19 cross-border agreements are in place today. But back in 1970 the Nixon administration announced they were going to place a quota on Canadian oil exports. This was when things around the country were getting dicey.

It was Senator Ted Kennedy who led the fight against this. He said—and this is a quote from a Senate hearing back in March of 1970. Senator Kennedy said:

> The reason why Canadian oil has never been restricted in the past is obvious. Canadian oil is as militarily and politically secure as our own and thus there can be no national security justification for limiting its importation.

So not only is this an issue that has been going on for a long time, both sides of the aisle recognize that there is an imperative when you come together with your allies for a resource that we recognize is a benefit to all, creates jobs for all.

So I ask my colleague from Kentucky, because he has not only served in this body for considerable years, but he has been through these debates over the decades. The question is: Why is this Keystone XL Pipeline being held out to be such a groundbreaking initiative that this President would put a hold on it for 5 years?

Mr. MCCONNELL. I would say to my friend from Alaska, I am as perplexed by that as she is. The Senator pointed out that having a cross-border pipeline is not exactly something new. As our chairman, Senator HOEVEN, has pointed out repeatedly, it has cleared every environmental test. We cannot figure out why this has happened other than some misplaced ideological crusade the President wants to lead, not approved by Congress.

We all remember what it was like here in 2009 and 2010. Our friends on the other side had 60 votes. They could do whatever they wanted to. They could not pass cap-and-trade when they owned the place. They passed ObamaCare. They passed the stimulus. They passed Dodd-Frank. They couldn't pass cap-and-trade.

The President obviously feels so strongly about this, he is willing to give the Chinese a 16-year pass, ignore Congress and go full speed ahead. Part of that ideological rigidity is reflected in the challenge our friend from North Dakota has had here for a number of years in getting a decision made, which by any objective standard ought to be a no-brainer. My goodness, this is about as close to a no-brainer as you will ever run into.

I came out here for the specific purpose of praising the great work of the Senator from North Dakota. Without him we would not be where we are today on this issue.

I wonder if the Senator has any further question or observation to make?

Mr. HOEVEN. Madam President, I would like to thank the minority leader. I would like to thank all the Members of our caucus for joining on this bipartisan legislation. You know, we are continuing to work across the aisle to get 60 votes. At the end of the day, you have got to go back to what this is all about. This is about building an ''all of the above'' energy plan for this Nation. You cannot build an ''all of the above'' energy plan for the Nation if you do not have the infrastructure to move that energy around the country. We are seeing what is happening. Because we have been blocked on building these pipelines, now we are not able to move our grain to market, because there are so many rail cars now trying to move crude oil—700,000 barrels a day out of our State alone, and it is growing.

Keystone alone will replace 1,400 rail cars a day that are now carrying oil. That is 10-unit trains. So, you see, this is about so many aspects of our economy, strengthening our economy and creating good-paying jobs that people want. That is why the American people—and that is who we work for, that is who we represent. That is what this is about. That is what we heard loud and clear in the election, is that the American people want us to work together. They want us to get jobs going,

get this economy going, build the right kind of energy future, get our budget deficit under control.

That means we have to do the fundamentals. When we talk about building infrastructure, we are talking about the fundamentals. That is what is going on here. This has been 6 years. We need to get this economy going. That starts with common sense. This is common sense. This is common sense because it is about energy, it is about jobs, it is about growing the economy, it is about national security, it is about not having to get oil from the Middle East, and it is about doing what the American people overwhelmingly time and again have told us they want us to do.

Again, I want to thank the minority leader. I will turn to him and again say: You know, I believe we can find a way, either in this lameduck or in the next Congress—and I would ask the leader—in the next Congress, and I believe it to be true, as the majority leader, he will make this a priority as part of an energy plan for this country.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Let me wrap it up by thanking again the Senator from North Dakota for his extraordinary leadership on this issue and assure the American people that we will be back. Hopefully it will be approved and signed by the President sooner. If not, he will have another opportunity later.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Madam President, I most certainly have enjoyed this colloquy and have been down on the floor most of the day. I am extremely disappointed I could not get any Member of the other side to recognize me for questions. I see the minority leader leaving the floor now, although he knows I have many questions for him that he does not want to answer. But that is his prerogative. You know, I thought we came here to work together. I am standing here. I have worked with Senator HOEVEN on this bill. Before Senator HOEVEN leaves the floor or Senator BARRASSO or Senator MURKOWSKI, if they would stay, I would like to thank Senator HOEVEN for his extraordinary leadership on this bill.

Although the other side does not acknowledge any of the leaders over here, such as the Presiding Officer or Senator MANCHIN or Senator Baucus, who is no longer here but was a strong voice for Keystone many years ago, or some of the other Democratic Senators, I want to personally thank Senator HOEVEN for his leadership and thank Senator MURKOWSKI for her extraordinary leadership on this issue.

The Senator has been a real partner to me in the truest sense of the word and in the greatest spirit of bipartisanship. Of course, she had an experience that not many Senators have. She was defeated by her own party in her own State. They chose someone else and ran against the Senator, which is unusual, and did not support her in her reelection, even though the Senator and her father have chaired, on and off, the energy committee for years. I have been a strong partner not only with LISA, the Senator from Alaska, but with her father Frank.

But the Republican Party did not support the Senator in her last election. So the Senator had to sign in on an Independent ticket. I was one of the first people to call her and say: Go, girl. Let's get it done. She did. So I have the utmost respect for Senator MURKOWSKI. I have the utmost respect for the Senator's father. I have the utmost respect for Ted Stevens. I stood with Ted Stevens until the end, even though my party went against him. I would fight for him to this day if he were here, because some of us actually believe in bipartisanship. Lots of people around here talk about it, but that is really it.

The evidence I am going to give—I am sorry the Senator from Kentucky is not here to defend himself. I want the quote he wrote down. He might come back to the floor when he hears what I am going to say. I am going to speak for 1 hour.

The Senator from Kentucky, who will be the majority leader, has not left his partisanship in Kentucky because you just saw it on display here. He cannot help himself. He cannot speak for 3 minutes without mentioning the President. He had his back turned the whole time, would not even acknowledge anyone over here. So he does a lot of talking about bipartisanship. But his statement just yesterday was, ''I am confident Dr. CASSIDY will use his position to succeed where Senator LANDRIEU failed.''

I do not necessarily think this is failure to get a vote on the Keystone Pipeline. I think this is a great victory. I want to share this victory with Senator HOEVEN who is a leader. I also want to have printed in the RECORD—the Senator from Kentucky had a lot to say about everybody else not doing their job. I want to say that on at least one occasion, he did not do his either. On March 16, there were 15 Senators—March 16 of 2011, not 2012. I mean not 2014, not 2013, not 2012, but 2011. I think that was before the Presiding Officer was here. On March 16, 2011, when Secretary Clinton was still the Secretary of State, there were 16 Members of the Senate who signed a letter to her asking her to approve the Keystone Pipeline. I am going to read those names because I think it is important. My name is first, amazingly. I am very proud of that, didn't even remember it. MARY LANDRIEU. ORRIN HATCH circulated a letter with me. Max Baucus. Kay Bailey Hutchison, my dear friend from Texas. PAT ROBERTS from Kansas, another dear friend. MIKE ENZI from Wyoming. LISA MURKOWSKI—of course her name would be on here—from Alaska. Senator JOHN CORNYN from Texas. JOHN BARRASSO from Wyoming. MARK BEGICH from Alaska who just unfortunately lost his race because of several reasons, one of which is that people talk a lot about bipartisanship who do not really honor it. Nobody better than MARK BEGICH has shown a willingness to work across party lines. He is no longer with us, but he signed this letter. ROY BLUNT from Missouri. JOHN HOEVEN from North Dakota, and RON JOHNSON.

But you know a signature that is not on this letter is MITCH MCCONNELL's. Maybe MITCH MCCONNELL was too busy to sign this letter. But his name is not on here. Now am I saying MITCH MCCONNELL has not been a supporter of the Keystone Pipeline? Absolutely not. Senator MCCONNELL has supported this project. But what I am saying is that Senator MCCONNELL has not been truthful with the American people about actually how this has always evolved. To support that claim, which is a strong one, on May 7, 2014, Senator REID offered a vote on the XL Pipeline. Senator MCCONNELL objected. On May 12, 2014, Senator REID offered a vote on the Keystone Pipeline. Senator MCCONNELL objected. On May 12, I offered a vote on the Keystone Pipeline. Senator FLAKE objected for Senator MCCONNELL. On June 24, Senator SHAHEEN offered a vote on the XL Pipeline. That, of course, I believe, was connected with the energy efficiency bill with Senator PORTMAN. Senator INHOFE objected. Senator MCCONNELL did nothing to help. Then on June 25, Senator REID offered a vote on the XL Pipeline. Senator MCCONNELL objected.

I want to underscore this. I am not saying Senator REID is a supporter of the pipeline. He has never been. He is not a supporter of the pipeline, but he has asked for a vote on Keystone a number of times and Senator MCCONNELL has objected.

Senator MCCONNELL will come to the floor and show a list such as this when he has asked for votes on the Keystone Pipeline and Senator REID has objected. That is the truth of the Congress. The saddest thing about this is I have believed for over 1 year that if we could actually get a vote, we have the 60 votes to pass it.

I have said that on any number of occasions. I believe we have the 60 votes to pass Keystone. I believe the coalition of oil and gas and energy and manufacturing companies that are very strong, with the coalition of the strongest labor unions and organizations that represent working people, and with the vote in this last election, and with the people of the United States—mostly because of the people of the United States asking us to do our jobs, I, on faith, and with strong evidence that I have—but on faith in what is right, what is true, and what is best—we have the 60 votes on this floor. That is why I came to the floor yesterday—on that faith.

I said that I believed that it was time to vote on the Keystone Pipeline now. The most important reason is to show the American people that we are willing to put partisanship aside. I called Senator HOEVEN—the first thing I did.

The Senator has left the floor because I am not really sure anyone wants to debate me on this. But that is OK. I am used to it. I don't have anybody to debate at home in my election because my opponent won't show up. So I am very used to debating all by myself. So they have all left the floor.

But when I arrived in Washington, the first thing I did was to call Senator HOEVEN. I spoke to him because I have done that on any number of occasions. I said to him: JOHN, I think this is a very good time, and there are several reasons why. I think the politics are cleared up. I think the people spoke—cleared up, not meaning me. It is not about my politics, but it is about the politics of some people who lost and won.

Some people who were opposing the vote have lost. Some people who supported having the vote are here. I have said it looks to me as if this is a perfect opportunity to do two things—to get done something that you and I have wanted to do now for over 1 year.

This letter most certainly suggests that there were a number of us—not many. There were only 15 of us who signed the letter to Secretary Clinton asking her to push forward on the pipeline. Other people were either too busy to sign it or didn't think—whatever—but it is a bipartisan letter and it was very good.

So I called the Senator, and he said that he didn't think that it would happen until the next Congress.

So I said: Well, let's try. Maybe we could get it done. He said that he would talk to his leadership, and that was the last conversation I have had with him.

I came down to the floor yesterday just thinking: Well, maybe I will just kick it up a little bit, and sure enough, I did. It got kicked up pretty high. I was actually here around 2 o'clock because I have been around here enough to know that if you show up early you actually might get something done. Don't show up late; don't be late. My dad taught me to be on time, so I was here at 2 o'clock.

I was very interested to see what Majority Leader REID would say and Minority Leader MCCONNELL would say, and the Senator from Texas, who is usually always with the Senator from Kentucky, what they would say about what we should do.

I sat here fully expecting the minority leader from Kentucky—soon to be the majority leader—to say OK, the people have spoken; let's get on with a bill that is very important. Everyone in the country—not everyone, but many people—many people in this country, in all regions, support the Keystone Pipeline—not everyone. There are strong feelings against it, but every poll I have seen shows people from many different areas of the country, many different political persuasions. This is not as if only Democrats are against it and only Republicans are for it. There are many Democrats in my State that have supported it—poor people, rich people, black people, white people—Democrats who support the Keystone Pipeline. I am certain that is true in the State of the Presiding Officer, North Dakota. I am sure that it is not even a party issue in the State of North Dakota. This is just a commonsense issue to get the Keystone Pipeline bill.

At approximately 2:15 yesterday I sat on the floor, ready to go. I had called my leader and JOHN HOEVEN. His name is first on this bill. I could have asked for my name to be first on the bill because I actually chair the committee, but I was trying to be bipartisan, gracious, and a team member. It hasn't gotten me very far, but I just used it as an example.

I said: JOHN, this means the world to you, although it means the world to me, put your name first. So it is called the Hoeven-Landrieu bill. I called him since it is his bill and asked him what he thought. He said he thought we could do it in the next Congress. I said, I actually think we can do it now. He said he didn't think so. So I just came to the floor.

I waited for MITCH MCCONNELL to say something. This is what he said:

> Mr. President, last week the American people sent a strong message to Washington. They voted for a new direction. They called for a change in the way we do things in the Senate, and they sent a new team to Washington to carry their wishes forward, and we plan to do just that.
>
> But several items remain for the outgoing Congress to consider and that is our immediate focus.

So I am sitting in my chair thinking OK, here we go. I am ready. I have been ready since we started, but definitely my staff can't find anything before that which I can show for any evidence, other than this letter. So I can just say I think I was for it since I heard about it. But since I can't prove it, let's go back to March 16, 2011, because my signature is the lead on this letter. So that is some indication that I have been leading at least since then.

I get a tremendous amount of credit, of course, from my own caucus because they understand that even though most of my caucus doesn't agree with me and thinks I have been—and I have really pushed them on this issue and will continue to, because that is what good Senators do. We don't represent our caucuses. We represent our States, and we fight hard for what we believe is right. I have, for the longest time, felt this was the right thing to do. So that was that letter.

I was sitting and thinking: Here we go. But this is what the minority leader went on to say:

> In the weeks that remain in this Congress, we should work to accomplish the essential task [not of building the Keystone Pipeline] of funding the Congress and preventing retroactive tax increases.

I thought he could say the essential task of funding Congress—which I will put first, although a lot of people don't think we should fund ourselves because we are not doing a very good job—but I will give him that.

The second I would put—and let's show the people that we mean business by passing a bipartisan bill, the Keystone Pipeline, and moving it to the President's desk. But he said:

> . . . preventing retroactive tax increases. We must address the expiring authority passed earlier this session for the Department of Defense to train and equip a moderate, vetted Syrian opposition [I agree that is very important] and we must continue to support the efforts to address the Ebola crisis [equally important].

But then something interesting happened. They brought to the floor a childhood bill—the majority and minority together. The leadership brought a bill that has bipartisan support—but so does Keystone. But the majority leader and the minority leader didn't think Keystone could get votes or couldn't pass or maybe they didn't want to pass it.

But as long as I am a Senator—I hope to be for many years to come—I am going to continue to fight for what is right and do it in as gracious a manner as possible to give credit where credit is due, to honor the Members on the other side and on my side who work very hard and just don't talk about bipartisanship but actually work at it every day.

I am sorry that it doesn't seem possible for the minority leader—soon to be majority leader—to do that. When he finished speaking, I just sat here because I can't get leader time because I am not the leader of the caucus. Then I thought well, maybe Senator CORNYN will say something.

Senator CORNYN spoke at approximately 2:30, the record says. He spoke longer than the majority leader. He also talked about dysfunction, but he never called for a Keystone vote either. So I thought that was strange.

He said: ''We will pass a budget next year—something our friends across the aisle have failed to do . . . ''

He said: ''I know Republicans and Democrats will continue to have policy disagreements.''

He also said:

> So last week's election will not change some of the fundamental policy differences we have between political parties on ObamaCare, on what we need to do to preserve and protect Social Security and Medicare and the like . . . but it will give us a chance to make some steady incremental progress on issues where we do agree.

He talked about Ted Kennedy, the lion of the Senate. He talked about MIKE ENZI and how MIKE ENZI, who is a wonderful Senator—someone I have worked with very closely—said: Let's work on the 80–20 rule.

He said: What is that? He said: Let's work on the 80 percent that we can agree on and the 20 percent we cannot.

Then he went on to say:

> That strikes me as eminently practical and a way for us to begin to get back to work again.
>
> When I talk about the easy stuff we can do, I am referring to the bipartisan majority

that supports things such as the Keystone XL Pipeline authorization . . .

I want to repeat that:

When I talk about the easy stuff we can do, I am referring to the bipartisan majority that supports things such as the Keystone XL Pipeline authorization . . .

So I thought he would call for us to see what we could do in this lame duck. We are going to vote on an early childhood education bill. Most certainly we would have the time to vote on a jobs bill.

Now I believe early childhood education in the long term is the best jobs bill we can do. I have said that over and over, and my life has been committed to early childhood education, good schools, excellence in education, and accountability. I am not saying this to diminish the bill the Senate is poised to pass, which is for early childhood education. But if we started today with 2 year olds, it will literally take us 20 years until they are 22, and the American people want jobs yesterday. They want jobs now. They don't want jobs in 22 years.

So I was hoping the majority would see that there is a clear path for the Keystone Pipeline to pass—a clear path. You can see it. You don't need a magnifying glass. You just need a brain in your head, an understanding of what happened in the election, and the votes that are here. It is—yes, what happened in the election, not only that the American people spoke, but that some Members who were opposed to it and who didn't want to vote have lost their elections.

The votes are here to pass this bill. It was clear to me; I thought it should be clear to the majority leader. So people are going to have to go ask the majority leader. He left the floor, and he will not answer this question, but I am going to continue to ask it until I get an answer from him because I think the people of the United States deserve it. Why didn't he? He has been talking about it incessantly every day, not only beating up on Democrats, even though about 15 of us—maybe more—will vote for it, but he has been beating up on the President incessantly, every day. And when he had the microphone, when he had the chance, when he was elected overwhelmingly in his State, he walked to the floor and didn't say a word about the Keystone Pipeline. Not a word. He didn't even refer to it.

Then the Senator from Texas, who I thought, well—because they do their scripts together, they coordinate them very well. I thought maybe the Senator from Texas was going to give the signal. The Senator from Texas didn't give the signal, either.

So as all Senators here who are elected have the right to stand up at their desk and ask for recognition—it is about as simple as that. I didn't even have a script. I was just sort of thinking that they were going to do it. That is why I was here, because I thought at least I would like to say I agree with it, and I am prepared to do what I have done to rally our side to get the votes.

So neither one of them said anything. And we can read it for ourselves. It is very clear. The Senator from Texas said we should do easy stuff like the Keystone Pipeline. We will do that. Next time we will work on workforce training. He said: No. 4, we can work on infrastructure; No. 5, he said we should discourage abusive, costly litigation; No. 6, we are going to repeal ObamaCare, particularly restore the 40-hour workweek; repeal the medical device tax; and No. 8, we are going to abolish the Independent Payment Advisory Board under Medicare. Each of these things I have mentioned has bipartisan support. If we can pass these measures, we will send them to the President for his signature. So starting with the easy stuff we have already identified that has bipartisan support.

Well, I lead the bipartisan effort on the Democratic side, and I am proud to say that I lead it with the Senator from North Dakota who is presiding, who has been an equally ferocious and sometimes more effective, I will admit, champion than I have been, and the Senator from West Virginia, who has also been an absolute bulldog on the issue.

There are other Senators. Max Baucus was a strong supporter of Keystone. Senator TESTER. Is it impossible for Republicans to utter the words? Senator TESTER. Senator HEITKAMP. They don't have to say my name. I am clear about why they are not doing that, but they could at least be gracious enough to recognize the leadership of the other Senators here who have worked hard.

When we start this next Congress—and I am going to do everything I can to be a part of it—I really hope the reporters in this Chamber and people who are following this will start reporting what really happens here instead of what happens at press conferences, instead of what people say in press releases, instead of what people say when they buy staged television ads. If the reporters would actually just report what happened, I think that would be a good start.

Sometimes they are going to say: This is what Senator LANDRIEU did, and I disagree with her. This is what MITCH MCCONNELL did, and I disagree with him. But at least they would report what actually happens.

So when they finished speaking, I stood up and said I think the votes are there. I have reason to believe they are. I worked for a couple of days last week just calling around because I am the chair of the committee, and my job is to pass legislation. I passed some significant pieces of legislation even before I was the chair of the energy committee, although you would not believe that listening to some people. We passed the RESTORE Act. I led the pushback against Biggert-Waters, although I didn't put my name on it because I knew if I did, it would never pass because they wouldn't have allowed it under any circumstance. So Senator MENENDEZ and Senator ISAKSON were gracious to step up, and they led the effort, and I just kind of organized behind the scenes—it is clear that happened—and we passed it. I am grateful to this day that I didn't put my name as the lead because they never would have passed it in an election year, and we would have had 5 million people in this country literally turning their homes back to the banks or telling their children: The home that I built and that we built together that has $300,000 or $400,000 of equity—I am just telling you we are bankrupt.

I am so glad that didn't happen. I am thrilled.

So we did that bill. We did the RESTORE Act. I passed early in my career a revenue-sharing bill that is going to serve the State of Louisiana and the gulf coast beautifully for years to come.

Harry Truman offered us a portion of offshore oil and gas revenues even before I was born. When I got through college and read about it, I thought: Geez, that was a good idea. I liked Harry Truman's idea, and so I filed a bill and passed it as a junior member of the committee—I remind people, over the objection of my own chairman, who was a Democrat at the time, the Senator from New Mexico, JEFF BINGAMAN, who was adamantly opposed, adamantly fought every day, not just voted against me but lobbied against me, fought against me, spoke against it—not me personally but the bill. He just didn't believe in it—not me personally but the bill. I passed it over his objection, which is a very hard thing, for a junior member of the committee to pass it over the objection of their own chairman. But the reason I did it is because I figured out the votes, and we drafted it in a way that could secure the votes and passed it. That is the truth.

So I am happy tonight. I am not sad. I am happy tonight that the House of Representatives is again—because this is like the third time this has happened in my career. It is a great honor for a House that I haven't spent 2 minutes on the floor of—I mean, I know my delegation, but I haven't spent any time in the House. I wasn't even a Member of the House. This is the third time in my career that the House of Representatives has actually taken a Hoeven-Landrieu, Landrieu-Hoeven bill, stripped their bill—and I didn't even ask them to do it—and put my bill over there and passed it, and then they are going to move it over here. I could not be happier because we need to get the Keystone Pipeline done. They did sort of the same thing with revenue sharing, the RESTORE Act—well, four times—and the Biggert-Waters bill.

So I could not be happier that I was here at 2:00, that I listened to my father, who is listening now—he should be happy to say: Show up on time. You might not ever figure out what could happen if you aren't there on time.

So I was, thinking absolutely they wouldn't put the early childhood vote

on the floor, they would put Keystone on the floor because they talked about it every single day—every single day in my State, in Alaska, in North Carolina, in Georgia, and in Kentucky. Every single day.

What was wrong with yesterday? What was wrong with yesterday? It was a good day. I am going to let that question sit because there are a lot of people around here who know the answer; I don't have to tell it to them. What was wrong with Tuesday? So when they didn't mention it, I thought that I would because, as is the truth, I have been leading it since 2011. I am not going to stop until we get a vote on the Senate floor, for as long as I am here as chair, as ranking member—which I will be, and not as happy as being chair but thrilled to be able to work with the Senator from Alaska. If I had to pick one person in this body on that side of the aisle to work with, it would be LISA MURKOWSKI without a doubt, not only because she is a woman but because she is an independent woman. She is strong. And since I was raised by one, I cotton to them.

So I am a happy camper. It does not bother me because, as I have said, I have now worked here long enough to have worked in the majority and in the minority. I have worked with Republicans. I have worked with Democrats. I have worked with three Presidents of different parties and six Governors. Why would I be sad? This is kind of like somebody said to me: This is the gig you signed up for. Yes, it is. It is strange to many people, and I don't blame our constituents for getting aggravated, but it is a gig I signed up for because my dad signed up for it, my brother signed up for it, and my sister signed up for it because it is what we do, and we do it well. And every single member of my family—and my husband signed up for it, and his mother signed up for it. I think it is worth signing up for, is why I am here.

Other people can have their opinions about the people who are here. I think they are some of the best people in the world. Maybe the institution is dysfunctional—it is. It is dysfunctional at this moment, but the people are not. The individual people who are here on both sides are not dysfunctional individuals; they are some of the most extraordinary people on this planet. I know I am going to get criticized for that statement because people will say: There she goes, just talking about politicians. But I have served long enough to know there are really some extraordinary human beings who serve in this Senate—smart, capable, caring—on both sides of the aisle, and I am proud to be a part of it.

I was not proud of the minority leader from Kentucky on Tuesday. I was not proud of him today. I was not proud of the Senator from Texas today. I was very disappointed in the Senator from North Dakota. But they are my friends. We will get through it, and we will work forward together.

I am glad the House is debating and voting. I look forward to being back here on next Tuesday, where our vote will occur, and I am very hopeful we will have and I believe we will have not 60 but probably 61 votes for the Keystone Pipeline. What the President does is a different matter, and I would like to challenge the Senators on Tuesday to just focus on the Senate.

Let the Senate's will work. Let us pass this bill. We will then send it to the President, and under the Constitution—which is read to us on a frequent basis—the President has the right to sign it or to veto it. If he vetoes it, it is going to take 67 votes to override his veto. Mine will be one of them if he vetoes this bill. If I am here, my vote will be there to override his veto. I don't believe there are 67 other votes in the Senate to do that. There might be. I don't know what mindset people will have, but let's cross that bridge when we get there.

Stop talking about the White House and talk about the Senate. If the Senate can function, then maybe the House will do a little bit better, maybe the White House will do a little bit better. My mother taught me if you want to criticize others, start with yourself first. Get yourself straight before you start criticizing everybody else. All I hear around here is what this one didn't do and what that one didn't do and what the President didn't do. Let us work as a Senate. Let us show the American people how the Senate works.

The House is going to do their job on Keystone. We are going to do our job on Keystone, and that will break the gridlock, which we desperately need on a significant—not an easy bill, not an easy bill—but easier, such as early childhood education. Who could be opposed to that? But let's break the gridlock on a tough bill that is hard on our Members to vote on. There are Members here who think it is the worst thing in the world. I understand that. I think there are things that have passed here that I thought were the worst things in the world and I didn't like them, but voting is important. Senator DURBIN has said this and others have said this over and over again; Senator LEAHY, who has been here a long time. Let us vote and let us stop criticizing everyone else, and do our job, and I am proud that I helped to get us moving in that direction.

I am going to ask—Senator CARPER is seeking to speak on another matter. I understand my hour of postcloture is about to expire. I don't need any additional time. I note that Senator CARPER is here, but before that, Senator HEITKAMP, I would respectfully say to the Chair, I think may have some comments she would like to make, and I yield the floor, but if Senator HEITKAMP could go now.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. FRANKEN). For the information of the Senate, cloture having been invoked, the motion to refer falls.

The Senator from North Dakota.

Ms. HEITKAMP. Thank you, Mr. President. I want to thank my very good friend MARY LANDRIEU for everything she has done for our country, for her State, for her tenacity, and for her willingness to shepherd this through at a very critical time.

We talked yesterday on the floor about how important it is to send the right messages to the American public. A lot of people will say, well, they pick this agenda or this agenda. They just want us to start working together. And they want us to turn on the television and watch C–SPAN and say, there they are in the sandbox again, fighting about things that don't matter to the American public. You know, picking fights with each other, bad-mouthing each other, as opposed to working together.

It is a little tough right now, because I think that if we are going to set the tone today, yesterday, today and in the days that follow during this lameduck, the tone that will establish the relationships and the courtesies we are going to have going forward in the next Congress, we need to make sure we are communicating when the tone goes a little wrong.

To me, I have fought this issue. I have been in favor of the Keystone Pipeline ever since I looked, and I somewhat famously likened it to caring about a reality TV show that has nothing to do with people's lives, and wondering why we care so much about Keystone, because it doesn't have a whole lot to do with carbon. It doesn't. Keystone Pipeline is about transportation of oil. That oil is going to get transported, it is going to get produced, and it is going to move. It is going to move on rail or it is going to move on pipe someplace. When you look at all the studies that have been done, the environmental studies, you turn it around 100 different ways, you come to the same conclusion, that the Keystone Pipeline makes an incredible amount of sense.

It is a job-ready project, shovel-ready project, with good trade union jobs. That is something you don't see every day in America. New things coming—it will help us transport 100,000 barrels of oil. That is less than 10 percent of what we produce every day but it will take, as my senior Senator said, a lot of unit trains off the rails so we can move grain, and it will be state of the art in terms of the quality of the pipeline. I have seen the pipeline. I have seen the oil sands. I have been there. We are headed for North American energy independence if we don't get in our own way.

Keystone has taken a role larger than life, and it has been this hot button issue that doesn't belong in this debate. It should have been approved, in my opinion, years ago, absolutely years ago. It has taken us longer to analyze Keystone than what it has taken us to beat Hitler—by far, almost 50 percent more time spent analyzing the Keystone Pipeline.

The people of the United States are tired of this issue. They are tired of our gridlock, and they are tired of the partisan bickering back and forth. So I would ask as a way to move forward on a lot of very difficult energy issues that we are going to have here, whether it is what I believe, we need to begin to lower the barriers and eliminate the barriers for exportation of crude oil. It has been something I have talked about a lot. I believe we need to export and to facilitate the exportation of natural gas. I believe we need to do everything we can to continue to develop our renewables. I believe we should have a renewable fuel standard that encourages—encourages—the development of renewable fuels. I believe a lot of things on energy, and we frequently hear in this body we are all of the above and people start talking and you know they are not. They are not all of the above. They are polarizing this issue.

At the heart of it, as I said yesterday, one of the reasons why the United States of America has not experienced an economic downturn or the slowdown that you see globally is because of this energy renaissance. This is what the American public has sent us to do, to set public policy, but more importantly, to get out of the way of private invention and entrepreneurship.

So I would respectfully, very respectfully, ask that when our colleagues from the other side come to the floor, think about how we can use language that brings us together, that doesn't tell the American public, there they go again. You know, here we are again in the sandbox trying to figure out who gets credit. You know what, when this place works, we will all get credit. And more importantly, when this place works, the American public will have their faith in their government restored.

So let's be very careful with language. Let's recognize everyone for the commitment they have made, and for the leadership they provided. And I have said many times in my home State, Senator HOEVEN has led this effort. He talks about it. He has been a champion for the Keystone Pipeline. I hope I have been a champion. But I certainly have not done the time that he has done on this issue. Senator HOEVEN deserves an incredible amount of credit; but equally, MARY LANDRIEU deserves an incredible amount of credit for moving this issue right at this point of time and moving this issue forward. We who are working on this side to gather the number of votes that we know we are going to need to pass this—that is not easy work. Trust me, that is not easy work, but we are making tremendous progress. We are making tremendous progress.

Now what happens next week? We hope we pass it. And we will cross the bridge of a Presidential veto when we come to it and if we come to it. But let's not presuppose what people are going to do and let's not stand here at a time when the American public wants to see us all come together, let's not stand here and worry about who gets credit. Let's not stand here and call out people for what you consider past wrongs. Let's move forward on behalf of the American people.

I wanted to personally say thank you, Senator LANDRIEU, for your leadership, for your tenacity. And if I could add one point, and I will say this because I was with you every step of the way on flood insurance. Flood insurance would not have happened without MARY LANDRIEU. We had great support on the other side, great bipartisan effort, but she sounded the alarm before anyone knew we were going to have this problem and had already built that groundwork.

You know, I am sure there are a lot of things her opponents and her detractors can say about the positions she has taken over the years. Be honest about it. She has been a leader on Keystone. She has been a leader on oil and gas. She has been a leader on flood insurance. She has been a tenacious voice for all of those issues. And she has in her heart the best interests not just of the people in this country, but particularly the great people of the great State of Louisiana. So, thank you, MARY, for everything you do.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

NOMINATIONS

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I did not come to the floor to praise Senator LANDRIEU, but while I am at it, I would like to say a few words.

I have the privilege of chairing the committee on governmental affairs. Senator LANDRIEU chairs the appropriations subcommittee that deals with Homeland Security. She is also a member of the authorizing committee. So she works both vineyards. She is as tenacious and tireless in her defense of our country against cyber attacks, against terrorist attacks, against all kinds of ills that would otherwise be visited on our country. She still finds time as chairman of the energy committee to focus not only on issues that are important to her State—and this is one of them—but also issues that are incredibly important to our country.

I said to my wife the other night—we were talking about Senator LANDRIEU and her tenacity. That word has been used tonight a couple times about her, as an unrelenting advocate for her State and the causes she believes in. Others have mentioned that she is a tireless advocate not only for Louisiana but for the causes that she sees that are just.

There is no quit in this one, as I said to my wife this week. She said, ''How is Mary?'' I would never want to run against this woman, and fortunately I would never have to. And for those who have to, good luck and God bless. But I am proud to be here with MARY, and with Senator HEIDI HEITKAMP as well.

The reason I come here tonight is to discuss a number of nominations that have been considered and approved by the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee that both Senator LANDRIEU and Senator HEITKAMP and I serve on. Senator COBURN, our colleague from Oklahoma, is the ranking Republican on that committee, and we have worked tirelessly ourselves for the better part of the last 2 years to try to make sure there is a full complement of leadership in the Department of Homeland Security to provide the leadership for one of the most important agencies in our government. I have spoken with people on this floor and wherever else I could find a venue about the large and very troubling backlog of nominations in this Senate. I call it executive branch Swiss cheese. Executive branch Swiss cheese.

There are a couple of ways you can cripple an administration. No. 1, you can refuse to provide appropriations and funding. Another way to cripple an administration is to not approve the nominations of people who fill key leadership positions. The most important ingredient I found in any organization—I don't care if it is a legislative body such as this, a State such as Minnesota or Delaware or Louisiana or North Dakota—I don't care if it is a college or a business, a church. The most critical factor in all of those is leadership.

When we deny a President or a Governor or a mayor, for that matter, the ability to put his or her leadership team together—even when they are nominating well-qualified, competent people, people of integrity—we do not do just a disservice to that person who has been nominated and has gone through the process, but to the State or the county or the country in which they have been nominated to serve.

I think it is every Senator's constitutional role to provide advice and consent on the President's nominations in a thorough and timely manner as part of the Senate confirmation process. I have exercised that constitutional role and our right and our obligation. I think we do our country no service and do ourselves no honor when we leave critical agencies—and Homeland Security is certainly one of those—without proper leadership and leave honorable men and women who are willing to serve in the government twisting in the wind.

I am a big believer in the Golden Rule, as our Presiding Officer knows: treat other people the way we want to be treated. How would we like it if we were nominated, and we have a job—maybe it is an important job, maybe it is a job that pays a lot more than what they have been nominated to do in service to our country. All too often people are asked to put their lives and their family on hold. They don't know if they are going to be uprooted from wherever they are in the country to come here and live or for their spouse or father or mother to work. It is not fair.

In some cases, it is just to put people before committees and berate them

publicly for sins of omission or commission that may be fabricated. No wonder it is hard to get good people to serve.

In this case, I have several people that I will talk about tonight. These people deserve not just our consideration but our strong support.

During my 2 years as chairman of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, I have made it one of my top priorities to work closely with our ranking Republican, Dr. TOM COBURN, who is a physician and also a Senator, and to vet the President's nominees that we have jurisdiction over and move them in a timely manner when they meet muster, scrub them good, make sure we have drilled down on what they believe in, their credentials and competency for serving, and when they do pass muster, try to move them along and bring them through our committee—almost every time—with a bipartisan vote and then bring the nomination to the floor.

TOM COBURN and I try to do that religiously with respect to our nominees. We try to do the same kind of bipartisan approach with our legislation. We have had a lot of success and we are grateful to our colleagues for supporting what we have done in our committee. We are grateful to Majority Leader REID and Senator MCCONNELL and their staffs. They have been valuable partners in this effort. Gary Myrick, who works on the floor for the Democratic side, and Laura Dove, who works on the Republican side for Senator MCCONNELL, have been terrific to work with, and we thank them for their stewardship.

Just yesterday our committee reported out three more outstanding nominees, one of them, Sarah Saldana, to be head of Immigration and Customs Enforcement at the Department of Homeland Security. It is a big job, it is an important job, and it is a tough job. Russell Deyo has been nominated to be the top management official at the Department of Homeland Security. Mickey Barnett has been nominated by the President to serve another term on the Postal Services Board of Governors.

I believe Ms. Saldana and Mr. Deyo will almost certainly be confirmed in short order. I urge my colleagues to review their qualifications and work with Dr. COBURN and me to fill these two vacancies at the Department of Homeland Security in the coming days.

I wish to spend a few minutes of my time tonight discussing the nomination of Mickey Barnett, who is already serving on the Postal Board of Governors. He is a Republican and nominated again by the President. I will then talk about a couple of lower profile nominees that I think we urgently need to confirm as quickly as we can—certainly this year during this lame-duck session.

Mickey Barnett is among a group of five partisan nominees to the Postal Board of Governors. His nomination was submitted by a Democratic President. Two of the nominees are Republicans, and Mickey is one of those, and three of them are Democrats.

If we don't confirm Mr. Barnett and his colleagues by December 8—a little more than 4 weeks from now—Mr. Barnett, who is currently the Board's chair, will be forced to leave the Board. If that happens, the Postal Board of Governors will no longer have enough members to achieve a quorum and will not be able to conduct business.

At a time when the Postal Service is struggling to address a number of financial challenges and adapt to the digital age and the Internet world we live in, being unable to conduct business would not be good for the Postal Service. In fact, it would be very bad. We need to avoid that from happening. I think if it does happen, we will be inviting a disaster.

Today, because of our inability in Congress to come to a consensus on postal reform legislation—and they are actually creeping closer—the good work by Dr. COBURN and a number of other people to actually develop a bipartisan consensus around the legislation that was reported out of our committee—I believe in a 9-to-1 vote earlier this year—the Postal Service will continue to twist in the wind, able to only do so much to address the financial challenges they face and to transfer themselves in a digital age. They need to figure out how to make themselves relevant—a 200-some-year-old establishment—in delivering that work that goes to every business and every residence in this country, for the most part, 6 days a week.

How do we enable the Postal Service to make money? They are figuring it out, and we can help them with our legislation.

Meanwhile, the customers of the Postal Service are left with uncertainty about what the future holds for the Postal Service. Are they going to be around? Are they going to be able to do the job? Are they ever going to modernize their fleet? Are they ever going to modernize their processing centers and the post offices themselves? We can answer that question and enable them to be financially viable once again. We would make that uncertainty that surrounds the Postal Service even worse if December 8 comes and goes and our five Postal Board nominees are still waiting for us to act.

The same goes for our nominees to fill vacancies, not on the Postal Board of Governors, but on something called the Postal Regulatory Commission. It is a five-member commission. It is the regulator, if you will, for the Postal Service. The two people who have been nominated by this President are Nanci Langley and Tony Hammond. They have been waiting since the spring of 2013 to be confirmed. As a result, the commission has been working with only three commissioners out of five. We need to do something about that as well, and waiting for another year—waiting for another month is foolhardy.

These people deserve a vote. We ought to vote them up or down. They have been unanimously approved and confirmed by our committee, and I think they need a vote. When they get a vote, I am sure they will be confirmed.

Also pending before the Senate are two nominations to the District of Columbia Superior Court, Judge William Nooter and Judge Steven Wellner. They are both well-qualified nominees who, like the Homeland Security and Postal nominees I have discussed, won bipartisan support in the committee and are needed to fill vacancies on the District of Columbia's very busy trial court.

Judge Nooter and Judge Wellner were reported out of our committee with unanimous bipartisan support months ago. In Judge Nooter's case, it was more than a year ago.

As I have discussed, these men are not alone in waiting so long for confirmation, but the problem is particularly unfair when it comes to the District of Columbia's court system. Earlier this fall during the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee Hearing on DC statehood, the current vacancies on the DC Superior Court were included as just one of many injustices the District faces simply because it serves our Nation's capital.

The District of Columbia already suffers from not having control over its laws or even its own local dollars. The citizens of this city should not have to face a compromised legal system as well. While we in Congress may not be able to fix everything, I do think this is one of the few issues we can and must address now.

The DC Circuit Court is a local court. It hears primarily local matters. Most nominees are entirely uncontroversial and used to go through the Senate without a recorded floor vote. But because these local judges go through Senate confirmation, they have been caught up in a broader political stalemate of the Senate floor. I hope that is going to come to an end.

Meanwhile, no other local or State jurisdiction must have its non-Federal judges approved by the Congress. If we are talking about Federal District judges or Circuit Court of Appeal judges or Supreme Court Justices, of course they should come through and be debated and approved here. These are local judges, and it is only by a quirk in the law that they have to come here for a confirmation at all. They are local judges in the District of Columbia.

How would we like it if we had been nominated and held up for over a year—particularly in courts where there are huge backlogs. We are talking about caseloads of tens of thousands of people, and they don't have a full complement of judges because of us. How fair is that? Well, it is not.

No other local or State jurisdiction must have its non-Federal judges approved by Congress, and no other State

or locality is without a vote in the Senate to help push for action on nominations of concern to that community.

The DC Superior Court is operated by the Federal Government and its judges are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate for 15-year terms. It is important to note that although this court is operated by the Federal Government, it is separate from the Federal Government. Instead, the Superior Court is the local trial court for the District of Columbia. It handles matters such as local crime and domestic and civil disputes.

