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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2013, at 2 p.m.

Senate

MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2013

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable TAMMY BALDWIN, a Senator from the State of Wisconsin.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

God of love and grace, our love is pale and fitful compared to Your infinite goodness. Inspire our lawmakers with Your guiding power so they will stand firm in the faith You have given them. Lord, keep before them Your vision for our Nation and world, inspiring them to keep up their courage in spite of daunting odds. Use them as healers and helpers and heralds of Your hope. Assure them of Your love as You give them eyes to see Your saving truth.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable TAMMY BALDWIN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, April 8, 2013.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable TAMMY BALDWIN, a Senator from the State of Wisconsin, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Ms. BALDWIN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the previous order with respect to Executive Calendar No. 14, the nomination of Patty Shwartz to be U.S. circuit judge for the Third Circuit, begin at 11:30 a.m. tomorrow, April 9, with all other provisions remaining in effect.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. There will be no votes today. The first vote of the week then will be tomorrow morning at noon on the confirmation of the Shwartz nomination.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF MARY JO WHITE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 50; that the nomination be confirmed and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; that President Obama be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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ISSUES BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. REID. Madam President, I would like to welcome back the Presiding Officer and all the staff. I hope our 2-week Easter break was refreshing to everyone.

This month, the Senate will deal with a number of important matters, including judicial nominations and Cabinet nominations and a water resources measure.

GUN VIOLENCE

The Senate will also consider a package of legislation designed to safeguard Americans from gun violence.

In the wake of last year's terrible tragedy in Newtown, CT—a mass shooting we will never forget and that claimed the lives of 20 little, tiny boys and girls and 6 educators—I said shortly thereafter I would bring antiviolence measures to the Senate, and we are going to do that. It is time Congress engaged in a meaningful conversation and a thoughtful debate on how to change the law and culture that allowed this violence to grow so much.

I have said every idea should be debated and every issue should get a vote. From better mental health treatment, more secure schools, stronger background checks, banning assault weapons, the size of magazines or clips, and other issues, these ideas should get a vote. There are strong feelings and deep disagreements about some of these measures, but every one of these measures deserves a vote, a yes or a no—no hiding, no running from an issue that has captivated America.

There is no better place than in the Senate to begin a national conversation about such critical issues, even if they are divisive issues. We shouldn't stifle debate, run from tough issues or avoid difficult choices. This body—the world's greatest deliberative body—has a proud tradition of such robust and constructive debate.

I am deeply troubled a number of my Republican colleagues went so far as to send me a letter saying: We will agree to nothing. There will be no debate. There will be nothing. We want the Senate to do zero on anything dealing with stricter gun measures. They don't even want to let us vote.

This flies in the face of a Senate tradition of spirited discussion that began in the first days of this institution. There is simply no reason for this blatant obstruction except for the fear of considering antiviolence proposals in full view. Yet many Senate Republicans seem afraid to even engage in this debate—to have amendments to strengthen the legislation or, if they want, to offer amendments to weaken what the law is today.

In short, let's have a debate on violence in America. I repeat: Many Senate Republicans seem afraid to even engage in this debate. Shame on them.

The least Republicans owe the parents of these 20 little babies who were murdered at Sandy Hook is a thoughtful debate about whether stronger laws could have saved their little girls and boys. The least Republicans owe them is a vote.

The least Republicans owe the families and friends of those gunned down at a movie theater in Colorado and a Sikh temple in Wisconsin and a shopping mall in Oregon and every day on the streets of American cities is a meaningful conversation about how to change America's culture of violence. The least Republicans owe America is a vote.

The legislation on the floor would keep guns out of the hands of convicted criminals and safeguard the most vulnerable Americans—our children.

This proposal is supported by 9 out of 10 Americans. Background checks, 9 out of 10—90 percent of Americans—believe we should do something, and I get a letter from a group of Republicans saying: Don't touch it. We don't want anything to do with it.

It flies in the face of what 90 percent of Americans want. If Republicans disagree with the measure, let them vote against it. One of my Democratic colleagues said: Here are some of the things I want to vote against. Good. They are free to vote against it. If they don't like the laws that now exist in America, offer an amendment to make it weaker or stronger, depending on how they look at it. They shouldn't shut down debate or prevent us from voting on many thoughtful proposals to curb violence.

On issue after issue, Republicans have called for a return to so-called regular order. They come to the Senate floor saying let's return to regular order. They ask for the opportunity to offer amendments. They have called for free and open debate in the Senate. Those who have been yelling the most for this free and open debate are the people who sent me a letter saying: We are going to filibuster everything relating to guns. Talk about speaking out of both sides of their mouth. This is the poster child of that.

When they encounter an issue they are afraid to debate in full public view, they want to thwart debate altogether. They have threatened to filibuster this legislation which was passed out of committee under regular order. That is what they said they wanted. They have threatened to block debate on this measure, to which they are able to offer amendments.

I am happy to see a few reasonable Republicans who have stated publicly they are willing to engage in an important conversation on this issue. They have urged their more extreme colleagues not to resort to the same tired tactics of obstruction. But it will take more than 1 or 2 or 3 reasonable Republicans to ensure the families of 30,000 Americans killed by guns each year get the respectful debate they deserve.

NOMINATIONS

Unfortunately, the type of Republican obstruction that could prevent the Senate from debating and voting on antiviolence legislation is nothing new. For the last few years, Republicans have practically ground the work of the Senate to a halt. Republicans have filibustered countless job creation measures. Since President Obama took office, Republicans have systematically slow-walked or blocked scores and scores of judicial executive branch nominations, including even—for the first time in the history of our country—the nomination of the Secretary of Defense who, by the way is a former Republican Senator. Pending nominees have waited an average of 1 year for a Senate vote—almost 1 year, about 280 days.

Republicans have openly filibustered 57 of President Obama's nominees, but they have secretly stopped scores and scores of nominations by secret holds and procedural hurdles. Republicans have jammed executive branch nominees even when they have no objection to the nominee's qualifications, just to eat up valuable floor time.

I am concerned about this dysfunction, but I am not the only one. Virtually every American thinks this is foolish, the way things are going. The Nation is watching the Senate to see whether we will ever function efficiently again. They are watching.

I hope my Republican colleagues will work with Democrats going forward to prove the Senate is not completely broken.

SAFE COMMUNITIES, SAFE SCHOOLS ACT OF 2013—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to Calendar No. 32, S. 649.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 32, S. 649, a bill to ensure that all individuals who should be prohibited from buying a firearm are listed in the national instant criminal background check system and require a background check for every firearm sale, and for other purposes.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

Mr. REID. Would the Chair announce the business of the day.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

Mr. REID. Are we now in a period of morning business?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. We are on the motion to proceed to S. 649.

Mr. REID. Thank you very much. I note the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CMS FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, it is said that information is the most valuable commodity. In politics you probably know that information is power. The bigger government gets, the more valuable government information becomes to financial markets. This is especially true of information from agencies such as the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. It is that agency that my remarks are about.

CMS controls $748 billion in government spending per year. That is billions with a B. Today, there are questions surrounding CMS's ability to safeguard nonpublic information. This is not about secrecy in government, it is about government secrets having an impact on the stock market.

This is not the first time I have raised similar questions with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. In 2011 I received information from a whistleblower that CMS employees were spending large amounts of time in meetings with Wall Street executives. I wrote to CMS with these concerns. The response I received was very troubling. CMS could not tell us how many meetings were taking place with these Wall Street executives. CMS could not tell us who from Wall Street was in these meetings. CMS could not tell us how much time they spent with these executives.

In fact, the only thing CMS could tell us was that it did not track any of this information. Private businesses have stiff controls over access to nonpublic information, the same sort of stiff controls the Federal Government ought to employ for things that would impact the market and give somebody an extraordinary opportunity the average citizen does not have.

The only specific step that CMS took was issuing a two-page memo to its employees. This goes back to that period of time I was asking the questions in 2011. The memo limited the release of market-moving information before the close of the stock markets. Now, that is the right thing to do.

That memo presumably was not followed by somebody. Who, we do not know because on April 1, that requirement appears to have been violated. According to the Wall Street Journal, at 3:42 p.m., Height Securities, a political intelligence broker, issued an advisory note to its employees. This note said—it is right here in the chart: ''We now believe that a deal has been hatched to protect Medicare Advantage rates'' from the minus 2.3 rate update issued in the advanced notice mid-February.

This note goes on to suggest that clients purchase related stocks such as Humana. Between 3:42 p.m. and the market close, and that was just 18 minutes later, volumes for affected companies spiked—look here—spiked in the last 18 minutes to more than $½ billion.

In fact, the combined volume of shares traded for those companies for those 18 minutes was higher than the rest of the entire trading day. Not only did large numbers of shares change hands, but also buyers who got the information first likely made a heck of a lot of money. For example, Humana stock rose 8.6 percent in a matter of minutes.

Of course, this looks like political intelligence at work—political intelligence meaning the industry of political intelligence at work. A political intelligence broker gets ahold of nonpublic government information before it is widely released, and a select few paying clients end up reaping the rewards.

We just had a study out by the Government Accountability Office studying the political intelligence community. The Government Accountability Office reports that the world of political intelligence is murky. In other words, people are using government. They are profiting from it. But nobody knows who they are.

The public and Congress have little insight into how government information is collected. Collecting is one thing, but it is sold. People who collect it make money, and in the instances you see here, when that gets out people in the know make money.

So who pays for that information? We all know since 1946 lobbyists have had to register, and in more recent legislation have had to disclose their clients, what they lobby on, and how much they get paid. Even campaign donors have to report what they give to various campaigns.

Political intelligence brokers are exempt from any transparency. Yet you see they are around gathering information that should not be out to the public until after the market closes. They are benefiting from it and a lot of other people benefit from it.

Now, because there is no transparency about the political intelligence community, we have to find out what caused this to happen. Did the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services employees leak this information? Was there a leak from another government source? Either way we need answers to these questions.

Tomorrow is Acting Administrator Tavenner's confirmation hearing before the Senate Finance Committee. This acting director is a very qualified person. I think she will be able to answer our questions—at least I hope so. So I want her to know, and the Senate to know, that I plan on asking Ms. Tavenner several questions: How did this information get from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to a political intelligence broker? What steps will CMS take to ensure this does not happen again? And was the memo they sent violated?

I hope she recognizes the importance of these questions. I hope she comes prepared to take responsibility. I hope she comes prepared to explain how she plans to hold someone accountable because in this town, if heads do not roll, nothing changes. She has been a good Acting Administrator of this agency. She wants the Senate to confirm her to the job. This is her opportunity to show us that she is worthy of that confirmation.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FRANKEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. UDALL of New Mexico). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MARY JO WHITE NOMINATION

Mr. FRANKEN. I rise today to discuss the confirmation of Mary Jo White as Chair of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Ms. White has had an impressive career—from prosecuting terrorists and white-collar criminals as a U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York to heading a large litigation department in private practice. There is little doubt that Ms. White has the Wall Street expertise necessary to navigate the complex issues before the SEC.

I come to the floor today to discuss a critical problem I have asked Ms. White to prioritize as Chair of the SEC. Currently, when a bank issues a structured finance product, it needs to get the product rated by the credit rating agencies, and the bank pays them for the ratings. The banks have an interest in getting high ratings, and the credit rating agencies have an interest in getting repeat customers. Of course, this creates a fundamental conflict of interest. This conflict played a key role in the financial meltdown. It is a problem we sought to address in the Dodd-Frank financial reform legislation we passed in 2010. Yet it is a problem that remains. It is awaiting action by the SEC—more than 5 years after the financial crisis hit and nearly 3 years since Dodd-Frank was signed into law.

Resolving the problem of the conflict of interest in the rating industry will be a vital test of the SEC under Ms. White's chairmanship. In a meeting we had together last month in my office, Ms. White expressed her appreciation of the importance of this issue and her commitment to scrutinize conflicts of interest inherent in the credit rating industry. I look forward to working with her to find a meaningful solution to alleviate the ongoing threat to our financial system posed by these conflicts of interest. The next concrete step in that process is a roundtable the SEC will hold on this issue in May. That roundtable must be a balanced assessment of the issue, and it must lead to meaningful action by the SEC.

This is not, to be sure, the only issue in financial reform facing the SEC. I wish to talk a little bit about why I

care so passionately about reforming the credit rating process and why this is so important.

In the years leading up to the 2008 financial collapse, the credit rating agencies were enjoying massive profits and booming business. Of course, there is nothing wrong with massive profits and booming business in and of themselves, but there was one fundamental problem: Booming business was coming at the expense of accurate credit ratings, which is supposed to be the entire reason for the existence of the credit rating agencies.

The fact that the credit rating agencies were not providing accurate ratings should come as no surprise given the industry's compensation model. Credit rating agencies were and still are paid to issue ratings directly by the big Wall Street banks issuing the paper and requesting the ratings. If a rating agency—let's say Moody's—doesn't provide the triple-A rating the bank wants, the bank can just take its business over to Fitch or S&P's. That is called ratings shopping, and it continues to this day. The opportunity for ratings shopping creates an incentive for the credit raters to give out those triple-A ratings even when they are not warranted, and that is exactly what happened with the subprime, mortgage-backed securities that played such a crucial role in the financial crisis, and it happened over and over again. It became ingrained in the culture of the industry.

The Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, chaired by Senator LEVIN, took a close look at the big three credit rating agencies, examined millions of pages of documents, and released an extensive report detailing the internal communications at Moody's, S&P, and Fitch. Among the many troubling e-mails, there was one from an S&P official that sums up the prevailing attitude quite nicely: ''Let's hope we are all wealthy and retired by the time this house of cards falters.''

With all the risky bets in the financial sector—and bets on those bets—our financial sector had indeed become a house of cards. But without the conduct of the credit raters, the house of cards would have been one card tall because it gave triple-A ratings to these bets on bets on bets—these derivatives.

Two years after that e-mail was written, that house of cards didn't just falter, it collapsed. Because that house of cards had grown so tall—thanks to the credit rating agencies—when it collapsed, it brought the entire American economy down with it. The financial meltdown cost Americans $3.4 trillion—let me say that again—$3.4 trillion in retirement savings. It triggered the worst crisis since the Great Depression with its massive business failure and mass foreclosures and job losses and the explosion of our national debt.