Nevertheless, because this court is operated by the Federal Government, the President nominates candidates for judicial vacancies from a slate prepared by a nonpartisan nomination commission and the Senate must confirm the nominees.

Currently, there are four vacancies on the Superior Court. Due to planned retirement and medical leave, this number will rise by the end of the year, and it is going to get worse. These vacancies hinder the Superior Court's ability to administer justice for DC residents. The Superior Court judges already carry, as I said earlier, enormous caseloads. The existing vacancies—the majority of which are in the family court division—threaten to undermine the judge's ability to give proper attention to each case, including those cases in family courts that affect the welfare of families, and particularly the welfare of children.

Recently the chief judge of the Superior Court and the Bar Association in the District of Columbia sent to both Senate leaders and Dr. COBURN and myself a letter raising these concerns and ultimately seeking a Senate vote on Judges Nooter and Wellner. They are preaching to the choir.

Judge Nooter is currently the presiding magistrate judge on the Superior Court and has served as a magistrate judge for the past 14 years. As presiding magistrate judge, he manages 23 fellow magistrate judges and serves on the leadership team of the chief judge of the Superior Court.

Meanwhile, Judge Wellner currently serves as an administrative law judge for the District of Columbia Office of Administrative Hearings. Since 2011, he has led the unemployment insurance division, and by all accounts skillfully coordinates a team of 10 administrative law judges and support staff to adjudicate over 3,000 unemployment insurance cases per year.

Given the caliber of these nominees, the lack of controversy over their nomination, and the unanimous bipartisan support they have received from the committee of jurisdiction, I urge—and I am sure I urge with the full support of Dr. COBURN, our ranking Republican member of the committee—this body to move their confirmations forward as soon as possible. Justice delayed is still justice denied. It has been that way for centuries and these delays are insufferable.

I will close by saying that what we are doing is not just bad judgment, it is not just bad form, I think it is shameful, and we need to fix it.

With that, I am finished, and I am looking around to see if there is anybody else seeking recognition. I don't see anyone, so with that, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, after the election, I have heard a number of my colleagues in the House of Representatives and in the Senate say they are going to come to the floor of the Senate and to the floor of the House and again try to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

I said last night on the floor that it strikes me that during an election I would think Members of Congress would hear from their constituents, whether it is in Minnesota or Ohio—the Presiding Officer's State or mine, or around the country—and once we start talking to real people—not campaign rallies, not a country club dinner, not a fundraiser, but real people—about their lives, we would understand what the Affordable Care Act has meant to a whole lot of people.

In my State, there are a lot more than 500,000 people who have health insurance today who did not have it 1 year ago because of the Affordable Care Act. In addition, there are 97,000 and counting young people—18—20—25-years-olds—who are on their parents' health care plan who wouldn't have insurance without it. There are a million seniors in my State, from Gallipolis to Troy to Toledo to Zanesville, who have gotten free—meaning no copay, no deductibles—free cancer screenings, preventive care, diabetes checks—all of these kinds of preventive care, including when their doctor prescribes getting a physical for seniors that is free, all because of the Affordable Care Act. There are thousands and thousands of people in Ohio who have a child with diabetes or a son or a daughter with asthma, and that family has been denied coverage year after year, but now, because of the Affordable Care Act, they have coverage. So we know what this has meant.

I heard Pope Francis say a few months ago, speaking to his parish priests—he exhorted them to go out and listen to people and understand their lives, as should others, before they come to the floor and try to repeal the Affordable Care Act. There is something a bit untoward where people of privilege—we are Senators; we have great titles, we are paid good salaries, most of us dress well, most of us have nice haircuts—we come to the floor with government-paid insurance, and we say we are going to repeal the Affordable Care Act and take insurance away from 500,000 Ohioans and tens of thousands of Minnesotans, and take away young people's and their parents' plan, and take away these benefits for seniors.

I came to the floor to share a handful of letters because I want to put a face on some of these, what this actually means, if we were to—if Congress, thinking that is what the voters want—come to this floor and say we are going to repeal the Affordable Care Act. Let's talk about what that means.

Connie from Hamilton County, in Cincinnati—the Presiding Officer has been in that city a couple of times—writes: As one of your constituents, I want you to know the deleterious impacts of the DC Circuit Court's ruling on my well-being. Because of a change in both my employment status and marital status, I have looked at the Affordable Care Act as a godsend. I worked full-time in a well-paying job for more than 35 years when I was organized out of a position at the worst time during the recession. I have been able to maintain limited and temporary part-time contract work since. But the income I net is substantially reduced from what it was.

She said she worked for 35 years, so I assume she is at least in her fifties.

> As an older worker, I'm having a difficult time securing permanent employment. I believe strongly in the importance of health care. I have recently qualified for a catastrophic health plan with tax credits on healthcare.gov. Paying for it is a stretch, but I have willingly bit the bullet.
>
> As you know, Ohio is one of those States that has opted out of establishing its own state plans. That wasn't a problem until recently. Now, facing a plan that may be ineligible for the Federal tax credit, I face a dire financial situation. If I were the only one caught in this Catch 22, I would not be writing. I understand there are approximately 5 million Americans in similar straits.

Living in a State where the Governor did not want to set up an exchange, and the Supreme Court—nine privileged men and women who are lawyers, who get government health insurance—may take these benefits away from these 5 million people. That was my editorial comment.

She writes:

> Please, please, help find a way to ameliorate the impact of this circuit court ruling. Many of us are dependent upon it so we don't become burdens on the health care system.

So the question: Why do people who dress like this, who have titles such as ''Congressman'' and ''Senator, who get health insurance paid by taxpayers, why do they want to take it away from so many other people? Why do they want to take these benefits away? Why do they want to cancel these consumer protections? So when they cast these votes on repeal of the Affordable Care

Act, they should be thinking about the Connies of the world.

Sharon from Franklin County in the middle of State, Columbus, is a lupus patient. She writes:

I urge you to maintain the health care reform that helps us afford coverage. Before Congress starts gutting the health care reform, please visit a support group for any chronic illness, and listen to the stories of people struggling to pay their medical bills, about people being denied insurance due to preexisting conditions, cutting their meds in half to try to stretch them to the end of the month.

My wife was in a drugstore not too long ago. Right in front of her, somebody was trying to figure out: Can I skip, take half this number of pills so they last twice as long? That happens all the time. If more of us would get out to a drugstore, if more of us would get out and talk to people, we would learn that.

Sharon writes:

I have got a good education, a good job, good insurance, but I know I could be wiped out in a matter of months if my job were outsourced or discontinued. Since I work at home and telecommute due to my illness, my chances at a new job and new health insurance are grim. The health care reform bill isn't perfect, but when it was passed, a collective sigh of relief went up for millions of Americans who are struggling to maintain their jobs, their families, and their lives while suffering with chronic illnesses like lupus. Please don't play politics with our lives. Please don't gut the health care bill.

Again the question is, Why do my colleagues—almost all of whom have health insurance provided by taxpayers—why do they want to take these benefits away from Sharon and Connie?

A couple more.

Rose from Hamilton County writes:

Senator Brown, please vote no to repeal the health care law. My family and friends appreciate the added benefits we are getting from the current health care law. My son's fiancee is currently finishing her graduate degree.

She is 25.

Thank God she is able to remain on her parents' insurance; otherwise she would not be able to afford the high cost of private insurance.

This a young woman about whom Rose is writing. This is a young woman who wants to get more education, wants to do better in life, wants to further her career, but what will happen? If she cannot stay on her parents' plan, if my colleagues are successful in repealing the Affordable Care Act, what will happen to her? Why should we even be asking that question?

My niece graduated last year from college and has not been able to find a full-time teaching job.

She is doing what we need more of—good teachers in our country.

Fortunately, she too can now stay on her parents' insurance because of the health care law. In addition—

She has an illness—

the current health care law ensures that when it's time for her to get her own health insurance, she will not be discriminated against.

This woman, Rose's niece, is in this situation. She is right out of school. She wants to teach. She does not have a job yet. She is on her parents' health insurance plan. Then when she gets a job, if it were not for the Affordable Care Act, she probably would be denied coverage because she has a preexisting condition. So she is a perfect example of two things about this law that my colleagues for whatever reason want to take away.

I will close with this. Chris from Fairfield County—kind of southeast of Columbus—writes:

Senator, I just wanted to thank you for standing by the health care law. I now have insurance after 4 years without it. I am now receiving treatment for my knee after 3 years of pain and swelling. Turns out I have arthritis and I go to an orthopedic surgeon next week for further diagnosis and treatment. Without the insurance I purchased through the exchange, the x-ray that discovered the arthritis would have never been possible because I could not afford it.

So, again, why would my colleagues—almost all of whom have health insurance—why would they want to take those benefits away? Why would they say to this person in Fairfield County—why would they say to Chris: Well, sorry, you are not going to get that x ray.

In the end, what would happen? Chris would not get the x ray, would not know about the arthritis until it gets worse, and then it would cost the health insurance company more money.

Part of what the Affordable Care Act does—and the Presiding Officer played a role in writing many provisions of this law—part of what it does is it encourages and gives people incentives to get preventive care.

So if we repeal this law, if my colleagues—again, I know I said this over and over, but almost all of whom have health insurance provided to them by taxpayers—if they have their way, all of these people—Chris and Rose and Sharon and Connie—where do they turn? Where do they turn? Their lives end up worse. They end up being sicker. They possibly die younger. They end up costing the health care system more money. They are less productive as citizens. The niece and the son-in-law and the fiancee one of these ladies talked about would not be able to get an education, get ahead—all of the things we say we value in this country.

How can any anybody think in good conscience that repealing the Affordable Care Act makes sense for our families, makes sense for our communities, makes sense for the States of Minnesota and Ohio, makes sense for our country?

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 5:30 p.m., Monday, November 17, all postcloture time be considered expired with respect to the House message to accompany S. 1086; that the motion to concur with amendment No. 3923 be withdrawn; and the Senate proceed to vote on the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 1086; that upon the disposition of the House message, the Senate proceed to executive session and vote on cloture on Executive Calendar Nos. 856, Abrams; 857, Cohen; and 858, Ross; further, that if cloture is invoked on any of these nominations, that on Tuesday, November 18, following the Senate's action with respect to S. 2280, as provided under a previous order, the Senate proceed to executive session, that all postcloture time be considered expired, and the Senate proceed to vote on confirmation of the nominations in the order upon which cloture was invoked; further, with respect to the nominations in this agreement, that if any nomination is confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; that upon disposition of the Ross nomination, the Senate resume legislative session and the motion to proceed to S. 2685; that there be 30 minutes of debate equally divided between the two leaders or their designees on the motion to proceed; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the Senate proceed to vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 2685; further, that with any sequence of multiple votes there be 2 minutes for debate prior to each vote and all rollcall votes after the first vote in each sequence be 10 minutes in length; and, finally, that the time in opposition to S. 2280 be under the control of Senator BOXER or her designee.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. 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.

RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH AND TRAFFICKING PREVENTION ACT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, as another polar vortex bears down on States across the country this week, we must consider how the dropping temperatures across the Nation will impact those who do not have refuge from the cold. The issue of homelessness is especially urgent in places like my home State of Vermont. For those of us lucky enough to have warm homes, winter brings a magical beauty. But for those without shelter, the cold

nights can be deadly. Unfortunately, for homeless teens, winter can also mean even greater vulnerability to being victimized by human traffickers.

That is why we must pass the Leahy-Collins Runaway and Homeless Youth and Trafficking Prevention Act today. This should be unanimous. We are talking about helping homeless children and victims of human trafficking. There is no good reason to oppose this measure.

The programs supported by the Runaway and Homeless Youth Program provide essential resources to homeless children who need our help. Amanda, for example, is an 18-year-old living in Bellows Falls, VT, and participating in the Transitional Living Program at the Youth Services of Windham County. Amanda's mother gave her and her four siblings up for adoption when she was 2. When she was 13, her adoptive mother died of a stroke. Amanda was devastated, suffered academically, and eventually dropped out of school, then struggled with substance abuse and became homeless.

Fortunately, Amanda was connected with the Youth Services of Windham County and has turned her life around. She is sober, she is on track to graduate from high school, and she has a job. Amanda says of her youth worker Danielle, ''She is part of the reason why I try to keep doing so good . . . Without her, I wouldn't have what I have today.'' Funds authorized by this bill made Amanda's transformation possible. Once headed for a life of dependency, she is now poised to become a successful and contributing young adult.

There are currently 1.6 million homeless teens in this country like Amanda, and they need us to do our job and pass this bill. This bill reauthorizes critical outreach and emergency shelter services that have provided lifesaving support for the last 40 years. It takes historic steps to address the growing population of homeless LGBT youth by ensuring that no young person is denied services based on sexual orientation or gender identity. It also addresses new dangers that our young people face, like sexual exploitation and human trafficking, which urgently require our attention.

Human trafficking is a growing problem in the United States, and traffickers prey upon our weakest young people, especially those in need of money or shelter. Too often, homeless children become trapped in devastating cycles of abuse and exploitation.

Runaway and homeless youth service providers are our first line of defense. This bill makes sure they are trained to identify victims of sexual exploitation and trafficking, so they can help victims become survivors.

After this bill was first introduced in July, it was considered by the Judiciary Committee and was voted out in September with strong bipartisan support. We had bipartisan input on the legislation, including from Senator CORNYN, who offered an amendment that included nearly every provision of his Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act. This amendment gives law enforcement new tools to combat human trafficking and provides expanded support for victims of sexual exploitation.

Working across the aisle to enhance this bill and get it passed reminds me of the way both Houses of Congress came together to pass the Leahy-Crapo Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act just last year. Domestic violence, like youth homelessness, is not new. However, the challenges faced by victims are constantly changing, and we must be responsive to the needs of our most vulnerable citizens. We cannot become complacent in the face of suffering. We need to pass this bill.

I thank Senator COLLINS for working with me on this legislation and for joining me as an original cosponsor. I ask for the support of every Senator to pass the Leahy-Collins Runaway and Homeless Youth and Trafficking Prevention Act. The American people expect it, and our humanity demands it.

RECOGNIZING MIKE HALEY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the career of Sheriff Mike Haley, who has served as the Washoe County sheriff since January 2, 2007.

For more than 30 years, Mike Haley has been dedicated to protecting the people of Washoe County. He started his career in 1980 as a deputy sheriff and proceeded to work and supervise in every division within the Sheriff's Office. When he was elected sheriff, his vast experience and understanding of the community he served enhanced Washoe County. Sheriff Haley spearheaded groundbreaking projects, such as the Northern Nevada Counter-Terrorism and Cyber Center and the Area Crime Evaluation System, and used these technological advances to make the Washoe County Sheriff's Office more efficient. Under his leadership in an extremely poor economic situation, county law enforcement overcame budgetary challenges and continued his efforts to make Washoe County safer.

Mike Haley has helped Nevada immensely beyond his role as sheriff. He serves as vice-chair for the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security and is chairman of the Nevada High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Area program. In previous years, he was the president of the Nevada Sheriffs' and Chiefs' Association. These notable positions only begin to demonstrate Sheriff Haley's dedication to the community, and the constructive impact he has had on the Silver State.

Prior to his career in law enforcement, Mike Haley served our Nation as a first sergeant in the U.S. Army. He graduated with honors from Northeast Missouri State University with a Bachelor's Degree in criminal justice. His commitment to extending his education and training is evident in all he has done. Mike Haley graduated from the FBI National Academy, the Secret Service Executive Academy, Senior Management Institute for Police Executives at Harvard University, Southwest Command College for Law Enforcement Executives, and the Drug Enforcement Academy.

Throughout his prolific career and his exemplary life, Sheriff Mike Haley has been a great boon to the State of Nevada. I congratulate him on his many successes while serving as the Washoe County sheriff and appreciate his dedication to public service. I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO DR. GEORGE D. EDWARDS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a man who has dedicated his life's work to education in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Dr. George D. Edwards is the founding president and CEO of Big Sandy Community and Technical College, BSCTC, and he will step down from that position in January of 2015.

Although Dr. Edwards is originally from Virginia, it is fair to consider him an adopted son of the Bluegrass State. He first came to Kentucky in 1970 to attend Berea College, and upon finishing his undergraduate studies, he decided he wasn't in a hurry to leave. Dr. Edwards went to Murray State University to earn his master of business administration and master of economics, and despite some absences from the Commonwealth in the interim—including when he earned his doctor of education from the University of Southern Mississippi—he returned to Paintsville where he has lived for the last 14 years.

When Dr. Edwards first moved to eastern Kentucky in 2000, he became the third president of Prestonsburg Community College and the first CEO for the Big Sandy Community and Technical College District. When the colleges merged in 2003 to become Big Sandy Community and Technical College, he became the institution's first president and CEO.

In this capacity Dr. Edwards has worked tirelessly to strengthen Big Sandy's commitment to its students. He has cultivated ties with the area's business community through his work with the local chambers of commerce, he has instituted an honors program for students, a Leadership institute for faculty and staff, and created a music and drama program for students and the community. He has also overseen over $23 million in infrastructure projects on campus.

Although Dr. Edwards and his wife, Dr. Joyce Edwards, plan to move to Verona, VA, in their retirement, their impact on the State and the region will undoubtedly remain. Therefore, I ask that my U.S. Senate colleagues join me in honoring this exemplary educator, Dr. George D. Edwards, and wishing him well in his future endeavors.

Mr. President, the Big Sandy Community and Technical College recently published an article on their Web site detailing the life and career of Dr. George D. Edwards. I ask unanimous

consent that the article be printed in full in the RECORD.

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

[Aug. 5, 2014]

FOUNDING PRESIDENT/CEO OF BSCTC ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

After 14 years, Dr. George D. Edwards, founding president and CEO of Big Sandy Community and Technical College (BSCTC), will step down as college president and CEO on January 5, 2015. He will work on a special assignment through June 30, 2015.

''This is a bittersweet day for our family,'' said Dr. Edwards. ''I have had the honor of working with a dedicated board of directors, foundation board, a great leadership team, and a group of passionate faculty and staff who are committed to our mission. Together, we have made great strides in providing the people of the Big Sandy region a comprehensive community and technical college that is devoted to student success, access and transfer.''

Dr. Michael B. McCall, founding president of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS), issued the following statement on Dr. Edwards' retirement: ''Dr. Edwards' outstanding leadership during the past 14 years has enabled BSCTC to provide the local community with educational programs in high-wage, high-demand fields, designed to enhance the eastern Kentucky economy. We are currently working with Dr. Edwards to ensure a seamless transition plan is in place as we move forward in our mission to provide Kentuckians with a quality postsecondary education that is both accessible and affordable.''

Dr. Edwards and his wife, Dr. Joyce Edwards, plan to relocate to Verona, Va. upon his retirement.

''This will allow us to be within two hours of all of our children and grandchildren,'' he said. ''Family is very important to Joyce and me, and we look forward to spending time with them, traveling and volunteering in the community.''

Dr. Edwards became the third president of Prestonsburg Community College and the founding president of the Big Sandy Community and Technical College in November 2000, shortly after the passage of House Bill 1 which created KCTCS. Under his leadership, Prestonsburg Community College and Mayo Technical College together formed Big Sandy Community and Technical College in 2003.

Student success has been the cornerstone of Dr. Edwards' administration. Since 2008, the college has increased credentials awarded to students by 140 percent and graduates earning associate degrees by 64 percent.

Dr. Edwards has overseen more than $23 million in building projects during his tenure. BSCTC opened the Student Center in 2002 and the Postsecondary Education Building and East Kentucky Science Center and Planetarium in 2004. The Mayo campus benefitted from a more than $7.5-million renovation in 2002. Additionally, more than $4 million have been spent on infrastructure upgrades in the areas of technology and sustainability.

Dr. Edwards' strong and compassionate leadership has led to many accomplishments, including: the creation of the Floyd County and Johnson County Early College Academies; a highly responsive Workforce Solutions program; the creation of the Big Sandy Singers, Big Sandy Idol and Fine Arts department; the Honors Scholarship program; leadership development for employees; and the continued growth of the Big Sandy College Educational Foundation, Inc.

''I'm most proud of the students we've helped,'' said Dr. Edwards. ''It's rewarding to be in a position and represent an institution that has unwavering commitment to students. It's also been rewarding to watch our employees grow and develop over the years. I hope that my efforts have made a difference.''

Karen Sellers, chair of the BSCTC board of directors, said Dr. Edwards transformed an already well respected community college into a remarkable place to work and study.

''As a result of his strategic leadership, BSCTC has seen significant growth in student enrollment, faculty achievement and campus improvements,'' she said. ''Dr. Edwards has done a terrific job of reaching out to the business community, fundraising and recruiting talented students, faculty and staff. Every step of the way, he has reminded this community of the vital importance of Big Sandy Community and Technical College.''

Charles ''Rusty'' Justice, vice chair of the BSCTC board of directors, said: ''I would like to thank Dr. Edwards for his leadership of this wonderful institution over the last 14 years. Under his guidance he has overseen growth and progress in all facets of the organization. I would also like to thank him for his friendship. He is a man of intelligence and character and I have benefited from that relationship.''

Bobby McCool, chief institutional officer, said Dr. Edwards' leadership has elevated the importance of postsecondary education in economic development.

''Big Sandy Community and Technical College has brokered the dialogue of conversation on the role of our college in workforce development,'' he said.

Dr. Nancy B. Johnson, provost at BSCTC, said Dr. Edwards' leadership and commitment to students and communities served by the college has been phenomenal.

''The many successful programs initiated—increased scholarship access; the improvement of facilities; the access to technology and its infusion into the learning process; the responsiveness to workforce needs; and the continual encouragement and support to faculty and staff through professional development opportunities—all provide evidence of this leadership and commitment. Working as a member of his team at Big Sandy has truly been a gift for me.''

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

LIEUTENANT GENERAL PETER M. VANGJEL

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to a distinguished public servant and officer in the U.S. Army, LTG Peter M. Vangjel. General Vangjel served as the 64th Army inspector general and retires on February 1, 2015, after more than 37 years of selfless service to our Nation. Throughout his professional life, General Vangjel personified the Army values of duty, honor, and selfless service in leadership roles around the world and here at home. Many of us on Capitol Hill know General Vangjel by these qualities and have enjoyed the opportunity to work with him on a wide variety of Army issues and programs. It is my privilege to recognize his many significant contributions.

General Vangjel is a native of New Hampshire and graduated from the University of New Hampshire in 1977. He served in a variety of command and staff assignments and has led our soldiers in both peace and war, in combat and humanitarian missions, in the United States, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. He has proven himself as a stellar leader demonstrating unselfish devotion to the Nation, our leaders, soldiers and their families.

For the final 3 years of his noteworthy career, General Vangjel served as the Army inspector general, providing independent and unbiased advice to the Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Army. His advice, assistance, and detailed oversight of timely, high-visibility inspections and investigations proved critical for an adaptive Army in transition. He personally led multiple efforts to promote readiness, resource stewardship and accountability of equipment, funds, personnel and leader behavior.

As he has throughout his career, General Vangjel embraced his charter to conduct outreach to our Army's leaders, soldiers, families, and the public at every opportunity, stressing the importance of resource management and creativity. Nowhere was this more evident than during his 2-year assignment to the Middle East, where he supervised efforts that provided nearly $8 billion dollars in cost avoidance and streamlined contracting and logistic support efforts as our troops surged in to Afghanistan and retrograded from Iraq. His vision, passion, and energy kept key military and civilian leaders aware of emerging trends enabling them to correct problems and anticipate future challenges.

General Vangjel led his team in conducting many significant inspections enabling our Army to address critical issues, revise policies, and improve processes. His special inspections of Arlington National Cemetery restored effective oversight and reinstilled public confidence in the effort to honor our fallen heroes at a place sacred to all Americans. Likewise, his team's work to help our suffering soldiers receive more efficient behavioral health treatment within the Integrated Disability Evaluation System brought to light new information about process issues and the need for better coordination and support from Veterans Affairs. In addition, during his tenure, the Army inspector general performed vital compliance oversight inspections for some of our Nation's most sensitive activities, including nuclear and chemical research and development centers, intelligence oversight, and information assurance operations.

LTG Peter M. Vangjel has consistently provided superb leadership, advice, and sound professional judgment on numerous critical issues of enduring importance to the Army and our Nation. On behalf of Congress and the United States of America, I thank General Vangjel, his wife Joanne, and his entire family for their commitment and contributions to our Army and the Nation, and I congratulate them both on an exceptional career of selfless service.

RECOGNIZING NANCY J. COX

Mr. HARKIN. I would like to recognize the outstanding career of a dedicated civil servant, Iowan Dr. Nancy Cox, who will retire in November 2014 after 37 years of distinguished Federal service at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Dr. Cox started working on influenza at CDC in 1976. Thirty-seven years and 278 publications later, she has transformed the surveillance and science of influenza viruses and vaccines. Her scientific work has been critical, given the tremendous global burden of human seasonal influenza—1 billion cases, 3 to 5 million severe illnesses, and 300,000 to 500,000 deaths each year. In addition, avian or swine influenza viruses can adapt to human-to-human transmission, leading to global and devastating pandemics with disruption in commerce and tragic numbers of illnesses and deaths. The breadth and depth of influenzas impact is vast, underscoring Dr. Cox's vital contribution from her science and service.

Dr. Cox began her senior leadership duties years ago directing a small branch of 40 to 50 staff. Today she oversees more than 320 staff, and the Influenza Division she directs has broad responsibilities as the U.S. Government, USG, lead for influenza prevention and control, and as one of five World Health Organization Collaborating Centers for the Surveillance, Epidemiology and Control of Influenza. Dr. Cox recognized that influenza prevention and control requires a broad, multifaceted surveillance effort. Through her scientific leadership, direction, and publication of scientific findings, CDC established surveillance for various aspects of influenza illness to improve the understanding of influenza impact and to provide ongoing influenza surveillance data throughout the season to inform clinical management and to monitor effectiveness of influenza prevention efforts.

During her 37 years at CDC, Dr. Cox has served as mentor, educator, supervisor, and supporter to hundreds of individuals: undergraduates, medical and PhD students, postdoctoral fellows, laboratory and epidemiology staff members, journalists, and visiting researchers. As Director of the WHO Collaborating Center for the Surveillance, Epidemiology and Control of Influenza at CDC, Dr. Cox has worked closely with public health laboratory officials from Russia, Vietnam, and China, leading to transforming their capabilities in influenza virology and surveillance. Her oversight of influenza laboratories at CDC has set the standards for measuring immune response in infected and vaccinated people and also has led CDC to be the global reference center for antiviral resistance and for measuring transmission of influenza viruses in animal models. Her leadership at WHO has also led to significant changes in the methods, reporting, interpretation, and policy development for selecting candidate vaccine viruses for use in annual vaccine production. Dr. Cox has been able to see where the field of influenza prevention and control needs to go to address emerging problems, and the successes of her scientific intuition and persistence are present in many places around the globe.

Dr. Cox has been recognized by virologists, public health officials, leaders in State and Federal governments, international leaders, academics, and others. She is the recipient of 10 National Center for Infectious Disease recognition awards, 7 Nakano Awards, 4 Shepard Awards, Lancet Paper of the Year, Time Magazine's The Time 100: People Who Shape Our World, Service to America Award, CDC's Lifetime Achievement Award, and the USG-wide award for Federal Employee of the Year. She has served as a reviewer for numerous scientific journals and research grant efforts. She is frequently invited by editors of Science, New England Journal of Medicine, and other journals to write editorials and opinion pieces. She has been chair of many scientific panels and symposia and has served on various scientific committees for international conferences and global influenza policy development workgroups. Even more important than her past contribution is the solid footing of CDCs Influenza Division for the future that she leaves as her legacy.

Dr. Cox is an Iowa native—born in Emmetsburg—and attended Iowa State University, ISU, where she got a BS in bacteriology in 1970. She is a life member of the ISU alumni association. In addition to her Iowa State degree, she has a doctorate in virology from the University of Cambridge and was a postdoctoral fellow at both the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

REMEMBERING PERRY RENN

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize and honor the extraordinary service and ultimate sacrifice of Indianapolis, IN Metropolitan Police Officer Perry Renn. Dedicated, loyal, and above all compassionate to those in need, Officer Renn served with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department, IMPD, for 21 years.

On Saturday, July 5, 2014, Officer Renn responded to a report of shots fired on the northeast side of Indianapolis, the district where he was a patrolman throughout his career with IMPD. When Officer Renn arrived, he joined another IMPD officer already on the scene, and they approached a group of individuals standing in a nearby alley. As they approached the group, one of the individuals brandished a gun and began shooting at the officers. Despite the fact that he was wearing a protective vest, Officer Renn was struck by the gunfire. After additional officers arrived and detained the shooter, Officer Renn was transported to Eskenazi Hospital in critical condition. Sadly, despite the best efforts of his fellow officers, EMTs, and medical personnel, Officer Renn, 51, succumbed to his wounds.

A native of Indianapolis, IN and raised in Phoenix, AZ, Officer Renn joined the U.S. Army after graduating from high school. For the majority of his 10-year enlistment, Perry was stationed in Fort Bragg, NC with the 82nd Airborne Division as a paratrooper and jumpmaster, completing more than 100 jumps. He achieved the rank of staff sergeant and was awarded achievement and commendation medals during his tenure. Perry was stationed in Korea for 2 tours, spent 18 months in New York City as a recruiter, and served in Operation Urgent Fury, the military conflict in Grenada in 1983.

Officer Renn was awarded two Medals of Bravery during his career with IMPD, in the years 1999 and 2003. Prior to becoming a police officer, he worked at the Marion County Sherriff Communications Department as a dispatcher and control operator. In 2011, Officer Renn received a letter of commendation for his efforts to assist individuals after a stage collapse at the Indiana State Fair injured 58 and killed 9 people. Always seeking to help those in need, Officer Renn chose to serve in a district on the northeast side of Indianapolis because he knew it was an area of the city where many citizens would need help.

Officer Renn is survived and deeply missed by his wife of 25 years, Lynn Sappenfield-Renn; mother Phyllis Renn; father David Renn (Tina); sister Sherri Jones (Michael); five nieces; two nephews; four great nieces; four great nephews; numerous aunts, uncles and cousins; the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department family; and his beloved pets.

Officer Renn loved his work, and he gave his life to serve and protect the citizens of Indianapolis. Although he would have never thought of himself as a hero, Officer Renn demonstrated his character daily by conducting himself with courage, bravery, compassion, honor, and integrity. Thus, he was a true American hero—in his everyday life as a police officer, husband, and community member—and in his final call to duty. Let us always remember and emulate the shining example this stalwart, modest yet brave man set for us, and honor him for his selfless commitment to serving his fellow citizens. May God welcome him home and give comfort to his family and friends.

REMEMBERING MASTER SERGEANT JOSEPH B. SMRT

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. President, today I also wish to recognize and honor the extraordinary service of U.S. Army MSG Joe Smrt. Dedicated, loyal, and above all compassionate to those in need, Mr. Smrt was drafted into the Army in 1942 and served throughout World War II.

On September 23, 2014, Joe passed away at the age of 98. A native of North

Judson, IN, Joe was a shining star in the ''greatest generation,'' forced to learn the virtues of hard work, frugality, and self-reliance at a young age after losing his father when he was just 6 years old.

Joe was always proud of his service to our country during World War II. He served as a combat engineer in the 94th Division—a part of Patton's Third Army and earned the European Medal with four bronze stars—signifying his participation in four separate military campaigns, including the Battle of the Bulge.

Recognized for his love of country, Joe was well-respected by those in his community. As one of the most patriotic men in Knox, his neighbors often referred to him as ''Mr. Patriotism.'' Many considered him a pillar of the Knox community, and over the past several decades, whenever there was a veterans function or celebration of patriotism in Starke County, chances are Joe was deeply involved. Joe worked to educate our youth about the sacrifices of our veterans and servicemembers by giving presentations about World War II at Knox schools and Veterans Day events. He also served as commander of VFW Post 748 in Knox from 1991 to 1994, and he was elected Starke County surveyor for 7 terms spanning 28 years.

I had the privilege of meeting Joe in 2009 when he visited Washington, DC through the Honor Flight Network. I am honored to have met such an admirable and patriotic man. Last month the State of Indiana laid this public servant—a veteran, a Yankees fan, and most of all, a hero—to rest. We are forever grateful for his service to our country.

Mr. Smrt is survived and deeply missed by his wife of over 63 years, Ursula Kelly, and their four children—Terry Smrt of Knox, Kevin Smrt of Knox, Christopher Smrt of Louisville, Kentucky, Madonna Johnson of Austin, Texas and five grandchildren and five great grandchildren, as well as friends, the United States Army family, and Hoosiers across the State of Indiana.

Joe Smrt was an American hero. He conducted himself with courage, bravery, compassion, honor, and integrity—both while serving our nation and throughout his time as a civilian back home in Indiana. Let us always remember and treasure the memory of this stalwart, brave man and honor his selfless commitment to serving his fellow citizens. May God welcome him home and give comfort to his family and friends.

RECOGNIZING JACKSON TOWNSHIP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. President, today I applaud Jackson Township Elementary School of Brazil, IN for being recognized as a 2014 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education.

Established in 1982, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program has recognized over 7,000 public and non-public schools that demonstrate a vision of educational excellence for all students, regardless of their social or economic background. Since its inception, this program has offered the opportunity for schools in every State to gain recognition for educational accomplishments in closing the achievement gaps among student groups.

Recognition as a National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education is based on a school either being measured as an Exemplary High Performing School, where schools are among the State's highest scorers in English and mathematics, or as an Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing School, where schools with at least 40 percent of their student body coming from disadvantaged backgrounds have reduced the achievement gap in English and mathematics within the last 5 years. Jackson Township Elementary School has made great strides in the area of improved proficiency in both English and mathematics.

In 2014 alone, Jackson Township Elementary School's combined ISTEP+ passing rate for English and mathematics was around 96 percent for third through fifth grades. Jackson Township Elementary School's effectiveness can be found in its Character Education program. In this program, students are familiarized with positive characteristics that are connected to character development introduced first in the home environment. Jackson Township Elementary School affirms that every student's success is directly related to family and community support. With over 40 percent of its students identified as economically disadvantaged in a primarily rural farming town, Jackson Township Elementary School is seen as a beacon of light for the development of Indiana's youth.

I would like to acknowledge Jackson Township Elementary School Principal Bradford C. Ennen, the entire staff, and the student body. It undoubtedly took hard work and dedication to achieve this prestigious award.

On behalf of the citizens of Indiana, I congratulate Jackson Township Elementary School, and I wish the students and staff continued success in the future.

RECOGNIZING HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. President, I also wish to recognize Hamilton Southeastern Junior High School of Fishers, IN for being recognized as a 2014 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education.

Established in 1982, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program has recognized over 7,000 public and non-public schools that demonstrate a vision of educational excellence for all students, regardless of their social or economic background. Since its inception, this program has offered the opportunity for schools in every State to gain recognition for educational accomplishments in closing any achievement gaps among student groups.

Recognition as a National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education is based on a school being identified as ''Exemplary High Performing,'' schools that are ranked in the top 15 percent nationally in English and mathematics, measured by each State's assessment, or as ''Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing,'' where schools with at least 40 percent of their student body coming from disadvantaged backgrounds are reducing the achievement gap in English and mathematics. Hamilton Southeastern Junior High School has made great strides in these areas.

Hamilton Southeastern Junior High School combines creativity and critical thinking with the tools of the 21st century. Students are taught complex problem solving, innovative collaboration, and the merits of integrity. Also, by offering mobile technology labs and focusing on college and career readiness, students are prepared for future success. These standards have led Hamilton Southeastern Junior High School to consistently achieve an A-rating and a four-star designation by the Indiana Department of Education. The staff and students' hard work will continue to benefit the city of Fishers and all of Indiana.

I would like to acknowledge Principal Tim A. Mankin of Hamilton Southeastern Junior High School, the entire staff, and the student body. It undoubtedly took hard work and dedication to achieve this prestigious award.

On behalf of the citizens of Indiana, I congratulate the Hamilton Southeastern Junior High School community, and I wish the students and staff continued success in the future.

REMEMBERING ROBERT S. EDWARDS, JR.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I wish to honor the life of Robert S. ''Bob'' Edwards, Jr. Bob was an Army veteran, a successful businessman, a community leader, a friend, and an inspiration to us all.

Bob was an advisor with AXA Equitable Life Insurance Company and before that a successful textile executive.

Among his many business accomplishments, Bob received the Equitable's Centurion Award and several Legion of Honor President's Cabinet Awards. He also received recognition as Associate of the Year and as the agency's representative to the national agents. Bob was also honored with the Equitable's Community Leadership Award twice.

A compassionate community leader, Bob served as chairman of the Board of the Freestore Foodbank and founded its most popular fundraiser, the Rubber Duck Regatta. Proceeds from this fundraiser have provided millions of meals to Cincinnatians in need. This

past August, the Freestore Foodbank hosted the 20th Annual Rubber Duck Regatta. To celebrate this milestone, Bob set the ambitious goal of raising $1 million dollars, which equates to approximately 3 million meals for hungry children and families. With Bob's leadership, that goal was reached.

In 2002 Bob received the Bengals Community Quarterback Award, the NFL league-wide volunteer recognition program, and in 2006 he received the Volunteer of the Year Award from Feeding America. Bob also served as president of the Dan Beard Council, Boy Scouts of America and founded the Council's United Food and Clothing Drive, serving as its general chairman for 2 years. He was awarded the Silver Beaver from the Boy Scouts and the Outstanding Citizenship Award from the United Way of Greater Cincinnati.

In 2010, Bob received the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis Jefferson Award, the Nobel Prize for public service honoring community and public volunteerism in America. Bob was a graduate of Marietta College, and in 2011 he was added to Marietta College's prestigious Hall of Honor. He was also an active member of the Armstrong Chapel United Methodist Church.

Bob Edwards was a source of inspiration and he touched the lives of so many people throughout southwest Ohio. His extraordinary legacy lives on, and the impact he made in and around Cincinnati will serve as an example to many. He will be missed, but he will not be forgotten.

WORLD WAR II VETERANS VISIT

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, last month, 20 World War II Veterans and 3 Korean War Veterans from the Last Frontier Chapter of the Honor Flight Network traveled from Alaska to Washington, DC, to visit their memorials on October 21. I know you will join me in recognizing these heroes for their service to our Nation.

I would like to record the individual names of those who traveled from Alaska to be here to see the Nation's capital on October 21, 2014: Mr. Norman B. Bean, U.S. Army, Korean War; Mr. William R. Elam, U.S. Army, World War II; Mr. Henry E. Farrar, U.S. Coast Guard, World War II; Mr. Roy Harold Fay, U.S. Navy, World War II; Mr. Roland Henry Frank, U.S. Air Force, Korean War; Mr. Dewey Max Hodel, U.S. Army, World War II; Mr. Paul Patrick Jenkins, U.S. Army, World War II; Mr. Andrew Marion Johnson, U.S. Marine Corps, World War II; Mr. Arthur F. Jones, U.S. Air Force, World War II; Mr. Daniel K. Karmun, Army National Guard, World War II; Mr. Kenneth L. Krasselt, U.S. Navy, World War II; Ms. Vickey Malone, U.S. Navy, World War II; Mr. Henry Nosek, U.S. Air Force, World War II; Mr. Clyde Frank Oberg, U.S. Army, World War II; Mr. David C. Pratt, U.S. Air Force, World War II; Ms. Mary Julia Quesnel, U.S. Army Nurse Corps, World War II; Mr. John Martin Schwulst, U.S. Marine Corps, Korean War; Mr. Harold Walter Stover, U.S. Navy Construction Battalion, World War II; Mr. Jean R. Therrien, U.S. Army, World War II; Mr. Calvin C. Topliff, U.S. Army, World War II; Mr. John Lindsay Tullis, Sr., U.S. Navy, World War II; Ms. Marcella Green Vreeland, U.S. Marine Corps Women's Reserve, World War II; Mr. Henry N. Warren, U.S. Army, World War II.

These veterans from Alaska join over 120,000 other veterans from across the country who, since 2005, have traveled to our Nation's capital to visit and reflect at memorials built here in their honor. This Honor Flight was made possible by generous public donations and contributions from those who wish to honor these heroes.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING HORSES4HEROES

• Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize a national nonprofit organization within Las Vegas known as Horses4Heroes for being awarded the American Horse Council Time to Ride 100–Day Horse Challenge by introducing the most newcomers to horses in just 100 days. This unique program works to improve the lives of more than 6 million Americans who serve in the military, National Guard, as first responders and their families, by making horseback riding more affordable and accessible. As a longtime horse owner and horse enthusiast myself, I recognize the importance horses play as both companion animals and to our Nation's economy.

The brave men and women who have served the United States and fought to protect our freedom have often come home suffering from the effects of post-traumatic stress, PTS. Veterans faced dangerous situations in order to protect Americans from harm, and we owe them a debt of gratitude. Horses4Heroes is a shining example of the kind of initiatives that will help to reintegrate our veterans into civilian life, combat the effects of PTS, and help reduce the rates of suicide, while also providing comfort to grieving families.

There is no way to adequately thank the men and women that lay down their lives for our freedoms, but the founders and volunteers at Horses4Heroes are working to assist our Nation's veterans by giving them the opportunity to use horses to help reconnect and get reacquainted with their families. The organization was founded by Sydney Knott in 2006 operating out of her backyard and has now grown to incorporate affordable recreational, instructional, and morale-boosting health & wellness programs at more than 200 therapeutic equestrian centers across the country. This organization's continued dedication to serving veterans in the Silver State and the country is commendable.