The crisis profoundly affected the everyday lives of millions of people across the country in so many negative ways, including in Minnesota. People lost their homes, their jobs, their health insurance. I know the Presiding Officer saw it in New Mexico. I saw it in Minnesota. Every Senator here saw it in their State.

In May 2010 I called on Minnesotans to participate in a field hearing to learn about their experiences during the financial collapse. I would like to share some highlights from the testimony presented by Dave Berg of Eden Prairie, MN.

> My situation mirrors the situation of thousands of Minnesotans in my age group—and illustrates why it is so important to reform the way Wall Street operates. I am 57 years old and looking for a job. After having spent most of my career in the IT field, I have been out of work for 14 months . . . Throughout my working career, I saved for retirement. I participated in pension and 401(k) plans that my former employers matched. I thought I would have a secure retirement because I was doing the right thing . . . Much of my overall retirement security is now gone . . . At the age of 57, I need to again start building up a nest egg so I can hopefully retire in my seventies. This was not my plan.
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> As a job seeker in my 50s, I am not alone. Twice weekly, I meet with groups of job seekers, many of whom are in the same situation as I am. While we keep our outlook positive, most of us are faced with the prospect of starting over and we are resigned to the fact that we could be working in our seventies.
>
> The downturn of the economy, caused in part by the abuses on Wall Street, led to the loss of my retirement security. Reforming the way Wall Street operates is important to me personally, because I have a lot of saving yet to do—and I simply cannot afford another Wall Street meltdown. I need to have confidence in the markets—and I need to know that there is accountability to those who caused this financial crisis.

As Dave points out, he is not alone. Everyone in this body has heard stories like this. It is hard to overestimate the extent to which the credit rating agencies contributed to the financial crisis in which thousands of Minnesotans lost their homes, thousands lost their jobs, and far too many Minnesotans had their hopes for the future dashed.

They are not seeking retribution from Wall Street, they just need to know it will not happen again. They know that there is a problem and that the problem needs to be fixed. We do not need further proof of that, but we get it in the recent complaint filed by the Department of Justice against S&P in which DOJ alleges—as it said when it filed the complaint—that the credit rating agency ''falsely represented that its ratings were objective, independent, and uninfluenced by S&P's relationships with investment banks when, in actuality, S&P's desire for increased revenue and market share led it to favor the interests of these banks over investors.''

The complaint highlights the patently problematic way the credit rating agencies habitually did their business. One e-mail obtained in the investigation from a high-level S&P official reads:

> We are meeting with your group this week to discuss adjusting criteria for rating CDO's of real estate assets . . . because of the ongoing threat of losing deals.

CDOs—collaterized debt obligations—are one of those derivatives or bets that added stories to the house of cards. This official had apparently become so comfortable with the culture of conflicts of interest that he appeared to have no reservations about putting it in writing.

I am glad the Department of Justice is pursuing a case against the S&P, but DOJ's action is not enough. It is backward-looking and addresses past harms, but my concern is that the conduct continues to this day. The credit raters are still influenced by the relationships with the banks because that is who pays them. It is a clear conflict of interest and we need to prioritize actions that will prevent another meltdown in the future.

That is exactly what Congress—and I—did as part of the financial reform legislation in 2010. As part of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street reform act, I proposed a solution with my friend and colleague Senator ROGER WICKER of Mississippi. If our provision is implemented in full, it would root out the conflicts of interest from the ''issuer pays'' model. The amendment Senator WICKER and I offered to the financial reform bill directed the Securities and Exchange Commission to create an independent self-regulatory organization that would select which agency—one with the adequate capacity and expertise—would provide the initial credit rating of each product. The assignments would be based not only on capacity and expertise but also, after time, on their track record. Our approach would incentivize and reward excellence. The current pay-for-play model—with its inherent conflict of interest—would be replaced by a pay-for-performance model. This improved market would finally allow smaller rating agencies to break the Big Three's oligopoly.

The oligopoly is clear. The SEC estimates that as of December 31, 2011, approximately 91 percent of the credit ratings for structured finance products were issued by the three largest NRSROs—Fitch, Moody's, and S&P—each of which was implicated in the PSI investigation. The other five agencies doing structured finance make up the remaining 9 percent.

The current oligopoly doesn't incentivize accuracy. However, if we move to a system based on merit, the smaller credit rating agencies would be better able to participate and could serve as a check against inflated ratings, helping to prevent another meltdown.

In our proposed model, the independent board would be comprised mainly of investor types—managers of endowments and pension funds—who have the greatest stake in the reliability of credit ratings, as well as representatives from the credit rating agencies and banking industries, and academics who have studied this issue.

Our amendment passed the Senate with a large majority, including 11 Republican votes, because this is not a progressive idea and it is not a conservative idea—it is a commonsense idea.

The final version of Dodd-Frank modified the amendment and, to be frank, put more decisionmaking authority in the hands of the SEC in how to respond to the problem of conflicts of interest in the credit rating industry. The final version directed the SEC to study the proposal Senator WICKER and I made, along with other alternatives, and then decide how to act.

The SEC released its study in December. The study acknowledged the continued conflicts of interest in the credit rating industry and reviewed our proposal and many of the alternatives, laying out the pros and cons of each without reaching a definitive conclusion on which route to pursue.

The next step is a roundtable the SEC is holding on May 14. I will be participating in the event, and I hope that under Ms. White's leadership the SEC will make the roundtable a meaningful and balanced discussion of the different possibilities for reform. I have said all along that I believe the proposal of Senator WICKER and myself is a good one—and the right one—the more I have thought about it and looked at it over these few years. But if someone makes a compelling case for an alternative—an alternative that truly alleviates this danger of this inherent conflict of interest—I will gladly lend it my support. Following the roundtable the SEC must take prompt and decisive action to implement a meaningful plan for reform.

But don't get me wrong. The need for reform is obvious and necessary, and I will pursue this issue until the American economy is no longer subject to these unnecessary risks. Too many Minnesotans—too many Americans—were devastated by a financial crisis to which the credit rating agencies contributed mightily. The conflicts of interest in the credit rating agencies must be addressed so they don't contribute to yet another crisis.

Ultimately, it is up to the SEC to act, and the action they take on this issue will be an important measure of Ms. White's tenure as chair of the Commission. Ms. White has assured me she will give this critical issue the attention it deserves. I congratulate Ms. White on her confirmation and I do intend to hold her to that commitment. I look forward to working with her and the rest of the Commission on this very important issue.

Mr. President, I yield the floor and note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONFRONTING THE GREAT CHALLENGES

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I rise to deliver my maiden speech as a U.S. Senator from Nebraska.

I am humbled by the trust placed in me by Nebraskans and inspired by their confidence to confront the great challenges before us.

Our Nation's story began when bands of patriots fought a revolution to secure independence from an out-of-touch King residing an ocean away. The Framers believed a representative government closer to the people would be more responsive and better able to provide opportunity for individuals.

From the start, leaders of good will and strong views disagreed over economic theories, the size of government, and foreign policy. Importantly, though, these divergent beliefs have been a source of national strength—not weakness—and through vigorous debate about the proper size and role of government, we have built a powerful nation.

But as recent partisan disagreements prove, democracy is messy, and the best way forward is not always clear. While I do not aim to resolve this contest of ideas with a single speech, I do wish to outline a course I intend to chart during my time in the Senate.

To understand my views, one must first understand Nebraska. Nebraska's motto is ''The Good Life''—a fitting maxim for a State with the second lowest unemployment rate in the country.

Make no mistake, Nebraska's economic success and sound fiscal footing is no accident. Similar to 45 other States, Nebraska is legally required to balance its budget. But unique to Nebraska is a constitutional prohibition against incurring State debt greater than $100,000. That is a radical concept for lawmakers here in Washington.

We can imagine Nebraskans' dismay when they take stock of our Nation's $16 trillion debt and annual trillion-dollar deficits. Needless to say, Nebraskans know better.

Nebraska is known for its pioneer history and sturdy spirit, its prime grazing grasses and plentiful crop production, its abundant natural resources, growing metropolitan areas, and vibrant small towns. But the State's greatest treasure is its people.

Nebraskans are hard working. We get up early to work farms and ranches and return home late after attending local school board meetings. I make this claim as a family rancher and a former school board member myself.

Nebraskans run thriving small businesses on Rockwellian Main Streets and they sweat on factory floors. We lead multinational corporations and we are builders. We build homes, we build roads and infrastructure.

Nebraskans value community. We join the PTA, we coach Little League teams after long workdays, and we volunteer for our churches and our synagogues. We work hard, but we are people with perspective. Nebraskans are tough. We are tested by droughts, by fires and floods, and a changing global economy. We have even endured nine-win football seasons. We are strong-willed people—you have to be to survive a winter on the Great Plains—and we adapt, we innovate, and we grow.

Nebraska is home to the only unicameral legislature in the Nation. As a former two-term State senator, I was privileged to serve in the Unicameral for 8 years. Notably, State senators in Nebraska are nonpartisan. No matter party or ideological affiliation, any senator can serve in leadership. The only requirements are knowledge and ability.

Serving in the Nebraska legislature taught me the importance of building relationships and seizing opportunities so we can work across party lines. That is a critical skill in order to avoid gridlock.

Similar to many Nebraskans, I am deeply concerned about the future of our Nation. That is why I entered public service.

No single issue is more important to our future than the Federal Government's addiction to spending. There are two main problems with government spending: First, runaway spending has failed to generate economic growth. Since 2009, the Federal Government has spent roughly $15 trillion. This spending spree includes $830 million in stimulus spending that was sold as ''help for the private sector.''

Instead, this so-called investment focused on growing the government.

The result of this increased government spending has been a largely jobless economic recovery, a record number of Americans stuck in poverty and spiraling national debt. Rather than empowering individuals to improve their lives, these bad economic policies have held Americans back.

To change course toward renewed prosperity, I support a limited government focused on fulfilling its core duties and responsibilities, a limited Federal Government performing its first constitutional charge: providing for the common defense.

To protect the Nation we must maintain a highly trained, well-equipped fighting force. Equally important, a limited government keeps its promises to veterans who have risked life and limb in defense of freedom. A limited Federal Government has a responsibility to fund critical needs such as a 21st-century infrastructure. To the surprise of many in Washington, this can be done without raising taxes. Existing sources of revenue are sufficient for government to meet its fundamental responsibilities.

As a member of the Nebraska Legislature, I introduced legislation directing a portion of Nebraska's existing sales tax to fund new road construction. I worked with my colleagues, both Republicans and Democrats, to utilize only existing revenue. With the right mix of hard work and good will the legislature passed this bill. The State will now be able to fulfill that

fundamental core duty, that fundamental responsibility of government, and improve Nebraska's communities without raising taxes. We can make similar progress in Washington. Again, it is a matter of setting priorities.

The second problem with government spending is that it robs hard-working taxpayers of their personal income just to grow bigger government. Big government crowds out the private sector and it stifles innovation. This means more Solyndra-style investment rather than policies that provide for the kind of risk takers who launch a world-changing business from their garage.

Big government requires big funding. Rather than forcing Americans to forfeit more of their hard-earned tax dollars to Uncle Sam, I support policies that lower taxes, that bolster the private sector. Only then will the United States finally emerge from this long economic recession.

Nebraskans understand that the bigger the government, the smaller the individual. The smaller the individual, the less attention is paid to freedom and personal responsibility. Limited government, on the other hand, remains grounded closer to home. Government that is closer to home is better suited for meeting individual needs, creating more opportunity, more efficiency, and more growth.

The expansion of government and the subsequent erosion of freedom are not always obvious at first. Freedom can be chipped away at slowly but steadily through new legal requirements, such as ''employer mandates'' in the health care law or misguided attempts to regulate farm dust or the size of our soft drinks. Eventually individuals are constrained by lack of choice, society drifts without progress or creativity, and the economy stagnates.

As President Reagan cautioned:

> The nature of freedom is that it is fragile. It must be protected, watched over, sometimes fought over.

Reagan was right. Freedoms must be carefully guarded. We must remain vigilant against any attempt, large or small, to diminish it. Yet despite this fragility, our God-given freedom is vast, limited only by the boundaries we impose on it. Nebraskans understand vastness. We know what it is like to look up at the night sky and see stars that are undiminished by city lights. We appreciate the land which appears to roll without end. Yet it remains in need of care. Vastness gives us perspective. Some perspective would go a long way in Washington.

Beyond the beltway's chattering class, there exists a Nation of quiet heroes: parents grateful for the dignity of hard work; entrepreneurs willing to take great risks to build businesses; farmers and ranchers dutifully tending the land and livestock; soldiers proudly wearing our Nation's uniform; veterans bearing scars, both physical and invisible, reminding us of freedom's price; and children whose simple joy dispels our cynicism, which can come with everyday struggles.

While our Nation faces many challenges at home and around the world, only petty politics holds us back from overcoming them. We are a great and generous nation. We have faced seemingly insurmountable obstacles before and each generation has conquered them with that uniquely American combination of grit and grace. I believe, and Nebraskans believe, our Nation's future is bright.

The United States remains the hope of the world, but this moment, this uncertain moment, requires real courage from our leaders. That is not to say the debate over the role of government or taxes or spending will be resolved by this Congress, but we can do better.

This is what we were sent here to do. Americans are not mediocre. They are exceptional and deserve exceptional leaders.

Today the whole world mourns the loss of such a leader, an uncommon woman born into common circumstances, the daughter of a grocer, former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. She was a woman who stood tall for principle. Yet she had the wisdom to seize opportunities and work with allies and foes alike to achieve great things for the British people. Along with her partner and friend Ronald Reagan, she helped to lead the world away from the long shadow of the Iron Curtain to a freer, more prosperous time. I admired her political courage to make those difficult decisions, and I hope to do the same here in Washington.

I look forward to standing tall for Nebraska values and working with my colleagues, Republicans and Democrats, on commonsense solutions to these ongoing challenges. I am proud to represent the citizens of Nebraska here in the Senate.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

WELCOMING SENATOR FISCHER

Mr. JOHANNS. Mr. President, Nebraskans have every reason to be proud of Senator FISCHER and her very impressive start here in the Senate. She has proven herself to be a thoughtful leader in our State, a reasoned voice in our legislature which listened to her and followed her leadership. She has been firm in her principles, while also demonstrating a serious commitment to reaching across the aisle to solve problems. From successful legislation encouraging rural broadband to visiting our troops in Afghanistan, Senator FISCHER has had a very active first few months.