As a member of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, I know the struggles that our veterans face after returning home from the battlefield. Congress has a responsibility not only to honor these brave individuals, but to ensure they receive the quality care they have earned and deserve. I remain committed to upholding this promise for our veterans and service members in Nevada and throughout the Nation. I am very pleased that veterans' service organizations like Horses4Heroes are committed to ensuring that the needs of our veterans are being met.

Today, I ask my colleagues and all Nevadans to join me in recognizing Horses4Heroes, an organization whose mission is both noble and charitable. I am both humbled and honored to recognize Horses4Heroes and I wish them the best of luck in all of their future endeavors.•

CONGRATULATING OKLAHOMA UNIVERSITIES

• Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I wish to applaud the University of Central Oklahoma and the University of Oklahoma for being recognized by the Military Times as among the 100 best colleges for our Nation's veterans. With over 2,400 students who are veterans between them, UCO and OU provide outstanding support and academic experiences for our Nation's heroes after they have returned from their service to our Nation in uniform.

Founded in 1890 as one of Oklahoma's first institutions of higher learning, the University of Central Oklahoma is ranked 40th on this list and cultivates creativity and innovation from its 17,000 students, of which more than 700 are veterans. Students have the opportunity to earn diplomas from the more than 100 major areas of study offered at UCO. In 2010, UCO established the Veteran's Hero office to address the unique needs of our veterans and their families as they transition from the battlefield to the classroom. Continuously recognized as among the best universities in the Nation, UCO puts the extra effort into taking care of our veterans and has earned distinction in this area for 3 consecutive years in similar rankings by Victory Media, a nationwide veterans' employment recruiting service.

Also founded in 1890, the University of Oklahoma ranks 85th on this list and has nearly 30,000 students, of whom more than 1,700 are veterans who are earning degrees from the more than 150 majors offered on three campuses. Through the Veterans Support Alliance, faculty and staff volunteers at the University of Oklahoma have provided a positive and supportive learning environment for veterans. OU's efforts have helped student veterans and servicemembers achieve academic excellence and personal success. As a pacesetter for public higher education, OU is also ranked by the Princeton Review as among the top 10 public universities in the nation in terms of academic excellence and cost for students.

On behalf of the great State of Oklahoma, I commend UCO and OU for making the ''Best for Vets: Colleges 2015'' list and salute their steadfast efforts to provide quality education for those who have defended our freedoms at home and abroad.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

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

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

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:44 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 bills, without amendment:

S. 898. An act to authorize the Administrator of General Services to convey a parcel of real property in Albuquerque, New Mexico, to the Amy Biehl High School Foundation.

S. 1934. An act to direct the Administrator of General Services to convey the Clifford P. Hansen Federal Courthouse to Teton County, Wyoming.

The message also announced the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5266. An act to reauthorize the National Estuary Programs, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1233) to amend chapter 22 of title 44, United States Code, popularly known as the Presidential Records Act, to establish procedures for the consideration of claims of constitutionally based privilege against disclosure of Presidential records, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4194) to provide for the elimination or modification of Federal reporting requirements.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 4. An act to make revisions to Federal law to improve the conditions necessary for economic growth and job creation, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 2. An act to remove Federal Government obstacles to the production of more domestic energy; to ensure transport of that energy reliably to businesses, consumers, and other end users; to lower the cost of energy to consumers; to enable manufacturers and other businesses to access domestically produced energy affordably and reliably in order to create and sustain more secure and well-paying American jobs; and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC–7489. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Security Zone: Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts'' ((RIN1625–AA87) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0708)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7490. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Special Local Regulation, Hydrocross, Lake Dora; Tavares, FL'' ((RIN1625–AA08) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0691)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7491. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Security Zone, Change of Enforcement Period, Chesapeake Bay; Between Sandy Point and Kent Island, MD'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0296)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7492. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Special Local Regulation; Detroit Offshore Grand Prix, Detroit River, Detroit, MI'' ((RIN1625–AA08) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0729)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7493. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Special Local Regulation and Safety Zone; Marine Events in Captain of the Port Long Island Sound Zone'' ((RIN1625–AA08 and RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0717)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7494. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Gulfstar 1 SPAR, Mississippi Canyon Block 724, Outer Continental Shelf on the Gulf of Mexico'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0242)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7495. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zones, Facilities on the Outer Continental Shelf in the Gulf of Mexico'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2013–0874)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7496. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone: Urban Shield 2014, South San Francisco Bay, Oakland, CA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0658)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7497. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone, Shallowbag Bay; Manteo, NC'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0723)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7498. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Seafood Festival Fireworks, Fox River, Menasha, WI'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0748)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7499. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone, Lower Mississippi River Mile 94.0 to Mile 95.0; New Orleans, LA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0531)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7500. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; San Diego Tri-Rock Triathlon; San Diego Bay, San Diego, CA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0600)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7501. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Vigor Industrial Ferry Construction, West Duwamish Waterway, Seattle, WA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0805)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7502. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone, Tarague Basin; Anderson AFB, GU'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0732)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7503. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Lucas Oil Thunder on the River; Thompson Bay, Lake Havasu City, AZ'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–

2014–0611)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7504. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Special Local Regulations for Marine Events, Wrightsville Channel; Wrightsville Beach, NC'' ((RIN1625–AA08) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0200)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7505. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; IncreDoubleman Triathlon, Lake Ontario, Sackets Harbor, NY'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0745)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7506. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Shipping and Transportation; Technical, Organizational, and Conforming Amendments'' ((RIN1625–ZA33) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0688)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7507. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Special Local Regulation; Seattle Seafair Unlimited Hydroplane Race, Lake Washington, WA'' ((RIN1625–AA08) (Docket No. USCG–2013–1018)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7508. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; San Diego Sharkfest Swim; San Diego Bay, San Diego, CA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0695)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7509. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; 2014 Life Time Tri; Oceanside Harbor, Oceanside, CA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0772)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7510. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; International Jet Sports Boating Association World Finals; Lake Havasu City, AZ'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0610)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7511. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Riverside Music Festival, Missouri River, mile 372.0; Riverside, MO'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0700)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7512. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Personal Flotation Devices Labeling and Standards'' ((RIN1625–AC02) (Docket No. USCG–2013–0263)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7513. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Taylor Bayou Outfall Canal (Joint Outfall Canal), TX'' ((RIN1625–AA09) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0386)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7514. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Regulated Navigation Area; South Bristol Gut Bridge Replacement, South Bristol, ME'' ((RIN1625–AA11) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0214)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7515. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Navigation and Navigable Waters; Technical, Organizational, and Conforming Amendments; Correction'' ((RIN1625–AC13) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0410)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7516. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone, TENNESSEE RIVER between mile 4.8 to 5.8; Ledbetter, KY'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0831)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7517. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Bridge Demolition, Fox River, Green Bay, WI'' (Docket No. USCG–2014–0835) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7518. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Security Zones; Dignitary Arrival/Departure and United Nations Meetings, New York, NY'' ((RIN1625–AA87) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0737)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7519. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone: Suisun Bay Electromagnetic Scan and Ordnance Recovery, Suisun Bay, Concord, CA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0862)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7520. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Saugus River, Revere and Lynn, MA'' ((RIN1625–AA09) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0272)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7521. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone, Delaware River; Delaware City, DE'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0883)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7522. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone, Navy Exercise, Delaware Bay and Atlantic Ocean; Cape May, NJ'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0855)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7523. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; University of Alabama vs. University of Alabama at Huntsville Rowing Competition; Black Warrior River mm 339 to mm 341.65; Tuscaloosa, AL'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0791)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7524. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Gulf of Mexico Highly Migratory Species (HMS); Commercial Blacknose Sharks and Non-Blacknose Small Coastal Sharks (SCS) in the Gulf of Mexico Region'' (RIN0648–XD475) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 12, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7525. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Special Local Regulations, U.S. Hydro-Drag Nationals, Lake Dora; Tavares, FL'' ((RIN1625–AA08) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0643)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 17, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7526. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''AAAPD and AAASD; Tolerance Exemption'' (FRL No. 9917–03) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 28,

2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7527. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Prallethrin; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9917–30) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 28, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7528. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Paraquat Dichloride; Pesticide Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9917–15) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 28, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7529. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Importation of Fresh Unshu Oranges From Japan Into the United States'' ((RIN0579–AD85) (Docket No. APHIS–2013–0059)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7530. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Disclosure to Shareholders; Pension Benefit Disclosures'' (RIN3052–AD02) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 28, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7531. A communication from the Associate Administrator of the Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Onions Other Than Bermuda-Granex-Grano/Creole; Bermuda-Granex-Grano'' (Docket No. AMS–FV–12–0013) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7532. A communication from the Acting Director of the Legislative Affairs Division, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Interim Rule'' (RIN0578–AA63) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 6, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7533. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fluensulfone; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9914–35) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7534. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''C9 Rich Aromatic Hydrocarbons, C10–11 Rich Aromatic Hydrocarbons, and C11–12 Rich Aromatic Hydrocarbons; Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9916–23) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7535. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Thiabendazole; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9915–78) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7536. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Polyoxyalkylated sorbitan fatty acid esters; Tolerance Exemption'' (FRL No. 9916–97) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 21, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7537. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Metrafenone; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9917–56) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 21, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7538. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Pseudomonas fluorescens strain D7; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9916–13) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7539. A communication from the Associate Administrator of the Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Oranges, Grapefruit, Tangerines, and Tangelos Grown in Florida; Relaxing Grade Requirements on Valencia and Other Late Type Oranges'' (Docket No. AMS–FV–14–0041; FV14–905–2 FIR) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7540. A communication from the Associate Administrator, National Organic Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''National Organic Program (NOP); Amendments to the National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances (Crops and Processing)'' ((RIN0581–AD32) (Docket No. AMS–NOP–13–0011; NOP–13–01FR)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7541. A communication from the Secretary of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Exclusion of Utility Operations-Related Swaps with Utility Special Entities from De Minimis Threshold for Swaps with Special Entities'' (RIN3038–AE19) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 6, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7542. A communication from the Chief Operating Officer and Acting Executive Director, U.S. Election Assistance Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC–7543. A communication from the Chief Financial Officer, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Report on the Purchase and Usage of Ammunition for 2013''; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC–7544. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General David S. Fadok, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7545. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of General Gilmary M. Hostage III, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7546. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of General James F. Amos, United States Marine Corps, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7547. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Donald M. Campbell, Jr., United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7548. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Mark D. Harnitchek, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7549. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of lieutenant general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777a, for a period not to exceed 14 days before assuming the duties of the position for which the higher grade is authorized; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7550. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of brigadier general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7551. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of rear admiral in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7552. A communication from the Assistant Director, Senior Executive Management Office, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Installations, Environment and Logistics), Department of the Air Force, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 6, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7553. A communication from the Assistant Director, Senior Executive Management Office, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Strategy, Plans, and Capabilities), Department of Defense, received during

adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 6, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7554. A communication from the Assistant Director, Senior Executive Management Office, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), Department of the Army, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 6, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7555. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Homeland Defense and Global Security), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Report on Utilization of Contributions to the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7556. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Defense Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Deletion of Text Implementing 10 U.S.C. 2323'' ((RIN0750–AH45) (DFARS Case 2011–D038)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7557. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Clauses with Alternates-Special Contracting Methods, Major System Acquisition, and Service Contracting'' ((RIN0750–AI27) (DFARS Case 2014–D004)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7558. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Clauses with Alternates-Foreign Acquisition'' ((RIN0750–AH94) (DFARS Case 2013–D005)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7559. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Homeland Defense and Global Security), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Report on Proposed Obligations for Cooperative Threat Reduction''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7560. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report relative to an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of brigadier general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7561. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the situation in or in relation to the Democratic Republic of the Congo that was declared in Executive Order 13413 of October 27, 2006, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 21, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7562. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Liquidity Coverage Ratio: Liquidity Risk Measurement Standards'' (RIN7100–AE03) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 28, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7563. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency relative to the actions and policies of the Government of Sudan as declared in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 24, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7564. A communication from the Counsel, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment to the Annual Privacy Notice Requirement Under the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (Regulation P)'' ((RIN3170–AA39) (Docket No. CFPB–2014–0010)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7565. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Liquidity Coverage Ratio: Liquidity Risk Measurement Standards'' (RIN3064–AE04) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7566. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Regulatory Capital Rules: Regulatory Capital, Revisions to the Supplementary Leverage Ratio'' (RIN3064–AE12) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7567. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Credit Risk Retention'' (Commission Release No. 34–73407) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7568. A communication from the Senior Counsel, Bureau of the Fiscal Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Surety Companies Doing Business With the United States'' ((RIN1530–AA00) (31 CFR Part 223)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7569. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the situation in or in relation to the Democratic Republic of the Congo that was declared in Executive Order 13413 of October 27, 2006; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7570. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997, with respect to Sudan; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7571. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to South Sudan that was declared in Executive Order 13664 of April 3, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7572. A communication from the Regulatory Specialist of the Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Regulatory Capital Rules: Regulatory Capital, Revisions to the Supplementary Leverage Ratio'' (RIN1557–AD81) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 6, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7573. A communication from the Acting Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Suspension of Community Eligibility'' ((44 CFR Part 64) (Docket No. FEMA–2014–0002)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 7, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7574. A communication from the Acting Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Suspension of Community Eligibility'' ((44 CFR Part 64) (Docket No. FEMA–2014–0002)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 7, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7575. A communication from the Chair, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Strategic Plan for fiscal years 2014–2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7576. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revisions to the Commerce Control List: Imposition of Controls on Integrated Circuits, Helicopter Landing System Radars, Seismic Detection Systems, and Technology for IR Up-Conversion Devices'' (RIN0694–AG08) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 20, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7577. A communication from the Administrator, U.S. Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''The Availability and Price of Petroleum and Petroleum Products Produced in Countries Other Than Iran''; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–7578. A communication from the Regulatory Liaison, Office of Natural Resources Revenue, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Clarification of Appeal Procedures'' (RIN1012–AA08) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 7, 2014; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–7579. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Domestic Licensing of Special Nuclear Material—Written Reports and Clarifying Amendments'' ((RIN3150–AJ34) (NRC–2010–0271)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7580. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant

to law, the report of a rule entitled ''ESBWR Design Certification'' ((RIN3150–AI85) (NRC–2010–0135)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7581. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Arkansas: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revision'' (FRL No. 9918–56–Region 6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 28, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7582. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Commonwealth of Kentucky: New Source Review for Fine Particulate Matter'' (FRL No. 9918–68–Region 4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 28, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7583. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants; Delegation of Authority to Arkansas'' (FRL No. 9918–61–Region 6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 28, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7584. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Identification of Nonattainment Classification and Deadlines for Submission of State Implementation Plan (SIP) Provisions for the 1997 Fine Particle (PM2.5) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) and 2006 PM2.5 NAAQS; Correction'' (FRL No. 9917–96–Region 2) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 28, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7585. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Ohio; Ohio PM2.5 NSR'' (FRL No. 9917–92–Region 5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 28, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7586. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Ohio; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2008 Lead and 2010 NO2 NAAQS'' (FRL No. 9917–32–Region 5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7587. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Imperial County Air Pollution Control District'' (FRL No. 9917–02–Region 9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7588. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Illinois; Amendments to Gasoline Volatility Standards and Motor Vehicle Refinishing Requirements for Illinois.'' (FRL No. 9914–97–Region 5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7589. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Lake County Air Quality Management District'' (FRL No. 9912–71–Region 9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7590. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Illinois; Revision to the Chicago 8-Hour Ozone Maintenance Plan'' (FRL No. 9917–33–Region 5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7591. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Wisconsin; Revisions to PSD and NNSR Programs'' (FRL No. 9915–94–Region 5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7592. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Placer County Air Pollution Control District'' (FRL No. 9916–95–Region 9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7593. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Significant New Use Rule on Certain Chemical Substances; Technical Correction'' ((RIN2070–AB27) (FRL No. 9917–25)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7594. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Virginia; Section 110(a) (2) Prevention of Significant Deterioration Requirements for the 2008 Ozone and 2010 Nitrogen Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standards'' (FRL No. 9917–17–Region 3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7595. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revisions of Air Quality Implementation Plan; California; Placer County Air Pollution Control District; Stationary Source Permits'' (FRL No. 9915–51–Region 9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7596. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Allegheny County's Adoption of Control Techniques Guidelines for Offset Lithographic Printing and Letterpress Printing; Flexible Package Printing; and Industrial Solvent Cleaning Operations for Control of Volatile Organic Compound Emissions'' (FRL No. 9917–16–Region 3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7597. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Washington: General Regulations for Air Pollution Sources'' (FRL No. 9917–10–Region 10) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7598. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revisions to the Arizona State Implementation Plan, Maricopa County Air Quality Department'' (FRL No. 9912–69–Region 9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7599. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; State of Arizona; Pinal County and Gila County; Pb; Correction'' (FRL No. 9916–55–Region 9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM–342. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan urging the President and Congress of the United States to encourage international intervention on behalf of the Iraqi civilians in dire need of protection from religious persecution; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 402

Whereas, Sunni Islamist insurgents and the terrorist group known as the Islamic State or IS (also known as ISIS or ISIL) have expanded control over areas in northwest and central Iraq. IS has a stated mission of establishing an Islamic state and is moving forward through extremist attacks on Christians, Shiites, and other unprotected minorities in certain parts of the region.

Hundreds of thousands of Iraqi people in the Nineveh Plain face ethnic and religious cleansing, persecution, and harassment due to attacks by the terrorists; and

Whereas, Over two-thirds of the Christian population in Iraq is made up of Chaldeans and Assyrians, with smaller populations of Syriacs and Armenians. More than 500,000 people have been displaced by the current violence in Iraq, with nearly 80% of Iraq's 1.5 million Christian population having fled since 2003. These communities in Northwestern Iraq have recently been given an ultimatum to convert, flee, or be killed. Mosul's 1800-year-old Christian community no longer exists. Many of these individuals have resettled in the United States, including Michigan. Over 130,000 Chaldeans currently reside in our state, the largest population outside of Iraq. This community has, and continues to be, a strong asset to our state, among other states in our union; and

Whereas, The United States has provided over $73 million in humanitarian assistance to Iraq's minority populations since 2003. Yet, the crisis currently gripping northwestern Iraq has serious potential to undo all international efforts to restore stability to Iraq. Action by the United States is necessary to reaffirm our commitment to protecting minority groups facing persecution: Now, therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge the President and Congress of the United States to encourage international intervention on behalf of the Iraqi civilians in dire need of protection from religious persecution; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM–343. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho urging the United States Congress to take action forthwith to amend the United States Constitution; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 106

Whereas, the Tenth Amendment to the United States Constitution states that, ''The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people''; and

Whereas, the states primarily regulate today's health insurance market and provide aggressive oversight of all aspects of this market and enforce consumer protection as well as ensure a local, responsive presence for consumers; and

Whereas, states like Idaho are working hard to create public-private health care partnerships and facilitate local solutions; and

Whereas, the Congress of the United States has passed legislation that will impose restrictions on the states' ability to regulate health plans and will require citizens to acquire health care insurance coverage; and

Whereas, the creation of a new federal system of regulation for health insurance would be inefficient, unnecessary, not cost-effective and an additional burden on states; and

Whereas, the legislation passed by the Congress will impose a legacy of untold debt on our children and grandchildren; and

Whereas, it is in the interest of the citizens of the State of Idaho to have an amendment to the Constitution of the United States prohibiting the Congress from making any law that would require citizens to enroll in, participate in or secure health care insurance and that would penalize any citizen who declines to purchase or participate in any health care insurance program: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixtieth Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Representatives concurring therein, that the Idaho Legislature urges Congress to take action forthwith to amend the United States Constitution by adding a Twenty-eighth Amendment as follows:

The Congress shall make no law requiring citizens of the United States to enroll in, participate in or secure health care insurance or to penalize any citizen who declines to purchase or participate in any health care insurance program; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate be, and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this Memorial to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Congress, the congressional delegation representing the State of Idaho in the Congress of the United States and the presiding officers of both houses of the Legislature of each of our sister states in the Union.

POM–344. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan urging the United States Congress to investigate the United States Department of Veterans Affairs' treatment of military veterans seeking health care at facilities throughout the country; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 385

Whereas, The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has been aware of a backlog of patients seeking to see doctors or have specific tests completed at several VA hospitals around the nation for several years. As many as 7,000 veterans have been on the backlog list, often waiting over a year for necessary procedures or tests. The VA admits that 23 veterans have died while waiting to see a doctor. However, many believe the number of veterans to have died while waiting to be seen is much higher; and

Whereas, It has now come to light that VA facilities have, not only a backlog of patients, but also secret waiting lists, keeping veterans' names out of the computer system until they could be seen by a doctor within the required 14-day wait time. The secret waiting lists made it appear the VA facilities were meeting their performance goal to see patients in a timely manner; and

Whereas, The men and women who serve our country deserve better than lackluster medical care or no care at all. Many of them have been injured in the line of duty and come home to face medical challenges that require timely diagnosis and care. All veterans are entitled to the best care we can give them. To be deceived by a system more interested in performance goals than health care is intolerable: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge the United States Congress to investigate the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, treatment of military veterans seeking health care at facilities throughout the country; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. TESTER, from the Committee on Indian Affairs:

Report to accompany S. 2041, a bill to repeal the Act of May 31, 1918, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113–271).

By Mr. CARPER, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1045. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that persons having seriously delinquent tax debts shall be ineligible for Federal employment (Rept. No. 113–272).

By Mr. CARPER, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 43. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 Red River Avenue North in Cold Spring, Minnesota, as the ''Officer Tommy Decker Memorial Post Office''.

H.R. 451. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 North Brevard Avenue in Cocoa Beach, Florida, as the ''Richard K. Salick Post Office''.

H.R. 1391. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 South Oak Street in London, Ohio, as the ''London Fallen Veterans Memorial Post Office''.

H.R. 1865. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 Park Street in Danville, Vermont, as the ''Thaddeus Stevens Post Office''.

H.R. 3085. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3349 West 111th Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the ''Captain Herbert Johnson Memorial Post Office Building''.

H.R. 3957. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 218–10 Merrick Boulevard in Springfield Gardens, New York, as the ''Cynthia Jenkins Post Office Building''.

H.R. 4189. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4000 Leap Road in Hilliard, Ohio, as the ''Master Sergeant Shawn T. Hannon, Master Sergeant Jeffrey J. Rieck and Veterans Memorial Post Office Building''.

H.R. 4443. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 90 Vermilyea Avenue, in New York, New York, as the ''Corporal Juan Mariel Alcantara Post Office Building''.

H.R. 4919. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 715 Shawan Falls Drive in Dublin, Ohio, as the ''Lance Corporal Wesley G. Davids and Captain Nicholas J. Rozanski Memorial Post Office''.

H.R. 5019. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1335 Jefferson Road in Rochester, New York, as the ''Specialist Theodore Matthew Glende Post Office''.

H.R. 5106. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Admiral Callaghan Lane in Vallejo, California, as the ''Philmore Graham Post Office Building''.

S. 2523. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 3rd Avenue, NW., in Chisholm, Minnesota, as the ''James L. Oberstar Memorial Post Office Building''.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. LEAHY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

David Rivera, of Tennessee, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Tennessee for the term of four years.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

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. CASEY (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. NELSON):

S. 2920. A bill to deny Social Security benefits and other benefits to individuals who participated in Nazi persecution; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 2921. A bill to designate the community based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs located at 310 Home Boulevard in Galesburg, Illinois, as the ''Lane A. Evans VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic''; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 2922. A bill to reinstate reporting requirements related to United States-Hong Kong relations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. TESTER:

S. 2923. A bill to restore an opportunity for economic development by the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe on terms that are equal and fair, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. VITTER, and Mrs. MCCASKILL):

S. 2924. A bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to exempt old vessels that only operate within inland waterways from the fire-retardant materials requirement if the owners of such vessels make annual structural alterations to at least 10 percent of the areas of the vessels that are not constructed of fire-retardant materials; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Ms. AYOTTE):

S. 2925. A bill to provide for the elimination or modification of Federal reporting requirements; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. REED:

S. 2926. A bill to revise the boundaries of John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Sachuest Point Unit RI–04P, Easton Beach Unit RI–05P, Almy Pond Unit RI–06, and Hazards Beach Unit RI–07 in the State of Rhode Island; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. COBURN:

S. 2927. A bill to strengthen Inspector General audits and investigations by streamlining computer matching agreements; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 2928. A bill to prohibit the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission from issuing certain decisions that will raise costs for ratepayers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. COONS, and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. Res. 578. A resolution supporting the role of the United States in ensuring children in the world's poorest countries have access to vaccines and immunization through Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 539

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 539, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to foster more effective implementation and coordination of clinical care for people with pre-diabetes and diabetes.

S. 572

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 572, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the conditions under which certain persons may be treated as adjudicated mentally incompetent for certain purposes.

S. 641

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 641, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the number of permanent faculty in palliative care at accredited allopathic and osteopathic medical schools, nursing schools, and other programs, to promote education in palliative care and hospice, and to support the development of faculty careers in academic palliative medicine.

S. 675

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 675, a bill to prohibit contracting with the enemy.

S. 742

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) was added as a cosponsor of S. 742, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Small Business Act to expand the availability of employee stock ownership plans in S corporations, and for other purposes.

S. 759

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 759, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for amounts paid by a spouse of a member of the Armed Forces for a new State license or certification required by reason of a permanent change in the duty station of such member to another State.

S. 1038

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1038, a bill to eliminate racial profiling by law enforcement, and for other purposes.

S. 1040

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. COATS), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1040, a bill to provide for the award of a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Jack Nicklaus, in recognition of his service to the Nation in promoting excellence, good sportsmanship, and philanthropy.

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. WALSH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1040, supra.

S. 1332

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1332, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure more timely access to home health services for Medicare beneficiaries under the Medicare program.

S. 1407

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1407, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to strengthen elementary and secondary computer science education, and for other purposes.

S. 1623

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1623, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide compensatory time for employees in the private sector.

S. 1948

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1948, a bill to promote the academic achievement of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian children with the establishment of a Native American language grant program.

S. 2125

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2125, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to ensure the integrity of voice communications and to prevent unjust or unreasonable discrimination among areas of the United States in the delivery of such communications.

S. 2332

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2332, a bill to expand benefits to the families of public safety officers who suffer fatal climate-related

injuries sustained in the line of duty and proximately resulting in death.

S. 2337

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2337, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to inter in national cemeteries individuals who supported the United States in Laos during the Vietnam War era.

S. 2508

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2508, a bill to establish a comprehensive United States Government policy to assist countries in sub-Saharan Africa to improve access to and the affordability, reliability, and sustainability of power, and for other purposes.

S. 2581

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2581, a bill to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a rule to require child safety packaging for liquid nicotine containers, and for other purposes.

S. 2591

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2591, a bill to authorize the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to provide assistance to support the rights of women and girls in developing countries, and for other purposes.

S. 2646

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2646, a bill to reauthorize the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2646, supra.

S. 2663

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2663, a bill to provide high-skilled visas for nationals of the Republic of Korea, and for other purposes.

S. 2687

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2687, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to ensure that women members of the Armed Forces and their families have access to the contraception they need in order to promote the health and readiness of all members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 2689

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2689, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to specify coverage of continuous glucose monitoring devices, and for other purposes.

S. 2694

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2694, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to extend the application of the Medicare payment rate floor to primary care services furnished under Medicaid and to apply the rate floor to additional providers of primary care services.

S. 2779

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2779, a bill to amend section 349 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to deem specified activities in support of terrorism as renunciation of United States nationality.

S. 2782

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2782, a bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to improve the Federal charter for the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2812

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2812, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish a simplified income-driven repayment plan, and for other purposes.

S. 2814

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2814, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to reform the National Labor Relations Board, the Office of the General Counsel, and the process for appellate review, and for other purposes.

S. 2816

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2816, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate the specific exemption for professional football leagues and to provide a special rule for other professional sports leagues, and to provide an additional authorization of appropriations for the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act.

S. 2839

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2839, a bill to authorize the Attorney General to award grants to address the national epidemics of prescription opioid abuse and heroin use.

S. 2841

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2841, a bill to provide for a study by the Institute of Medicine on health disparities, to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop guidelines on reducing health disparities, and for other purposes.

S. 2862

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2862, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to drug scheduling recommendations by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and with respect to registration of manufacturers and distributors seeking to conduct clinical testing, and for other purposes.

S. 2909

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2909, a bill to authorize a comprehensive strategic approach for United States foreign assistance to developing countries to end extreme global poverty and hunger, achieve food and nutrition security, promote endurable, long-term, agricultural-led economic growth, improve nutritional outcomes, especially for women and children, build resilient, adaptive, local capacity of vulnerable populations, and for other related purposes.

S. 2917

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2917, a bill to expand the program of priority review to encourage treatments for tropical diseases.

S. RES. 561

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 561, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that recently proposed measures that will reduce transparency and public participation at the International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS) should be disapproved by United States representatives to the IAIS.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 2921. A bill to designate the community based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs located at 310 Home Boulevard in Galesburg, Illinois, as the ''Lane A. Evans VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic''; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2921

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

SECTION 1. LANE A. EVANS VA COMMUNITY BASED OUTPATIENT CLINIC.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The community based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs located at 310 Home Boulevard in Galesburg, Illinois, shall be known and designated as the ''Lane A. Evans VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the community based outpatient clinic referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Lane A. Evans VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 578—SUPPORTING THE ROLE OF THE UNITED STATES IN ENSURING CHILDREN IN THE WORLD'S POOREST COUNTRIES HAVE ACCESS TO VACCINES AND IMMUNIZATION THROUGH GAVI, THE VACCINE ALLIANCE

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. COONS, and Mr. BOOZMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 578

Whereas, prior to 2000, the distribution of, and the resources for, vaccines for children in the developing world were declining, immunization rates were stagnant or decreasing, and nearly 30,000,000 children born in the developing world each year were not fully immunized;

Whereas, prior to 2000, it was common for new life-saving vaccines to take up to 15 years to be introduced in the world's poorest countries;

Whereas access to routine immunization and vaccines protect children from deadly but preventable disease and contribute to national economic growth and poverty reduction by ensuring people live longer, healthier, and more productive lives;

Whereas, in 2000, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the United States, the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization, the World Bank, bilateral partners, developing countries, the private sector, including the vaccine industry, civil society, and other partners joined forces to create a public-private partnership called the Global Fund for Children's Vaccines (now Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance) in order to expand access to new and underused vaccines and support the introduction and scale-up of these vaccines into routine immunization systems in the world's poorest countries;

Whereas partnership and sustainability are at the core of the Gavi model by requiring eligible countries to contribute financing to some portion of their vaccine costs and directly invest in immunizing their children;

Whereas, by 2012, more than 65 developing countries working with Gavi were co-financing new and underused vaccines and more than 20 countries are projected to graduate between 2016 and 2020, moving toward fully funding their national immunization programs;

Whereas Gavi has transformed the market for vaccines by pooling demand from developing countries matched with secure, predictable financing to make vaccines more affordable and their supply more reliable, and encouraging research and development of new vaccines;

Whereas, as a result, Gavi has played a critical role in increasing the number of global vaccine manufacturers selling to the world's poorest countries from 5 in 2001 to 13 in 2014;

Whereas the price for the pneumococcal vaccine, which prevents pneumonia, is now more than 90 percent lower for Gavi-eligible countries than elsewhere, and the price of rotavirus vaccines, which prevents diarrhea, is 67 percent lower in Gavi-eligible countries;

Whereas, with innovative financing mechanisms like the Advance Market Commitment and International Finance Facility for Immunisation (IFFIm), Gavi ensures that appropriate and affordable vaccines are available throughout the developing world;

Whereas Gavi supports the financing and delivery of 11 vaccines, including those against pneumococcal disease and rotavirus, the leading vaccine-preventable causes of pneumonia and diarrhea, which kill more children under the age of five than any other disease;

Whereas Gavi collaborates closely with the Global Polio Eradication Initiative on the final push to end polio, strengthening and bringing the inactivated polio vaccine into routine immunization programs;

Whereas strong immunization systems are critical to ensuring continuous coverage and sustainability of new and routine immunization programs in implementing countries;

Whereas Gavi supports the strengthening of health systems and local civil society organizations to ensure effective immunization and health services;

Whereas, since 2000, with support from the United States, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, UNICEF, the World Health Organization, the World Bank, implementing countries, donor governments, the private sector, and other donors and partners, Gavi has supported country-led vaccine roll outs in 77 countries to support the immunization of an additional 440,000,000 children and will avert an estimated 6,000,000 deaths in the world's poorest countries;

Whereas, in 2013, Gavi was ranked the second most transparent aid program in the Aid Transparency Index, behind only the Millennium Challenge Corporation;

Whereas, even with significant contributions by Gavi, only a small percentage of young children worldwide receive all 11 life-saving vaccines universally recommended by the World Health Organization;

Whereas vaccines are widely regarded as one of the ''best buys'' in global health and recognized as one of the most efficient, cost-effective, and successful health initiatives in history;

Whereas, in 2012, leading experts on health economics ranked childhood immunization as one of the three most cost-effective solutions to advance global health;

Whereas, as one of the initial six donors, the United States has been an important supporter of Gavi and through the generosity of the people of the United States has contributed almost $1,200,000,000 for the acquisition of life saving vaccines;

Whereas, at Gavi's first pledging conference in June 2011, the United States increased its support and pledged $450,000,000 for fiscal years 2012 through 2014 to increase access to new and underused vaccines, including pneumococcal and rotavirus vaccines;

Whereas, in addition to this three-year pledge, the United States contributed an additional $90,000,000 to Gavi in fiscal year 2011;

Whereas United States investment in Gavi complements and enhances the effectiveness of other bilateral and multilateral United States investments in global health, particularly in child survival;

Whereas Gavi is committed to working with partners, including United States bilateral programs run by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), to ensure children in developing nations have access to vaccines and immunizations;

Whereas, in June 2012, the United States Government, together with the Governments of Ethiopia and India as well as UNICEF, mobilized the world around the goal of ending preventable child deaths by 2035;

Whereas access to immunizations is a key component of reaching that goal;

Whereas, in May 2014, at the World Economic Forum meeting in Abuja, Nigeria, African leaders pledged to increase investment in their countries' immunization programs by endorsing the Immunise Africa 2020 leaders declaration;

Whereas, on May 20, 2014, Gavi called on donors to support an ambitious plan to immunize an additional 300,000,000 children against potentially fatal diseases and save an additional 5,000,000 to 6,000,000 lives between 2016 and 2020;

Whereas Gavi needs donors to invest an additional $7,500,000,000 to support immunization programs in developing countries from 2016 to 2020;

Whereas, at the same time, implementing countries are expected to co-finance an additional $1,200,000,000, an increase from almost $500,000,000 in 2011 through 2015; and

Whereas, with this support from donors and the global vaccine community, Gavi can reach its 1,000,000,000th child with critical vaccines by the early 2020s, nearly double the number of lives saved since its founding, and unlock between $80,000,000,000 and $100,000,000,000 in economic benefits through health care savings and productivity gains: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization, the World Bank, civil society, the private sector, faith-based organizations, the international community, and implementing countries on the progress that has been made on reducing child mortality through the increased availability and distribution of vaccines;

(2) affirms the continued support of the people and Government of the United States for the purchase of vaccines for the world's poorest countries through Gavi as a cost-effective, efficient means to reduce child mortality and as a critical component of meeting the United States goal to end preventable maternal and child deaths;

(3) supports the ideals and goals of Gavi to—

(A) accelerate equitable uptake and coverage of vaccines;

(B) improve the effectiveness and efficiency of immunization delivery;

(C) improve sustainability of national immunization programs; and

(D) shape markets for vaccines and other immunization products;

(4) upholds that the United States is a critical donor in its work with other donors to perform diplomatic outreach in seeking additional funding for Gavi in order to leverage its commitment;

(5) recognizes that the United States, in addition to being an important donor, is a critical technical partner to Gavi, and the impact of United States investments to Gavi

is leveraged by providing direct technical assistance to implementing countries and global bodies;

(6) encourages the continued use of United States Agency for International Development (USAID) maternal and child health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) global immunization resources to strengthen local public health capacity to introduce and sustain new and underutilized vaccines, that are supported by Gavi, through routine immunization systems; and

(7) encourages continued commitment and investment by the United States Government and international donors, through Gavi, to the global effort to ensure that children in developing nations have access to vaccines and immunizations.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3941. Mr. HEINRICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3941. Mr. HEINRICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title XXXI of division C, add the following:

SEC. 3117. REPORT ON ENTREPRENEURIAL IMPACT OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report on the entrepreneurial impact of technology transfer at the laboratories of the National Nuclear Security Administration.

(b) BASIS OF REPORT.—The report under subsection (a) shall be based on an evaluation of quantitative performance metrics, including—

(1) the number of licenses granted to small businesses;

(2) the number of start-up businesses created;

(3) the number of cooperative research and development agreements and collaborations involving small businesses and the total number of businesses involved in those agreements and collaborations;

(4) the period of time required for execution of a license; and

(5) the number of jobs created.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 13, 2014, at 11 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 13, 2014, at 3 p.m., room SD–366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 13, 2014, at 11:00 a.m., in room SD–406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled, ''Hearing on the nominations of Virginia T. Lodge and Ronald A. Walter to be Members of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on November 13, 2014, at 3:30 p.m., room SD–430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled ''Hearing on the nominations of P. David Lopez to serve as General Counsel and Charlotte Burrows to serve as a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on November 13, 2014, at 11 a.m., in room SD–226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled ''Nominations.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on November 13, 2014, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD–226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 13, 2014, at 2:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 4

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand H.R. 4 is at the desk and due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4) to make revisions to Federal law to improve the conditions necessary for economic growth and job creation, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. I object to any further proceedings at this time on this legislation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 2

Mr. REID. There is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2) to remove Federal Government obstacles to the production of more domestic energy; to ensure transport of that energy reliably to businesses, consumers, and other end users; to lower the cost of energy to consumers; to enable manufacturers and other businesses to access domestically produced energy affordably and reliably in order to create and sustain more secure and well-paying American jobs; and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I ask for a second reading in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, but I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

NOMINATION REFERRAL

Mr. REID. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the nomination of Sarah R. Saldana, to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, reported by the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on Wednesday, November 12, 2014, now be referred to the Judiciary Committee no later than December 4, 2014; that if the Committee on the Judiciary has not reported by that date, then it be automatically discharged and placed on the Executive Calendar.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to Public Law 110–315, the appointment of the following individual to be a member of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity: Dr. Paul LeBlanc of New Hampshire.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2014

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 2 p.m. on Monday, November 17, 2014; that following the prayer and 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 until 5:30 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each and with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees; and that at 5:30 p.m. the Senate resume consideration of the motion to concur with respect to S. 1086 and vote on the motion, as provided for under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, there will be four rollcall votes at 5:30 p.m. on Monday on adoption of the motion to concur on the child care and development block grant bill and on cloture on the Adams, Cohen, and Ross nominations.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. REID. 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 7:19 p.m., adjourned until Monday, November 17, 2014, at 2 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

ELISSA SLOTKIN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE DEREK H. CHOLLET.

SECURITIES INVESTOR PROTECTION CORPORATION

JOHN E. MENDEZ, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A DIRECTOR OF THE SECURITIES INVESTOR PROTECTION CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2015, VICE SHARON Y. BOWEN, RESIGNED.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

JEFFERY MARTIN BARAN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2018, VICE ALLISON M. MACFARLANE, RESIGNING.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LORETTA E. LYNCH, OF NEW YORK, TO BE ATTORNEY GENERAL, VICE ERIC H . HOLDER, JR.

FOREIGN SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING–NAMED PERSON OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FOR APPOINTMENT AS A FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF THE CLASS STATED.

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF CLASS THREE, CONSULAR OFFICER AND SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

JAMES D. LINDLEY, OF LOUISIANA

THE FOLLOWING–NAMED PERSONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS OF THE CLASSES STATED.