Her experience as a State Senator undoubtedly helped her to hit the ground running here in Washington and also grounded her in the principles which are so important to Nebraskans, the people she and I represent. I am proud to say I look forward to teaming up with Senator FISCHER in the weeks and months ahead.

In view of the fact I have announced I won't be seeking reelection, she will soon be the senior Senator from the State of Nebraska, and I have no doubt whatsoever she will do a great job. I am proud to be her colleague and congratulate her on her maiden speech.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I wish to join my colleague from Nebraska in welcoming our new colleague to the Senate. She is going to be an incredibly welcome addition to this body. I have had the privilege of traveling with her on the trip to Afghanistan Senator JOHANNS just mentioned, and it was an opportunity for us to visit with servicemembers from our home State. She had the opportunity to meet servicemembers from Nebraska, many of whom voted for her but had not yet had the opportunity to meet her personally as they were serving overseas at the time of the election. They joined with other Nebraskans in knowing they made the right choice to represent them.

We heard a wonderful message today, the message of government and the message of freedom. I wish to join my colleagues in welcoming this rancher, community volunteer, and former State legislator to the Senate. She will make, through her grace and her grit, incredible contributions, not just for her State but also for our Nation and the betterment of all the people through this great opportunity.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I also wanted to welcome the Senator from Nebraska. I am honored to be her mentor.

There are three things I wish to say. First, we need a woman rancher in the Senate. I was sitting here thinking about the last famous woman who was a rancher, Sandra Day O'Connor. She grew up on a ranch.

Second, she possesses interest in agriculture and the pragmatic, practical economic issues shared by a lot of us in the Midwest. I am looking forward to working with her on those issues.

Third, when she speaks about bipartisanship, she means it. She comes from a background where she actually worked to get things done in her State legislature. We need more of this in the Senate.

Welcome, Senator FISCHER.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. I wish to add my voice in stating it is wonderful to have Senator FISCHER on my committee, where we are doing good work. We like to say in the committee the public works side is a very collegial side and the environmental side is a little less. I am proud to have her with us working on the new Water Resources Development Act. I look forward to working closely with her. I congratulate her on her maiden speech. It is like getting the first scratch on your car: You need to just do it, and you did it very well.

CLIMATE CHANGE

I have been coming to the floor on Monday evenings—I don't know how many people have actually taken note of the fact—every Monday the last several months to speak about an issue no one in the Senate wishes to speak about very much. I shouldn't say no one; maybe 25 of us do. The issue is climate change. I think it is very important we have in the RECORD and place in the RECORD everything we know about climate change so future generations will see at least a few of us understood the issue. We are willing to step forward and do something about this issue.

GUN CONTROL

I wish to say I personally am very grateful to the people of Connecticut for responding to the Sandy Hook tragedy with such focus, intelligence, compassion, and common sense. I include in that ''thank you'' the Democrats and Republicans who came together to pass some of the most sensible gun laws which balance gun rights with the need for people to be safe. They need to be safe in a movie theater, safe in the schools, and safe in their homes. I think the American people totally understand when 90 percent of them support background checks. I am so proud of my colleague Senator FEINSTEIN. She and I have been working on this issue for a long time.

A very long time ago, in the early 1990s, there was a crazed gunman who walked into a law office with an automatic weapon. He killed people. One of them was my son's very dear, good friend, killed while protecting his wife from the shooter. I know from that experience and watching my son's loss at a relatively young age—right out of law school—what it did to my son, let alone what it did to the families of those who were gunned down by this Gian Luigi Ferri, who walked into 101 California Street and sprayed those bullets as fast as he could.

After this tragedy the State of California passed an assault weapons ban, which has been in place since. Senator FEINSTEIN brought the issue of the U.S. assault ban to the floor of the Senate. I will never forget standing here watching the vote, because it was such a close vote. We did in fact ban those weapons of war. When George Bush was President, the ban expired and was never put back in.

Where do we stand today? I would say, just to be rhetorical with you, there are 31,000 reasons to pass sensible gun legislation. This is how many people die a year at the hands of a gun.

I watched very carefully the Judiciary Committee take up this issue as they looked at various provisions. I wish to thank them for passing the provision I worked on with Senator COLLINS, a bipartisan bill. This will ensure we have grants to school districts that wish to make some capital improvements to their plants to, for example, build a perimeter fence or put in some cameras or hot lines. That particular provision received strong bipartisan support. I am actually working with Senator GRAHAM now to expand it even a little more.

However, this is not enough. I think securing our schools is very important. You should not do so in a one-size-fits-all way. Wouldn't it be helpful to this great country if we were able to keep guns out of the hands of known criminals? Wouldn't it be wonderful for our great Nation if we could keep guns out of the hands of the severely mentally ill? Wouldn't it be important to expand background checks so people don't go around the current system and slip through with the consequence of facing the families who will never, ever be the same because of what they have lost?

I wish to thank our President. People have said he needs to do so many things, too many things. A President needs to do a lot of things. Every day he wakes up there is something else which needs his attention, but he has never forgotten the promise he made to those parents of Sandy Hook. It is my understanding they are coming to Capitol Hill and visiting various Senate offices. They are looking into the eyes of the Senators if they are able to arrange a meeting with them and saying: Please, we know you may not like every aspect of the bill, but don't filibuster the bill. Allow us to take it up and then vote your conscience. You owe the country.

What would we say to our children who were gunned down? Anyone who knows a 6-year-old, 5-year-old, 7-year-old child knows the beauty and joy of that age with everything in front of them. The fact anyone could hurt a child is beyond our capacity to imagine. To take a gun into a school and slaughter these children is beyond belief. We must respond. The way to respond is not to say we are not going to take up this legislation because we love the National Rifle Association. The National Rifle Association has a right to its opinion. I will say that over and over. They have a right to their opinion, as does the ACLU and each one of us. We all have the right to our opinion. At some point we need to come together on commonsense legislation when 90 percent of the people support background checks to keep those weapons out of the hands of the people who shouldn't have them.

What is taking so long to vote on this and do this for 90 percent of the people? I listened to one commentator today who said 90 percent of the people wouldn't even agree today was Monday. When 90 percent of the people agree with background checks, let's embrace this idea. Who cares whose idea it was? Who cares who wrote the legislation? What we need to care about are those children and the thousands of people who are killed every single year.

I suspect the Presiding Officer, along with me, remembers the Vietnam war and what it did to this country. It was a tragic war which killed about 50,000 of our beautiful young people over a 10-year period. It tore this country apart. It stood this country on its head. We lose 31,000 people every year to gun violence. We should be chomping at the bit to do this legislation.

Having said that, I know there is some very good work going on right now across the party lines on the background check. I hope Senator MANCHIN and Senator TOOMEY come together on this issue, because it would be a breakthrough.

I certainly believe, whether the agreement is forthcoming or not, we need to take up this bill. This bill is not controversial. It talks about making sure there are no straw purchases where someone comes in who is qualified to buy guns, receives them, and turns around and sells them to someone who isn't qualified. It doesn't pass the test. We have to increase the penalties for that.

Of course, as I said, the school safety provisions I will be supporting. As to the ban on assault weapons of my colleague Senator FEINSTEIN, I have not heard one person explain to me why weapons of war should be on our streets. I don't see it. I mean the most I can get out of the other side is, well, that is just a start. If we start there, we will go there, we will go there, and we will go there. That is a ridiculous argument to me. We don't need weapons of war on our streets. We don't need high-capacity clips on our streets.

So I commend the Judiciary Committee for doing its work: Senator LEAHY—I know how hard other Senators on that committee are working—Senator SCHUMER and Senator FEINSTEIN. I, myself, and my staff are working with Senator GRAHAM to even boost up the school security piece. But we need to respond to 90 percent and 85 percent of the people; otherwise, I don't know whom we represent. We are sent here by the people, and the people are looking at this in their sorrow and their determination to do something about it, and we cannot fail the test.

President Obama, as I started to say before, has not taken his eye off this ball, just like he hasn't taken his eye off the immigration ball, the North Korea ball, and the Syria ball. You name it—this economy, jobs, getting our fiscal house in order—this President has been handed quite a deck of cards, and he is working on all of it. I believe he has done what he promised he would do when he made those promises to the parents of the Sandy Hook Elementary School. I know he is bringing them here to the Hill, and let me tell them now: You don't have to come and see me. I am with you, and I will do everything I can. Don't worry about stopping at our office, just tell us what we can do to help.

When I watched the Judiciary Committee I was so interested because Senator CRUZ made the point: This is a right to bear arms; it can't be messed with, period, end of story. The committee pointed out to him—which I

thought was quite right—that no right is unlimited. Mr. President, we have the freedom of speech, but we can't scream out in a theater there is a fire unless there is a fire. You can't do that. You can't slander somebody. You can't libel somebody. With every right comes responsibility.

So my belief is there is a right to bear arms. People who are qualified to have a weapon can have it. They want it to defend their families, they want it certainly for hunting, that is fine. That is fine with me. I support the sensible gun laws we have in California. If you want to carry a concealed weapon in our State, you have to go to the sheriff or the police chief and make your case. I support that. Other colleagues don't support that. I respect that.

The bill they have worked so hard on in the committee is really not anything radical. They are commonsense steps so people who have a severe mental illness can't get their hands on a gun, and someone who knowingly sells guns and ammunition to a criminal or someone who is not qualified gets punished. That is important. We make sure there is a background check if you buy a gun at a gun show.

So I guess you can tell I am a little perplexed as to why it is taking us so long to bring this up. But the good news is Colorado passed sensible gun laws, Connecticut did, and California has sensible gun laws. I am so proud of those States. But let's face it, it doesn't do much good if you live in a State that has these protective laws when the State next door has no laws and so the most violent criminal can go and get whatever kind of gun, whatever kind of clip that he wants. I say he; I don't say she. I don't want to ever have to say she, so I will say he.

It is time. I just came back from California where I spent the break and listened to people. They are rooting for us to get something done, quite clearly. We have had our tragedies—oh, my God—in schools, in restaurants, in law offices, and we understand. We have 38 million people in our State. It is crowded. We have to learn to live together in peace. If we have disagreements, we have to work them out. So sensible gun laws are at work in our State, but we sure would like to see those sensible gun laws across the country so that our people are truly safe.

People talked to me about that, and they talked to me about immigration reform. I had an incredible meeting in Los Angeles with the groups of people who are going to be impacted by that. Again, we are so hopeful we will have that legislation before us soon. In our committee, the Environment and Public Works Committee, which I chair, we are ready to go to work with the Water Resources Development Act. This is a little lighter topic. It deals with our water infrastructure and making sure our ports are dredged, making sure we are protected from storms. With the extreme weather we have had—and Hurricane Sandy was certainly just the latest example—we need to pass this Water Resources Development Act. So we are ready to go as soon as we finish the gun debate.

I spoke to Senator REID, and we are hopeful we will be able to go to the WRDA bill.

CLIMATE CHANGE

I will close with my Monday night talk on climate. And I have to say, we face a lot of threats. I have talked about one huge threat we face—a society that has too many deaths from gun violence—but we also have a very different kind of threat you don't see as clearly called climate change, and it is dangerous.

This is my fourth speech on climate. The first time I took to the floor I talked about the fact that USA Today is doing a year-long report on climate, and they call their report ''Why You Should Sweat Climate Change.'' It describes how climate change—they call it climate disruption—is happening all around us.

I talked about a report on another talk entitled the ''2013 High Risk List'' that was released by GAO, the Government Accountability Office, which is a government watchdog agency, and it informs us that climate disruption and the increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events such as Sandy threaten our Nation's financial security. Look what it cost. Sandy was $60 billion, $70 billion, $80 billion, and we stepped to the plate and helped, as we should have. We can't keep doing this. We are struggling to get this economy on track.

I also spoke about another aspect, which is the effect on public health of too much carbon in the air. Today I want to talk about another issue that I find kind of intriguing because whenever I try to bring the subject up to colleagues—except for the 25 or so of us who really care about this—they say to me something like, well, it is ridiculous for America to act. China has to act first because they are a terrible actor. If they do not act, what is the point of our taking the lead?

Well, I have to say that is an argument I find insulting to America. I don't want to wait for China to take the lead on anything because they do not share our values. We don't wait for China to act on issues such as human rights before we protect human rights. We don't wait for China in terms of the way they treat their workers. We have read about that. We don't wait for China, especially on environmental issues. We have to act. China is not a role model. We should be the role model.

China is already suffering serious consequences for failing to address pollution in the course of its economic development. Remember, our colleagues are saying: Wait for China. You may not be able to see anything on this photograph—I can hardly see it and I am standing next to it—because of the smog and the filth that is in the air in China. When I made a trip there on climate change and other issues, I never saw the Sun. One day we went out and our guides were so excited, they said: It is sunny today. No, it wasn't. There was this layer of smog and a little bit of light was shining through.

So I say to my colleagues who tell us to wait for China, we should wait for them—the worst actor on the world stage—before we take up the most dangerous challenge that we face in terms of science?

China now has hazardous levels of air pollution and toxic emissions. They do not care. The only reason they are trying to do something about it now is people don't even want to go there and people are getting sick and dying there. They need to work their people to their last breath, and their last breath is coming a little too early.

According to a new scientific study from the Health Effect Institute on leading causes of death worldwide, outdoor air pollution contributed to 1.2 million premature deaths in China in 2010, which is 40 percent of the global total. Here it is. Outdoor air pollution contributed to 1.2 million premature deaths in China in 2010 because their air is so filthy.

What makes my friends believe they will go after carbon pollution any more than they went after smog or soot or anything else? They are not. It is going to get worse.

Urban air pollution is set to become the top environmental cause of mortality worldwide by 2050, ahead of dirty water and lack of sanitation. It is estimated that 3.6 million people could end up dying prematurely from air pollution every year, mostly in China and India.

I am so excited to have this Presiding Officer in the Senate. He is such a strong supporter of our landmark environmental laws. But we face the rollback of those laws every day right here in the Senate. I feel like saying to my colleagues: Go to China.