THE FOLLOWING–NAMED MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE TO BE A SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

BRUCE MATTHEWS, OF CALIFORNIA

THE FOLLOWING–NAMED MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE TO BE CONSULAR OFFICERS AND SECRETARIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

AMI J. ABOU–BAKR, OF IDAHO
GEORGE E. ADAIR, OF VIRGINIA
VANESSA LEILANI ADAMS, OF CALIFORNIA
IKE H. ADIGWE, OF VIRGINIA
ALYCE S. AHN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MARVIN E. ALFARO, OF NEW YORK
ERNESTO L. ALFONSO, OF FLORIDA
LOUIS ALVARADO, OF VIRGINIA
LISA NICOLE ANDONOVSKA, OF VIRGINIA
TERESA ANDRE, OF VIRGINIA
NAOMI ANISMAN, OF NEW YORK
WILLIE J. ARMSTRONG, OF CALIFORNIA
VANESSA LYNN ARNESS, OF VIRGINIA
ERICA MARIE AUGUSTENBORG, OF VIRGINIA
ALEXANDER CARROLL AUGUSTINE–MARCEIL, OF VIRGINIA
NICHOLAS D. AUSTIN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BENJAMIN R. AVENIA–TAPPER, OF VERMONT
YVONNE C. BADGER, OF CALIFORNIA
CAROLINE BAKER, OF FLORIDA
CHARLES M. BALCK, OF VIRGINIA
AGNES M. BAPTISTE, OF MARYLAND
DAVID PAUL BARGUENO, OF VIRGINIA
AARON BARNARD–LUCE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JEFFREY RICHARD BARRETT, OF VIRGINIA
JILL Y. BARWIG, OF COLORADO
JUANITA M. BATISTE, OF MARYLAND
DARIEN B. BATZER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
CAITLIN BAUER, OF PENNSYLVANIA
PAUL W. BAUER, OF NEW JERSEY
GREGORY W. BAUS, OF VIRGINIA
JAMES C. BAYNE, OF VIRGINIA
KRISTINA ELENA BEARD, OF FLORIDA
COLLIN D. BELL, OF NEW YORK
DAVID P. BENCHENER, OF VIRGINIA
AMANDA M. BERG, OF VIRGINIA
ELIZABETH D. BERRETT, OF TEXAS
HEATHER NICOLE BLAINE, OF VIRGINIA
RONALD A. BLAINE, OF VIRGINIA
ROBERT A. BLANCO, OF MASSACHUSETTS
MARIA KIRSTEN BLEES, OF WASHINGTON
CHRISTOPHER DAVID BLINKY, OF PENNSYLVANIA
PATRICK ANIM BOATENG II, OF MARYLAND
ANDREW BENJAMIN BOCKUS, OF VIRGINIA
FREDERICK BOLAGEER, JR., OF NEW YORK
DAVID P. BOLES, OF VIRGINIA
JENNIFER BETH BOOKBINDER, OF VIRGINIA
ERIC BORGMAN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
LEAH ANGELLE BOYER, OF LOUISIANA
ELIZABETH A. BRENNAN, OF VIRGINIA
GARY M. BRENNIS, OF CALIFORNIA
NORA S. BRITO, OF FLORIDA
JOHN J. BRITTAIN, OF VIRGINIA
ANDREW L. BROWN, OF OHIO
APRIL N. BROWN, OF VIRGINIA
JANINE E. BROWN, OF NEW YORK
JUAN CARLOS BROWN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
TIFFANY J. BUFORD, OF TEXAS
DARIA BUIE, OF MARYLAND
JOSHUA DAVID BULL, OF GEORGIA
COSTON L. BURNES, OF MARYLAND
JOSEF BURTON, OF OREGON
ELIJAH BUSH, OF VIRGINIA
ANDREW RYAN BYRLEY, OF INDIANA
KAREN J. CALDERON, OF VIRGINIA
NICOLE LEAH CALLRAM, OF MINNESOTA
JEFFREY CAMPBELL, OF MINNESOTA
THERESA H. CANAVAN, OF VIRGINIA
GABRIELA SOFIA CANAVATI, OF TEXAS
ALLISON M. CARRAGHER, OF FLORIDA
BRYAN SCOTT CARROLL, OF WASHINGTON
ELIZANN CARROLL, OF TEXAS
OLIVER S. CASS, OF NEW YORK
KYLE R. CASSILY, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
WILLIAM PATRICK CHAMBERS, OF VIRGINIA
AMIT SINGH CHANDA, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BRIAN C. CHANDLER, OF NEW YORK
ANTHONY CHANG, OF CALIFORNIA
TERESA CHANG, OF CALIFORNIA
XUAN CHAU, OF VIRGINIA
RONGJIE CHEN, OF ILLINOIS
JEUNG HWA CHOE, OF TEXAS
GARY K. CHOW, OF CALIFORNIA
JULIAN B. CIAMPA, OF COLORADO
MATTHEW CIESIELSKI, OF INDIANA
HAZEL M. CIPOLLE, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
JAMES PATRICK CLARKSON, OF UTAH
JAMES OZZIE COKER II, OF TEXAS
RANDY E. COLE, JR., OF PENNSYLVANIA
CHERYL R. COLLINS, OF VIRGINIA
GARETH R. COLLINS, OF ILLINOIS
RYANN M. COLLINS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JESSICA COPELAND, OF COLORADO
MATTHEW E. CORCORAN, OF WISCONSIN
JORGE CORDOVA, OF FLORIDA
LESTER L. CORNELISON II, OF INDIANA
BRIANA C. CORSO, OF CALIFORNIA
NATHANAEL Q. COX, OF SOUTH CAROLINA
ROBIN JEAN CRAM, OF OHIO
NATHANIEL DOUGLAS CROOK, OF VIRGINIA
DANIEL CULLOP, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
RENEE MARY CUMMINGS, OF WASHINGTON
FRANCIS G. DAVENPORT, OF VIRGINIA
BROOKE CHELSEY DAVIS, OF VIRGINIA
EVAN LAMAR DAVIS, OF OHIO
TAYLOR DEWEY, OF VIRGINIA
KALI JANINE DEWITT, OF INDIANA
CHRISTY L. DIAZ, OF CALIFORNIA
JASON A. DILKS, OF TEXAS
JOSEPH DIRENZO, OF VIRGINIA
SHANEISHA DODSON, OF VIRGINIA
MICHAEL C. DONAHUE, OF VIRGINIA
THOMAS A. DOUGLAS, OF VIRGINIA
ERIKA L. DOVE, OF VIRGINIA
KAREEM JULES DRIGHT, OF CALIFORNIA
ANDREW DUBINSKY, OF VIRGINIA
YUZZY GAINA DUBUISSON, OF PENNSYLVANIA
CLAIRE DUFFETT, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JOSHUA EARLEY, OF TEXAS
EDWARD H. EBERT, OF NEVADA
CHRISTOPHER L. EDDIE, OF TEXAS
JILL K. EGAN, OF MARYLAND
MICHAEL ELKIN, OF FLORIDA
EMILY GRACE ENRIGHT, OF VIRGINIA
PETER JAMES EPTON, OF ALASKA
KIMBERLY MICHELLE EVERETT, OF ALABAMA
MATHEW M. FALKOFF, OF CALIFORNIA
NATHANIEL FARRAR, OF FLORIDA
JUSTIN HOWARD FAULKNER, OF INDIANA
ASHLEY M. FAY, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
COREY STANICH FEINSTEIN, OF CALIFORNIA
CHRISTOPHER S. FIELDS, OF VIRGINIA
KRISTA KAY FISHER, OF VIRGINIA
KYLE ALEXANDER FISHMAN, OF FLORIDA
KRISTIN R. FITZGERALD, OF VIRGINIA
KYLE WILLIAM FONAY, OF VIRGINIA
LINCOLN FRAGER, OF COLORADO
KATHRYN LYNETTE FRANKO, OF NEW YORK
ERIC R. FREDERICK, OF ARIZONA
JOHN TAYLOR FREELAND, OF VIRGINIA
ANDREW R. FREEMAN, OF TENNESSEE
TARYN A. FRENCH, OF TEXAS
RYAN FUGIT, OF VIRGINIA
OLIVER W. GAINES, OF TEXAS
ADELITO NICHOLAS GALE, OF VIRGINIA
SEANN C. GALE, OF VIRGINIA
DAVID ALAN GALLES, OF WASHINGTON
BRADLEY GARDNER, OF CALIFORNIA
DANIELLA A. GAYAPERSAD–CHAN, OF MARYLAND
JEANNE CHADWICK GEERS, OF VIRGINIA
SARAH ALLISON GEISLER, OF PENNSYLVANIA
CHRISTOPHER P. GEURTSEN, OF TENNESSEE
NARDOS GHEBREGZIABHER, OF COLORADO
KATHRYN GLUCKMAN, OF FLORIDA
RYAN A. GOCONG, OF NEW YORK
JESSE GOLLAND, OF COLORADO
JACOB LYON GOODMAN, OF NEW MEXICO
NORA P. GORDON, OF NEW YORK
PIERRE A. GORHAM, OF MARYLAND
ROBERT GRASSO, OF NEVADA
ROBERT D. GREENE, OF CALIFORNIA
ABIGAIL SARAH GREENWALD, OF MINNESOTA
MARK D. GREENWELL, OF VIRGINIA
CHASE JAMES GUINN, OF OHIO
NEIL GUNDAVDA, OF FLORIDA
JOHN LESLIE HALEY, OF OKLAHOMA
SHEENA R. HALL, OF INDIANA
DANIEL P. HAMEL, OF VIRGINIA
CLARE J. HATFIELD, OF VIRGINIA
STEPHEN A. HAWLEY, OF VIRGINIA
COLIN T. HEALEY, OF VIRGINIA
PATRICK JOSEPH HEALEY, OF VIRGINIA
ANDREA JEAN HEILAND, OF TEXAS
JON THOMAS HEIT, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MICHAEL G. HENLEY, OF MARYLAND
EMILY ELIZABETH HENNELL, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
SARAH C. HENNESSEY, OF GEORGIA
TAMEISHA HENRY, OF MARYLAND
MANUEL G. HERNANDEZ, OF VIRGINIA
JOHN HOOD HEYWOOD, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MEGHAN L. HIGGINS, OF VIRGINIA
WILLIAM HARVEY HINE–RAMSBERGER, OF COLORADO
ERIKA RUTH HOLLNER, OF VERMONT
KALISHA HOLMES, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
KAYLA HOWE, OF IOWA
MARTHA A. HOWELL, OF VIRGINIA
TODD R. HUGHES, OF FLORIDA
TIMOTHY J. HUIZAR, OF TEXAS
WILLIAM JOHN HUSSEY, OF TEXAS
D. SCOTT HUTCHISON, OF UTAH
JOSEPHINE HWANG, OF VIRGINIA
TETYANA IVANISHENA, OF PENNSYLVANIA
MATTHEW JAMRISKO, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MICHELLE JANZEN, OF NORTH CAROLINA
FRANCES S. JEFFREY–COKER, OF MARYLAND
MATTHEW JENNINGS, OF TEXAS
MAN SIK JEON, OF VIRGINIA
KATHERINE JERNIGAN, OF TEXAS
JENNIFER ELIZABETH JOHNSON, OF COLORADO
MEGAN PATRICIA JOHNSON, OF NEBRASKA
NEAL H. JOHNSON, JR., OF MARYLAND
JOSEPH JONES, OF NEVADA
KAMEKO JONES, OF VIRGINIA
STEVEN GARETH JONES, OF FLORIDA
TIMOTHY K. JONES, OF VIRGINIA
ALENA VENIECE JOSEPH, OF MARYLAND
JACHELLE R. JOSEPH, OF VIRGINIA
TYLER JOYNER, OF TEXAS
GENEVIEVE NATALIE JUDSON–JOURDAIN, OF MASSACHUSETTS
BRIAN JUNGWIWATTANAPORN, OF NEW YORK
BENJAMIN ERIC KALT, OF ARIZONA
JACOB BRIAN KASPER, OF VIRGINIA
KEITH P. KELLY, OF VIRGINIA
AUDREY KERANEN, OF MASSACHUSETTS
BENJAMIN LEE KESSLER, OF CALIFORNIA
FAROUK KHAN, OF NEW YORK
SADAF KHAN, OF TEXAS
DAVID ANDREW KIERSKI, OF ILLINOIS
JONGMI ESTHER KIM WIODEK, OF VIRGINIA
JACQUELINE KINGFIELD, OF MARYLAND
NICHOLAS E. KNISKA, OF FLORIDA
CHARLES A. KOENINGER, OF VIRGINIA
WILSON M. KOROL, OF NEVADA
JOSEPH M. KRAFFT, OF CALIFORNIA
KARINA S. KRAJEC, OF OHIO
JESSICA KUHN, OF WASHINGTON

ZACHARY LANDAU, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JOSEPH S. LANGDORF, OF VIRGINIA
F. CHRISTOPHER LANNING, OF NEW MEXICO
PETER S. LAU, OF WISCONSIN
LANCE LAUCHENGCO, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DAVID LAWLER, OF NEW MEXICO
JESSICA LAZCANO, OF VIRGINIA
KAJAL A. LEARY, OF VIRGINIA
CARMEN GAYLE LECLAIR, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
CHE KWANG LEE, OF TEXAS
SUN J. LEE, OF CALIFORNIA
JEREMY LEWIS, OF VIRGINIA
TANIA A. LEWIS, OF VIRGINIA
MATTHEW LINCOLN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ROSE VELMA LINDGREN, OF VIRGINIA
BENJAMIN R. LINGEMAN, OF OHIO
KARL LOHSE, OF CALIFORNIA
ABEL TANGEMAN LOMAX, OF MINNESOTA
MATTHEW M. LOMBARDO, OF VIRGINIA
ANDREW ALEXANDER LOOMIS, OF TEXAS
LEANA M. LOPEZ, OF WASHINGTON
JEANNETTA LORETTA LOVE, OF ALABAMA
DAVID M. LOYA, OF NEW MEXICO
MATTHEW ELROY LUNN, OF FLORIDA
JOHN DAVID LYNCH, OF CALIFORNIA
MICHAEL L. LYONS, OF VIRGINIA
COLIN JUDE MACHADO, OF CALIFORNIA
LYNNE PATRICIA MADNICK, OF PENNSYLVANIA
STEPHEN ANDREW MANNING, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
KRISTIAN R. MARGHERIO, OF VIRGINIA
JOSHUA A. MARKS, OF MARYLAND
ROSE ANN MARKS, OF FLORIDA
VENOY V. MATTAMANA, OF FLORIDA
MARY MATTHEWS, OF MINNESOTA
DAVID W. MAURO, OF TEXAS
HEATHER S. MAXWELL, OF VIRGINIA
KATHLEEN MAXWELL, OF NEW YORK
MATTHEW REED MAYBERRY, OF VIRGINIA
KEVIN MASON MCCOWN, OF PENNSYLVANIA
WILLIAM I. MCCOY, OF VIRGINIA
KELLY MCCRAY, OF TENNESSEE
PATRICK M. MCERLEAN, OF PENNSYLVANIA
BRIAN C. MCKEAN, OF FLORIDA
KEVIN T. MCNAMARA, OF NEW YORK
MELISSA G. MCPHERSON, OF VIRGINIA
JACKIE HART MEEKER, OF WYOMING
DEREK THOMAS MERCER, OF VIRGINIA
KARL EDSON MERCER III, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ERIC A. MERIDETH, OF VIRGINIA
JOSHUA I. MERTSCH, OF MASSACHUSETTS
ALICIA M. MESSMER, OF VIRGINIA
GEORGE MESTHOS, OF MARYLAND
KIRSTEN ANNE MICHENER, OF CALIFORNIA
LINDSAY JO MIESKO, OF PENNSYLVANIA
CHRISTINE J. MILLER, OF VIRGINIA
CHRISTOPHER J. MILLER, OF MARYLAND
SHANE A. MILLER, OF PENNSYLVANIA
ADNAN AZAM–ALI MIRZA, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ALISA MARIE MODICA, OF ILLINOIS
REBECCA MOLINOFF, OF OHIO
CHRISTOPHER LEE MOLITORIS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ROSE MARIE MONACELLI, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DANIEL EDWARD MONSON, OF VIRGINIA
CAROLINE KIM MONTOYA, OF MARYLAND
AMBER N. MOORE, OF TEXAS
JAMES W. MOORE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ANGELA M. MORA, OF TEXAS
JEFFREY W. MORENCY, OF VIRGINIA
FRANCES A. MORENO, OF TEXAS
NATALYA V. MORIN, OF FLORIDA
JAMES T. MOSHER, OF OHIO
KAREN Y. MOZINGO, OF VIRGINIA
DANIEL MUFFLEY, OF PENNSYLVANIA
CLARE MURPHY, OF VIRGINIA
PATRICK R. MURPHY, OF WISCONSIN
AGNES NAM, OF MASSACHUSETTS
MICHAEL LOREN NEEDLE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PATRICK H. NEELEY, OF VIRGINIA
DOUGLAS J. NELSON, OF VIRGINIA
ERICA LEE NELSON, OF VIRGINIA
JAKE ROBERT NELSON, OF VIRGINIA
JONAH NEUMAN, OF NEW YORK
DAVID THOMAS NEWTON, OF ALABAMA
MIKE PHUONG ANH NGUYEN, OF CALIFORNIA
DANIEL THOMAS NIBARGER, OF VIRGINIA
LAGRETTA DORAN NICKLES, OF FLORIDA
MARI–JANA OBOROCEANU, OF FLORIDA
HARALD OLSEN, OF CONNECTICUT
ABIGAIL A. OLVERA, OF TEXAS
CAITLIN M. O'MALLEY, OF VIRGINIA
BESTY J. O'MEARA, OF VIRGINIA
DANIEL J. O'ROURKE, OF ILLINOIS
STEPHANIE NATALIE OVIEDO, OF PUERTO RICO
TMITRI A. OWENS, OF GEORGIA
EROL OZAKCAY, OF CALIFORNIA
AMY MARIE PADILLA, OF TENNESSEE
MORTON S. PARK, OF CALIFORNIA
DIANE PARR, OF VIRGINIA
LISA ANN PARRINGTON, OF FLORIDA
MIRANDA S. PATTERSON, OF NORTH CAROLINA
BRANDON PEART, OF UTAH
MOLLY MURPHY PEDERSEN, OF VIRGINIA
JOSHUA CHANDLER PEFFLEY, OF MINNESOTA
THOMAS A. PEPE III, OF PENNSYLVANIA
ABDEL PERERA, OF FLORIDA
ERIN ELIZABETH PERETTI, OF VIRGINIA
RYAN PESECKAS, OF FLORIDA
KIRA MARIE PETERSON, OF MICHIGAN
TIMOTHY J. PETRO, OF VIRGINIA
KATHERINE PETTERSSON, OF NEW YORK
SUSAN PHEMISTER, OF NEW YORK
CHRISTINA ANGELINE PHILLIPS, OF LOUISIANA
GARVEY PIERRE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
TIMOTHY J. PIRO, OF VIRGINIA
MARK PITUCH, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BRIANT S. PLATT, OF UTAH
NEAL S. POSDAMER, OF VIRGINIA
THERESE M. POSTEL, OF NEW YORK
JESSE POTTER, OF WASHINGTON
MITCHELL H. PRAY, OF VIRGINIA
ASHLEY A. PRICE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ANTHONY A. PRIDOTKAS, OF VIRGINIA
AYESHA QUIRKE, OF FLORIDA
TRUDE ENOLA RAIZEN, OF MASSACHUSETTS
RENATO RAMACIOTTI, OF TEXAS
MARJORIE JEANE HABIT RAPP, OF NORTH CAROLINA
DAVID J. REDLINGER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ALLISON JEAN REEDY, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
KIRBY SCOTT REILING, OF VIRGINIA
MICHAEL RIES, OF FLORIDA
RYAN RIKANSRUD, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
TIMOTHY KEVIN RILEY, OF VIRGINIA
ROGER RODRIGUEZ RIOS, OF CALIFORNIA
ANDREW J. RIPLINGER, OF ILLINOIS
MARINA RITSEMA, OF CONNECTICUT
MITCHELL J. RITSEMA, OF CONNECTICUT
PAUL ALEXANDER RIVERA, OF FLORIDA
MARK T. ROBINSON, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ELIZABETH M. RODRIGUEZ, OF PENNSYLVANIA
CHAD ROEDEMEIER, OF NEW YORK
SARAH ROHN, OF VIRGINIA
ANTONELLA P. ROMONA, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DAVID B. ROSENBLUM, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
SHARON ANN RYAN, OF MISSOURI
NICHOLAS M. SAGNIMENI, OF VIRGINIA
TYLER SAMS, OF VIRGINIA
DANA SLADE SANDERS, OF WEST VIRGINIA
STEPHEN SANDERS, OF CALIFORNIA
NICOLE A. SATAR, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
NATHANIEL R. SAVIO, OF VIRGINIA
JOSHUA A. SAVITCH, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BRYAN KENJI SCHELL, OF CALIFORNIA
DAVID MATTHEW SCHNEIDER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PAUL SCOTT, OF ARIZONA
GOURI SEETHARAM, OF NEW YORK
NICHOLAS J. SESNAK, OF WASHINGTON
JESSE A. SHAW, OF CALIFORNIA
DANE ALAN SHELLY, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BRIAN D. SHERIDAN, OF VIRGINIA
MOON SHIN, OF VIRGINIA
STEPHANIE ALLISON SHOEMAKER, OF NORTH CAROLINA
REBECCA K. SIMON, OF VIRGINIA
STEPHEN M. SMALL, OF VIRGINIA
KRISTIN SMITH, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MARK D. SMITH, OF MINNESOTA
AMY K. SNELLINGS, OF VIRGINIA
JAMES RICHARD SNODDY, OF VIRGINIA
JAMES THOMAS SNYDER, OF VIRGINIA
STEPHANIE R. SOBEK, OF OHIO
STEVEN SOONG, OF VIRGINIA
CATHERINE S. SPEICH, OF TEXAS
MICHAEL SIDNEY STABLER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
INGRID H. STAUDENMEYER, OF VIRGINIA
PAUL A. STEMPEL, OF MARYLAND
BRITTNEY CONNAE STEWART, OF TEXAS
MICHAEL C. STIEG, OF CALIFORNIA
VANESSA STOTTS, OF TEXAS
JAMES A. STRICKLAND, OF VIRGINIA
DAGMAR STRONG–WITTMANN, OF VIRGINIA
JAMES M. STUHLTRAGER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
GRETA MARIE STULTS, OF CALIFORNIA
MICHELLE SUAREZ, OF FLORIDA
JACK SWETLAND, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JEFFREY TANG, OF MASSACHUSETTS
SHEILA S. TANG–RABEONY, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ALENA L. TAYLOR, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
SARAH M. TAYLOR, OF VIRGINIA
PETER JOHN THEIS, OF MINNESOTA
R. CHASE THOMPSON, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
RONALD DANIEL THOMPSON, OF SOUTH CAROLINA
HEATHER R. THORNTON, OF VIRGINIA
JASON W. TILLEY, OF VIRGINIA
SHEREE D. TINDER, OF KANSAS
ASHELY MICHELLE STOVER TOKIC, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JAMES D. TOMLINSON, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
KRISTINA ERLEWINE TONN, OF OHIO
THOMAS TORRES, OF VIRGINIA
BRIAN M. TORRO, OF VIRGINIA
MARY KATHARINE AIMEE TRECHOCK, OF CALIFORNIA
ABIGAIL TRENHAILE, OF HAWAII
TRAVIS L. TUCKER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
CARYL MARIE TUMA, OF PENNSYLVANIA
KIMBERLY HERMINE MIHRAN TURLEY, OF VIRGINIA
DARRYL ALLEN TURNER, JR., OF ILLINOIS
KONRAD TURSKI, OF VIRGINIA
KEITH TYLECKI, OF VIRGINIA
ERIN CELESTE TYLER, OF VIRGINIA
ECHIKA UDIKA, OF MARYLAND
DANIEL VAN DYKEN, OF VIRGINIA
PATRICIA ANN VANDERWALL, OF FLORIDA
PETER VANDERWALL, OF FLORIDA
JESSICA TORRES VARDA, OF FLORIDA
ZINA Z. VARELAS, OF VIRGINIA
MICHAEL A. VASILOFF, OF VIRGINIA
MARIBEL VASQUEZ, OF NEW YORK
ZAHEERA WAHID, OF NEVADA
PAULA S. WALKER, OF NORTH CAROLINA
BRETT WALKLEY, OF CALIFORNIA
LEIF WALLER, OF VIRGINIA
PHILIP A. WALLISCH, OF VIRGINIA
KENNETH K. WAN, OF CALIFORNIA
JACOB ANDREW WARDEN, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SARAH ELIZABETH WARDWELL, OF OREGON
COLLIN KENNETH WEBSTER, OF NEVADA
ELIZABETH SARA WEISMAN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
RAYMOND E. WELCH, JR., OF NEW YORK
MATTHEW JAMES WELSH, OF NEW YORK
BRYN WEST, OF TEXAS
MICHAEL WESTENDORP, OF MICHIGAN
JOHN NATHANAEL WHEELER, OF ALASKA
BRYANT WHITFIELD, OF INDIANA
KELLEY M. WHITSON, OF MARYLAND
CHRISTOPHER LOUIS WIEDEMER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BENJAMIN JOSEPH WILLIAMS, OF CALIFORNIA
MARCUS TAMBOURA WILLIAMS, OF TEXAS
MICHAEL G. WLODEK, OF VIRGINIA
CASEY S. WOHLFEIL, OF VIRGINIA
COURTNEY ANNE WOLFF, OF NEVADA
GORDON TATE WOOD, OF FLORIDA
KELLY WOOD, OF TEXAS
TIM WORM, OF FLORIDA
CHRISTINE NING–CHIUN YARNG, OF TEXAS
KEREN YOHANNES, OF KENTUCKY
LYNDSEY KANANI YOSHINO, OF WISCONSIN
AMANDA K. YOUNG, OF VIRGINIA
ANGELA L. YOUNG, OF TEXAS
CHARLOTTE YOUNG–FADARE, OF SOUTH CAROLINA
CALVIN YIN–CHUNG YU, OF GEORGIA
EMILY YU, OF CALIFORNIA
SAMY ZAKA, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
HALEH H. ZAREEI, OF VIRGINIA
BRIAN STEPHEN ZELAKIEWICZ, OF VIRGINIA

THE FOLLOWING–NAMED PERSONS OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS OF THE CLASSES STATED.

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF CLASS ONE, CONSULAR OFFICER AND SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

ALEXIOUS BUTLER, OF GEORGIA
MIRIAM GAIL LUTZ, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DANIEL JOHN MILLER, OF MINNESOTA

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF CLASS TWO, CONSULAR OFFICER AND SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

JOHN G. ALLELO, OF TEXAS
MATTHEW A. ANDERSON, OF MARYLAND
WILLIAM JESSE BENJAMIN, OF NORTH DAKOTA
TIMOTHY WALKER BORN, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
ROBERT BURCH, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
RICHARD A. BURNS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DONALD P. CHISHOLM, OF VIRGINIA
ERIC WILLIAM DAVIS, OF CALIFORNIA
JANEAN ELYSE DAVIS, OF NEW JERSEY
SUSAN DECAMP, OF FLORIDA
SHEILA E. DESAI, OF FLORIDA
MICHAEL J. DESISTI, OF VIRGINIA
STEPHEN MICHAEL DILLE, OF TEXAS
CHRISTINE A. DJONDO, OF VIRGINIA
BAHIRU DUGUMA, OF VIRGINIA
MARC ELLINGSTAD, OF FLORIDA
JAMES EVANS–BUTLER, OF VIRGINIA
ERIC S. FLORIMON–REED, OF VIRGINIA
BARRY T. GILL, OF TEXAS
JOHN D. GORLOWULU, OF OREGON
SCOTT WAYNE HEDLUND, OF WASHINGTON
TYLER C. HOLT, OF MARYLAND
STEPHEN C. IKE, OF GEORGIA
DANIELE JEAN–PIERRE, OF TENNESSEE
BRETT JONES, OF FLORIDA
CHRISTOPHER MICHAEL KELLY, OF MISSOURI
HEATHER MICHELLE KHAN, OF CALIFORNIA
PAUL KANGYOO KIM, OF NEW YORK
ALEXANDER MATTHEW KLAITS, OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHRISTOPHER E. KRAFCHAK, OF CALIFORNIA
EMILY COFFMAN KRUNIC, OF FLORIDA
EDWARD G. LAWRENCE, OF CALIFORNIA
TERESA M. MILLER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
FRANK EDGAR MONTICELLO, OF TEXAS
NINO NADIRADZE, OF FLORIDA
RICHARD LELAND NELSON, OF TEXAS
JEAN ROBERTS OLIVERAS, OF ILLINOIS
MARK H. PARKISON, OF MARYLAND
CONAN ERIC PEISEN, OF FLORIDA
IAN J. ROBERTSON, OF FLORIDA
THOMAS D. ROJAS, OF WASHINGTON
MELISSA D. ROSSER, OF OHIO
LAUREN K. RUSSELL, OF VIRGINIA
EZRA SIMON, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JULIE A. SOUTHFIELD, OF VIRGINIA
CHARLES SWAGMAN, OF NEW MEXICO
CARL A. SWANSON, OF VIRGINIA
JAMSHED JAL UNWALA, OF PENNSYLVANIA
STEPHEN G. VALDES–ROBLES, OF PENNSYLVANIA
THOMAS E. WHITE, OF NEW YORK
DAVID R. YANGGEN, OF FLORIDA
KIM KIM YEE, OF OREGON

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF CLASS THREE, CONSULAR OFFICER AND SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

ERIC D. ADAMS, OF WASHINGTON
JENNIFER BELLE AGUILAR, OF TEXAS
MARIE AHMED, OF CALIFORNIA
OSAGIE CHRISTOPHER AIMIUWU, OF MARYLAND
ANGELINA F. ALLEN–MPYISI, OF WASHINGTON
AYANA WILKES ANGULO, OF VIRGINIA
ZOHRA PATEL BALSARA, OF FLORIDA
HERBERT RUSSELL BAUER, OF ILLINOIS
CHRISTINA BECK, OF VIRGINIA
NILS R. BERGESON, OF UTAH
SARAH R. BEUTER, OF VIRGINIA
SARA ELIZABETH BUCHANAN, OF TENNESSEE

WILLIAM M. BUTTERFIELD, OF VIRGINIA
JOHN MICHAEL CALI III, OF VIRGINIA
REBECCA H. CARTER, OF ARIZONA
PHILLIP M. CHERRY, OF TEXAS
KYUNG SHIN CHOE, OF MARYLAND
LAURA ELLEN CHOLAK CIZMO, OF VIRGINIA
MICHELLE N. CORZINE, OF ILLINOIS
CHERYL T.M.S. DAVIS, OF FLORIDA
DANIEL A. DEDEYAN, OF TEXAS
JUSTIN TROY DIVENANZO, OF ILLINOIS
THOMAS C. DIVINCENZO, OF VIRGINIA
RORY LOPEZ DONOHOE, OF CALIFORNIA
COLIN C. DREIZIN, OF CALIFORNIA
JORGE L. DULANTO–HASSENSTEIN, OF FLORIDA
ANTONINA B. ESPIRITU, OF HAWAII
ELIZABETH CLINTON ESSEX, OF TEXAS
JOHN MICHAEL EYRES, OF ARIZONA
ELIZABETH L. FEARY, OF FLORIDA
ALAN J. GARCEAU, OF FLORIDA
EDWARD GONZALEZ, OF CALIFORNIA
LAURA GONZALEZ, OF VIRGINIA
MONIKA A. GORZELANSKA, OF VIRGINIA
LUANN GRONHOVD, OF NORTH DAKOTA
SHAWNTEL B. HINES, OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHERYL HODGE–SNEAD, OF TEXAS
DANIEL A. HOLLANDER, OF ILLINOIS
DAVID ELLIOTT HORTON III, OF OHIO
TREVOR M. HUBLIN, OF OHIO
M. SCOTT JACKSON, OF INDIANA
ERIC MICHAEL JOHNSON, OF MINNESOTA
KRISTIN M. JOPLIN, OF OREGON
TERESE E. KALLOO, OF MARYLAND
SELAM KEBROM, OF NEVADA
MATTHEW ALLEN LAIRD, OF TEXAS
H. ZAKS LUBIN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
SAMUEL R. MATTHEWS, OF CALIFORNIA
KEVIN P. MCGRATH, OF NEW JERSEY
LISA MCGREGOR–MIRGHANI, OF ARIZONA
LAURA LEAH MCKECHNIE, OF OREGON
GHAZI MEHMOOD, OF TEXAS
STEPHEN PAUL MENARD, JR., OF MARYLAND
JOSHUA ELI MIKE, OF FLORIDA
MATTHEW EUGENE MILLS, OF VIRGINIA
PATRICIA MIRA–HUNTER, OF VIRGINIA
VICTORIA L MITCHELL, OF PENNSYLVANIA
LARISA MORI, OF CALIFORNIA
MEI MEI PENG, OF CALIFORNIA
PATRICK SHAWN PHILLIPS, OF VIRGINIA
NORA ELENA PINZON, OF FLORIDA
KRISTIN A. POORE, OF VIRGINIA
RAGHEDA ELIAS RABIE, OF INDIANA
CYNTHIA B. ROGERS, OF CALIFORNIA
CHRISTOPHER D. SAENGER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
LEONA SASINKOVA, OF TENNESSEE
LESLIE ANNE SCHAFER, OF CALIFORNIA
MARGARET HELM SCHOCH, OF WASHINGTON
JANINE A. SCOTT, OF MARYLAND
NATHANIEL SCOTT, OF MASSACHUSETTS
JOY ALMAZ SEARCIE, OF VIRGINIA
NADEEM H. SHAH, OF PENNSYLVANIA
DIANA E. SHANNON, OF CALIFORNIA
TYCE L. SHIDELER, OF WASHINGTON
VANDANA STAPLETON, OF TEXAS
TIMOTHY STEIN, OF TEXAS
DANA S. STINSON, OF MASSACHUSETTS
SIANA ELENA TACHETT, OF WASHINGTON
BELIEN SOLOMON TADESSE, OF MARYLAND
JOSEPH GUSTAVO TERRAZAS, OF FLORIDA
JOSHUA TEMPLETON, OF FLORIDA
PAUL ANTHONY VACA, OF CONNECTICUT
RYAN EASTMAN WALTHER, OF FLORIDA
REBECCA RAY WHITE, OF NEW YORK
MARK R. K. WILSON, OF VIRGINIA
DINAH ZELTSER WINANT, OF FLORIDA
BILLY L. WOODWARD, OF ILLINOIS
FELICIA R. WILSON YOUNG, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MOHAMED ZAHAR, OF NEW YORK
NAIDA ZECEVIC BEAN, OF NEW JERSEY

THE FOLLOWING–NAMED PERSONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS OF THE CLASSES STATED.

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF CLASS ONE, CONSULAR OFFICER AND SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

CRAIG A. ANDERSON, OF WASHINGTON

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF CLASS TWO, CONSULAR OFFICER AND SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

MARCUS A. MCCHRISTIAN, OF VIRGINIA
ERIC JAMES MENDENHALL, OF VIRGINIA

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF CLASS THREE, CONSULAR OFFICER AND SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

OMAR AHMED ALI, OF GEORGIA
KATHLEEN A. BRESNAHAN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ARLEEN GRACE R. GENUINO, OF CALIFORNIA
GABRIEL HONS–OLIVIER, OF FLORIDA
DIANE MARGARET KOHN, OF MICHIGAN
TRACEY R. THORNTON, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JOSEPH W. A. VASQUEZ, OF ALASKA

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF CLASS FOUR, CONSULAR OFFICER AND SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

FAREED A. ABDULLAH, OF GEORGIA
JAMES ROBERT ABESHAUS, OF FLORIDA
EMILY GRACE ABRAHAM, OF ILLINOIS
YVON ACCIUS, OF FLORIDA
JONATHAN DANIEL ADAMS, OF VIRGINIA
CASEY L. ADDIS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOBBY (ROBERT) ADELSON, JR., OF FLORIDA
OMAR SYED AHMED, OF VIRGINIA
RACHEL A. AICHER, OF NEW YORK
CAROLINE A AMBERGER, OF FLORIDA
MATTHEW R. ANDRIS, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DAVID N. ARIZMENDI, OF FLORIDA
LAUREN BROOKS ARMENISE, OF MARYLAND
BRANDON C. BARON, OF FLORIDA
DEANNA KRISTINE BEARDEN, OF TEXAS
HARVEY LEWIS BEASLEY, JR., OF FLORIDA
ALISON L. BEHLING, OF WEST VIRGINIA
GEOFFREY N. BENELISHA, OF TENNESSEE
AARON S. BENESH, OF FLORIDA
ADAM RYDER BENZ, OF FLORIDA
SOMER BESSIRE–BRIERS, OF NEVADA
THOMAS DEE BEVAN, OF UTAH
RAIN CHE BIAN, OF NEW YORK
CORI BICKEL, OF GEORGIA
THOMAS M. BILLS, OF OHIO
IRMIE KEELER BLANTON III, OF FLORIDA
MATTHEW L. BLEVINS, OF COLORADO
CARLO WISE BOEHM, OF TEXAS
BENJIMAN C. BOHMAN, OF ARKANSAS
THOMAS CHARLES BOLLATI, OF FLORIDA
COREY BORDENKECHER, OF INDIANA
ADRIENNE C. BORY, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JON BOWERMASTER, OF MICHIGAN
ERIN ELIZABETH BOYER, OF NORTH CAROLINA
ALEXIA MCNEAL BRANCH, OF CALIFORNIA
STEVEN ARTHUR CONNETT BREMNER, OF MISSOURI
M. ALLYN BROOKS–LASURE, OF VIRGINIA
THEODORE BROSIUS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
THOMAS V. B. BROUNS, OF CALIFORNIA
ALISON SARAH BROWN, OF WASHINGTON
IAN T. BROWN, OF TEXAS
ANYA YAKHEDTS BRUNSON, OF FLORIDA
ZSOFIA BUDAI, OF MINNESOTA
CHRISTINE BUZZARD, OF OKLAHOMA
SARAH EMILY CALDEJON HAMILTON, OF TEXAS
JUAN MANUEL CAMMARANO, OF MARYLAND
JUAN CARLOS CAMPOS, OF FLORIDA
ALFRED JOHN CANIGLIA III, OF MISSOURI
AMELIA S. CANTER, OF TEXAS
CHRISTIAN HIRAM CARDONA, OF NEW YORK
ELLIOT ROSS CARMEAN, OF PENNSYLVANIA
DAVID RYAN CARR, OF OREGON
MELANIE ROSE CARTER, OF WASHINGTON
AMANDA J. CAULDWELL, OF CALIFORNIA
MICHAEL CAVEY, OF WISCONSIN
VICTORIA MORGANNE TYSZKA CEDENO, OF MICHIGAN
ANDREW CHAPMAN, OF NORTH CAROLINA
HOWARD H. CHYUNG, OF NEW YORK
EMILY KATHLEEN CINTORA, OF ARIZONA
BENJAMIN LEE COBURN, OF GEORGIA
WILLIAM BENJAMIN COCKS, OF FLORIDA
PAUL C. COLOMBINI, OF MARYLAND
PATRICK EVANS CONNALLY, OF WASHINGTON
JOSEPH G. CORDARO, OF TENNESSEE
SETH AARON CORNELL, OF PENNSYLVANIA
JOANNE ILENE COSSITT, OF CONNECTICUT
ROCCO COSTA, OF CALIFORNIA
LOGAN RISHARD COUNCIL, OF NORTH CAROLINA
GREGORY ROY COWAN, OF TEXAS
LISA MARGARET COWLEY, OF TEXAS
TODD WILSON ARDELL CRAWFORD, OF OREGON
ANDREW D. CROSSON, OF TENNESSEE
ROBERT J. CROTTY, OF WASHINGTON
EVA HELENE D'AMBROSIO, OF INDIANA
JACKSON C. DART, OF MICHIGAN
IRENE ARINO DE LA RUBIA, OF FLORIDA
CARRIE A. DENVER, OF VIRGINIA
JULIA SAMPSON DILLARD, OF CALIFORNIA
AMANDA WICKHAM DIXON, OF TENNESSEE
CHRISTOPHER J. DOSTAL, OF PENNSYLVANIA
RUTH LILLIAN DOWE, OF NEW YORK
MICHAEL JOSEPH DURNAN, OF FLORIDA
SHEILA-ANNE P. EBERT, OF NEVADA
JESSICA DAWN EICHER, OF COLORADO
DONYA SHANE ELDRIDGE, OF FLORIDA
BENJAMIN S. EMBURY, OF VIRGINIA
DONALD CLAYTON EMERICK, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
RYAN SCOTT ENGEN, OF WASHINGTON
MARY CHRISTINE ERMEL, OF TEXAS
ANNA ESTRINA, OF VIRGINIA
JACQUES PAUL ETIENNE, OF NEW YORK
ALEXANDRA ELIZABETH EVANS, OF TEXAS
PETER O'MEARA EVANS, OF VIRGINIA
MONICA SAGEBIEL EWING, OF TEXAS
S. ADAM FERGUSON, OF UTAH
SAMUEL R. FERGUSON, OF UTAH
KEVIN CHRISTOPHER FISHER, OF UTAH
DOUGLAS GEORGE FOWLER, OF WYOMING
JASON O. FROHNMAYER, OF OREGON
KEVIN T. FUREY, OF MONTANA
MAIDA A. FURNIA, OF VIRGINIA
BRENDA B. GABRIEL, OF FLORIDA
SOPHIE YAN GAO, OF MASSACHUSETTS
MARC GARTNER, OF CALIFORNIA
PHILLIP M. GATINS, OF FLORIDA
JOSEPH P. GIBLIN, OF NEW YORK
DAMON MATTHEW GOFORTH, OF TEXAS
ARIEL M. GORE, OF ILLINOIS
NAIMA NILAJA MARIAMA GREEN, OF OHIO
ANDREW M. GRILLOS, OF CALIFORNIA
NATALYA IVANOVNA GROKH, OF VIRGINIA
GRETA L. GROMOVICH, OF KANSAS
SARAH REBECCA GROSSBLATT, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
CASSANDRA HAGAR, OF TEXAS
KRISTY L. HALLER, OF MARYLAND
JAMES W. HALLOCK, OF NEW YORK
JASON MATTHEW HAMMONTREE, OF CALIFORNIA
PAUL MICHAEL HANNA, OF FLORIDA
CHRISTINE L. HARPER, OF ALABAMA
VANESSA H. HARPER, OF CONNECTICUT
NOEL URBANO HARTLEY, OF TEXAS
HAKIM J. HASAN, OF OREGON
JOHN TRYGVE HAS-ELLISON, OF TEXAS
KRISTIN KARIN HAWKINS, OF VIRGINIA
ANNALIESE HEILIGENSTEIN, OF TEXAS
CHRISTOPHER D. HELMKAMP, OF VIRGINIA
CHARLES A. HENDRIX, OF MINNESOTA
JAMES M. HENRY, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
HEIDI HERSCHEDE, OF WISCONSIN
ZEHRA HIRJI, OF NEW YORK
JOHN OMAR HISHMEH, OF VIRGINIA
CHRISTIN HO, OF MASSACHUSETTS
KURT DANIEL HOLMGREN, OF VIRGINIA
DANIEL JOSEPH HORSFALL, OF TENNESSEE
BRIAN HOYT, OF CALIFORNIA
JULIA MAGDALENA HOZAKOWSKA, OF PENNSYLVANIA
TRAVIS A. HUNNICUTT, OF CALIFORNIA
SHARLINA HUSSAIN-MORGAN, OF NEW YORK
JASON S. HWANG, OF NEW JERSEY
THOMAS B. HWEI, OF CALIFORNIA
MEGAN R. IHRIE, OF TENNESSEE
GREG PARDO III, OF TEXAS
RYAN SCOTT INGRASSIA, OF CALIFORNIA
RYAN M. JANDA, OF MASSACHUSETTS
CYNTHIA L. JEFFERIES, OF TEXAS
JAMES WESLEY JEFFERS, OF WEST VIRGINIA
SAMANTHA ANN JENKINS, OF WASHINGTON
JEREMY R. JEWETT, OF WISCONSIN
CHRISTOPHER A. JONES, OF ILLINOIS
TODD HAROLD JUNGENBERG, OF TENNESSEE
ANDREA R. KALAN, OF TEXAS
IVAN FAIAMA KAMARA, OF ARIZONA
CHRISTOPHER A. KEELEY, OF UTAH
ANDREW E. KELLY, OF VIRGINIA
MATTHEW A. KELLY, OF NEW YORK
DEVIN JAMES KENNINGTON, OF MARYLAND
JOHN PAUL KILL, JR., OF GEORGIA
CRAIG P. KIM, OF WASHINGTON
MICHAEL KISELYCZNYK, OF NEW YORK
NOLAN S. KLEIN, OF TENNESSEE
JEFFREY KLICK, OF TEXAS
JOHN CHARLES KMETZ, OF OKLAHOMA
JOEL ERIK KNIGHT, OF NEW MEXICO
THOMAS D. KOHL, OF FLORIDA
DEREK R. KOLB, OF CALIFORNIA
DANIELLE KORSHAK, OF NEW YORK
LYNN CHUANG KRAMER, OF TEXAS
JINGPING AI, OF CALIFORNIA
NATALIE BONJOC LEAHY, OF CALIFORNIA
ANDREW D. LEBKUECHER, OF MINNESOTA
STEPHEN F. LECOMPTE, OF TEXAS
CHUNG JOON LEE, OF CALIFORNIA
SONAM LIBERMAN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ELIZABETH SHIU-MING LIU, OF FLORIDA
EMMA CONDON LOMAX, OF MINNESOTA
BENJAMIN J. LOWENBERG, OF WISCONSIN
BONNIE M. MACE, OF IOWA
DANIELLE ANNE MANISCALCO, OF MASSACHUSETTS
RACHEL M. MARTINEZ, OF FLORIDA
THEODORE THOMAS MASSEY, OF VIRGINIA
ALEXANDER MAYER, OF TEXAS
MOLLY KATHERINE MAYFIELD BARBEE, OF FLORIDA
MATTHEW ROBERT MCALLISTER, OF PENNSYLVANIA
PATRICK CALEY MCCORMICK, OF TEXAS
DEBORAH M. MCFARLAND, OF ARIZONA
BRADLEY T. MCGUIRE, OF VIRGINIA
KERRY EVELYN MCINTOSH, OF VERMONT
DAVID DIXON MCKAY, OF UTAH
MAUREEN A. MCNICHOLL, OF VIRGINIA
THEODORE ANDREW MEINHOVER, OF MINNESOTA
MARC A.J. MELINO, OF WASHINGTON
MEGHAN E. MERCIER, OF FLORIDA
MEREDITH T. METZLER, OF TEXAS
ADAM L. MICHELOW, OF ARIZONA
KARL J. MILLER, OF FLORIDA
SCOTT M. MILLER, OF TEXAS
CATHERINE T. MILLER-LITTLE, OF TEXAS
MOLLY LYNN MITCHELL-OLDS, OF NORTH CAROLINA
YANG ZHANG MONTEIRO, OF FLORIDA
JAIME LYNETTE MOODY, OF LOUISIANA
KRISTINE MORRISSEY, OF MARYLAND
GRANT HANLEY MORROW, OF PENNSYLVANIA
KAITLIN D. MUENCH, OF CONNECTICUT
VINCENT M. MUT-TRACY, OF VERMONT
JULIE NAUMAN, OF FLORIDA
RAY PATRICE NAYLER, OF CALIFORNIA
BOBBIE S. NEAL, OF VIRGINIA
MARK L. NEIGHBORS, OF VIRGINIA
KEVIN D. NELSON, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DANIEL WESLEY NEWMAN, OF NEW YORK
KRYSTLE WANITA ONIKE NORMAN, OF VIRGINIA
EMILY YASMIN NORRIS, OF MASSACHUSETTS
BRANDON RENE NUGENT, OF TENNESSEE
VAYRAM A. NYADROH, OF ILLINOIS
MARTIN N. OBERMUELLER, OF NEBRASKA
ALBERT FRANCISCO OFRECIO, OF CALIFORNIA
LARA A. O'NEILL, OF FLORIDA
MELISSA S. O'SHAUGHNESSY, OF FLORIDA
MARCIA Y. OUTLAW, OF ARIZONA
BENNY A. PADILLA, OF CALIFORNIA
DANIEL L. PALMQUIST, OF MINNESOTA
JACK PAN, OF NEVADA
CHARLES PARK, OF NEW YORK
CAROLYN JOY RATZLAFF PARKER, OF TENNESSEE
DIANA CHU PARTRIDGE, OF ARIZONA
STEPHEN PATRICK PAZAN, OF NEW JERSEY
DAVID D. PEMBERTON, OF INDIANA
MICHAEL PENNELL, OF TENNESSEE
DEAN R. PETERSON, OF NORTH CAROLINA
JESSICA BRIANNA PFLEIDERER, OF MINNESOTA
MARLENE HESS PHILLIPS, OF TEXAS
JEAN PHILLIPSON, OF VIRGINIA
JONATHAN PINOLI, OF FLORIDA
ALISANDE L. PIPKIN, OF NEW YORK
MICHAEL A. POINTER, OF LOUISIANA
MICHAEL JOHN POLYAK, OF MICHIGAN
KATHRYN STANSBURY PORCH, OF VIRGINIA

KIRK S. PORTMANN, OF WASHINGTON
CHRISTINE ANANDA PRINCE, OF CALIFORNIA
PAUL PROKOP, OF CALIFORNIA
SARAH R. QUINZIO, OF VIRGINIA
RENEE MICHELLE RAGIN, OF NEW YORK
HEIDI M. RAMSAY, OF VIRGINIA
JEFFREY R. RANDS, OF IDAHO
AJAY SHASHIKANT RAO, OF NEW MEXICO
KATHERINE REEDY, OF NEW YORK
CHRISTOPHER T. REYES, OF VIRGINIA
JOHN LUKE REYNOLDS, OF SOUTH CAROLINA
CHRISTOPHER M. RICHARDSON, OF SOUTH CAROLINA
ABIGAIL ELIZABETH RICHEY-ALLEN, OF MINNESOTA
ANNA ELIZABETH RICHEY-ALLEN, OF MINNESOTA
JEFFREY M. RIDENOUR, OF WASHINGTON
GLORIA P. RIGOR, OF VIRGINIA
BENJAMIN PATRICK RINAKER, OF NEBRASKA
NATHAN P. RINGGER, OF UTAH
DANIEL O'MALLEY RITTENHOUSE, OF NEW YORK
LASHANDA LELIA ROBERTS, OF MARYLAND
DAVID ANTHONY RODRIGUEZ, OF FLORIDA
SETH R. ROGERS, OF SOUTH CAROLINA
TANIA J. ROMANOFF, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
HELEN VAN WAGONER ROSEMONT, OF VIRGINIA
ZACHARY R.S. ROTHSCHILD, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
LADONNA S. SALES, OF TENNESSEE
TODD BENSON SARGENT, OF VERMONT
RICHARD SAUNDERS, OF FLORIDA
TIMOTHY LINCOLN SAVAGE, OF CALIFORNIA
JOSEPH R. SCHALLER, OF WASHINGTON
ANDREW J. SCHEINESON, OF VIRGINIA
KATHRYN SCHLIEPER, OF WASHINGTON
SCOTT EVAN SCHLOSSBERG, OF CALIFORNIA
DEMARK F. SCHULZE, OF NEVADA
TAMARA L. SCOTT, OF MARYLAND
BRIAN A SELLS, OF OHIO
VIKRUM AARON SEQUEIRA, OF MASSACHUSETTS
ELIZABETH E. SHACKELFORD, OF MISSISSIPPI
SUJATA PRADEEP SHARMA, OF MASSACHUSETTS
ALEXANDER DANIEL PERRY SHARP, OF KANSAS
JEROME L. SHERMAN, OF NEW YORK
JASON MATHEW SHOW, OF TEXAS
JAMIE LEIGH SHUFFLEBARGER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JOHN THOMAS WOODRUFF SLOVER, OF COLORADO
CESAR GUILLERMO SORIANO, OF VIRGINIA
JUDITH CHRISTINE SPANBERGER, OF MINNESOTA
LANTA V. SPENCER, OF MASSACHUSETTS
MATTHEW RYAN STEELE, OF KANSAS
KRISTEN L. STOLT, OF VIRGINIA
BRIAN M. STRAIGHT, OF VIRGINIA
PAUL STRAUSS, OF CALIFORNIA
DANIEL STREBE, OF TEXAS
BRIAN J. STREET, OF FLORIDA
GEORGE JAMES SULLIVAN, OF NEW YORK
PAUL SWIDER, OF FLORIDA
MICHAEL CHARLES TAPLEY, OF TEXAS
ANOOD MEHMOOD TAQUI, OF CALIFORNIA
DENISE M. TAYLOR
MORGAN C. TAYLOR, OF MONTANA
RONALD M. TAYLOR, OF VIRGINIA
DENIS TEST, OF MAINE
DARREN THIES, OF WISCONSIN
MARTIN K THOMEN IV, OF TEXAS
HEATHER JOY THOMPSON, OF NEW YORK
JAMES PORTER THROWER, OF FLORIDA
BRETT FORSTER THURMAN, OF ILLINOIS
MATTHEW A. TOTILO, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JENNY GRAY TRAILLE, OF VIRGINIA
MATTHEW UPTON TRUMBULL, OF OHIO
EVELINE W. TSENG, OF NEW YORK
KAITLIN ELIZABETH TURCK, OF VIRGINIA
ERIN M. UZES, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MAUREEN PATRICIA VAHEY, OF DELAWARE
JOHN S. VELA, OF VIRGINIA
WILBUR ARMEL VELARDE, OF CONNECTICUT
JOSHUA D. WAGGENER, OF TEXAS
KARIN S. WALLACE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MIMI WANG, OF PENNSYLVANIA
SHELLY WESTEBBE, OF FLORIDA
JASMINE N. WHITE, OF OHIO
HILLEARY CARTER WILLIAMS, OF VIRGINIA
KEVIN J. WILSON, OF GEORGIA
JOHNATHAN PAUL WINSTON, OF TEXAS
BENJAMIN ASHER WITORSCH, OF VIRGINIA
ALICE ELIZABETH WOLFRAM, OF CALIFORNIA
DEREK WONG, OF MARYLAND
SUZANNE YUEH WONG, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
THOMAS TUNG–WEI WONG, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MATT YARRINGTON, OF FLORIDA
SAMUEL S. YEE, OF CALIFORNIA
NIAMBI A. YOUNG, OF GEORGIA
WILLIAM QIAN YU, OF WASHINGTON
NADIA ZIYADEH, OF VIRGINIA
ANDREW J. ZVIRZDIN, OF NEW YORK

THE FOLLOWING–NAMED CAREER MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR PROMOTION WITHIN THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE TO THE CLASS INDICATED, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 27, 2012: CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CLASS OF COUNSELOR:

DANIEL M. PERRONE, OF MASSACHUSETTS

THE FOLLOWING–NAMED CAREER MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR PROMOTION WITHIN THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE TO THE CLASS INDICATED, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 27, 2013: CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CLASS OF COUNSELOR:

PAUL DAVID BROWN, OF TEXAS

THE FOLLOWING–NAMED CAREER MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR PROMOTION WITHIN THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE TO THE CLASS INDICATED, EFFECTIVE APRIL 15, 2014: CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CLASS OF COUNSELOR:

MATTHEW STEPHEN COOK, OF NEW JERSEY
HENRY KAMINSKI, OF CONNECTICUT

THE FOLLOWING–NAMED PERSONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO BE CONSULAR OFFICERS AND SECRETARIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

ADAM MICHAEL BRANSON, OF WASHINGTON
MARCELA E. RONDON, OF MARYLAND
RYAN R. SCOTT, OF PENNSYLVANIA
BARNETT G. SPORKIN–MORRISON, OF WYOMING
MICHAEL J. WARD, OF MISSOURI

THE FOLLOWING–NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR PROMOTION INTO AND WITHIN THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE TO THE CLASS INDICATED:

FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER COUNSELOR:

RONALD P. VERDONK, OF MARYLAND

FOR APPOINTMENT AS A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, AND CONSULAR OFFICER AND SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

MARC C. GILKEY, OF LOUISIANA

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 271(E):

To be captain

SCOTT E. ANDERSON
MICHAEL M. BALDING
DAVID C. BARATA
RICHARD E. BATSON
MATTHEW T. BECK
PETER F. BRADY
MARKO R. BROZ
TIMOTHY J. BUCHANAN
JAMES D. BURNS
SEAN M. CARROLL
CHRISTOPHER J. CONLEY
DAVID W. COOPER
MICHAEL W. CRIBBS
LUCINDA CUNNINGHAM
GREGORY J. CZERWONKA
JERRY W. DAVENPORT
CHRISTINA M. DAVIDSON
MARY M. DEAN
DANIEL J. DEPTULA
JOHN C. DETTLEFF
ERIC J. DOUCETTE
JOHN J. DRISCOLL
JOSEPH S. DUFRESNE
JOSEPH A. DUGAN
PATRICK J. DUGAN
ANDREW W. ERIKS
JAMES C. ESTRAMONTE
OWEN L. GIBBONS
CHRISTIAN J. GLANDER
DAVID J. GODFREY
JEFFREY W. GOOD
RYAN K. GRIFFIN
RANDAL A. HARTNETT
TIMOTHY L. HAWS
JONATHAN P. HICKEY
RUSSELL E. HOLMES
DAVID A. HUSTED
JEFFREY A. JANSZEN
THOMAS J. KAMINSKI
CHRISTOPHER R. KAPLAN
BRIAN P. KEFFER
SCOTT J. KELLY
ERICH F. KLEIN
ROBERT J. LANDOLFI
SCOTT E. LANGUM
BRANDON W. LECHTHALER
JOSEPH B. LORING
WILLIAM J. MAKELL
MICHAEL C. MCKEAN
CARL R. MESSALLE
FRANCES M. MESSALLE
THOMAS S. MEYER
CHARLES D. MILLER
THOMAS S. MORKAN
HOLLY L. NAJARIAN
PATRICK S. NELSON
RONALD PAILLIOTET
DANIEL K. PICKLES
JEFFREY K. RANDALL
JOHN W. REED
RODD M. RICKLEFS
STANLEY T. ROMANOWICZ
RICHARD J. SCHULTZ
VINCENT J. SKWAREK
KYLE J. SMITH
THOMAS J. STUHLREYER
PAUL D. STUKUS
LINDA A. STURGIS
GREGORY B. TLAPA
TROY J. VEST
KURTIS L. VIRKAITIS
DANIEL P. WALSH
SCOTT J. WEAVER
CHRISTOPHER S. WEBB
HOWARD H. WRIGHT
DANIEL L. YOUNGBERG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203(A):

To be captain

ELIZABETH A. CAMPBELL
TODD A. CHILDERS
JAMES T. COBB
RICHELLE L. JOHNSON
MIRIAM L. LAFFERTY
ANTHONY LARUSSO
SCOTT R. LINSKY
THOMAS O. MARTIN
CAROL M. MCALLISTER
SEAN D. SALTER
LYNN S. SLETTO
KEVIN J. SMYTH
CHRISTOPHER R. STOUT
GEOFFREY J. WARREN
KATHLEEN A. ZYGMUNT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203(A):

To be captain

PHILIP R. PRATHER
KIRBY K. SNIFFEN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 271(E):

To be commander

MICAH N. ACREE
ERIN N. ADLER
EDWARD W. AHLSTRAND
ERIC C. ALLEN
JAMIE T. AMON
KYLE S. ARMSTRONG
JORDAN M. BALDUEZA
DAVID M. BARTRAM
DEREK C. BEATTY
JAMES R. BIGBIE
JAMES A. BINNIKER
STEPHEN R. BIRD
JOSE M. BOLANOS
MATTHEW T. BOURASSA
MATT A. BOURNONVILLE
JEFFREY R. BRAY
CHANING D. BURGESS
PATRICK C. BURKETT
GREGORY A. CALLAGHAN
JAMES C. CAMPBELL
MICHAEL J. CAPELLI
ERICK M. CARRERO
JUSTIN M. CARTER
DREW M. CASEY
SEAN R. CASHELL
JOHN D. CASHMAN
ERIC R. CASLER
ROBERT B. CHAMBERS
JOHN V. CHANG
RANDALL T. CHONG
JOSEPH A. COMAR
PETER A. COOK
DANIEL H. COST
THOMAS G. COWELL
THOMAS D. CRANE
MICHAEL A. CRIDER
EGARDO CRUZ
PATRICK A. CULVER
KENNETH C. CUTLER
DOUGLAS K. DANIELS
STEPHEN P. DAPONTE
JAVIER A. DELGADO
MATTHEW J. DENNING
FREDERICK D. DETAR
SHANA R. DONALDSON
JANINE E. DONOVAN
JASON J. DORVAL
RACHEL M. ELDRIDGE
ROBIN A. ELLERBE
THEODORE J. ERDMAN
THOMAS C. EVANS
JESSICA A. FANT
PETER E. FANT
FRANCES ANN B. FAZIO
JOHN M. FEREBEE
ELIZABETH A. FIELDER
THOMAS R. FOSTER
JAMIE C. FREDERICK
MATTHEW S. FURLONG
LAWRENCE D. GAILLARD
JOSEPH W. GASKILL
MARK P. GLANCY
JEFFREY R. GRAHAM
SEAN W. GREEN
ANDREW L. GUEDRY
JAMES J. HARKINS
ANTHONY H. HAWES
SUZANNE E. HEMANN
JEFF S. HENDERSON
BRIAN J. HENRY
JOHN HENRY
CHAD B. HOLM
ASHLEY R. HOLT
ANNA K. HOPKINS
WESLEY K. HOUT
JEFFERY S. HOWARD
THOMAS A. HOWELL
BRIAN P. HUFF
MICHAEL S. JACKSON
JAMES L. JARNAC
MERIDENA D. KAUFFMAN
DANIEL P. KEANE
BRAD W. KELLY

HEATHER J. KELLY
SHANELL M. KING
ROBERT R. KISTNER
BREANNA L. KNUTSON
BRIAN M. KOSTECKI
JERRY J. KRYWANCZYK
JULIE P. KUCK
MICHAEL R. LACHOWICZ
MEGAN L. LANE–CULL
DEBORAH S. LINDQUIST
ANTHONY J. MAFFIA
ROMULUS P. MATTHEWS
WILLIAMS L. MCGOEY
EUGENE D. MCGUINNESS
BRIAN J. MCLAUGHLIN
BRIAN J. MCSORLEY
WILLIAM L. MEES
DAVID L. MELTON
ANDREW J. MEYERS
JOHN H. MILLER IV
STACY L. MILLER
MATTHEW J. MOORLAG
GUY A. MORROW
EDWARD X. MUNOZ
ANDRE C. MURPHY
MAURICE D. MURPHY
DAWN W. MURRAY
LOAN T. O'BRIEN
MICHAEL G. ODOM
CRAIG T. OLESNEVICH
MICHAEL P. O'NEIL
THOMAS A. OTTENWAELDER
PHILBERT C. PABELLON
JOSHUA D. PENNINGTON
EBEN H. PHILLIPS
ROBERT M. PIRONE
CHARLOTTE E. PITTMAN
JUAN M. POSADA
ROBERT H. POTTER
MICHAEL J. RASCH
MICAHEL C. REED
DAVID J. REINHARD
RYAN S. RHODES
LUIS J. RODRIGUEZ
PAUL A. RODRIGUEZ
BLANCA ROSAS
GREGORY K. SABRA
SCOTT M. SANBORN
MARK C. SAWYER
NORBERT M. SCHWEINSBERG
DONALD E. SHAFFER
MICHAEL D. SHARP
GREGORY A. SHOUSE
KEITH L. SMITH
WILLIAM E. STRICKLAND
JAMES B. SUFFERN
CHRISTOPHER J. TANTILLO
GREGORY P. TORGERSEN
TODD C. TROUP
DANIEL R. URSINO
OMAR VAZQUEZ
GREG E. VERSAW
RICHARD E. VINCENT
RANDY S. WADDINGTON
MATTHEW J. WALDRON
THOMAS W. WALLIN
JON T. WARNER
CHARLES E. WEBB
KIMBERLY S. WHEATLEY
CHRISTOPHER J. WILLIAMMEE
SCOTT R. WILLIAMS
TIMOTHY C. WILLIAMSON
NORMAN C. WITT
WILLIAM C. WOITYRA
MICHAEL J. WOODRUM
ROBERT S. WORKMAN
MICHAEL J. ZERUTO

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. VINCENT R. STEWART

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be colonel

TRAVIS K. ACHESON
PAUL R. AGUIRRE
JEFFREY RICHARD ALEXANDER
VALENTINE SCOTT ARBOGAST
BRIAN K. BERGERON
GREGG G. BIDDLE
JOHN DEVIN BLACKBURN
KEVIN J. BOHNSACK
JOHN TIMOTHY BOWEN
JONATHAN C. BOYD
MATTHEW C. BROWN
JAMES R. CAMP
JOHN PATRICK CASTILLO
FREDERYCK A. CAYER, JR.
DAVID J. CIESIELSKI
ANN MARIA COGHLIN
TERRY LEE COOLIDGE
THOMAS PATRICK COPPINGER
MITCHELL D. CULP
TROY TUPPER DANIELS
WILLIAM R. DAVIS
PATRICK E. DECONCINI
MARIA C. DIAZ
TIMOTHY J. DONNELLAN
JIM P. DUONG
MARVIN T. EE
MEGAN H. ERICKSON
EDWARD H. EVANS, JR.
DAMON T. FARNSLEY
CHRISTOPHER K. FAUROT
MARY TENISE GARDNER
ERIC JAMES GERBER
BRADLY A. GLENN
TODD W. GRIMSLEY
LAWRENCE P. HAGER
EMMANUEL HALDOPOULOS
PATRICK MICHAEL HANLON
WILLIAM ELIAS HARRIS
RICHARD JAMES HART
DAVID W. HERDER
CHRISTOPHER F. HOUSEWORTH
JOEL P. HOWLE
CODY J. JACOBS
THOMAS JOHN JAMES
NICHOLAS BOONE KAVOURAS
ROBERT INSCOE KINNEY
WILLIAM A. KINNISON, JR.
JASON L. KNOBBE
GREGORY ALEXANDER KRANE
TONI M. LORD
STEPHEN J. MALLETTE
SEAN C. MALTBIE
DAVID W. MAY
ANNE M. MAZIAR
BERRY L. MCCORMICK
JAMES C. MCEACHEN
RICHARD LOUIS MCGOUGH
STEVEN CHARLES MCGRAW
MAURICE M. MCKINNEY
CHRISTOPHER L. MONTANARO
TROY C. MORGAN
AARON L. MORRIS
NEAL P. MURPHY
DONALD M. NEFF
BROOKS E. NELSON
JOHN SCOTT OBRIEN
JOHN RICHARD OCONNOR
DANIEL R. PERALA
JENIFER J. PETRINA
JOHN W. POGOREK
DAVID C. PRATT
KEITH ALAN REED
PHILIP REY REGUALOS
CHARLES E. E. REMBOLDT
MICHAEL D. REYNOLDS
DEREK B. ROUTT
BRYAN E. SALMON
TAMALA A. SAYLOR
TODD C. SCHOENEBERGER
MARK A. SCHUTTA
GREGORY M. SCRIVNER
STEPHANIE L. SHEPPARD
LYLE D. SHIDLA
JAMES G. SILVASY
ADAM R. SITLER
DAVID MICHAEL SLAYDON
MICHAEL ROBERT SMITH
THOMAS SMITH
TRACY D. SMITH
WILLIAM D. SMITH
JOSEPH H. STEPP IV
RANDY L. STEVENS
AIMEE L. STORM
KRISTIN M. STREUKENS
STEVEN ELLIOTT TINDOLL
BRIAN DAVID TURNER
BRIAN NEAL VANKOUWENBERG
JAMES L. WENTZLAFF
DANIEL JAMES WHIPPLE
VONDA M. WIGAL
DAVID ALAN WILLIAMS
TERRY L. WILLIAMS
DAVID W. WOODWORTH
MATTHEW R. YAKELY
PAUL C. ZURKOWSKI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS PERMANENT PROFESSOR AT THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY IN THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 9333(B) AND 9336(A):

To be colonel

JENNIFER C. ALEXANDER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

JOYCE P. FIEDLER

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

JOSEPH T. MORRIS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

RICHARD T. KNOWLTON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be colonel

ROBERT A. BORCHERDING
MICHAEL S. DEVINE
GREGG A. ENGLER
JOHN S. FROST, JR.
LANCE S. HAMILTON
PETER R. HAYDEN
BRIAN A. HUGHES
IAN R. IVERSON
JOHN P. JURDEN
ELIZABETH G. MAROTTA
ALISON C. MARTIN
DOUGLAS K. WATKINS
WARREN L. WELLS
DEAN L. WHITFORD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be major

STEVEN E. BAKER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

To be major

ARUN SHARMA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

To be lieutenant colonel

JAMES M. BRUMIT

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

SAMUEL AGOSTOSANTIAGO
CONNELLY L. ARCHEY
ANDREW W. BATTEN
JOSEPH M. BROCATO III
LUKE R. BURNETT
ROBERT G. CAMERON
ROBERT B. DAVIS
MARY L. DEVINE
ROBERT H. DONOVAN, JR.
JOHN J. DORAN
RICHARD F. DREW
JOHNNY FISHER
BRYAN M. HOWAY
JAMES M. JONES
MICHAEL J. KAZMIERZAK
DAVID T. MANFREDI
SHAWN P. MANKE
THOMAS A. MCMAHAN
PAUL D. MELANSON
JEFFREY W. MITCHELL
NEAL S. MITSUYOSHI
TODD A. PATNESKY
JAMES T. VANBIBER III
JOHN R. WILT

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

EDWIN B. BALES
RAUL E. BANDAS
JOHN M. BRELAND
JULIA DIAZREX
THOMAS S. DOUGHERTY
ROBERT D. GIFFORD II
PATRICK D. HANKS
CLINTON J. JOHNSON
NICHOLAS J. LORUSSO
NICHOLAS M. SATRIANO
GLENN R. SCHMITT
RYAN M. ZIPF

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

PAUL P. MCBRIDE
PAUL E. REYNOLDS, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

JOHN E. ATWOOD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

To be lieutenant colonel

DANIEL H. ALDANA
MICHAEL SOUTHWORTH

To be major

DAVID R. NAVORSKA

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 lieutenant colonel

ERIC GRAHAM

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL SPECIALIST CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be colonel

SUSAN DAVIS
RAYMOND L. PHUA
MATTHEW G. STLAURENT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY VETERINARY CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U. S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be colonel

SHELLEY P. HONNOLD
JERROD W. KILLIAN
NEAL E. WOOLLEN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY NURSE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be colonel

SUSAN J. ARGUETA
TAKAKO L. BARRELL
ANDREW C. BAXTER
SHARON M. BEACH
DAVID M. CASSELLA
SUSAN R. CLOFT
PATRICIA A. COBURN
CONSTANCE L. JENKINS
SHANNON M. JONES
WILLIAM L. KUHNS
STEPHEN J. LINCK
MICHAEL E. LUDWIG
DONNA E. MOORE
DANA A. MUNARI
ROBIN R. NEUMEIER
NANCY E. PARSON
ANDREW A. POWELL
MICHAEL L. SCHLICHER
PAMELA M. SOLET
JASON S. WINDSOR

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be colonel

JOHN R. BAILEY
DAMON G. BAINE
DANIEL G. BONNICHSEN
JAMES D. CARRELL
JORGE D. CARRILLO
ANDREW D. CENTINEO
RODRIGO CHAVEZ, JR.
ANTHONY S. COOPER
JUAN B. COSME
LEONARD A. CROMER, JR.
GERALD L. DALLMANN
WILLIAM E. DAVIS IV
MONICA S. DOUGLAS
SHEPARD H. W. GIBSON II
ROGER S. GIRAUD
DAVID P. HAMMER
TIMOTHY J. HOIDEN
THOMAS L. HUNDLEY
DAVID A. JOHNSON, JR.
JACK R. LEECH III
ANDREW G. LEIENDECKER
LYNN E. MARM
THOMAS M. MARTIN
SHARON A. MCBRIDE
RICARDO J. NANNINI
NEIL I. NELSON
GERMAINE D. OLIVER
MEE S. PAEK
RICHARD D. PAZ
ANDRE R. PIPPEN
BRANDON J. PRETLOW
MAURICE L. SIPOS
PHILIP L. SMITH
MARK D. SWOFFORD
BARBARA A. TAYLOR
LISA A. TEEGARDEN
GWENDOLYN H. THOMPSON
TIMOTHY D. WALSH
D004653

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

GARY L. GROSS
CRAIG D. SHRIVER

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

MELISSA R. BEAUMAN
CLARENCE J. HENDERSON
JOHN J. HESS
LEONARD F. KOSICKI II
JAMES A. MONTOYA
MICHAEL W. STEPHENS

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be captain

TIMOTHY S. ROUSH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant commander

KIMBERLY M. FREITAS

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

ADAM B. YOST

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

CHARLES S. EISENBERG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be captain

JACK W.L. TSAO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant commander

JAMES M. ROSS

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 6222:

To be major

CHRISTOPHER E. HALL

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate November 13, 2014:

THE JUDICIARY

RANDOLPH D. MOSS, OF MARYLAND, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

LEIGH MARTIN MAY, OF GEORGIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE CHABAD HOUSE JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Jewish Community Center of Granite Bay, California, and join in celebrating the commissioning of a new community Torah scroll.

Opened in 2005 as a local home for Jewish life in Placer County, the Chabad House Jewish Community Center serves as a center of education and support to the local Jewish community and an inspiration to people from all walks of life.

The Granite Bay center is a branch of the International Chabad movement, which seeks to promote a greater awareness of education, morality and decency among all people. Chabad serves the community through a wide variety of services and programs, including by making the beauty of Jewish principles and heritage accessible to all Jews, and by bringing Jewish traditions into their daily lives.

As part of this effort, the Chabad House Jewish Community Center has commissioned a professional scribe in Israel to write a Torah scroll in the traditional method, which dates back thousands of years.

The Torah, a sacred text over 3,300 years old, contains the Five Books of Moses and is the most precious article in Jewish life. Its guidance provides a strong foundation for morals in today's global society.

On October 26, 2014, members of the Jewish community gathered with rabbis and community leaders in Placer County to witness the first letters of the Torah being inscribed.

Mr. Speaker, since the inception of our nation organizations like the Chabad House Jewish Community Center have been the bedrocks of their communities; and bastions of civic engagement upon which our society depends. As George Washington stated in his Farewell Address: "of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports."

We are fortunate to have the Chabad Jewish Community Center as a pillar of religious and moral teachings in our community and I am proud to join in honoring this auspicious occasion.

CELEBRATING MARIN TRANSIT'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Marin Transit on the occasion of the organization's 50th Anniversary Celebration, held on October 20, 2014.

For the last five decades, Marin Transit has advanced its responsibility to serve the community by strengthening local public transportation and launching contracts with other bus and paratransit service providers, including Golden Gate Transit, Marin Airporter, MV Transportation, and Whistlestop Wheels.

Marin Transit has provided seniors and Americans with disabilities services to accommodate the mobility needs of an aging transportation network and a diversely growing population. It has demonstrated a powerful commitment to fostering a strong transit system and more engaged community by offering comprehensive operational programs including Local, West Marin Stagecoach, Novato dial-a-ride, and the award-winning seasonal Muir Woods Shuttle in cooperation with the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The organization has kept pace with the growing demands for transit options; in particular the Muir Woods Shuttle is estimated to carry 95,000 passengers in 2014, a significant increase from 77,000 passengers in 2013. This service keeps vehicles off narrow mountain roads, relieves congestion, and improves the experience of visitors from across the United States and around the world.

Marin Transit has been a vital tool for the people of Marin County and beyond, and I am confident it will continue to serve as a valued transportation agency for future generations to come. Please join me in congratulating Marin Transit on their 50 year Anniversary celebration and wishing them many more years of success.

RECOGNIZING HELEN CISNEY

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize Ms. Helen Cisney as she celebrates her 100th birthday on November 22, 2014.

Ms. Cisney was born in Hammond, Indiana in 1914. She married Irvin Cisney, and together they owned a diner in Grand Rapids, Michigan. During World War II, Ms. Cisney worked on the assembly line at General Motors. Upon retirement, Mr. & Mrs. Cisney moved to Zephyrhills, Florida where they lived for thirty years. Today, Ms. Cisney lives in Fruitland Park where she attends Sunday services at Faith Bible Baptist Church and plays dominoes on Tuesday evenings at First Baptist Church of Leesburg. Ms. Cisney is a talented bowler and has won many trophies over the years. She is also a breast cancer survivor and was named Grand Marshall of the Lake County Cancer Walk in 2005.

Ms. Cisney has two daughters, eight grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren. I wish her a very happy 100th birthday and all the best to her and her family.

HONORING TARKIO FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the Tarkio First Baptist Church, which will commemorate the 125th anniversary of its founding in my hometown of Tarkio, Missouri on September 21st, 2014. Since 1889, the Tarkio First Baptist Church has served the community through its faith, fellowship and welcoming spirit.

From the first time they opened their doors until today, First Baptist has stood as a cornerstone of the Tarkio community. First Baptist has experienced wars and conflicts as well as times of peace and prosperity. It has served as a haven through many hardships of economic struggle and social change. Through droughts, floods, tornadoes, blizzards, as well as harvests both good and bad, this church has remained a constant source of comfort. It has served congregants by promoting faith in God, the Bible, prayer and the community itself.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing the Tarkio First Baptist Church. For 125 years, this church has supported Tarkio and its people come what may. It is truly an honor to serve this church and its congregation in the United States Congress.

CELEBRATING THE CONGREGATION SOCIETY B'NAI ISRAEL 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the B'nai Israel Jewish Center in Petaluma, California on the occasion of the organization's sesquicentennial on November 1, 2014.

Congregation Society B'nai Israel is one of the oldest Jewish communities in the State of California and is the oldest congregation between San Francisco and the Oregon border. For the past one hundred and fifty years, the B'nai Israel Jewish Center has provided a place where all who identify with the Jewish community may gather and participate in enriching spiritual, social, cultural, and educational experiences. The diverse programs and educational opportunities offered through Congregation Society B'nai Israel strengthen, celebrate and sustain Jewish culture in Petaluma, build cross-cultural understanding, and enrich the lives of those in the community at large.

The B'nai Israel Jewish Center is a treasure to the City of Petaluma, and countless residents of Sonoma County have benefitted from

the organization's longstanding commitment to the Jewish faith and strong community values. Please join me in congratulating the B'nai Israel community on this milestone one hundred and fifty year anniversary and wishing them many years of future success.

HONORING DORAL PERFORMING ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT ACADEMY

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Doral Performing Arts & Entertainment Academy and to congratulate the school on being recognized as a 2014 National Blue Ribbon recipient.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes public and private elementary, middle, and high schools based on their overall academic excellence or their progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. Every year the U.S. Department of Education seeks out and celebrates great American schools, and Doral Academy has earned that distinction.

This is quite an accomplishment, and a testament to the commitment the school has shown to educating its students and providing them with the best faculty and resources to succeed. The school has truly taken its mission of preparing students, and instilling in them a belief in their own efficacy, seriously.

Doral Academy opened its doors in 1999, and currently serves 2800 students. Doral Academy believes that engaging families and communities contributes to greater academic achievement and to the improvement of the school as a whole. This model of engagement is predicated on three core beliefs: student achievement increases the more knowledge parents have about their children's school experience; greater involvement of families through non-academic channels still contributes to greater academic buy-in by all; and the more a school invests in a community, the more resources, support networks, and allies are available to bolster the health and vitality of the school holistically.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Doral Performing Arts & Entertainment Academy for their tremendous service to its students and the tireless work of their faculty, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable school.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF VERLEIGH BLOOM

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the life of a dear lady in our district, Ms. Verleigh M. Bloom, 83, who passed away peacefully on Friday, August 29th.

Verleigh was a genuinely thoughtful and loving mother, grandmother, and great grandmother, who held onto her family very dearly. Verleigh cherished the time spent with her loved ones, and considered her family one of her greatest joys and accomplishments.

Preceded in death by parents, James and Verleigh Darnell, Verleigh will continue to live on through the many lives she has touched. Verleigh is survived by her daughter Verleigh I. Gray of Niles, OH; two sons, James C. Bloom of Leavittsburg, OH and Ted E. Bloom of Howland, OH; nine grandchildren and five great grandchildren. It gives me great pride to honor the life of Verleigh M. Bloom. I am deeply saddened and I extend my condolences to her entire family. Her loving character and considerate nature will be immeasurably missed. Our community is a much better place because of Verleigh's loving approach to life.

RECOGNIZING PETER LAVALLEE AS CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Peter LaVallee, who was honored as the Humboldt Citizen of the Year on October 2, 2014, an award he richly deserves.

Peter LaVallee's long history of public service has been of tremendous benefit to the community. His work as an elected official, as an advocate for youth and vulnerable populations, and as a conservationist has made Peter LaVallee a vital member of my congressional district and the surrounding region.

After attending Wayne State University, Peter LaVallee completed his bachelor's degree in political science at Humboldt State University. He went on to graduate studies at Sacramento State University. Peter LaVallee served as director of youth services for Trinity County from 1980 to 1985. He then spent 26 years as director of Redwood Community Action Agency's Youth Services Division. California Gov. Pete Wilson appointed Peter LaVallee to the State Advisory Group on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in 1992 and he served until 2000 in that capacity.

Peter LaVallee was mayor of the City of Eureka from 2002 to 2006. During that time, he also was a member of the Eureka Rotary Club. From 2006 to 2011, Peter LaVallee served on the Humboldt County Housing and Homeless Coalition. Among his contributions are the development of services for runaway and homeless youth, including 24-hour crisis intervention, street outreach, school-based prevention and intervention services, short-term emergency shelter and long-term transitional housing and supportive services.

Mr. Speaker, Peter LaVallee's dedication to youth and community services in Humboldt County is commendable and worthy of recognition. I urge my colleagues to join me in extending our congratulations to him.

TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support and congratulations for the people of Taiwan, who celebrated their National Day on October 10, 2014.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the enduring value of Taiwan's friendship with the United States, and to reaffirm our commitment in Congress to strengthening our nations' ties.

Taiwan stands as an example in the Pacific of what economic and political freedom can bring to a country and its people. Since its founding 103 years ago, Taiwan has established itself as a country dedicated to citizen government and the free exchange of goods and ideas that forms the foundation of any modern and prosperous society. Taiwan has also made significant economic and cultural contributions to the global community, and to peace and stability in the region.

Again I would like to offer my congratulations to the people of Taiwan on their 103rd National Day.

HONORING MATER GARDENS ACADEMY

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mater Gardens Academy and to congratulate the school on being recognized as a 2014 National Blue Ribbon recipient.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes public and private elementary, middle, and high schools based on their overall academic excellence or their progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. Every year the U.S. Department of Education seeks out and celebrates great American schools, and Mater Gardens Academy has earned that distinction.

This is quite an accomplishment, and a testament to the commitment the school has shown to educating its students and providing them with the best faculty and resources to succeed. The school has truly taken its mission of bringing about meaningful achievement enabling students to become confident, lifelong learners.

Mater Gardens Academy opened its doors in August 2006 as a K–8 charter school sponsored by Miami-Dade County Public Schools. Mater Gardens upholds core values that pave the way for student success: setting high expectations, valuing individuality, expecting accountability, and demonstrating respect, honesty, and integrity. The school has consistently been recognized for outstanding achievement. In 2011 Mater Academy placed sixth in the county on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) Science, and has also won the Gold Award from Miami-Dade County Public Schools in 2006 and 2007. In 2012 and 2013 the school was named one of the top 10 schools in Miami-Dade County.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Mater Gardens Academy for their tremendous

service to its students and the tireless work of their faculty, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable school.