Let's have another picture of that again. Go to China. This is what you want America to be? I represent Los Angeles. It used to look a little like this, not quite as bad. But we did what we had to do. We said to the polluters: Clean up your act. You have to. It is part of the cost of doing business, just as emitting carbon has a cost, carbon is the cause—too much carbon. We need some carbon, but too much carbon is the cause of climate change, so we have to put a price on it. People who pollute should have to pay for it, and that will drive us to clean energy. That is the way it works.

The cost of environmental degradation in China was $230 billion in 2010 or 3.5 percent of the Nation's gross domestic product. The people there are very afraid to speak out, so when they do speak out you know something is really bad. In January, outrage boiled over as air pollution in China reached record levels—well beyond what Western environmental agencies consider hazardous. The cost of environmental

damage in China is growing rapidly amid industrialization.

I saw myself the U.S. Embassy in Beijing has used air quality monitoring technologies in and around their compound so they know if their little kids can even go outside to play.

We are working to help the Chinese understand what happens when you have too much pollution. We know it because we are the leader. They are not the leader; they are the culprit. My colleagues say don't do anything about carbon pollution because they have to do it first. Don't wait for them. They don't get it. Maybe by now they are starting to get it, but I am not waiting for them. We have to do what the President said, which is take the initiative.

Decades ago, the Cuyahoga River in Ohio was on fire, massive air pollution hung over our cities, and our lakes were dying from pollution. The American people demanded action. We didn't wait for China or anybody else. We passed landmark laws: the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, Superfund, all these great landmark pieces of legislation that came from the committee on which I serve. I stand on the shoulders of those former chairmen—Republican and Democratic—including John Chafee, whom I loved, who was so strong, and, by the way, strong on sensible gun laws too.

People say, oh, they predicted terrible things would happen to our society when we passed these landmark laws. But guess what happened over the last 40 years. America's gross domestic product has risen by over 200 percent. So this is not a choice between economic development versus environmental cleanup. They go hand in hand, because if we can't breathe, we can't work. If we can't breathe, we can't go to school. When you are in your State and you visit a class—any age but particularly the younger ones in the elementary schools—ask them how many of them have asthma or know someone with asthma.

It is a shocking thing that happened to me in an area that has very clean air—San Francisco—but not clean enough, obviously, because at least one-third to one-half of the children raised their hand.

We know we are doing the right thing, but we have to protect and defend against these constant environmental riders. We face them on the budget. We face them constantly. They want to turn back the clock, and it makes no sense because we have seen a lot of environmental technology and growth of jobs—3.4 million people employed in clean technology. So it is in our Nation's DNA to turn a problem into an opportunity and not say: Well, yes, this is bad. Superstorm Sandy was bad. We know it is bad when 99 percent of the scientists say this is bad and we see what is happening in Greenland and we see what is happening in the Arctic and we see what is happening with heat waves and we see and we see, but we just sit back because the oil companies like to do business the way they are doing it. They don't want to lose any business. They don't want to see us move to those clean cars, the clean energy. It is sad.

To say wait for China, the next person who tells me that, I am going to make them look at this picture. I am going to force them to look at this picture. Wait for China? They can't see anything there. We have to rise to this challenge.

According to the National Oceanic Administration, in 2011, there were 14 extreme weather events. What do I mean by extreme weather? Terrible floods, droughts, storms, wildfires. Each of them cost at least $1 billion. And we had 11 such disasters in 2012. I heard Governor Cuomo of New York say: We prepared for a once-in-50-years flood, and we are getting them every year. That is what is happening on the ground. These extreme weather events reflect an unpaid bill from climate disruption, a tab that will only grow. I talked about the $60 billion tab from Superstorm Sandy.

We have started to address carbon pollution. That is the very good news. President Obama, working with Senators SNOWE and FEINSTEIN, did something very important to make sure we have better fuel economy, and the standards go into effect between 2012 and 2025. They will provide huge benefits. Guess what. When this program is implemented, consumers will save $8,000 over the life of their car. Why? Because they are getting better fuel economy.

I drive a hybrid Prius in California. I am getting about 140 to 150 miles a gallon because I do my little trips and then I come home and I plug it in. It is truly remarkable. It is saving our family money and it is helping to save the environment. This is a win-win-win. But if we listen to my friends, they look at it as lose-lose-lose. They are dour about the idea of taking the lead. We have to take the lead.

What we do impacts the world. When our Nation reduces its carbon pollution, it makes a difference. We account for 20 percent of the global pollution. China accounts for about the same, but I am not waiting for our society to look like this.

Here is the great news: When we reduce carbon pollution, there are side benefits. The side benefits are we are not going to look like this because we are also going to shift over to those clean technologies, have less smog, less soot, and our people will be able to breathe.

Peer-reviewed science has forecasted the United States could significantly contribute to reducing the likelihood that we will avoid extreme impacts of climate disruption. We know we are already facing some disruption, but the quicker we move, the more we cut back on that carbon pollution, the better. Addressing climate change will have many investments in solar and wind and clean energy, strengthening our domestic renewable energy sector. I am so proud of California. We are moving in that direction and doing well.

According to the Pew Charitable Trust, clean energy policies could provide up to a $2.3 trillion market—not billion but trillion—for investments in renewable energy. So we can ignore this opportunity to be a market leader in renewables and then take those inventions all over the world or we can do it and benefit our economy.

I saw today that former Secretary of State George Schultz, a resident of my great State and who was part of the Reagan administration, penned an important article about why we should go to a carbon tax. A carbon tax, a simple thing: If someone produces carbon pollution, they have to pay for every ton. His idea is give that back to the American people. Help them pay for those transition periods of time where we are going to move toward that clean energy. I am very pleased he wrote that article, and I am hoping to get him before our environment committee to talk about it.

We have to step up to the plate on climate. Every one of us has an obligation to do it. I know it is hard, because with the exception of a storm such as Sandy and then heat waves that are outrageous, we don't think about it. I understand why. It is not pleasant. We have so many challenges on our hands—budget challenges, education challenges, immigration challenges, gun violence challenges. So if it is not right in front of us where we see it every day or read about it every day or it is not hitting our State every day, I understand why some people would prefer to ignore it. But we owe it to our kids and our grandkids to be leaders. This is our time. We didn't pick this time to be born to live, but here we are, and here are these scientists telling us: Wake up, do something or we are facing a planetary emergency.

Every Monday night that I can be here, I will be here. I want to make a record, at least for history if not for political action—which is what I truly want—that we do something. The President visited San Francisco recently. I hope he will continue to do the right thing. It is lonely for him because he doesn't have a legislature that gets it.

But let me say to colleagues who are definitely, I can assure you, not watching this but who may read about this speech: Don't ever say to me: Let's wait for China because that is an insult to America and it is an insult to our people. We are going to wait for a country that doesn't care about its people enough so that the people have to run around in masks, and they can't even see anything, it is so smoggy and dirty there. So don't tell me: Wait for China, because that argument—or as they would say in certain parts of the country, that dog don't hunt. I don't say that in my part of the country. What I say is that makes no sense whatsoever.

I will continue to come here in the hopes that we can come together on this issue, in the hopes that President Obama will keep on moving, in the hopes that my State and the Northeast and other States are going to move on this issue. I will protect their right to do it. I will defend against anyone who comes to roll back the Clean Air Act—which, unfortunately, Senator INHOFE came at us with an amendment in the budget that said the Environmental Protection Agency should no longer have the ability to regulate greenhouse gas emissions—imagine—and we had

more than 40 votes for that position. That is scary. That is akin to saying we should stop worrying about smoking and get 45 votes to say it is no big deal. This is a big deal.