RECOGNITION OF POLICE CAPTAIN DARRIN M. MOODY

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Darrin M. Moody who is leaving the Fairfield Police Department. After serving two years with the Modesto Police Department, Captain Moody was hired as a Police Officer with the Fairfield Police Department on September 5, 1989. As an officer, he worked in various capacities that include Patrol, Youth Services, Investigations, Field Training, and Special Activity Felony Enforcement. He was promoted to Police Corporal in 1999 and became a K–9 handler in 2001.

On December 24, 2004, Captain Moody was promoted to Police Sergeant and served in Patrol and Investigations before being promoted to Police Lieutenant on December 7, 2007. He was a strong and decisive leader which led to him receiving the Manager of the Year award in 2007. As a Police Lieutenant, he served as Commander for Patrol, Quality of life, and Major Crimes Bureaus, and for the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team.

As the Police Department experienced changes in leadership and command staff, Captain Moody constantly stepped in and assisted City management in filling the gaps. Before being officially promoted to Police Captain on May 6, 2011, he willingly assumed the Captain's position twice and managed Patrol Operations in 2008 and 2010.

Captain Moody has been a valued employee and leader and his commitment to the City and community was evidenced on a daily basis. He is commended for his selfless contribution to Fairfield and its constituents.

IN MEMORIAM—FRANK ALEXANDER GRANT III

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, we rise today in memory of Frank Alexander Grant III, who passed away on September 16, 2014 in his Altadena home following a battle with cancer. A natural leader and mentor to others both professionally and privately, Mr. Grant was a model of achievement and a positive force within the local community.

Frank Alexander Grant III was born in Eureka, CA on December 7, 1942, and grew up on the Yurok Indian Reservation, where he attended grammar school and high school. After graduating as high school valedictorian, Mr. Grant went on to receive a B.S. and M.S. in civil and sanitary engineering from Stanford University. On graduation day in 1966, he married Carole Susan Magnus. Mr. Grant served his country in the U.S. Army Medical Service Corps stateside for two years before earning a Ph.D. in engineering at University of California Berkeley in 1972.

Frank Grant worked for over 30 years at MWH Global, an international engineering firm, managing large projects throughout California and abroad. Following a very successful career at MWH Global, Mr. Grant retired as the company's Senior Vice President. He built his own cabin along the Klamath River and was an active member in the Yurok community. Mr. Grant provided economic development advice to the tribe in addition to his involvement in other community organizations and pursuits in both Northern California and the Pasadena area.

Mr. Speaker, Frank Alexander Grant III leaves behind a legacy of professional and personal achievement and community engagement that will not soon be forgotten. It is therefore appropriate that we pay tribute to him today and express our deepest condolences to his wife Carole; sons Frank IV and Philip; grandchildren Frank V, Andrew, Eva and Naomi; brothers Zane Grant Sr. and James Jackson Jr.; and step-mother Elinor Grant.

RECOGNIZING BEN NICHOLSON

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ben Nicholson, who left the Appropriations Committee staff in October after more than 12 years of distinguished service. Ben started his career serving our Nation in 1992 when he joined the U.S. Coast Guard, serving for 10 years before joining the Appropriations Committee staff in 2002. Since that time, Ben has worked on various subcommittees, and for several chairmen, ultimately becoming the Clerk and Staff Director of the Homeland Security Subcommittee in 2011.

As the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, I have had the honor and pleasure of working closely with Ben. He is professional, he is reliable, he is dedicated, and he gets the job done, regardless of the circumstances. Ben is a born leader and a Patriot. He holds himself accountable to a code of the highest standards. He efficiently manages his staff, not by micromanaging but by setting an example and empowering them to make informed recommendations. He is affable, thoughtful, determined to make a difference, and calm under pressure.

As we all know, congressional staff work long hours, and often sacrifice weekends and holidays in order to keep this esteemed institution running. This inevitably takes a toll on personal commitments, and nothing means more to Ben than his supportive and loving family. In his new employment, Ben will hopefully have more time to spend with his lovely wife, Anna, and their son, Tim. I have said before, and I will say again, the Appropriations Committee has the best staff on Capitol Hill. And Ben Nicholson is the epitome of that statement.

Congress, the House, the Appropriations Committee, and I will surely miss Ben's contributions and leadership; but we thank him for his service and dedication and we wish him well now and in the future.

RECOGNIZING CONNIE STEWART AS 2014 NONPROFIT LEADER

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Connie Stewart, who was honored on November 5, 2014, with the Northern California Association of Nonprofits 2014 Nonprofit Leader Achievement Award, a recognition she richly deserves.

Connie's service to California and my congressional district has been exemplary. Her work on the Arcata City Council, as staff for the California Assembly, and as the executive director of the California Center for Rural Policy at Humboldt State University has improved the lives of many in the community. Connie Stewart has worked tirelessly to promote broadband deployment, economic development, food security, youth leadership, and improved healthcare for all.

Raised in New Jersey, Connie Stewart later attended Humboldt State University, where she graduated with a B.A. in speech communication. She went on to work at the Northcoast Environmental Center for 14 years before serving as senior field representative to Assemblywoman Patty Berg for seven years. Connie Stewart was elected to the Arcata City Council in 1996, was re-elected in 2000, and served as mayor for two years.

Connie Stewart became executive director at the California Center for Rural Policy in 2009. Within four years, she had expanded staff from three to 25 and cultivated relationships with private foundations and government agencies, bringing in millions of dollars for a wide variety of rural projects. During this time, she also served on the Aspen Institute Community Strategies Group Product Design Advisory Team for the Wealth Creation and Rural Livelihoods Initiative. Connie Stewart is well respected throughout the community as a civic leader and rural policy powerhouse.

Mr. Speaker, Connie Stewart's commitment to improving community services through her nonprofit work in Humboldt County is commendable and worthy of recognition. I urge my colleagues to join me in extending our congratulations to her.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, November 12, 2014, I was unavoidably detained due to the necessity of accompanying the Vice-President of the United States on his visit to Houston and attending to other representational activities in my congressional district, and thus unable to return in time for Rollcall Vote 516. Had I been present I would have voted as follows:

1. On Rollcall No. 516 I would have voted "aye" (Concur in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 4194—Government Reports Elimination Act)

CONDEMNING REMARKS MADE BY FORMER MISSISSIPPI GOVERNOR

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my disappointment in Former Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour's offensive remarks regarding President Barack Obama. On a post-election conference call Barbour referred to President Obama's policies as "tar baby."

Although some may feel as though Barbour's remarks were a "slip of the tongue" or not offensive I, as an African American who has been the recipient of such references find such remarks reprehensible.

As the former governor of a state such as Mississippi, Barbour's remarks were particularly degrading to those citizens who still remember being raised in an era of extreme racial criticism and hatred. Remarks such as these demonstrate a lack of racial sensitivity and foster a culture of prejudice.

Mr. Speaker, I am highly offended by Barbour's comments and am offended by his insensitivity.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SPIRIT OF SPRINGFIELD

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the 25th anniversary of the Spirit of Springfield. Since incorporated on December 21, 1989, the Spirit of Springfield has entertained approximately eight million area residents and visitors with events that bring the community together in celebration and provide community vitality. These events currently include the World's Largest Pancake Breakfast, Spirit of Springfield Golf Classic, MassMutual Star Spangled Springfield, Tower Square Parade of the Big Balloons, City of Bright Nights Ball, Bright Nights at Forest Park and annual free holiday concert by the 215th Army Band of the Massachusetts Army National Guard.

Bright Nights at Forest Park is the largest event the Spirit of Springfield presents and it is in conjunction with the Springfield Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management. The three-mile drive through magnificent lighting displays has been honored by the American Bus Association as one of the Top 100 Attractions in North America for multiple years. 2014 marks the event's 20th season.

The Spirit of Springfield is also pleased to provide event services to the City of Springfield for events that include the mayoral inaugurations, building dedications, swearing-in ceremonies, police academy graduations and September 11th Remembrance Ceremony.

To produce the events, the non-profit organization, which is governed by a Board of Directors and employs three-full time employees, raises approximately $450,000 in corporate contributions and an additional $450,000 in donated goods and services. The magic is all made by three full-time employees, college interns, volunteers and a dedicated board of directors.

Mr. Speaker, as a longtime supporter of the Spirit of Springfield, I am very proud to congratulate them on their 25th anniversary and wish them many more years of success with their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING FORT BEND COUNTY ROAD AND BRIDGE COMMISSIONER FOR RECEIVING AWARD

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Fort Bend County Road and Bridge Commissioner Marc Grant for receiving the first ever Road Administrator of the Year Award from the Texas Association of County Engineers and Road Administrators.

This award recognizes the technical and professional contributions of those who ensure the safety of Texas's critical infrastructure. For 14 years, Grant has admirably served the county by managing the maintenance and safety of Fort Bend County's roads and bridges. Strong leadership ensures that this infrastructure allows all of us to safely commute in a highly congested area.

I thank Marc Grant for his exemplary public service. Through his position, he has supported the growth of our county and has expanded opportunity for so many businesses and families in our community. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, we again congratulate Marc Grant for receiving the 2014 Road Administrator of the Year Award.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER REPRESENTATIVE LANE EVANS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, last week we lost a dear friend and a distinguished former Member of this House.

Lane Evans ably served the people of Illinois's 17th District for 24 years. He had been a public interest lawyer and a Marine veteran when he took office in 1983, and he got right to work fighting for his constituents by standing up for workers' rights, pushing for better care and benefits for those who had served in uniform, and advocating for greater opportunities for middle class families.

Lane was known as a champion of constituent services, helping northwestern Illinoisans get the help they needed from federal agencies and ensuring that casework was processed quickly and effectively. And America's veterans will always remember him for his work on behalf of those suffering from exposure to Agent Orange and those disfigured by land mines. When the Rock Island Arsenal faced cuts and closure 10 years ago, he fought with tenacity and determination to keep it open and save jobs across his district.

Lane was a self-described populist, someone who always put his fight for the common men and women of America first. He always kept faith with those he served, even after receiving the difficult diagnosis of Parkinson's disease in 1995. While his Parkinson's grew worse, Lane only grew more determined to achieve a better future for his constituents and his country. All of us who served with him were awed by his strength in body and in character as he faced that challenge with grace and resolve.

I join with the many whose lives he touched and made better throughout Illinois and across the country in paying tribute to Lane Evans and his legacy. I want to thank Representative CHERI BUSTOS for organizing this special order in Lane's memory and for carrying his work forward in Illinois's 17th District.

The people of Illinois and the United States—and the Members of this House—will not forget Lane Evans, his work, and his unwavering commitment to serving the country and community he so loved.

HONORING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH RESPONSE

HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 20th Anniversary of Behavioral Health Response. BHR is a nonprofit organization, established in 1994, that provides free 24-hour access to behavioral health services for the citizens of the Eastern Region of Missouri by equipped mental health professionals. BHR continues to play a crucial role in Missouri's behavioral healthcare system.

BHR serves as a prominent asset to the behavioral health community through its cooperation with hospitals, community mental health centers, police officers, and other community organizations. They also provide prompt and constant accessibility by means of private telephone counseling and mobile outreach services. In addition, BHR uses a strategic system of careful administrative work, compassionate calls, and courteous follow-up calls to ensure respect and high-performance for the citizens. BHR complements the efficient and effective deliverance of high-quality healthcare services and largely contributes to the well-being of the residents of Missouri.

For the critical contributions Behavioral Health Response has made to the behavioral healthcare system in Missouri, it is my pleasure to recognize the 20th Anniversary of Behavioral Health Response in the House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF JOSE ALTUVE

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of the millions of Astros fans in Houston and Texas and throughout the

world to recognize the historic performance of our all-star second baseman and Venezuelan native, Jose Altuve, during the 2014 Major League Baseball season.

Jose finished the 2014 season with 225 hits and a .341 batting average, the best in all of baseball, along with 56 stolen bases, tops in the American League. Jose is just the second player since 1945 to lead the AL in all three categories.

Baseball writers at the season's end noted that Jose's 2014 season will go down as one of the greatest performances by a second baseman in baseball history.

Most notably, Jose had more hits than any second baseman since Charlie Gehringer's 227 hits in 1936 and became only one of two players since the turn of the 20th century to record 220-plus hits, 55-plus extra-base hits, and 55-plus stolen bases in one season. The other is Ty Cobb.

But beyond the numbers, Jose shows baseball fans, young and old, that with tenacity and a commitment to be the best, anyone, no matter their background or size, can achieve greatness.

On the last day of the season, the Astros planned to keep Jose out of the line-up in order to secure his batting championship, a first for any player in an Astros uniform. Instead, Altuve convinced Coach Lawless to put him back in the line-up just minutes before the game started. Jose proved to all that he was the true batting champion, going 2-for-4 with a double.

I had the opportunity to meet Jose last April, when he, fellow Astro Jason Castro, and baseball great Nolan Ryan, came to Denver Harbor, a working class neighborhood in our congressional district in Houston, to celebrate the opening of the revitalized baseball fields at Denver Harbor Park and spend the morning with little leaguers from the area.

It was a pleasure to see Jose, Jason, and Nolan spend time with these wide-eyed little leaguers and inspire them to work hard and achieve their dreams.

On behalf of the Astros faithful, I would like to say "thank you" and anticipate that with Jose and our squad of talented young players, Houston will continue to be competitive in the American League.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall vote 516. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on No. 516.

RECOGNIZING MAYOR RICHARD J. NOTTE

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and accomplishments of Mayor Richard J. Notte, who passed away on Tuesday, October 28, 2014 following a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. Richard Notte was a good friend and colleague in public service, and I am honored to pay tribute to him.

Mayor Notte was at the heart and soul of the City of Sterling Heights. He served his community with such active and vibrant devotion, and was considered to be a "working man's mayor." He was highly recognizable in his trademark fedora but he was less interested in the spotlight than representing the residents of Sterling Heights and improving the community he cherished.

Mayor Notte was first elected to city council in 1983 where he served for ten years before he was elected Mayor in 1993. He also enjoyed a lengthy and successful career working at Ford Motor Company for 45 years before retiring in 2004. He held several elected UAW positions including plant chairman, recording and financial secretary.

Mayor Notte's love for his city and the automotive industry combined when we needed the most. As a founding Mayor of the Mayors Automotive Caucus he was an articulate spokesperson nationally for the domestic auto industry and the U.S. manufacturing base. Locally his tenacious efforts helped to keep the Sterling Heights Assembly Plant (SHAP) open and when Chrysler emerged from bankruptcy, the company invested over $1 billion to construct a new assembly facility and paint shop at SHAP. He was deeply proud of that effort and the resurgence of the auto industry in our state.

Mayor Notte's accomplishments did not go unnoticed. Through the years he was honored with dozens of prestigious awards. In October 2013 he was inducted into the Macomb Hall of Fame and was recognized for his outstanding contributions to improving the economic, family, and community life of Macomb County. He was also a strong advocate for the Sterling Heights Community Foundation and its mission to enhance cultural, educational and recreational opportunities for Sterling Heights residents. In 2010, he funded the "Richard J. Notte Scholarship for Public Service Endowment." Through this permanent endowment, impact on the community will live on in perpetuity, as the Foundation will annually present a college scholarship to a deserving student in his name.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I am honored to have worked with Richard Notte during his career and to see up close how rooted he was in his community. I am pleased to join with his family, friends and the larger Macomb County community in mourning his loss, celebrating his life and honoring his accomplishments.

HONORING ANTHONY "STONEY" PARKER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable veteran and community servant, Chief of Police, Anthony "Stoney" Parker. Chief Parker has shown what can be done through hard work, setting goals, and aiming high.

Anthony "Stoney" Parker was born in Montgomery, Alabama to the late Cornie and Lillian Parker. Chief Parker graduated from Robert E. Lee High School in Montgomery, Alabama in May 1974 where he received a scholarship in football to attend the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Chief Parker is a 1979 graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi. After graduation he played one year of professional football for the Saskatchewan Roughriders in the Canadian Football League before being injured. He was later inducted into the University of Southern Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame for football in April of 1992.

Chief Parker is a member of the University of Southern Mississippi M-Club Board of Directors. He is a member of Seven Springs United Methodist Church in Raymond, Mississippi.

Chief Parker became a Mississippi State Trooper in December of 1982 and retired from the Mississippi Highway Patrol in June of 2009, as a Master Sergeant serving in the Mississippi Bureau of Investigation Division (MBI). While working in MBI, he was assigned to the DEA as a Task Force Officer for four years. Chief Parker was a founding member of the Mississippi Black Troopers Coalition and the National Black Troopers Coalition.

Chief Parker started working as a patrolman with the Crystal Springs Police Department after retiring from the Mississippi Highway Patrol. He served as a Sergeant and Lieutenant at the Crystal Springs Police Department before being appointed Chief of Police for the Crystal Springs Police Department in October, 2013. Chief Parker has thirty two years of combined law enforcement experience with the State and Local Government.

Chief Parker and his wife, Bettie, have been married for thirty three years and have two beautiful children: Christopher and Stefanie.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Chief Anthony "Stoney" Parker for his dedication to sewing our great Country and his community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF MIDDLEBORO

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleboro as it celebrates its 125th anniversary this year.

The First Unitarian Universalist Society has long been a central fixture in the Middleboro community. On June 29, 1889, after the new church first sought formal recognition, its members hired Unitarian minister Rev. William Ramsey of Salem to lead the church for its first year. Not long after, local member Enoch Pratt donated a lot on Pearl Street, where the group's first church was opened on October 26, 1890. While this was the original site of the modern-day building, it is not where the church can be found today, as in the early 1900s a more central and visible plot of land was gifted to the church by member David Pratt. The building was then cut into three pieces, led through the streets, and remounted in its current location.

While society changed drastically over the course of the next century, the First Unitarian

Universalist Church remained a central part of the local community. An early advocate of equality, the Society called its first woman minister, Clara Cook-Helve, in 1929, and she became a prominent voice in the town throughout the Great Depression. Today, the Society remains a vibrant presence in Middleboro and continues its strong focus on community service and equality for all.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleboro as it celebrates its 125th anniversary and in wishing the Society well in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO TERI EHRESMAN

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my thanks to Teri Ehresman, a dedicated public servant who recently retired from the Idaho National Laboratory (INL). As a Member of Congress representing Idaho's Second Congressional District, I got to know Teri as the communications lead for the Nuclear Science and Technology Division of Communications and Governmental Affairs at INL. In that capacity, Teri played an instrumental role in spreading INL's influence as the nation's lead lab for nuclear energy, and that designation has served the nation, the nuclear energy industry and the State of Idaho very well. For all of her hard work and the extra effort she always gives to her tasks, Teri deserves our recognition and praise. I want to wish Teri all the best.

Teri Ehresman has received communications awards from Media Network Idaho, National Federation of Press Women, Idaho Press Club, and the Society for Technical Communications. She was also named Idaho's 2008 Communicator of Achievement by Media Network Idaho, and in 2010 received a ''Presidential Citation'' from the National Federation of Press Women President for her volunteer efforts. She is currently serving as first vice president of the National Federation of Press Women, a national organization for communications professionals. She has previously served as second vice president and secretary of the national organization. Additionally, Teri is active in the Idaho affiliate, Media Network Idaho, where she organizes a yearly writing contest for high school journalism students throughout the state.

Teri served two years as chair of the Idaho Section of the American Nuclear Society (ANS), and during both of those years, the local section received the honor of being named ''Best Local Large Section'' while she was leading the 500 plus member organization. Teri has been an elected board member for ANS and helped to organize several international meetings for the national organization. She was also appointed by the American Nuclear Society president to the ANS Public Information committee and helps organize communications-related sessions for the organization's national meetings.

Teri Ehresman is a wonderful lady and she has served honorably and with distinction. As a valuable contributor to the State of Idaho and to the country, I want to offer my praise as she moves forward to the next stage in her life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, on November 12, 2014, I missed one recorded vote on the House floor. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on rollcall 516.

THE 58TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HUNGARIAN REVOLUTION OF 1956

HON. ANDY HARRIS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, last month, on October 23, 2014, we celebrated the Hungarian Revolution of 1956, honoring the memory of freedom fighters who rose up against the communist regime imposed on Hungary after World War II by the Soviet Union. It was not only a culmination of Hungary's struggle for freedom, democracy and independence, but also presaged the collapse of the Soviet Empire. Indeed, the 1956 Hungarian Revolution and Fight for Freedom was the first tear in the Iron Curtain, which collapsed none too soon 25 years ago. Many heroes died fighting, others were tortured and executed, while 200,000 had no other option other than to leave their country. A large number of them came to the United States and, together with their families, started a new life as part of our vibrant Hungarian American Community.

We must never forget the heroes of 1956 who knew exactly what they wanted. They fought and died for freedom, a multi-party democracy and independence from the communist tyranny imposed on their country by the Soviet Union.

One of our greatest presidents, Ronald Reagan, whose statue now stands in Freedom Square of Budapest, remembered the Revolution as follows: ''The Hungarian Revolution of 1956 was a true revolution of, by and for the people. Its motivations were humanity's universal longings to live, worship, and work in peace and to determine one's own destiny. The Hungarian Revolution forever gave the lie to communism's claim to represent the people, and told the world that brave hearts still exist to challenge injustice.''

Consistent with our practice of fifty-eight years, we are committed to keeping the memory of the heroes of 1956 alive. As we contemplate the promise of Hungary 1956, we are reminded that that promise must never be forgotten or abandoned, as the heroes of 1956 deserve nothing less.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

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 $17,942,478,973,674.58. We've added $7,315,601,924,761.5 to our debt in 5 years. This is over $7.3 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONER MIKE DOHERTY

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Clallam County Commissioner, Mike Doherty, for his many years of service to communities across the Olympic Peninsula.

Commissioner Doherty has served for two decades on the Clallam County Board of Commissioners and his longstanding commitment to this community has been evident throughout his tenure. As he steps down from his position, I admire and thank him for his many years of dedicated service.

Like me, Doherty is a native of Port Angeles, Washington. He graduated from Port Angeles High School in 1961 before serving in the U.S. Navy, attending Peninsula College and Gonzaga University, and later earning a J.D. from Georgetown University. During his summers in law school, he spent time working in the office of Senator Warren G. Magnuson. After completing his law degree, Doherty returned to Port Angeles and launched a career serving his community.

Doherty served as the first chairman of the Board of Freeholders, better known today as the Charter Review Commission and was responsible for the creation of Clallam County's charter. After being appointed to the Commission and serving from 1976–1980, Doherty was first elected to the Board of Commissioners in 1998, representing the constituents of District 3, which stretches from Neah Bay to western Port Angeles. In addition, he served as a Port Angeles School Board Member from 1991–1998.

In my time as a representative of our region, I have enjoyed working with Mike and appreciated his accessibility and his advocacy for the people of Clallam County's West End. From small businesses to Native American Tribes to timber mills to federal agencies, Mike has been a champion for people on the Peninsula. Aside from his work on local government issues, he has made a difference on a number of fronts, including his advocacy for secure rural schools funding in the Congress and his participation in the Olympic Peninsula Collaborative.

As a native of Port Angeles, I am grateful to have leaders like Doherty working for our community. I've been grateful for his counsel and his friendship. His decades of service to the people of this region are commendable, and he has distinguished himself as an impactful and thoughtful public servant for our region.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to close by applauding Doherty for his dedication to serving the people of Clallam County, Washington. I am honored to recognize his service today in the United States Congress.

HONORING MR. WILLIE LEE HUDSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable former Law Enforcement Officer, Mr. Willie L. Hudson, who is a lifelong resident of Jonestown, Mississippi.

Willie Lee Hudson, Jr. was born to the late Willie Lee Hudson, Sr. and Alouis Hudson on February 14, 1959 in Marks, Mississippi. He is a graduate of Coahoma Agricultural High School in Clarksdale, Mississippi and furthered his education at Coahoma Community College and North Carolina College. In May, 1977 he joined the U.S. Marine Corp, where he served three years and received an honorable discharge. On August 4, 1981 he became a police officer with the Clarksdale Police Department in Clarksdale, Mississippi. While at the Clarksdale Police Department, Willie moved up in rank as: Sergeant, Warrant Sergeant, and Warrant Captain.

In 2012 he retired from the Clarksdale Police Department. During his tenure as a police officer, he worked for municipal police departments in Friars Point, Mississippi, Greenville, Mississippi and Jonestown, Mississippi. In 2014 he was appointed Chief of Police for the Jonestown Police Department, but, due to health reasons, he retired from law enforcement in September.

Mr. Hudson has been an Associate Minister for 10 years at St. Luke Baptist Church in Jonestown, Mississippi. He is married to Annie Thomas-Hudson and they have eight children: Willie, III, Michael, Cherise, Paris, Willexia, Whitney, Andrenett, and Iesha; and four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an amazing former law enforcement officer.

HONORING LUKE BLANTON

HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Luke Blanton of Sikeston, Missouri for his outstanding achievement of receiving his Eagle Scout Award. This award is not easily attained and cannot be achieved without a steadfast determination to succeed.

In order to receive this award, Luke completed an Eagle project that exemplifies patriotism and his commitment to serve others. With the help of Sikeston Career and Technology Center, Luke built a flag depository box in the Veterans Park in Sikeston, Missouri where numerous flags continue to be collected so they can be retired properly.

At a young age Luke has shown values such as honesty, loyalty, and civility that inspire others. He has shown commitment to good citizenship, physical fitness, and education. By learning important survival skills, he has made himself an asset to our community, as well as the nation. Luke is a role model for young and old, alike, and it is my pleasure to recognize his achievements before the House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING THE PENNDEL WILDCATS FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, the legendary Green Bay Packers coach Vince Lombardi once noted, ''Football is a great deal like life in that it teaches that work, sacrifice, perseverance, competitive drive, selflessness and respect for authority is the price that each and every one of us must pay to achieve any goal that is worthwhile.''

The gridiron is a place of winning and losing, learning and growing—the same in the pros as in local leagues across our nation.

For the Penndel Wildcats 145lbs team, their time together under the coaching eye of Joe Erb has been as much about football as it has been about life.

On Saturday, November 1, the team will play their final game—closing out years of work, dedication, friendship and success. While football might not be in each player's future, there is no doubt that their time spent together has helped shape their coming years for the better.

Best of luck to each member of the Penndel Wildcats and their coaching staff—both on the field and in their futures.

HONORING MICHAEL A. McMURPHY

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my constituent, Michael A. McMurphy, a longtime resident of Potomac, Maryland, for his lifetime of dedicated service to family, community and country, and I offer my heartfelt congratulations to him on the occasion of his retirement.

Michael McMurphy served honorably for ten years in active duty in the United States Air Force following graduation from the Air Force Academy, after which he continued serving our Nation in the Air Force Reserves, receiving several commendations for his outstanding contributions.

After earning advanced degrees from St. Mary's University and the University of Texas School of Law, he worked in the Office of Chief Counsel for the U.S. Department of Energy's Oak Ridge Operations in Tennessee from 1979 to 1983, where he supported the Department's Uranium Enrichment Enterprise, among other critical areas.

In 1983, he joined COGEMA, Inc. in Bethesda, Maryland as its Secretary and General Counsel, was subsequently promoted to Vice President, and then elected President and Chief Executive Officer in 1988. After COGEMA was merged into the AREVA Group in 2001, he became President and Chief Executive Officer of AREVA NC Inc., and then President of AREVA Inc. in 2003.

In 2008, Mr. McMurphy was appointed Senior Executive Vice President of AREVA's worldwide Front End Business Group, located in Paris, France, and returned to the U.S. in 2013, rejoining AREVA Inc. as Executive Vice President through 2014. Over his tenure, he has won the admiration of his many colleagues and peers and has served on the boards of directors of numerous companies and industry organizations.

For his exceptional contributions to U.S.-France relations and to the important commercial ties between our two countries, he was recognized by the President of France with an appointment to the rank of Chevalier, or knight, in the Ordre national du Mérite and then, in 2012, to the rank of Chevalier in the Légion d'honneur, that country's highest civilian honor.

Aside from his professional accomplishments, his greatest achievement, according to his sons Matthew and Kevin, is his love for his wife Maureen—''that's a thing that makes us very proud . . . that holds the family together, and our family has always been close.''

In 2008, Michael and Maureen suffered a tragic loss when their son Patrick, who moved to New York City to pursue his dream of acting, died at the age of 23 from severe head injuries sustained from an accidental fall. Michael and Maureen established the Patrick Michael McMurphy Memorial Foundation in his honor, and they have since done some wonderful work through the foundation to promote the arts, especially theater, film and music. The foundation has benefited the Stella Adler Studio of Acting, where Patrick completed his studies, and is supporting promising young people who would not otherwise be able to pursue the arts with ''life changing'' scholarships, mentoring and counseling.

Michael delighted in his children; his sons fondly recall the sense of humor and commitment with which Michael insisted on playing the part of Cub Scout ''Den Mother,'' an unusual role for a dad in the 1980s, to spend more time with his boys. ''We were proud to be the only boys we knew who had a dad for a Den Mother,'' they have said. Michael loves children as he thinks they only bring joy and humor to his life, and now Michael's joy will be spending greater quality time with his three young grandchildren, perhaps outfitting them with Chuck Taylor high-top All-Star basketball shoes—shoes that bring him back happy memories of his late son, who wore them often.

I thank Michael for his many fine contributions, especially to the business and civic vitality of Maryland, and I wish him much happiness in this new phase of his life.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HAMPDEN COUNTY MASSACHUSETTS BAR ASSOCIATION

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, this year the Hampden County Massachusetts Bar Association celebrates its 150th anniversary, having been officially incorporated on October 20, 1864. For all those years, this group has been one

of the pre-eminent organizations in my district and beyond. The association is much more than a group of lawyers looking out for the interests of their profession. The association is now over 1,000 members strong and out of its membership over the years have emerged some of the most outstanding lawyers and jurists in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. For a century and a half the association has been a proven leader in providing legal assistance for the poor, educating the public on our legal system and seeking improvements in our courts.

The Hampden County Bar Association plays a significant role in providing Pro Bono services and access to justice, as well as community outreach programs to the local community. Such programs include a legal clinic, a lawyer referral and information service, and providing for Lawyer for a Day Programs, in its Housing, Probate and District Courts. This volunteer organization of lawyers provides professional support and education to its members and advocacy on behalf of lawyers, the judiciary and the public at large. Its members have continued to provide an unwavering commitment to the legal profession, to each other and to the people they serve. One of the many noteworthy services provided by the Hampden County Bar Association occurred following the June 1, 2011 tornado, which impacted Springfield and its surrounding communities. The Bar Association served as the base and primary liaison to coordinate efforts to assist victims of the tornado, including setting up a hotline for the public as well as a FEMA hotline. Members of the Association attended various town meetings to assist property owners with legal issues resulting from the tornado devastation. This service also included representing individuals who were facing condemnation hearings because of the significant property damage to their premises. In addition, the Hampden County Bar Association maintained the FEMA hotline a few months later in 2011 when flooding from Hurricane Irene affected Franklin and Berkshire Counties, knowing that their bar associations did not have the resources.

I urge all citizens to take note of the good work of the Hampden County Bar Association as it begins its next 150 years of public service.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SANTA BARBARA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT NEWSPAPER, THE FORGE

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Santa Barbara High School student newspaper, The Forge.

Published on October 16, 1914, The Forge is the oldest existing high school newspaper in Santa Barbara County and the second oldest high school newspaper in the state of California. The Forge published its first edition as a letter-size, four-page weekly paper with a staff of twelve and since then has developed into a respected student run publication, delivering news and creating discussion among students and the entire Santa Barbara community.

Not only has The Forge built a reputation within the Santa Barbara community, but also on a state and national level. As a pioneer of high school publications, The Forge earned charter memberships in the National Scholastic Press Association, the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, and the Quill & Scroll International Honor Society. Unlike many other high school newspapers, The Forge has continuously published in print so as to keep the long standing tradition since its' first issue in 1914.

I am honored to represent Santa Barbara High School and am proud of The Forge for being an innovative leader within the institution of high school newspapers. Thank you for bringing to light the issues that matter most to the students of Santa Barbara High School then, now, and in years to come.

Today, I congratulate members, alumni, and supporters of The Forge newspaper on 100 successful years of providing a voice for the Santa Barbara High School Dons and for making history. I look forward to watching this esteemed organization and its members grow and have no doubt that they will continue to play a prominent role in our community.

THE PASSING OF JOHN DOAR

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memoriam of John Doar, who passed away at the age of 92, this past Tuesday, November 11th, 2014.

A courageous advocate, a brilliant legal mind, and a remarkable public servant—Mr. Doar will remain an inspiration to everyone who has made and who will make the pursuit of justice their life's work. His accomplishments are such that they cannot seem but exaggerations—but because they are not—I feel the need to stand before you and recognize a colleague who did so much for so many.

As a member of the House Judiciary Committee, I was fortunate to have worked with Mr. Doar many times—first during his time as Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Justice, and later when he served as Special Counsel during the investigation and impeachment in the House of President Nixon.

I remember Mr. Doar as someone of fierce determination and true integrity. A Lincoln Republican—he served two Democratic Presidents and impeached a Republican one—without ever changing his party affiliation.

But more than an adviser, he was an active participant in making history. He was a firm defender of our national ideals, and he fought their perversion with every tool at his disposal.

As one of the architects of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, he helped ensure that every American had the opportunity to fully participate in our society and our democracy.

As an attorney and advocate for the American people, he fought to integrate the University of Mississippi, and secured the first conviction of white persons for violent crimes against black persons in the history of Mississippi.

As a believer in law and the power of nonviolence, he stood between protesters and police on the edge of confrontation in the wake of Medgar Evers funeral.

In every action he brought credit to his profession, to the government, and to the promise of our nation.

It is has been my privilege to have worked with Mr. Doar for so many years, and it has been America's privilege to have had his service. His example will serve as a benchmark for generations of public servants to come.

On behalf of a grateful nation, I extend my sincere thanks and condolences to his family and loved ones.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall votes 512–515 due to a family emergency.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on #512, "no" on #513, "yes" on #514, and "no" on #515.

HONORING R.D. SIMPSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Chief R.D. Simpson, a native of Jackson, Mississippi.

Chief Simpson began his professional fire service career in 1993 with the City of Jackson Fire Department. Chief Simpson is well respected among firefighters in the City and the County for his professionalism and his ability to build strong relations between career firefighters and volunteers.

In his 20 years of service, he has held the following positions: Firefighter, Lieutenant in the Emergency Service Division, Captain/Emergency Medical Technician in the Emergency Service Division, Division Chief of Training, and Deputy Chief of the Emergency Service Division.

Chief Simpson's educational background includes: a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Jackson State University and a master's degree in Occupational Safety and Health from Columbia Southern University. He has served as the Public Information Officer for the Jackson Fire Department for the past ten years.

Chief Simpson resides in Jackson, Mississippi with his wife and their five children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Chief R.D. Simpson for his dedication to serving others.

COMMENDING FBISD VOLUNTEER

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Carol Scott, a Fort Bend Independent School District volunteer, for receiving the 2014 Hero for Children award.

This award recognizes volunteers who make outstanding contributions of time and effort to provide encouragement and practical knowledge in the Texas public school system. Carol Scott's commitment to children through her energetic support of FBISD makes a difference in the lives of children every day. She is leaving an invaluable mark on the individual achievement of countless students and the fabric of the Fort Bend community.

Thank you to Carol Scott for dedicating so much of your time to our Fort Bend community children. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas; we congratulate Carol Scott for earning the 2014 Hero for Children Award.

TRIBUTE TO LANE EVANS

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my respects to one of the former members of this body, Lane Evans, who during his twenty-four years in the House of Representatives really made a difference, especially to our nation's veterans.

Lane Evans and I came to Congress together in 1983. During his more than two decades in the House, Lane was a forceful advocate for the men and women who served in our nation's armed forces. His earlier service in the Marines as a young man made him a natural champion of U.S. military personnel, and he rose to be the ranking Democrat on the House Veterans Affairs Committee. He was one of the first to recognize the serious and long-overlooked problems of Agent Orange, PTSD, and traumatic brain injury, and the impacts these conditions had on veterans and their families.

Representative BUSTOS, who today represents the area that Lane Evans served so well for so many years, and others in the Illinois Delegation, have introduced a bill to name the Veterans Clinic in Galesburg, Illinois after Lane Evans. I can think of no better tribute to a person who gave so much to America's veterans, and I am proud to join in cosponsoring this measure.

I am proud to have served with Lane Evans and to have possessed his friendship. I extend my condolences to his family. He is deeply missed.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE REV. JIMMIE L. MITCHELL

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest congratulations and Happy Birthday wishes to the Reverend Jimmie L. Mitchell, who celebrated her 90th birthday on Tuesday, October 7, 2014. On Sunday, October 12, 2014, family, friends, and members of Good Shepherd Deliverance Church gathered to celebrate her birthday at Receptions for You in Thomasville, Georgia.

Ollie Jimmie Lee Mitchell was born in 1924 to Mr. Jim and Mrs. Wessie Wilkerson of Thomas County, Georgia. Family and friends felt, even at that time, that Rev. Mitchell was destined to do great things for God. However, because of her mother's premature death, Rev. Mitchell had to take on adult responsibilities when she was just thirteen. She and her sister, Willie Mae Simon, helped raise their young sister and five brothers. Having overcome these difficult times together, Rev. Mitchell and Willie Mae Simon were inseparable until October 2009 when Willie Mae Simon died.

Growing up, Rev. Mitchell experienced some very difficult and abusive years that would have devastated any human being but she nevertheless maintained her strength and faith in God and He blessed her and led her to her true purpose.

At 20 years old, she married Willie Mitchell, Sr. and they settled down in Thomasville, Georgia after he was discharged from the U.S. Army. They had ten children, but one died at birth. Rev. Mitchell was known for her very conservative and strict parenting style. She trained her family to treat all people equally regardless of color or gender. She taught her children to value education, love family, live by faith, and study and work hard to achieve their dreams. Those nine children have blessed her with 24 grandchildren, 4 step-grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren, and 4 great, great-grandchildren.

When she was about 32 years old, Rev. Mitchell attended a prayer meeting at her next door neighbor's house, where she met Evangelist Mella Lawyer who led Rev. Mitchell to Christ and later became one of her dearest friends. Rev. Mitchell became a member of Saints Temple Holiness Church in Thomasville, where she actively participated in many ministries and became a missionary. Rev. Mitchell accepted her call into the ministry in 1963, becoming one of the first ordained women in Thomas County. She established Good Shepherd Deliverance Church the following year. In the fifty years since then, she planted more than seven churches throughout the state of Georgia and traveled throughout the nation to minister God's grace to all.

George Washington Carver once said, "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong because someday in your life you will have been all of these." Rev. Mitchell has gone far in life because her everlasting faith in the Lord is vivid testimony of His greatness to all whom she encounters. A woman of determination and perseverance, she has a special spiritual talent for getting closed doors to open. Her love and commitment to Christ is reflected in her compassionate leadership, which makes her a guiding light within the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our best wishes to an outstanding spiritual pioneer, the Reverend Jimmie L. Mitchell. She is truly a woman of faith whose heart never stops giving and whose hands never stop serving the people of her church and her community of Thomasville, Georgia.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN GLEN SPERLING, PHD

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. John Glen Sperling, the visionary educator, entrepreneur, and University of Phoenix founder who passed away in August at the age of 93.

Sperling embraced education as the foundation for living a full life—and as a resource for overcoming poverty and creating new ladders of opportunities for fellow citizens to fulfill their potential.

Throughout his life, Sperling drew wisdom from the wellspring of his own experience. Coming of age in rural Missouri during the Great Depression, Sperling struggled with childhood illnesses, physical abuse, and learning disabilities. When he received his secondary school diploma, Sperling was still illiterate.

He decided to join the U.S. Merchant Marine, where he would finally learn to read. After the U.S. entered the Second World War, Sperling joined the U.S. Army Air Corps. His service made him eligible for the educational benefits of the G.I. Bill.

The affordable education made available through the G.I. bill unlocked previously unimaginable possibilities for Sperling. He discovered a passion for learning, receiving his Bachelor's from Reed College and earning a Master's in history from the University of California at Berkeley. He capped his studies with a Ph.D. in 18th century mercantile history from the University of Cambridge.

Education had lifted the sharecroppers' son to attend one of the most august institutions in the English-speaking world, and Sperling was determined to help other non-traditional students realize their full potential.

So began the passion for education that would become Sperling's defining legacy. As a professor at San Jose State University, Sperling made a point of working with police officers and other educators who aided teenagers with behavioral troubles—championing the value of flexible, patient, and non-judgmental teaching for students struggling to find their way forward.

Sperling knew there was an opportunity and a need for an institution dedicated to people reaching for education at all times of their lives—a place that recognized the circumstances of students already juggling the demands of work or a family.

As he wrote in his memoir, Sperling found himself a "Rebel With a Cause," working to put higher education within the grasp of working adults. In 1973, Sperling started what

would become the University of Phoenix, one of the largest institutions of higher education.

Sperling created an institution that has empowered thousands of working adults with the tools needed to provide a better quality of life for themselves and their families. His enduring legacy of innovation and entrepreneurship in education has inspired new thinking and a renewed focus on non-traditional students across all of academia.

John Sperling inspired so many Americans to see—and seize—the opportunities in their lives. We hope that it is a comfort to son, Peter, his family, Joan Hawthorne, his companion, and all of John's loved ones that so many share their sadness.

CONGRATULATING ALVIN ISD

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Alvin Independent School District for receiving the 2014 Clean Air Champion award.

This award honors organizations operating in the Houston-Galveston area that are taking extraordinary, voluntary measures to improve the region's air quality. The Alvin ISD earned this recognition by revamping district-wide transportation; they have boosted fuel efficiency through a no-idle policy, pulled older, less efficient vehicles off the road, and replaced most diesel-fueled buses with propane-fueled buses.

I applaud the Alvin Independent School District in its forward thinking and contributions to our local air quality and health. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I congratulate Alvin ISD for receiving the 2014 Clean Air Champion award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, on November 12, I was absent due to airline delays between California and Washington, DC and was unable to cast my vote for rollcall 516.

Rollcall No. 516: Concur in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 4194—Government Reports Elimination Act. Had I been present I would have voted, "aye."

STATEMENT OF INTRODUCTION FOR THE NAZI SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS TERMINATION ACT OF 2014

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the bipartisan Nazi Social Security Benefits Termination Act of 2014 along with my colleagues Representatives JASON CHAFFETZ, LEONARD LANCE, STEVE COHEN, JAMES MCGOVERN, KATHY CASTOR, PETER KING, HANK JOHNSON, DAVID CICILLINE, KEITH ELLISON, PATRICK MURPHY, STEVE ISRAEL, DEREK KILMER, and JACKIE SPEIER. I commend Sens. BOB CASEY and CHARLES SCHUMER for introducing the Senate companion.

After the conclusion of World War II, thousands of people who participated in Nazi persecution fled to the United States and lied about their pasts to gain U.S. citizenship. The Department of Justice has successfully identified and deported hundreds of these individuals over more than three decades. There were, however, individuals who left the country of their own accord before being issued an order of removal, which would have terminated all federal benefits, including Social Security. Without this order, eligibility for these benefits remained intact and these individuals collected millions of dollars in federal benefit checks.

The Nazi Social Security Benefits Termination Act of 2014 would require the U.S. Attorney General to notify the Social Security Commissioner to terminate benefits for any individual who has renounced citizenship or been denaturalized on the grounds of participation in Nazi persecution. In the event that the Department of Justice identifies Nazi war criminals still residing in the U.S., it may initiate its denaturalization process as normal, and this rule change would allow benefits termination at the end of that process. The measure also requires an annual report to Congress from the Department of Justice on the number of individuals it has determined are disqualified for Social Security benefits under this new legislation as well as the number of active investigations against Nazi war criminals it continues to pursue.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation that would finally put an end to this grave misuse of federal dollars. After decades of paying out benefits to Nazi criminals who slipped through our justice system, it is past time to correct this injustice.

HONORING THE UNITY COUNCIL

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Unity Council's 50th Anniversary. For five decades, the Unity Council has continued to enrich our community's quality of life by helping families build wealth and assets through sustainable economic, social and neighborhood development programs.

In 1964, what started as a political action group soon evolved into a social services assistance program to aid Latinos in Oakland, California's Fruitvale district. In their new capacity, the Unity Council created Oakland's first Spanish-speaking employment office and worked with Oakland city officials to create the first Latino library, now known as the Cesar E. Chavez Branch Public Library. By 1967, the organization had become incorporated as a nonprofit organization and service agency. In the years that followed, the Unity Council became a powerful catalyst for pervasive social change.

During the 1970s, the Unity Council created a business advisory committee composed of Clorox, Pacific Bell, PG&E, Kaiser Permanente and Safeway; formed the Fruitvale Community Development District; initiated a small Latino business loan and assistance center; and built Las Casitas, the first ever Latino-built housing development in Oakland.

The 1980s brought challenging times for the Unity Council, which nearly resulted in the organization's demise. Fortunately, broad-based community support, strategic business partnerships, and a drastic reorganization allowed the Unity Council to rebuild its reputation and once again establish itself as the voice of the Fruitvale district and of Latinos in Oakland.

Starting in the early 1990s, the Unity Council expanded its Head Start Program from 18 children to 117, and offered early childhood development services, health and nutrition education, advocacy, and social services. Currently, the Head Start Program and the more recent addition, Early Head Start Program, serve a total of 608 low-income families.

In 1995, the Unity Council began its Façade Improvement Program, designed to provide business and property owners matching grants of up to $10,000 to fund rehabilitation projects. By 2005, the Façade Improvement Program had completed 120 projects and leveraged $220,000 of grant dollars into millions of dollars in contributions from stakeholders. That same year, the Unity Council received funding to launch the Fruitvale Public Market, a 7,000 square foot business incubator space designed to promote the local economy and create high quality and sustainable jobs for neighborhood residents. As a result, the Fruitvale commercial district went from 30–40 percent vacancy to less than 1 percent vacancy, and became the second largest revenue producing commercial area in the city of Oakland.

One of the Unity Council's biggest milestones is the Fruitvale Transit Village. The nationally recognized Fruitvale Transit Village opened in 2003 with 47 housing units as well as offices for several major community organizations. Earlier this year, the Unity Council received state funding that will allow the addition of 275 affordable and market-rate rental units to the Fruitvale area. After 50 years, the Unity Council remains the most relevant voice for the Latino community in the East Bay.

Therefore, on behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, I thank the Unity Council for the countless contributions and never-ending commitment to our communities. I wish the Unity Council another fifty years of continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL OF GREATER NEW BEDFORD

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Inter-Church Council of Greater New Bedford as this organization celebrates its 75th anniversary this month.

For three quarters of a century, the Inter-Church Council of Greater New Bedford has united religious organizations throughout our community in service to the surrounding area. Comprised of 47 member congregations stretching from Westport to Wareham, and supported by a volunteer force of more than 150 leaders, the Council has since its founding served as a strong faith collaborative committed to social justice and spiritual renewal for all its members.

The Council serves our community in many important ways. Its housing programs serve

more than 400 low-income elderly and disabled residents, its chaplains assist patients in St. Luke's Hospital, and its members participate in various community service initiatives, such as Peace Marches, gun exchanges for food, and hands-on ministries in the local neighborhoods. Clergy and lay members alike tackle the tough issues faced in our region each and every day, and for this reason our community is a better place as a result of their service.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Inter-Church Council of Greater New Bedford upon its 75th anniversary. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking this organization for everything it has given to our community, and in wishing it well for many years to come.

CONGRATULATING MACHINISTS LOCAL LODGE 831 ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take an opportunity to congratulate Machinists Local Lodge 831 on their 100th anniversary. Local Lodge 831 is located in Cedar Rapids, which is in my district. Local Lodge 831 was chartered as Harmony Lodge 831 on November 18, 1913.

For over a century, the Machinists in Cedar Rapids have worked to strengthen the middle class and advance every American's right to collectively bargain. Machinists successfully implemented the 8-hour workday, helped outlaw child labor, and have worked to increase salaries for middle class Americans. In Cedar Rapids, Local Lodge 831 has provided good paying jobs to many hardworking Iowans. Since being elected to Congress, I've been proud to work alongside the members of Local Lodge 831 in strengthening the middle class.

I'm proud to call many of the members of Local Lodge 831 my friends, including President Brad Van Fossen and former President Joe Ironside. I congratulate every member of Local Lodge 831 on their 100th anniversary and wish them all the best for the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. MIKE GAYMON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a strong community and business leader and outstanding citizen, Mike Gaymon. Mr. Gaymon has retired after more than 26 years as President and CEO of the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce. He was honored at a Retirement Celebration on Thursday, October 23, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce in Columbus, Georgia.

A native of South Carolina, Mr. Gaymon has been in the chamber business for over thirty-eight years. He led chambers in South Carolina, North Carolina, and Alabama before moving to Columbus, Georgia in 1988 to serve as President and CEO of the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Gaymon has revolutionized the Columbus Chamber as well as the Columbus community in many ways during his long tenure as President. He spearheaded the Need for Land project between Fort Benning and Columbus, which resulted in land for the Muscogee Technology Park. He oversaw the Chamber's Riverfront Committee, which worked to set the stage for development of the riverfront, including the Riverwalk, one of the longest river walks in the nation, spanning 15 miles along the banks of the Chattahoochee River. The Chamber was actively involved in the first SPLOST in 1993, which opened the door for the construction of the new Civic Center and the enhancement of Golden Park, where the 1996 Olympics Women's Softball Tournament was held. Mr. Gaymon also led the Chamber in forming the Valley Partnership, one of the largest and most successful regional economic development organizations. Additionally, the Chamber created the Young Professionals Program, which has over 650 members representing over 200 companies.

Under Mr. Gaymon's leadership, the Chamber became the first five-star chamber in Georgia and one of only twenty-seven in the nation in November 2006. He will leave the Chamber in good shape with a $3 million annual operating budget and a steady membership of about 1,250 firms, a majority of those small businesses. His economic development accomplishments exceed $5.3 billion dollars with nearly 60,000 new jobs generated or retained.

Mr. Gaymon has been selected by his peers as the Georgia Chamber Executive of the Year and has been named as Georgia Tech's Top Presenter for Economic Development Workshop and one of Top Five National Instructors by the U.S. Chamber. He also has been named as one of the 100 Top Influential Georgians by Georgia Trend, among numerous other honors and distinctions.

The city of Columbus has also felt the waves of change emanating from the renovated old train depot where the Chamber is housed. In 2013, over 3,000 new primary jobs were created and more than $148 million was invested in the region. It is home to successful and renowned companies such as Aflac, TSYS, NCR, Pratt & Whitney, and Koch Foods, which as a whole have invested almost $3.5 billion into the region while creating more than 20,000 direct and indirect jobs. Furthermore, Columbus became the first Certified Literate Community in Georgia and has consistently been recognized as one of "Top 100 Places to Live in America," "100 Best Places to Raise a Family," and "Number 1 for Single Senior Citizens" throughout the years.

Mr. Gaymon has accomplished much in his life but none of this would have been possible without the love and support of his wife, Sheila, their children and grandchildren, and his parents.

Dr. Benjamin E. Mays often said: "You make your living by what you get, you make your life by what you give." We are so grateful that Mr. Gaymon has given his time and talents to shaping a team of dedicated business leaders to improve the city of Columbus and surrounding areas.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Mike Gaymon for his twenty-six outstanding years as President and CEO of the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce. His energizing leadership has helped this organization transform the Columbus community for the better.

TRIBUTE TO BARRY BERGEY

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude and appreciation to Barry Bergey, who retires this month as Director of Folk and Traditional Arts at the National Endowment for the Arts after a distinguished 29-year tenure.

Mr. Bergey's predecessor at the NEA, Dan Sheehy, spoke of him as follows:

"Barry grew up in the picture postcard town of New Haven, Missouri, on the banks of the Missouri River, population 2,000. His father was a minister, and Barry once recalled how sitting through the same sermon two times each Sunday prepared him for the many meetings he would sit through during his government career. After working for a time at Washington University of St. Louis, he found the professional love of his life—Missouri's rich store of traditions and the artists who maintained them. He became the state's first folk arts coordinator. His congenial persona, his cultural knowledge, and his dedication to serving grassroots people and their most cherished traditions caught the attention of Bess Lomax Hawes, then director of the National Endowment for the Arts' budding Folk Arts Program. Barry was hired by the NEA as a senior arts specialist in 1985 and became the program's fourth Director in 2001, following Alan Jabbour, Hawes and Daniel Sheehy. With 29 years of service to his credit, he is the longest-serving folk and traditional arts staff member."

Mr. Bergey absorbed the values of folk and traditional artists during his upbringing and worked to preserve and promote them throughout his career. With Julia and Jim Olen, he produced "I'm Old but I'm Awfully Tough," a recording of field documentation made in the Ozark Region of Missouri and Arkansas in 1975. As State Folk Arts Coordinator at the Missouri Cultural Heritage Center based at the University of Missouri-Columbia from 1983–85, he initiated a model statewide traditional arts apprenticeship program and a statewide touring and performance series. He also curated a touring exhibition on a 19th century housebarn in rural Franklin County near New Haven, Missouri, where he grew up. Mr. Bergey founded the Missouri Friends of the Folk Arts, an organization that sponsored the annual Frontier Folklife Festival at the Gateway Arch in St. Louis and produced The Missouri Tradition, a public radio program. He also taught courses on the blues and on American folk music at Washington University in St. Louis.

In addition to managing NEA grants on folk and traditional arts, Mr. Bergey directed the NEA National Heritage Fellowships, the premiere American lifetime honors for individual accomplishments in folk and traditional arts. He provided guidance and support for folk arts infrastructure and statewide apprenticeship

programs, as well as technical assistance in the field. Mr. Bergey urged support for many recommended applicants, recognizing that even a small grant could make a difference to folk arts projects and that an organization could leverage NEA support when seeking funding from other organizations and donors.

Mr. Bergey's international leadership includes service as consultant to the Center for U.S.-China Arts Exchange on a long-term project to conserve traditional arts and minority culture in Yunan Province, China; author of a chapter on music and public policy in the United States and Canada in the Garland Encyclopedia of World Music; and service on the U.S. delegation for the UNESCO Intergovernmental Meetings of Experts to Draft a Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage, the UNESCO Inter-American Committee on Culture of the Organization of American States in 2003, and the U.S. delegation to UNESCO to draft a Convention on the Diversity of Cultural Expressions in 2005.

Joe Wilson, who served as Chairman of the National Council for the Traditional Arts in Silver Spring, Maryland, described Mr. Bergey's service as follows:

''During his years as a folklorist and collector, Barry sought out those the Good Book calls 'even the least of these little Ones.' He understood that the genes for creativity were spread wide, and knew it was his duty to reach into the places where the poor and ragged people dwelled. He was gracious and good to all who came calling, and understood that it was his duty to be certain that his branch of government was fair to all its citizens. He honored the taxpayers by being careful in the expenditure of funds. In an influential place and at an important time, he lifted artists up, all artists, and made them better understood. His reach has been great, and his grasp magnificent.''

I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking Barry for his extraordinary service to the National Endowment for the Arts and for his outstanding contributions to our cultural heritage, and in wishing him, his wife Jean, and his children Claire and Matthew all the best in the coming years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to have my votes recorded on the House floor on Wednesday, November 12, 2014. Mechanical issues in Minneapolis delayed my flight to Washington, DC until after votes had been called. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 4194 (Roll No. 516).

HONORING MOUNT ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church Canton, Mississippi.

The population of Madison County, Mississippi has been predominantly African-American since 1840. Prior to 1865, some members of the African-American population, most of whom had arrived in the country as slaves, were permitted to attend worship services, to be baptized and to be married in the area churches. They were also allowed to join established white congregations.

Early county records indicate that slaves were a part of the church communities. The Old Madison Presbyterian Church, the First Presbyterian, and the First Baptist listed a total membership of one hundred and thirty-four. One hundred were slaves and the other thirty-four were whites.

After the Civil War and freedom, African-Americans naturally desired to establish their own houses of worship. In 1865, the newly freed members of the congregation of First Baptist, with encouragement and financial assistance from their white counterparts, organized Mount Zion Baptist Church. Rev. T.J. Drane, pastor of the white church, served as minister receiving for his services a monthly salary of one dollar.

In 1870, Drane and R.B. Johnson donated two acres of land on the northern boundary of the plantation to Mount Zion. The first church was erected on Freedman Hill, located at the corner of North Railroad and Bowman Streets, according to the 1898 George and Dunlap map of Canton. Rev. Drane called for a meeting with council along with Mr. Will Powell from the white Baptist Church to help establish the church.

In addition to serving as pastor, Rev. Drane ran a day school and was assisted by Lillian Highgate, a white female. Rev. Drane received an additional $1.50 a month for his services. He also organized and maintained the first Sunday school class. All other organizations came into existence after Rev. Drane's resignation. Rev. Jordan Williams replaced him.

Newspapers frequently carried announcements concerning Mount Zion's activities. For example, ''Several converts at the Colored Baptist Church were baptized at the railroad culvert,'' or ''Rev. Williams, pastor of the Colored Baptist Church, immersed ten converts last Sunday night''. The second church site was across the street where the TWL parking lot is now located.

The third and fourth pastors were Reverends Mass and Davis. The fifth pastor, Rev. R.T. Sims, served for eighteen years and Rev. W.L. Varnado for seven. The seventh through the tenth pastors were as follows: Rev. Bradley, Rev. Morris, Rev. Drew, and Rev. A.D. Purnell.

By the 1920's, the congregation had outgrown the church and Rev. Purnell, along with members, began raising money for a larger building. The new lot for our present church was purchased from Jack Warren. Rev. Purnell asked Mr. S.M. Reddrick, Vice President of Madison County Bank, to serve as custodian over the church's building funds. He also asked if he would direct the building of the church and issue bonds to underwrite construction costs.

The bank issued $14,000 in bonds. Raymond H. Spencer was the architect of the neoclassical brick structure. He also designed the First Methodist Church of which Reddick was a member. The building was erected in 1929 at the cost of $35,000. The congregation moved into the new structure February 1930.

Rev. P.F. Parker, the eleventh pastor, with the help of God and members, burned the mortgage. Under his leadership the church grew. For example, the following organizations played an active role in missionary work: Senior Missionary Society, Junior Matrons, Young Woman's Auxiliary, Red Circle/Sunshine Band, Sunday school, Baptist Training Union, Senior Choir, Gospel Chorus, Junior/Beginner's Choir, New Membership Club, Pastor's Aide, Boys' Bible Club and Usher Board. Rev. Parker served until his death in 1970.

Mount Zion continued to serve the African-American community religiously and socially. During the summer of 1964, Mount Zion was the location of a pivotal moment in our state's civil rights struggle. In her autobiography, Coming of Age in Mississippi, Ann Moody notes that Mount Zion was the biggest Negro church in Canton and the center of the local marches.

On Friday, May 29, 1964, on the church lawn, six hundred community and church members witnessed the near death beating of McKinley Hamilton, a young African-American man. As a result, eighty church members marched on the Madison County jail in one of the first protest marches in Canton. Mount Zion became known as the ''Church of Refuge''. In 1968, twelve hundred students from Rogers High School marched because they were outraged over the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. A group of parents led them to Mount Zion. Rev. Parker opened the doors of the church to them, thus saving them from injury by law enforcement officers waiting for them on Hickory Street in front of High's Funeral Home.

Dr. W.L. Johnson, our twelfth and present pastor, has served for twenty-nine years. His words have power through the Holy Spirit. Under Dr. Johnson's leadership, the church has continued its growth. For example, the church has been air-conditioned, carpeted throughout, a fellowship hall and recreation center built and equipped, four parking lots purchased and surfaced, restrooms were remodeled, a lounge installed, pews padded, a new intercom system purchased, speakers installed in the pulpit and choir loft, additional chairs purchased for the choir and seating areas in the wings, two new copiers, a computer, storage room, and a fifteen passenger van and twenty-seven passenger bus were also purchased. The stained glass windows were repaired, and the pastor study was moved upstairs.

We now have a summer recreation program. Our membership is approximately 500 and still growing. The church is one of the most monumental, intact, and historic resources associated with the Canton African-American Community. As a result of this, the church was recently placed on the registry of Historical Buildings.

Our aim is to give every God-seeking person an opportunity to receive salvation. The church clearly reflects the importance of the social and religious life of the African-American community from its birth in 1865 up to the present. Let us resolve to make service to Christ a priority in our lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church.

HONORING THE PERALTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Peralta Community College District's 50th Anniversary. Encompassing Berkeley City College, College of Alameda, Laney College and Merritt College, the Peralta Colleges have provided quality higher education to over one million students since its founding.

Established on July 1, 1964, Peralta Community College District was formed after the residents of Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland and Piedmont voted to create a separate and single community college district. The district was named Peralta after Sergeant Luís María Peralta, since all the cities are located on the original Spanish land grant.

At that time, Laney and Merritt Colleges were the only campuses that made up the new college district. A year later, voters approved a $47 million bond measure to build new campuses across the northern Alameda county area, with the College of Alameda established in 1968 and Berkeley City College in 1974.

While there are no Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) in California, Merritt College is considered an accredited minority-serving institution, allowing the college access to HBCU funding.

The colleges within Peralta Community College District offer innovative programs such as nursing, automotive technology, office administration, mechanics, bio manufacturing, bookkeeping, carpentry, food service and restaurant management. The colleges often align with businesses, industry and government to tailor training programs to meet economic and staffing needs. This in turn helps build a strong workforce and support our vibrant community and economy.

Community colleges provide opportunities for millions of students and adults to continue their education in a flexible and affordable environment. Students attend community colleges for a range of reasons: as a first step to earning a bachelor's degree, an opportunity to gain workforce training, or simply a chance to learn or improve a skill.

I commend the Peralta Community College District for providing our community with quality and affordable education. In addition to serving our region's students, the Peralta Community College District also attracts and engages individuals from all over the world. Through its Office of International Affairs and District Education, it has been at the forefront of promoting cultural diversity, pluralism and mutual understanding, benefitting all Bay Area residents and visitors.

During the 1980's, my mentor and friend, a great woman warrior and member of the Berkeley City Council, Maudelle Shirek, and I attended night classes at then Vista, now Berkeley City College. We received a certificate in International Business and I will always remember this as a rigorous and rich educational experience. I am very proud of this certificate and encourage my constituents to attend Peralta Colleges because of the excellent programs and curriculum they offer.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, I extend my congratulations on this important milestone and thank all of the people who have contributed to the success of the Peralta Community College District throughout the years. I wish the Peralta Colleges continued success in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, November 12, I missed a rollcall vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on #516.

A TRIBUTE TO ANNETTE POLLY WILLIAMS

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend Rep. Annette Polly Williams. She was the longest serving woman in the history of the Wisconsin State Legislature, retiring from public office after 30 years of service. Affectionately known as Polly, she was not only a former colleague but also a mentor to me and many other new legislators. Ms. Annette Polly Williams passed away on November 9, 2014.

Polly was born in the Mississippi Delta region of Belzoni, Mississippi and moved to Milwaukee when she was 10 years old. She was a product of the public school system and a fellow graduate of North Division High School. Rep. Williams was committed to ensuring that all children received access to a good education. She became the author/mother of the nation's first true Educational Parental Choice Legislation because of her passion and commitment to education.

Although she is best known for her Parental Choice legislation, Rep. Williams was a great stateswoman and made her mark in other areas as well: founder of the Black Women's Network, the Milwaukee Parental Assistance Center and the Black Leadership Organization. Further, she was a co-founder of the African American Alliance providing political leadership to Milwaukee's African American community, a founding member of the Wisconsin African American Women's Center and served as the host of several different programs on a local radio station for many years. She was there to bring assistance, whether it was to someone who had lost a loved one, experienced a natural disaster such as Hurricane Katrina or local flooding. She provided outstanding service to her constituents.

Polly leaves behind 4 children: Winston Williams III (Lynette); Mildred Williams; Kimberly Bums (Michael, deceased); and Krystal Oby (Joe), grandchildren, a great grandchild and a host of other relatives and friends to mourn her passing. She leaves a legacy of a giving, willing worker, always providing both support and compassion to those in need. Annette Polly Williams leaves a strong example of leadership and excellence for her children and grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Polly was my friend and a Milwaukee and Wisconsin treasure and I valued her service to the 4th Congressional District. I urge you and my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in a salute to the late Rep. Annette Polly Williams.

IN RECOGNITION OF GERALD SHEA

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to District Attorney Gerald Shea, who recently retired after 37 years of public service to the county of San Luis Obispo.

A San Diego native, Mr. Shea began his prosecutorial career in 1974 as a Deputy Attorney General with the California Attorney General's office in Los Angeles. In 1977, he moved to our local community of San Luis Obispo where he became a Deputy District Attorney with the San Luis Obispo County District Attorney's Office.

For the next 37 years, Mr. Shea worked his way through the ranks in the District Attorney's office. In 1982 he became the Supervising Attorney for the Child Support Division, and in 1985 he was selected to be Chief Deputy District Attorney. Eventually Mr. Shea became San Luis Obispo County District Attorney, elected by the voters first in 1998, where he served the remainder of his distinguished career. Mr. Shea's accomplishments in the field of criminal justice have left a renowned and lasting impact on his colleagues, peers, and the community.

Beyond his professional roles in our community, Mr. Shea has served the San Luis Obispo community through his roles on the Board of Directors for the San Luis Obispo Women's Shelter, on the Executive Council for the County's Children's Services Network, on the Advisory Board for the statewide organization known as Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, and as Chair of the Domestic Violence Task Force. He is the former Chair of the Criminal Justice Administrators' Association, a founding member of the county's Anti-Gang Coordinating Commission, and was President of the California District Attorneys Association.

It is with great respect that I thank Mr. Shea for his decades of public service, commitment, and leadership and I wish him continued success and happiness during retirement.

CONGRATULATING UH PRESIDENT AND UH SYSTEM CHANCELLOR ON "PRIDE OF INDIA AWARD"

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate University of Houston (UH) President and UH System Chancellor Renu Khator for receiving the "Pride of India Award."

This award honors individuals who have demonstrated exemplary leadership abilities in

business or civic life and acted as role models for Indians and Indian-Americans in the United States. The Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas includes a thriving Indo-American community, which benefits from strong community leaders like Dr. Khator. Moreover, the entire Houston economy benefits from the remarkable contributions of the UH educational community.

I applaud President Renu Khator on her remarkable progress in strengthening University of Houston's educational system. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I congratulate Dr. Khator for receiving the "Pride of India Award."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, when Roll Call Vote #516 was taken on November 12, 2014, I was unable to be in Washington, DC to place my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor.

HONORING SERGEANT MILTON MOORE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable veteran and community servant, Sergeant Milton Moore. Sergeant Moore has shown what can be done through hard work, setting goals, and aiming high.

Sergeant Moore attended the Southern Regional Public Safety Institute in Long Beach, MS where he graduated with honors in 2000. He has completed training in: Clandestine Lab Investigations, Interview and Interrogation, Psychological Response to Active Shooter, and numerous other training courses, including, FEMA Incident Command System ICS200, ICS300, ICS400, and ICS700.

Sergeant Milton Moore was hired with the City of Vicksburg in September 1999, as a firefighter. Deciding to follow the footsteps of his father, he became an employee of the Vicksburg Police Department in March 2000. Since that time, he has served as a Patrol Officer and Field Training Officer.

Sergeant Moore was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in February 2010, scoring the highest of all candidates. Sergeant Moore is presently serving as a shift commander, where he currently has 9 officers under his command.

Sergeant Moore was only 6 years old when his father joined the Vicksburg Police Department in 1975. Being around law enforcement all of his life, Sergeant Moore gained interest and respect for the duties of law enforcement. He knew that one day he would be able to wear the uniform and follow his father's footsteps and become an officer at the Vicksburg Police Department. Most of the traits and values that Sergeant Moore's father instilled in him he still practices daily. These attributes have helped Sergeant Moore become a model officer.

February 19, 2014, Sergeant Milton Moore was honored as Officer of the Year by the Vicksburg Homecoming Benevolence Club. Being a recipient of this award, was a very humbling experience for Sergeant Moore. The award is named the "Artel Moore Award" after Sergeant Moore's deceased father.

Sergeant Moore is a member of the Mississippi Homeland Security Task Force. Sergeant Moore is a veteran of the United States Armed Forces, serving in the U.S. Navy during the first Iraq war, Desert Storm, in 1991.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sergeant Milton Moore for his dedication to serving our great Country and his community.

TRIBUTE TO VETERANS DAY ESSAY CONTEST WINNER

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the winner of the 2014 Veterans Day essay contest for New York's 14th Congressional District. Kezia Dickson, a student from I.S. 61 in Corona, Queens submitted the winning essay on the topic, "What Veterans Day Means To Me." Kezia's essay reads as follows:

Each day, millions of people in the Armed Forces risk their lives in order to protect us. They put losing their family, friends and life behind just so that they can protect us. These people show unexplainable bravery and courage. I can't even imagine putting my life on the line to fight in a war where I may possibly die. When I sit down and think about what these people are doing it blows my mind. I find it so honorable and breathtaking that someone would put themselves in such danger for strangers.

That is why when Veterans Day comes along I make sure to do something for those members of the Armed Forces. This holiday is just a chance for me to say thank you and God bless you for your unimaginable courage and kindness. I can't even go on to think about the struggle and pain some of these family members may feel each day as they don't know if their husband, wife, son or daughter, mother or father is still alive. Just let alone going to sleep without having that type of awareness is hard. Sometimes we Americans take things for granted, especially other freedoms. Most people fail to understand that the freedom we have doesn't come for free. Sacrifices are made and people end up dying in the process.

For some, Veterans Day is a day where you don't have to go to work or school. For me it's a time of reflection and renewal. That is why Veterans Day is very important to me. To know that somebody's husband/wife, son/daughter, father/mother is dying just so that I can have my freedom makes me take a step back. It makes me think twice about the actions I'm taking and the things I'm doing right now. I just begin to say to myself: "Are the things I'm doing now worth someone's life being lost?"

I appreciate these members of the Armed Forces with the deepest gratitude. They've helped save my life and protect other millions of Americans. In my family, I have uncles and cousins who have served and are serving now. I understand what they do is very hard and it takes mental, emotional, and physical strength to go through with it. They go through so many obstacles, but they seem to never give up. They make me proud to call myself an American. It is their bravery and audacity that keeps America living. What they do is just unbelievable. Basically, Veterans Day is my time to say, "Thank you for saving my life and thank you for your service."

STATEMENT CONCERNING B.R.A.K.E.S. (BE RESPONSIBLE AND KEEP EVERYONE SAFE)

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I want to highlight the good work of B.R.A.K.E.S. (Be Responsible and Keep Everyone Safe), a charitable organization that is taking meaningful steps to reduce the number of traffic-related injuries and deaths by training and educating teenage drivers and their parents about the importance of safe, responsible driving.

B.R.A.K.E.S. was born out of the personal tragedy of National Hot Rod Association drag racing star Doug Herbert. In January 2008, Herbert lost his two young sons, Jon and James, in a car accident. His loss led him to create a driving program that same year to help prevent other families from experiencing similar grief by teaching young drivers more conscientious and confident skills behind the wheel.

More than 5,000 American teenagers lose their lives in traffic accidents each year. B.R.A.K.E.S. is working to reduce this staggering number of deaths by providing free advanced driver's education in a program entitled the Teen Pro-Active Driving Course. This program goes beyond conventional driver's education to target specific driving situations responsible for many traffic accidents involving teens.

Based in North Carolina, B.R.A.K.E.S. is making an impact nationwide. More than 11,000 teenage drivers and their parents have attended the B.R.A.K.E.S. program in 10 states. Participants have traveled from 29 states and 2 countries to attend these training events. The group is constantly seeking additional locations so even more young American drivers and their families can experience the peace of mind that comes with this specialized training.

Last month, I visited a B.R.A.K.E.S. program with my teenage son Cameron and was truly impressed by what they do. I consider it a privilege to share what B.R.A.K.E.S. is accomplishing in the lives of thousands of teenage drivers, and I wish them continued success in their mission.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF JAZZ À LA MODE

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the 30th anniversary of New England Public Radio's weeknight program, Jazz à la Mode.

Jazz à la Mode, with its host and producer Tom Reney, started broadcasting on August 6, 1984. This exemplary program provides its listeners with some of the greatest recorded jazz, stretching from the classics to music created by emerging artists. Jazz à la Mode gives a broad offering of styles and the evolution of jazz from Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington to Miles Davis and John Coltrane and beyond. Additionally, Tom Reney has had the opportunity to interview many famous musicians such as David Brubeck, James Moody, and Wynton Marsalis. The hallmark of Tom Reney's program is special yearlong series that he dedicates to individual artists that had a substantial impact on jazz as a genre. Jazz à la Mode has done centennials for Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, and Count Basie.

In addition, Reney makes a point to highlight the jazz concerts, performances, and festivals that take part around New England. His audience will always have the most up-to-date information to be able to see live performances. Reney also acts as host for many jazz festivals around New England including the Tanglewood Jazz Festival and the Springfield Jazz and Roots Festival in my district.

Mr. Speaker, Jazz à la Mode has been a part of the cultural identity of western Massachusetts and New England for the past 30 years. As they celebrate this important milestone, I wish Tom Reney and the staff of Jazz à la Mode further success and many more years of entertaining New England.

HONORING DAVID ABSHIRE

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. David M. Abshire, who passed away on October 31st, 2014, in Alexandria, Virginia. I worked with David during my career in Congress and always held him in the highest regard.

David was an indispensable public servant. He began his career at West Point, from which he graduated and led a platoon in the Korean War, earning a Bronze Star for bravery. He went on to found the Center for Strategic and International Studies and lead the Center for the Study of the Presidency & Congress. David also served as assistant secretary of state for congressional relations and chairman of the Board for International Broadcasting under President Nixon and United States ambassador to NATO under President Reagan. He coordinated President Reagan's internal investigation of the Iran-Contra Affair as well.

David was a man of moral strength and character. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends and community. David is survived by his wife Carolyn, five children and 11 grandchildren.

I respectfully submit David's obituary from The New York Times and ask my colleagues to join me in honoring David's life and accomplishments.

[From The New York Times, Nov. 3, 2014]

DAVID M. ABSHIRE, WHO HELPED REAGAN THROUGH IRAN-CONTRA SCANDAL, DIES AT 88

(By Douglas Martin)

David M. Abshire, who led respected research groups and held high government posts but made his most visible mark by helping President Ronald Reagan navigate the political storms of the Iran-contra scandal, died on Friday in Alexandria, Va. He was 88.

His death was announced by the Center for the Study of the Presidency & Congress, a Washington group he helped lead.

Reagan sought out Mr. Abshire in December 1986. He called him in Brussels, where he was the United States ambassador to NATO, and asked him to accept a cabinet-level job as coordinator of the White House's response to multiple investigations of the administration's secret sales of arms to Iran, despite an embargo on such sales.

There were allegations that United States officials had hoped the arms sales would secure the release of several hostages being held in Lebanon by a group with ties to Iran, which would have been another violation of policy. Proceeds from the sales were to be used to finance the anti-Communist insurgents in Nicaragua known as contras—aid that Congress had expressly forbidden.

Reagan asked Mr. Abshire to handle all requests and obligations stemming from investigations in both the House and the Senate and from an independent commission headed by John Tower, a former senator from Texas.

''What we wanted was someone who would come and could immerse himself in all the details of this Iran controversy—the dates, when the arms went, who said what on which date,'' Patrick J. Buchanan, then the White House communications director, said in an interview with CNN in 1986. ''It really is a detailed job, and the rest of the White House staff, which was not involved in the controversy, has to get on with the budget, has got to get on with the State of the Union. We simply don't have the expertise.''

In a profile in 1987, The New York Times said the job could leave Mr. Abshire in a ''potentially tricky position'' and raised the possibility that he could turn up an incriminating ''smoking gun.''

Mr. Abshire accepted the post on the condition that the administration would be forthcoming. He told The Times that he regretted suppressing information about military incursions into Laos and Cambodia during the Nixon administration, when he was assistant secretary of state for congressional relations.

''That,'' he said, ''was an example of how not to do it.''

In his first meeting with Reagan, recounted in his 2005 book, ''Saving the Reagan Presidency: Trust Is the Coin of the Realm,'' Mr. Abshire told the president that it was unwise to keep insisting that the United States did not trade arms for hostages. He pointed out that two-thirds of the public believed that the administration had made such a deal.

''Dave, I don't care if I'm the only person in America that does not believe it—I don't believe it was arms for hostages,'' he quoted Reagan as saying.

But in a dozen meetings with the president and in others with the first lady, Nancy Reagan, Mr. Abshire pressed his case for admitting what seemed obvious to him and to many others. He also released thousands of unedited documents to investigators, handled press relations and signed off on the president's speeches about the subject.

On March 4, 1987, with evidence of the arms deal mounting, Reagan admitted in a speech to the nation that he had learned he was wrong. ''What began as a strategic opening to Iran deteriorated, in its implementation, into trading arms for hostages,'' he said.

Mr. Abshire soon resigned, feeling he had finished the job 90 days after taking it. Reagan largely escaped personal blame and saw his approval rating rise from 46 percent to 64 percent in less than two years.

The Washington Post in 2006 called Mr. Abshire the ''judicious convener and manager of the A-list powerful.'' In 1962, he joined with Adm. Arleigh Burke to start the Center for Strategic and International Studies, originally as an affiliate of Georgetown University. Distinguished foreign policy figures like Henry A. Kissinger, James R. Schlesinger, Zbigniew Brzezinski and Brent Scowcroft have been senior advisers and adjunct fellows there.

Mr. Kissinger, at a colloquium in Mr. Abshire's honor in 2006, said that Mr. Abshire had a knack for getting people to do what he wanted, ''making you feel that he's doing you a tremendous favor for giving you that opportunity.''

From 1999 to 2012, Mr. Abshire was president and chief executive of the Center for the Study of the Presidency & Congress. More recently he was vice chairman. He served on government task forces and policy study groups and wrote seven books. He headed Reagan's foreign affairs transition team after his election in 1980, and was often mentioned as a candidate for national security adviser in Republican administrations.

His job as assistant secretary of state under President Richard M. Nixon was to be a liaison to Congress. Nixon then appointed him chairman of the Board for International Broadcasting, overseeing Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty.

As NATO ambassador, Mr. Abshire helped parlay the deployment of American Pershing II missiles in Europe into a treaty limiting intermediate-range nuclear weapons there.

David Manker Abshire was born in Chattanooga, Tenn., on April 11, 1926. An imposing figure at 6-foot-4, he never lost his courtly Tennessee drawl.

He graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1951 and, as a platoon leader in the Korean War, was awarded a Bronze Star and other decorations for bravery. He earned a Ph.D. in history from Georgetown.

Mr. Abshire, who died in a nursing home in Alexandria, is survived by his wife of 56 years, the former Carolyn Sample; his son, Lupton; his daughters, Anna Bowman, Mary Lee Jensvold, Phyllis d'Hoop and Carolyn Hall; and 11 grandchildren.

Reagan was not the first president to ask for Mr. Abshire's help in dealing with a crisis. In his memoir, Mr. Abshire wrote that Nixon had asked him to join his staff to fight the threat of impeachment during the investigations of the cover-up of the Watergate break-in. He tactfully said no.

He recalled that when a relative expressed amazement that he had turned down a president, he replied: ''I don't believe he's telling the truth.''

IN HONOR OF MRS. CHARLOTTE M. FRAZIER

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a woman of grace, class, and dignity, Mrs. Charlotte M. Frazier. Sadly, Mrs. Frazier passed away on October 5, 2014. Her funeral service was held on October 14, 2014, at First African Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia. She has been a dear friend to my wife Vivian and me for many years.

Charlotte was born on May 23, 1932 to Arlene Hawkins in Columbus, Georgia. She graduated from William H. Spencer High School and was a director for the Spencer Golden Owlettes, Inc.

Charlotte was always involved in doing good deeds for the betterment of her community. She always put others ahead of herself. And very often she took the lead in working on worthy projects and always saw those projects to a successful completion.

She spearheaded the initiative to save the Liberty Theatre and supported its nomination and listing in the National Registry of Historic Places. She also led the efforts for the development of the Liberty Theatre Cultural Center, Inc., the restoration of Ma Rainey's grave site and the recognition of her legacy with a United States Postal Stamp. She was also a full time coordinator for the preservation of African-American resources. She was a recipient of many awards for her efforts on behalf of humankind.

She advocated tirelessly on behalf of the local, state and national Democratic Party. Charlotte was a lifetime member of the Order of Eastern Star and the founder of the Princess Chapter #194 of the Modern Free and Accepted Masons of the World, Inc. She was largely responsible for acquiring the present site and building for the group.

Charlotte held many titles and roles, but the most important role that she had in her life was serving her God with her work at First African Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia.

Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, ''Do not go where the path may lead, but go instead where there is no path and leave the trail.''

Charlotte Frazier was truly one of a kind who blazed a trail for all of us to follow and left an indelible mark on the world that will not be forgotten. We are only here on this earth for a season. Charlotte Frazier used her season for good and to help others to reach their full potential. Former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm once said, ''Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth.'' Charlotte Frazier paid her rent and she paid it well.

On behalf of my wife Vivian and the citizens of the Second Congressional District of Georgia, I extend my deepest sympathies to Charlotte's husband Anderson and all of those that she touched throughout her life.

25 YEARS OF SERVICE PROVIDED BY SERENITY HOSPICE CARE

HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 25 years of service that Serenity Hospice Care in Park Hills, Missouri has provided our community. Serenity Hospice Care is the area's only independent, non-profit hospice. They have served over 5,000 patients and their families, regardless of the patient's ability to pay.

When Serenity Hospice Care first opened its doors 25 years ago, it was thanks to a volunteer staff and funds raised by an all-volunteer Board of Directors concerned by the lack of hospice care in the surrounding counties. Until they received their Medicare and Medicaid certification, Serenity Hospice Care operated solely on the funds raised by generous donors. Today those funds are used to help cover the costs for the patients without sufficient insurance coverage.

It is in the late stages of life where Serenity Hospice Care aims to relieve the financial burden of finding adequate hospice care for seniors. As their name so perfectly describes, Serenity Hospice Care has provided peace and comfort to many patients and their families. It is their mission of ''providing excellent end-of-life care and grief support services to all in our community who need them'', that makes them a valuable and respected organization to the eight counties it services.

It is my pleasure to recognize Serenity Hospice Care and their devoted staff for their 25 years of service.

HONORING TONY WARREN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable Law Enforcement Officer, Mr. Tony Warren who is a lifelong resident of Mound Bayou, Mississippi.

Mr. Warren is the son of the late William Hampton and the late Roberta Scott Warren.

Mr. Warren entered law enforcement in 1990 as dispatcher for the City of Mound Bayou Police Department, and progressed to the positions of: Patrolman, Fire Chief, and his current position, Chief of Police.

In his desire to expand his law enforcement career in 2007, he became a Correctional Field Officer, formerly known as a Parole Officer. As a Correctional Field Officer he assists former inmates with employment and housing opportunities, as well as addictive behavior placement for reintroduction into family and society. He regularly attends trainings to become aware of societal threats and what technical resolutions will be best for his day-to-day utilization.

His love of law enforcement played a tremendous role in enhancing his love for his hometown and the need to protect and serve the community. Therefore, he has an open door policy for the residents and visitors. Chief Warren believes in communication between the police department and the people they serve to enhance the community.

Mr. Warren has received numerous awards for his community and academic involvement with the Mound Bayou School District, AARP and other civic organizations.

Mr. Warren is the youngest of eight siblings: Joyce, James, Ella, Odis, Ivory, Justeen, Veronica, and Kenny (deceased).

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an amazing law enforcement officer for his dedication and service to his profession.

IN RECOGNITION OF FALMOUTH'S 60TH VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Falmouth in celebrating its 60th Veterans' Day Parade.

Since 1954, when President Eisenhower proclaimed November 11th as Veterans' Day, Falmouth has honored its veterans in a procession from the Town Green to Memorial Lane on Library Lawn. Police escorts, the parade marshal, selectmen, the Coast Guard, and others come together on this day to recognize those who have been invaluable to our country's strength and security. A rifle salute, including sirens in memory of Armistice Day in 1918, followed by a memorial address and an open house for the public conclude the celebrations.

Between 1927 and 1953 the town's celebration entailed a moment of silence, a placing of a wreath at the World War I Memorial, and a procession beginning at the American Legion. Following the procession, the American Legion attended services at various local churches and participated in parades in Hyannis and Plymouth, and sometimes the celebration came to an end with a display of fireworks. In the early 1950s, the placing of a wreath, a moment of silence, and the playing of the Star Spangled Banner have been added to honor the fallen servicemen of the Second World War.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pride to congratulate Falmouth for hosting its 60th Veterans Day Parade. I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating the importance of this day, and to recognize the honorable service that veterans provide to our country.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER CONGRESSMAN PHIL CRANE

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to offer praise of and appreciation for my friend and former colleague Congressman Phil Crane. I had the honor of serving alongside Phil on the Ways and Means Committee for many years, allowing me to witness first hand just what an exceptional leader he was. Phil was a true conservative that strived for real solutions that worked for all Americans near and far.

Never shying away from the tough conversations, Phil was a leading reformer, pioneering significant efforts like the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) during his time as Chairman of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Trade. He was a staunch advocate of free-market policies and remained dedicated to simplifying the tax code. Phil was an influential member of the Committee and helped pave the way for meaningful reform that we are still fighting for today.

What's more, Phil was just as personable as he was outspoken, two qualities that forged friendships on both sides of the aisle. It is no secret that Phil was an undeniable presence in any room he entered, often remembered for his knack for storytelling and entertaining punch lines.

Phil was a one-of-a-kind force to be reckoned with, and I am honored to have known him, both personally and professionally. I am deeply saddened by his passing, but know his legacy will continue to impact Congress for many years to come.

HONORING COMMUNITY LEADER, JOSEPH SCHER, UPON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Joseph Scher, my constituent and local leader, on his 90th birthday and a lifetime of service to his community.

Prior to moving to Santa Barbara in 1981, Joe was a successful businessman in Chicago, serving as President of the Chicago Chapter of the American Jewish Committee and as Director of the Birchwood Club.

Once in Santa Barbara, Joe continued his commitment to community service, devoting considerable time to local charities and the Jewish Federation of Greater Santa Barbara. His first job at the Jewish Federation was Chairman of the Annual Drive for Funds followed by serving as Vice President for over a decade as well as participating on countless committees within the Jewish community. Under Joe's leadership, the Jewish Federation set a new fundraising record and gradually grew in size and strength. Today, the Jewish Federation is a thriving organization and great source of pride, offering wonderful activities and programs for the entire community.

Joe also dedicated his time and efforts to the broader Santa Barbara community, serving as Chairman of Camarada Pacifica, President of the Santa Barbara City College Foundation, and Director of Speaking of Stories.

Today, we celebrate Joe's inspiring spirit and thank him for his many contributions to the Santa Barbara community. Thank you for decades of service, good will, and achievement.

IN MEMORY OF CONGRESSMAN PHILIP M. CRANE

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I submit this statement to honor the distinguished life and career of Congressman Philip M. Crane. I was fortunate enough to serve with Phil not only in the House but also on the Ways and Means Committee. He was in his third decade of public service when I was just starting out, and so I considered Phil a role model. While in Congress, Phil shaped several trade agreements as chairman of the Ways and Means Trade Subcommittee. He also helped to found the Republican Study Committee, of which I am a proud member. Outside of Congress, Phil was a loving husband and father, an accomplished scholar, and a proud veteran.

Phil was an exceptional leader, and his legacy will serve as an inspiration for conservatives and all public servants for generations to come.

HONORING UNDER SHERIFF DERRICK CUBIT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable enforcement officer and community servant, Under Sheriff Derrick Cubit.

Derrick Cubit was born on a warm, sunny day of September 1, 1970 in Jackson, MS. As a youngster, he lived in Hazlehurst, Mississippi with his mother, Bobbie, his brother, Travis, and his late grandmother, Sarah.

Derrick Cubit started school when he was six-years-old. He went to kindergarten through fifth grades at Hazlehurst Elementary, attended Hazlehurst Middle School, and graduated from Hazlehurst High School in 1988. He continued his education by attending Hinds Community College and Jackson State University where he majored in Criminal Justice.

"Life has been a means of friends and family who you can trust and who trusts you," says Mr. Cubit. He is pretty happy with what life brings and is accustomed to being around primarily adults, those who he received wisdom from. He met lots of people who invested and took time with him, and helped him to excel at most of his many and various hobbies. He did well in school because of this and fortunately, self-awareness was something that was learned later on in his years.

Under Sheriff Cubit is a member of the Phi Beta Fraternity and of the Golden Square Lodge #88. There was always an interest in being a public servant, and he finally got an opportunity to work for the Copiah County Sheriff Department in October of 1997. He gives all thanks to the late Chief Deputy Joe L. Young, who gave him the opportunity to become a Deputy Sheriff with the Copiah County Sheriff Department. The trend was set by just meeting his potential, and taking on new challenges when someone brought it to his attention that he'd be perfect for the opportunity to work through the ranks at the Sheriff Department. He started out being a Deputy Sheriff, later was promoted to Juvenile Officer, after that he was promoted to Captain of Patrol, and now he serves as the Under Sheriff for the Copiah County Sheriff Department.

Under Sheriff Cubit always assumed he'd never get married because he was a hard worker and thought that if he was tied down by the constraints of a wife and kids his work might hinder family growth. But then, he met the beautiful Ms. Semekia Jones in 1994 and they agreed to marry in 2001. He had one son before this union and now his new family role suits him as being a father and husband. He's driven to spur his son on to even greater accomplishments.

Despite a lifetime of challenges and accomplishments Under Sheriff Cubit has held on to a quote by James Baldwin: "The world is before you, and you need not take it or leave it as it was when you came in." His goal is to achieve what James Baldwin speaks about. Although he would question, "How?" he believes that the moment his son entered this world, he then knew that he had achieved it.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Under Sheriff Derrick Cubit for his dedication to serving our great Country and his community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST CHURCH OF NEWPORT NEWS (BAPTIST)

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a continuing legacy of faith and community in Virginia's Third Congressional District. This year, First Church of Newport News (Baptist) in Newport News, Virginia is celebrating its sesquicentennial, and I would like to take a moment to reflect on the history of this esteemed institution and its contributions to the greater Newport News community.

First Church of Newport News (Baptist) holds the distinction of being the first form of organized religion located within the original city limits of Newport News. In fact, it predates the city by 32 years, having been originally organized in 1864 as First Baptist Church by the Reverend Thomas Poole of Isle of Wight County. The small wood framed church located under what is now the 28th Street Bridge was a spiritual home for many slaves, freed by the Emancipation Proclamation, whose only exposure to Christianity had come from their previous masters.

Under Reverends Carr and Cooley, the church moved its location to 23rd Street and Jefferson Avenue and continued to grow. Under Reverend William H. Dixon in 1897, planning and construction began on the new church building that would house the church for most of the 20th century. The impressive structure would include a steeple that was believed to be the highest in Newport News and was a landmark on the city skyline for decades.

A church is more than its building, and First Baptist's ministry in Newport News continued to expand under Reverends Harris, Taylor and

Henderson. In 1919, Dr. A. A. Galvin became Pastor and many ministries and facets of parochial life at First Church that still exist were founded during his tenure, including the Benevolent Fund and the Men's Star Bible Class. Under the next pastor, Dr. John F. Williams, the church formed both a Gospel Choir and a Deaf and Blind Ministry.

In 1961, Dr. Fred J. Boddie, Jr. succeeded Dr. Williams and began his 39-year tenure, the longest of any pastor in the church's history. It was under Dr. Boddie that the church moved to its current location on Wickham Avenue and changed its name from First Baptist Church to First Church of Newport News (Baptist) to reflect its historic roots. Dr. Boddie led First Church into the 21st century, retiring in 2001. Under his leadership, the church truly lived up to its motto becoming, ''the friendly church on the corner where everybody is somebody and Christ is all''.

In 2005, Dr. Reginald Dawkins was called to be pastor. In 2011, Rodney Johnson was installed as the twelfth leader of First Church and the church continues to grow in its outreach to the community under his stewardship. This dedication to service is reflected in the theme for First Church's Sesquicentennial, ''Renewing Minds and Transforming Lives with a Legacy of Hope and Charity''.

As First Church gathers to celebrate this historic milestone, the church can truly remember its past, celebrate its present, and focus on its future. I would like to congratulate all of the members of First Church of Newport News (Baptist) on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary, and I wish them many more years of dedicated service to the community.

HONORING REAGAN MYERS

HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Reagan Myers from Poplar Bluff, Missouri for his years of service with the Salvation Army. Reagan Myers is being honored as the 2014 Mariana Islands Young Citizen of the Year. This award is not easily attained, and can only be achieved by demonstrating a selfless passion for serving and a giving heart. Reagan and his family are serving as missionaries under the auspices of General Baptist International Missions. At only 16 years old, Reagan has demonstrated his commitment to serving those in need in Saipan.

Over the past year he has donated many of his own items to the Salvation Army, he has volunteered his time to help in the soup kitchen, and ring the bell at the red kettle location. Reagan has led efforts to provide relief to families who suffered from Typhoon Vongfong. With support from his church, he provides baskets to families in need filled with food, toys, and Bibles.

Reagan Myers is a role model for young and old alike, and it is my pleasure to recognize his achievements before the House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING THE HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS OF AMERICAN PHYSICIANS ON BEHALF OF CITIZENS OF UKRAINE

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, almost one year ago, students peacefully protesting the previous Ukrainian regime's decision to not join the European Union were attacked by their own government in Kyiv's Independence Square (Maidan). Following these protests, pro-Russian aggression in eastern Ukraine has left over 3,000 people dead and thousands more injured. Ukraine's medical staff and facilities were inundated with wounded protesters soldiers and citizens. Without hesitation, a tremendous group of American physicians offered their talents and expertise to treat the wounded Ukrainians who fought for freedom, human dignity, democracy and peace in Ukraine.

These medical professionals and their institutions have provided the seriously wounded with advanced life-saving treatments. Though their injuries were grievous, as a result of the medical care provided by our amazing physicians, they have been given a second chance.

We extend our sincere thanks to: Ahmet Aksakal, Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, OH; Dr. Brandon Ayres, Wills Eye Hospital, Philadelphia, PA; Dr. Jurij Bilyk, Wills Eye Hospital; Dr. Akram Boutros, MetroHealth Medical Center, Cleveland, OH; Dr. Christopher Brandt, Chair, Department of Surgery, MetroHealth Medical Center; Dr. William Cappaert, MetroHealth Medical Center; Dr. Myung Chang, Cleveland Clinic Foundation; Tammy Coffee, RN, CNP, MetroHealth Medical Center; Dr. Alfred Connors, Jr., MetroHealth Medical Center; Dr. Delos Cosgrove, Cleveland Clinic Foundation; Dr. Sasha Davisson, Cleveland Clinic Foundation; Dr. James Eakins, Hahnemann University Hospital, Philadelphia, PA; Dr. Joanna M. Fisher, Holy Redeemer Health Care System, Huntingdon Valley, PA; Dr. Michael Fritz, Cleveland Clinic Foundation; Dr. Thomas J. Gillon, Holy Redeemer Health Care System; Dr. Katie Hallahan, MetroHealth Medical Center; Dr. Julia Haller, Wills Eye Hospital; Dr. Michael P. Horan, Cleveland Clinic Foundation; Dr. Shu Que Huang, MetroHealth Medical Center; Dr. Roderick Jordan, MetroHealth Medical Center; Dr. Michael J. Joyce, Cleveland Clinic Foundation; Dr. Peter J. Kaiser, Cleveland Clinic Foundation; Dr. Anjay Khandewal, MetroHealth Medical Center; Dr. Peter Kozicky, Lehigh Valley Health Network, Allentown, PA; Dr. Alexandra Kushnir, Bridgeport Hospital, Bridgeport, CT; Orysia Levyska, Cleveland Clinic Foundation; Dr. Lisa D. Lystad, Cleveland Clinic Foundation; Dr. Mark Eric Manstein, Holy Redeemer Health Care System; Dr. Melvin Mejia, MetroHealth Medical Center; Dr. Yoshi Modi, MetroHealth Medical Center; Dr. Nicole Moskal, Cleveland Clinic Foundation; Olha Onyshko, coordinator of efforts between Ukrainian physicians and Ukrainian Federation of America; Dr. Francis A. Papay, Cleveland Clinic Foundation; Dr. Holly Perzy, MetroHealth Medical Center; Dr. Pamela Ritchey, Cleveland Clinic Foundation; Dr. Alisa Savetamal, Bridgeport Hospital Burn Center; Dr. Eon K. Shin, The Philadelphia Hand Center, P.C. & St. Mary's Medical Center, Langhorne, PA; Jackie Spence, MSN, RN, Cleveland Clinic Foundation; Dr. Maria Strus, Cleveland Clinic Foundation & MetroHealth Medical Center; Dr. Carroll Weinberg, Lankenau Hospital, Wynnewood, PA; and Dr. Thomas Whalen, Lehigh Valley Health Network.

Mr. Speaker, in light of the heroic humanitarian efforts of these outstanding physicians, volunteers, medical professionals and their associated institutions, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing their extraordinary service.

HONORING SHERIFF OLIVER PARKER, JR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary community leader, Sheriff Oliver Parker, Jr.

Sheriff Oliver Parker, Jr.'s life began in Duncan, MS. Sheriff Parker's mother, Mrs. Eddie Mae Parker, relocated to Hinchcliff, MS when he was ten years old. Sheriff Parker has resided in Quitman County for over 50 years. He is a graduate of Quitman County High School, Northwest Junior College, and the Mississippi Law Enforcement Training Academy. Parker completed the Mississippi Fire Investigation Training Academy as a requirement to become an Arson Investigator. He has one daughter, Fatina Parker Elliott; one granddaughter, Ashley-Faith Elliott; and one goddaughter, Detra Foster-Webb.

Sheriff Parker has never been a stranger to hard work. He worked assiduously as a teenager to help his single-mother provide for his siblings. He has always had a desire to help others. He knew at an early age that he wanted to make a difference in the lives of the citizens of Quitman County. He pursued his dreams of helping the citizens of Quitman County by beginning a career in law enforcement. He served in the capacity of Deputy Sheriff for the Quitman County Sheriffs Department for 23 years. In 1999 he pursued his life-long dream of becoming the Sheriff of Quitman County. He was elected the first African-American Sheriff of Quitman County in November of 1999 and took the Oath of Office on December 9, 1999. He began his responsibilities as Sheriff of Quitman County on January 1, 2000. He has humbly served as Sheriff of Quitman County for 14 years.

Since the beginning of his career as Sheriff of Quitman County, Sheriff Parker has instituted change in a variety of ways and made major contributions to the Quitman County Sheriffs Department. Jailed youth are offered a variety of programs designed to help them avoid returning to jail, as well as GED tutoring and testing. The elderly are assisted via the TRIAD Program. Sheriff Parker also initiated the employment of a full-time School Resource Officer at Madison Shannon Palmer High School. Under Sheriff Parker's leadership, a full-time detective and additional deputies and dispatchers were hired to assist with protecting and serving the citizens of Quitman County. Sheriff Parker's leadership has proven

to be successful, as there were no unsolved murders in Quitman County until February 8, 2013.

Sheriff Parker was present at a major milestone in the history of Quitman County which was the unveiling of the Mule Train sign at the city limits of Marks, Mississippi.

Sheriff Parker possesses sound judgment; he has a great sense of accountability to the citizens of Quitman County; and he has an irreproachable professionalism. Sheriff Parker constantly seeks to establish relationships with the community that ensures continued trust and dependability. He is a God-fearing individual who seeks to serve the citizens of Quitman County with the utmost respect, dignity and honesty.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sheriff Oliver Parker, Jr. for his dedication in being a respected community leader.

IN HONOR OF C.E. ''RED'' McDANIEL, JR.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I pay tribute to an outstanding civic leader and public servant of Columbus, Georgia, Councilor C.E. ''Red'' McDaniel, Jr. Councilor McDaniel passed away on Monday, November 3, 2014. A funeral service was held on Friday, November 7, 2014 at First Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia.

Councilor McDaniel served on the City Council of Columbus for 38 years. When he was first elected in 1969, he served in the old county courthouse until the Government Center tower was built. The Council now meets at the new City Services Center off Macon Road. He was the only current Councilor to have served on the Council before Columbus and Muscogee County merged to form the Columbus Consolidated Government.

Councilor McDaniel was a Columbus man through and through. After graduating from Columbus High School, where he was a football star, he went to the University of Florida on a football scholarship. After an injury, he switched to Mercer University in Macon, Georgia, where he earned an associate degree. He returned to Columbus and ran a private insurance company until his retirement from business.

During his long tenure in the Columbus City government, he advocated for the improvement of city services while keeping a close eye on the budget. He was a champion of public safety and tirelessly supported the city's law enforcement officers and firefighters who often put their lives at risk.

Always open and outspoken about his opinions, Councilor McDaniel stood as a giant redwood in local government, widely respected for his deep institutional knowledge and intrinsic experience. He served as a mentor to newly-elected councilors regardless of their ideological views. A man of integrity and principle, Councilor McDaniel possessed many qualities that make for a strong foundation of character. More importantly, he never wavered on his values and remained true to himself and to the residents of Columbus throughout his career.

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 Councilor Red McDaniel passed this way and during his life's journey did so much for so many for so long. He leaves behind a great legacy in public service to the countless residents of Columbus whose lives he touched and brightened.

On a personal note, Councilor McDaniel was a close personal friend of mine and one of the first city officials I met when I first came to Columbus in 1972. I have truly been blessed by his friendship, counsel and inspiration throughout the years.

Councilor McDaniel has accomplished much in his life but none of this would have been possible without the love and support of his wife Joanne, two sons, several grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the more than 700,000 residents of the Second Congressional District, salute Councilor McDaniel for his outstanding public service and his everlasting commitment to his community. I asked my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest condolences to Councilor McDaniel'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.

HONORING MRS. TAKIYA FRYE-LEWIS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable educator in Cleveland, Mississippi.

Mrs. Takiya Frye-Lewis is the daughter of Ms. Carolyn Frye and the late Mr. Levester Frye, Sr. She is married to Mr. Casey T. Lewis and is the mother of two girls; Ciera and Keziah and is expecting a son in July of 2014 who will be named Casey, Jr. Although born in Ypsilanti, Michigan, Takiya Frye-Lewis has been a resident of Bolivar County, Mississippi for 17 years and she considers herself a ''transplanted native.''

Mrs. Lewis graduated from Willow Run High School in Ypsilanti, Michigan in 1997 and received her Bachelors of Science Degree in Early Childhood Education from Mississippi Valley State University in 2005 and her Master of Arts in Criminal Justice in 2008 from Mississippi Valley State University.

Mrs. Lewis serves in the capacity of a Pre-K teacher at the Coahoma Opportunities Incorporated Head Start Center in Clarksdale, Mississippi. During her 7 years of teaching diverse socio-economic youths ranging in the ages of 3 to 5 years old, she has found it challenging and rewarding. She desires that all of the children in her classroom and care receive the necessary tools to advance their understanding, knowledge of all subject matter which is taught, even devoting time for individualized coaching and tutoring.

Mrs. Lewis loves teaching and believes in helping children and adults strive towards their life endeavors. Her future objectives are to take the teachers exam and become a kindergarten teacher in a public school district.

Mrs. Lewis devoted endless hours to running errands, home care needs, feeding and clothing the less fortunate. Also, she is active in her church by serving as Vice President of the Youth Department, President of the Purity Class, and President of the Youth and Adult choirs.

Mrs. Lewis is a member of the NAACP and Congressman BENNIE THOMPSON's Bi-Monthly Municipal Meetings which is hosted by his Mound Bayou District Office where she is outspoken on issues which affects her community and our great nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an amazing Head Start professional for her dedication and service to educating the youths.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 33RD ANNUAL BIG PIG JIG

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 33rd Annual Big Pig Jig held in Vienna, Georgia on November 7–8, 2014. Sponsored by the Dooly County Chamber of Commerce, the Big Pig Jig is Georgia's Official Memphis Barbecue Network (MBN) State Barbecue Cooking Championship. Thousands of people from all over joined the residents of Vienna to enjoy the finest barbecue in the world at this widely celebrated pig-cooking contest this year.

In 1982, a group of talented chefs living in Vienna, Georgia made a bet on who could prepare the best barbecue. This private wager quickly grew into a full-fledged barbecue cooking competition after it combined forces with a local crafts fair and an annual hog show hosted by the county's livestock association. That fusion has since evolved into the annual Big Pig Jig, the world's largest MBN-endorsed contest as well as Georgia's biggest and oldest sanctioned contest of its kind.

The Big Pig Jig's broad national recognition contributes heavily to the economy of the rural community of Vienna, Georgia, as well as the surrounding area. It draws a crowd that almost triples the city's average population and showcases the charm and beauty found within the city of Vienna on a grand scale. It is a beautiful thing when a community comes together to welcome people from all walks of life to their hometown to create a lasting and time-honored tradition like the Big Pig Jig.

Next year's festivities will be particularly exciting as the National Whole Hog Championship will be held in conjunction with the Big Pig Jig. The addition of this brand new event in November of 2015 will only add to the palpable excitement the Big Pig Jig already inspires throughout the Southeast.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the Big Pig Jig as well as the folks of Dooly County, Georgia for cultivating this once small, local event into all that it is today. The Big Pig Jig promotes a delicious part of the South's cultural heritage and

fosters a sense of unity among all those who travel from far and wide to our beloved community in Vienna, Georgia.

CONGRATULATING KENNETH NASER

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kenneth Naser upon his retirement as Executive Director of ALIVE! (ALexandrians InVolved Ecumenically). ALIVE! is a nonprofit organization of 42 faith communities working together for 45 years to help Alexandrians facing emergency situations or long-term needs become capable of assuming self-reliant roles in the community. Many people talk about getting faith communities involved in helping those in need, but, through his work with ALIVE!, Ken has lived and led that effort in Alexandria.

Prior to becoming the first Executive Director of ALIVE! 10 years ago, Ken volunteered for ALIVE! for close to 30 years, served as chair of two of its programs and as President in 1982–83. During Ken's term as Executive Director, ALIVE! increased its reach and its assistance to families in need. This growth now allows ALIVE! to help over 14,000 individuals in need each year with food, financial assistance, early childhood education, transitional housing, furniture and house wares.

ALIVE!'s largest programs—the monthly Last Saturday Food Distribution and the Family Emergency Program daily delivery of food—have grown from assisting approximately 1200 individuals each month in 2003 to serving over 3000 individuals each month in 2014. Financial assistance provided to families who cannot make rent, utility or medical payments has grown from $130,000 annually to over $310,000 this year. Ken has worked closely with City social workers and other nonprofits in the City to assure that families who need food, financial aid, furniture or house wares receive assistance.

Ken also has helped ALIVE!'s Child Development Center grow and improve, both as a volunteer chair of the committee overseeing its operation and in the Executive Director role, where he exercises a key, day-to-day oversight function. Ken has been instrumental as the Center has received national accreditation and also was highly rated by the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Center assists working families who pay sliding scale fees based on their income level, and fundraising efforts, under Ken's direction, make up the difference in cost.

During Ken's term as Executive Director, ALIVE! House, which is a transitional housing program for four women and their children, has expanded its program and undergone a major renovation. The women at ALIVE! House are provided the support they need to secure a job, improve parenting skills, and develop other life skills that will allow them to live on their own. Over the past five years alone, Ken has been involved in helping 21 families change their lives and live independently.

Ken has been active in other non-profit activities as well. He was recognized for his efforts in 2010 when Volunteer Alexandria awarded him the Nonprofit Leader of the Year award. Most recently, he has been a leader in the effort to bring faith communities, non-profits, local businesses and the City together in support of ''A Hunger Free Alexandria.'' Lending his skills to this initiative, Ken has worked to assure that families and individuals in Alexandria have access to affordable, healthy food and that no one in Alexandria goes hungry.

Mr. Speaker, once again, let me congratulate Ken Naser on his outstanding career at ALIVE! and his many contributions toward making Alexandria a better place to live for all citizens, but particularly those most in need. After close to 40 years as a volunteer and then Executive Director at ALIVE!, we wish Ken a long and happy retirement and know that, even in retirement, he will continue to find ways to help the less fortunate in our community.

CORRECTION

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5961–S6002

Measures Introduced: Nine bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2920–2928, and S. Res. 578. **Page S5993**

Measures Reported:

Report to accompany S. 2041, to repeal the Act of May 31, 1918. (S. Rept. No. 113–271)

S. 1045, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that persons having seriously delinquent tax debts shall be ineligible for Federal employment, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 113–272)

H.R. 43, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 Red River Avenue North in Cold Spring, Minnesota, as the ''Officer Tommy Decker Memorial Post Office''.

H.R. 451, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 North Brevard Avenue in Cocoa Beach, Florida, as the ''Richard K. Salick Post Office''.

H.R. 1391, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 South Oak Street in London, Ohio, as the ''London Fallen Veterans Memorial Post Office''.

H.R. 1865, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 Park Street in Danville, Vermont, as the ''Thaddeus Stevens Post Office''.

H.R. 3085, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3349 West 111th Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the ''Captain Herbert Johnson Memorial Post Office Building''.

H.R. 3957, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 218–10 Merrick Boulevard in Springfield Gardens, New York, as the ''Cynthia Jenkins Post Office Building''.

H.R. 4189, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4000 Leap Road in Hilliard, Ohio, as the ''Master Sergeant Shawn T. Hannon, Master Sergeant Jeffrey J. Rieck and Veterans Memorial Post Office Building''.

H.R. 4443, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 90 Vermilyea Avenue, in New York, New York, as the ''Corporal Juan Mariel Alcantara Post Office Building''.

H.R. 4919, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 715 Shawan Falls Drive in Dublin, Ohio, as the ''Lance Corporal Wesley G. Davids and Captain Nicholas J. Rozanski Memorial Post Office''.

H.R. 5019, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1335 Jefferson Road in Rochester, New York, as the ''Specialist Theodore Matthew Glende Post Office''.

H.R. 5106, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Admiral Callaghan Lane in Vallejo, California, as the ''Philmore Graham Post Office Building''.

S. 2523, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 3rd Avenue, NW., in Chisholm, Minnesota, as the ''James L. Oberstar Memorial Post Office Building''. **Page S5992**

House Messages:

Child Care and Development Block Grant Act: Senate resumed consideration of the amendment of the House to S. 1086, to reauthorize and improve the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990, taking action on the following amendments and motions proposed thereto: **Pages S5963–S5981**

Pending:

Reid motion to concur in the House amendment to the bill. **Page S5964**

Reid motion to concur in the House amendment to the bill, with Reid Amendment No. 3923 (to the motion to concur in the House amendment), to change the enactment date. **Page S5964**

Reid Amendment No. 3924 (to Amendment No. 3923), of a perfecting nature. **Page S5964**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 96 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. 275), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the motion to concur in the House amendment to the bill. **Page S5963**

Reid motion to refer the House Message on the bill to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with instructions, Reid Amendment

No. 3925, to change the enactment date, fell when cloture was invoked on the motion to concur in the House amendment to the bill. **Page S5964**

Reid Amendment No. 3926 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 3925), of a perfecting nature, fell when Reid motion to refer the House Message on the bill to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 3925 fell. **Page S5964**

Reid Amendment No. 3927 (to Amendment No. 3926), of a perfecting nature, fell when Reid Amendment No. 3926 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 3925) fell. **Page S5964**

Appointments:

The National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity: The Chair announced, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to Public Law 110–315, the appointment of the following individual to be a member of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity: Dr. Paul LeBlanc of New Hampshire vice Larry Vanderhoef of California. **Page S5996**

S.1086, S. 2280, S. 2685, and Abrams, Cohen, and Ross Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, November 17, 2014, all post-cloture time be considered expired with respect to the House message to accompany S. 1086, to reauthorize and improve the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990; that the motion to concur with amendment No. 3923 be withdrawn; Senate vote on the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 1086; that upon the disposition of the House message, Senate vote on the motions to invoke cloture on the nominations of Leslie Joyce Abrams, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Georgia, Mark Howard Cohen, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia, and Eleanor Louise Ross, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia; that if cloture is invoked on any of these nominations, that on Tuesday, November 18, 2014, following the Senate's action with respect to S. 2280, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline, as provided under the order of Wednesday, November 12, 2014, Senate proceed to Executive Session, that all post-cloture time be considered expired, and Senate vote on confirmation of the nominations, in the order upon which cloture was invoked; that upon disposition of the Ross nomination, Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 2685, to reform the authorities of the Federal Government to require the production of certain business records, conduct electronic surveillance, use pen registers and trap and trace devices, and use other forms of information gathering for foreign intelligence, counterterrorism, and criminal purposes; that there be 30 minutes of debate equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees, on the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 2685; that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 2685; that with any sequence of multiple votes, there be two minutes for debate prior to each vote, and all roll call votes after the first vote in each sequence be 10 minutes in length; and that the time in opposition to S. 2280 be under the control of Senator Boxer, or her designee. **Page S5981**

Saldana Nomination Referral—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the nomination of Sarah R. Saldana, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, reported by the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on Wednesday, November 12, 2014, now be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary until no later than December 4, 2014, if the Committee on the Judiciary has not reported the nomination by this date, then it be automatically discharged and placed on the Executive Calendar. **Page S5996**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 54 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 273), Randolph D. Moss, of Maryland, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia. **Pages S5962–63, S6002**

By a unanimous vote of 99 yeas (Vote No. EX. 274), Leigh Martin May, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia. **Page S5962–63, S6002**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Elissa Slotkin, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

John E. Mendez, of California, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for a term expiring December 31, 2015.

Jeffery Martin Baran, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the remainder of the term expiring June 30, 2018.

Loretta E. Lynch, of New York, to be Attorney General.

1 Marine Corps nomination in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Foreign Service, Marine Corps, Navy. **Pages S5997–S6002**

Messages from the House: **Page S5987**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: Pages S5987, S5996

Measures Read the First Time: Pages S5987, S5996

Executive Communications: Pages S5987–91

Petitions and Memorials: Pages S5991–92

Executive Reports of Committees: Page S5992

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S5993–94

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S5994–96

Additional Statements: Pages S5986–87

Amendments Submitted: Page S5996

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S5996

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—275) Page S5963

Adjournment: Senate convened at 2:15 p.m. and adjourned at 7:19 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, November 17, 2014. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5997.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Lourdes Maria Castro Ramirez, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and Therese W. McMillan, of California, to be Federal Transit Administrator, Department of Transportation, after the nominees, who were introduced by Senator Johnson (SD), testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 1784, to improve timber management on Oregon and California Railroad and Coos Bay Wagon Road grant land, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2379, to approve and implement the Klamath Basin agreements, to improve natural resource management, support economic development, and sustain agricultural production in the Klamath River Basin in the public interest and the interest of the United States, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1750, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into agreements with States and political subdivisions of States providing for the continued operation, in whole or in part, of public land, units of the National Park System, units of the National Wildlife Refuge System, and units of the National Forest System in the State during any period in which the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture is unable to maintain normal level of operations at the units due to a lapse in appropriations;

S. 2104, to require the Director of the National Park Service to refund to States all State funds that were used to reopen and temporarily operate a unit of the National Park System during the October 2013 shutdown;

S. 2602, to establish the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area in the State of Washington, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 182, to provide for the unencumbering of title to non-Federal land owned by the city of Anchorage, Alaska, for purposes of economic development by conveyance of the Federal reversion interest to the City, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 776, to establish the Columbine-Hondo Wilderness in the State of New Mexico, to provide for the conveyance of certain parcels of National Forest System land in the State, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 841, to designate certain Federal land in the San Juan National Forest in the State of Colorado as wilderness, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1419, to promote research, development, and demonstration of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1971, to establish an interagency coordination committee or subcommittee with the leadership of the Department of Energy and the Department of the Interior, focused on the nexus between energy and water production, use, and efficiency, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 398, to establish the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Women's History Museum, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2031, to amend the Act to provide for the establishment of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore in the State of Wisconsin, to adjust the boundary of that National Lakeshore to include the lighthouse known as Ashland Harbor Breakwater Light, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

H.R. 885, to expand the boundary of the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park;

S. 1328, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the archeological site and surrounding land of the New Philadelphia town site in the State of Illinois;

H.R. 1241, to facilitate a land exchange involving certain National Forest System lands in the Inyo National Forest; and

S. 2873, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acknowledge contributions at units of the National Park System, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Virginia Tyler Lodge, and Ronald Anderson Walter, who was introduced by Representative Cohen, both to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

COUNTERING ISIL IN IRAQ AND SYRIA

Committee on Foreign Relations: On Wednesday, November 12, 2014, committee concluded a closed hearing to examine countering ISIL in Iraq and Syria, after receiving testimony from General John R. Allen, USMC (Retired), Special Presidential Envoy for the Global Coalition to Counter ISIL, Department of State; and Christine Wormuth, Under Secretary for Policy, and Vice Admiral Frank Craig Pandolfe, Director for Strategic Plans and Policy, Joint Staff (J–5), both of the Department of Defense.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of P. David Lopez, of Arizona, to be General Counsel, and Charlotte A. Burrows, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member, both of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, who were both introduced by Senator Harkin, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Joan Marie Azrack, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, Loretta Copeland Biggs, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina, who was introduced by Senators Hagan and Burr, Elizabeth K. Dillon, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia, and Michael P. Botticelli, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of National Drug Control Policy, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of David Rivera, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Tennessee, Department of Justice.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 12 public bills, H.R. 5696–5707 were introduced.

Pages H7978–79

Additional Cosponsors: Pages H7979–80

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Bentivolio to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H7941

Recess: The House recessed at 10:47 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. Page H7946

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Imam Hamad Chebli, Islamic Society of Central Jersey, Monmouth Junction, New Jersey. Page H7946

Recess: The House recessed at 12:22 p.m. and reconvened at 12:24 p.m. Page H7948

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Directing the Administrator of General Services, on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, to convey certain Federal property located in the National

Petroleum Reserve in Alaska to the Olgoonik Corporation: H.R. 5167, amended, to direct the Administrator of General Services, on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, to convey certain Federal property located in the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska to the Olgoonik Corporation, an Alaska Native Corporation established under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act; **Pages H7948–49**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal property located in the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska to the Olgoonik Corporation, an Alaska Native Corporation established under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act". **Page H7949**

Trinity County Land Exchange Act: H.R. 3326, amended, to provide for an exchange of land between the United States and the Trinity Public Utilities District of Trinity County, California, involving a parcel of National Forest System land in Shasta-Trinity National Forest; **Pages H7949–50**

Arapaho National Forest Boundary Adjustment Act of 2014: H.R. 4846, amended, to adjust the boundary of the Arapaho National Forest, Colorado; and **Pages H7950–51**

Economic Development Through Tribal Land Exchange Act: H.R. 4867, amended, to provide for certain land to be taken into trust for the benefit of Morongo Band of Mission Indians. **Pages H7951–52**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:43 p.m. and reconvened at 4:17 p.m. **Page H7952**

Sunscreen Innovation Act: The House agreed to take from the Speaker's table and pass S. 2141, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide an alternative process for review of safety and effectiveness of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients and for other purposes. **Pages H7959–64**

Traumatic Brain Injury Reauthorization Act of 2014: The House agreed to take from the Speaker's table and pass S. 2539, to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize certain programs relating to traumatic brain injury and to trauma research. **Page H7964**

E-LABEL Act: The House agreed to take from the Speaker's table and pass S. 2583, to promote the non-exclusive use of electronic labeling for devices licensed by the Federal Communications Commission. **Page H7965**

Approving the Keystone XL Pipeline: The House began consideration of H.R. 5682, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline. Consideration is expected to continue tomorrow, November 14th. **Pages H7965–72**

Representative Capps moved to recommit the bill to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment. Further proceedings were postponed. **Pages H7971–72**

H. Res. 748, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 233 yeas to 185 nays, Roll No. 517, after the previous question was ordered without objection. **Pages H7952–59**

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote developed during the proceedings of today and appears on page H7959. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Committee Meetings

THE ADMINISTRATION'S STRATEGY AND MILITARY CAMPAIGN AGAINST ISLAMIC STATE IN IRAQ AND THE LEVANT

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "The Administration's Strategy and Military Campaign against Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL)". Testimony was heard from General Martin E. Dempsey, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Department of Defense; and Chuck Hagel, Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense.

THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EXCESS PROPERTY PROGRAM IN SUPPORT OF U.S. LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES: AN OVERVIEW OF DOD AUTHORITIES, ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SECTION 1033 OF THE 1997 NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled "The Department of Defense Excess Property Program in Support of U.S. Law Enforcement Agencies: An Overview of DOD Authorities, Roles, Responsibilities, and Implementation of Section 1033 of the 1997 National Defense Authorization Act". Testimony was heard from Alan Estevez, Principal Deputy Under Secretary, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, Department of Defense; Vice Admiral Mark D. Harnitchek, USN, Director, Defense Logistics Agency; and public witnesses.

TERRORIST FINANCING AND THE ISLAMIC STATE

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Terrorist Financing and the Islamic State". Testimony was heard from David S. Cohen, Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial

Intelligence, Department of the Treasury; and public witnesses.

COMBATING EBOLA IN WEST AFRICA: THE INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Combating Ebola in West Africa: The International Response''. Testimony was heard from Rajiv Shah, Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development; Bisa Williams, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of African Affairs, Department of State; and the following Department of Defense officials: Michael D. Lumpkin, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict; Major General James Lariviere, USMC, Deputy Director for Politico-Military Affairs (Africa), Joint Chiefs of Staff; and Major General Nadja Y. West, USA, Joint Staff Surgeon, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 5441, to amend the Federal charter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States to reflect the service of women in the Armed Forces of the United States; H.R. 5683, to ensure appropriate judicial review of Federal Government actions by amending the prohibition on the exercise of jurisdiction by the United States Courts of Federal Claims of certain claims pending in other courts; and a vote to close to the public a portion of the Full Committee hearing on November 19, 2014, entitled ''Oversight of the United States Secret Service''. H.R. 5441 and H.R. 5683 were ordered reported, without amendment. The vote to close to the public a portion of the hearing on November 19, 2014, entitled ''Oversight of the United States Secret Service'' passed.

ASSESSING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VETERANS ACCESS, CHOICE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2014

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Assessing the Implementation of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014''. Testimony was heard from Sloan Gibson, Deputy Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs.

THE RISK OF NATION-STATE CONFLICT: CHINA, RUSSIA, NORTH KOREA, AND IRAN

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''The Risk of Nation-State Conflict: China, Russia, North Korea, and Iran''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2014

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled ''The Future of Energy in Africa'', 12 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: to receive a briefing on Ukraine's pivotal parliamentary poll, focusing on the conduct and results of the elections, as well as the potential for the newly elected parliament to confront the coming challenge of forging a democratic, secure, independent future for their strategically important country, 2 p.m., SD–608.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

2 p.m., Monday, November 17

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 5:30 p.m.), Senate will vote on adoption of the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 1086, Child Care and Development Block Grant Act.

Following which, Senate will vote on the motions to invoke cloture on the nominations of Leslie Joyce Abrams, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Georgia, Mark Howard Cohen, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia, and Eleanor Louise Ross, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Friday, November 14

House Chamber

Program for Friday: Complete consideration of H.R. 5682—Approving the Keystone XL Pipeline.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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Wolf, Frank R., Va., E1569

Congressional Record

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