I will just keep on making the talks on Monday nights, if I can. I wish to thank my staff. They are working so hard to put this together in a coherent way, so perhaps after 6 months of making these speeches, we have a story to tell from beginning to end that would be compelling enough so no one will ever say to me: Let's wait for China to fix their problem, and people might actually come up and say: Put me on as a cosponsor on that Sanders-Boxer bill or the Sheldon Whitehouse bill that puts a price on carbon.

I yield the floor and 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.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DONNELLY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING ANNE SMEDINGHOFF

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I have often come to the floor to talk about the remote and sometimes dangerous places around the world where our USAID and State Department Foreign Service Officers serve.

We all know about the difficult and dangerous places our brave military personnel serve, often at great sacrifice. We sometimes lose sight of their civilian diplomatic and aid colleagues working side by side.

I am always impressed that no matter where on the planet one travels, there is an outpost of American ideals and talent dedicated to diplomacy, human rights, and helping the less fortunate.

These civilians serving abroad can face a variety of threats. Yet they do it with dedication, patriotism, and a belief that the United States should always be a voice for good in the world.

Sadly, today I come here with a heavy heart, as the life of one of the brightest young officers from my home State of Illinois was cut short on Saturday in one of those dangerous places.

Twenty-five-year-old Anne Smedinghoff eagerly volunteered to serve the United States in Afghanistan on her second assignment as a State Department Foreign Service Officer. She was clear-eyed in her determination to make a tangible improvement in the lives of those around her. And after 2 years at our Embassy in Caracas, Venezuela, Anne joined the Public Diplomacy team at the U.S. Embassy in Kabul.

Anne was a bright spot on the Embassy compound, known to her friends and coworkers as an intelligent, caring, and optimistic young officer who worked hard to help Afghan women and children.

On Saturday, Anne traveled to Zabul Province to donate books to a school.

In a cowardly attack, a suicide bomber detonated near her convoy. Anne was killed along with four other Americans—three U.S. servicemembers and a Department of Defense civilian. Several others were wounded.

Anne leaves behind her parents, brother, and two sisters, as well as countless relatives, friends, and coworkers who deeply mourn her loss, not only personally but also as an example of the deep dedication our diplomats demonstrate every day in outposts all around the world.

I know my colleagues join me in our heartfelt condolences to her family and in our ongoing appreciation for the sacrifices made by our diplomatic corps.

TRIBUTE TO ROGER EBERT

This morning I went to a funeral in Chicago at Holy Name Cathedral. There was a large—in fact, it was a huge crowd. It was a tribute to America's foremost movie critic Roger Ebert, who passed away last week. It was my good fortune to know Roger and his wife Chaz and to be one of his greatest fans. Like myself, he hailed from downstate Illinois. He was born in Urbana.

In his memoir ''Life Itself,'' he tells an amazingly detailed story of his youth growing up downstate and how he finally made it to the big time, the Chicago Sun Times in Chicago, after he had been editor of the Daily Illini on the campus of the University of Illinois.

Roger came to movie criticism almost by accident, but in no time at all he set the standard, not only for the United States, maybe for the world. Rahm Emanuel, our mayor in Chicago, in a tribute to Roger today, said at the service that he wanted to personally thank Roger Ebert for sparing us from going to see so many terrible movies. So many of us would wait before we went to a movie, as the mayor said, to check the time of the movie but also to check what Roger Ebert thought about the movie. He was a go-to person when it came to movie criticism.

As you came to read the book about his life, there was much more than that. He was a brilliant mind. From a very early age, he had an insatiable appetite for the world around him. He used that in his skills as a journalist at the Chicago Sun Times and in analyzing the whole genre of movies, from the earliest classics all the way through the most modern. That life experience really put him in good stead when it came to taking a look at movies from the human perspective.

He, of course, became famous on television with Siskel, Roeper, and so many others. Most of us watched that program with a lot of joy as the two of them would squabble from time to time over whether a movie was worth seeing. But there was much more to Roger than that. We came to know today, in tributes that were paid to him, his deep sense of social justice, not just in the way he analyzed things but in his life itself. He really was committed to fairness and to helping the little guy. It showed in the way he lived his life, in the way he set a standard as a journalist.

Chaz, his wife, came along late in life for him but became a true partner. The two of them were inseparable, and they were a dynamic team in so many ways. But the things about Roger's life that impressed me the most—the most—was after he was stricken with cancer. It was a devastating cancer. He went through a series of operations. He eventually had his face literally deformed by the surgeries, as he lost his jawbone. Then he lost his ability to speak. Then he lost his ability to eat—to eat. Yet he soldiered on. He continued to write, reviewing movies, using computer-assisted voice translation so that he could express himself through a keyboard in words. He wrote a blog every day that I used to go to from time to time, not only because it was so good—so many insights into things I had never thought about—but also because it was inspiring that he would get up and go to work every single day when others in that same circumstance would probably just give up. Roger never gave up. That, to me, showed that he not only had a great mind and a great heart but a great spirit.

What a turnout today at Holy Name Cathedral for Roger Ebert. The balcony was full—if there had been a balcony—of fans with two thumbs up for a great movie critic, a great human being, and a great son of Illinois.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD at the close of my remarks here an excerpt from Roger Ebert's memoir entitled ''Life Itself'' in which he talks about death and very boldly says, ''I do not fear death.'' It is an inspiring message that he penned over a year and a half before he actually died. It is an indication of the kind of spirit he brought to his life, a spirit we all admire to this day.

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

[FROM THE CHICAGO SUN-TIMES, APR. 4, 2013]

ROGER EBERT: I DO NOT FEAR DEATH

(By Roger Ebert)

I know it is coming, and I do not fear it, because I believe there is nothing on the other side of death to fear. I hope to be spared as much pain as possible on the approach path. I was perfectly content before I was born, and I think of death as the same state. I am grateful for the gifts of intelligence, love, wonder and laughter. You can't say it wasn't interesting. My lifetime's memories are what I have brought home from the trip. I will require them for eternity no more than that little souvenir of the Eiffel Tower I brought home from Paris.

I don't expect to die anytime soon. But it could happen this moment, while I am writing. I was talking the other day with Jim Toback, a friend of 35 years, and the conversation turned to our deaths, as it always does. ''Ask someone how they feel about death,'' he said, ''and they'll tell you everyone's gonna die. Ask them, In the next 30 seconds? No, no, no, that's not gonna happen.

How about this afternoon? No. What you're really asking them to admit is, Oh my God, I don't really exist. I might be gone at any given second.''

Me too, but I hope not. I have plans. Still, illness led me resolutely toward the contemplation of death. That led me to the subject of evolution, that most consoling of all the sciences, and I became engulfed on my blog in unforeseen discussions about God, the afterlife, religion, theory of evolution, intelligent design, reincarnation, the nature of reality, what came before the big bang, what waits after the end, the nature of intelligence, the reality of the self, death, death, death.

Many readers have informed me that it is a tragic and dreary business to go into death without faith. I don't feel that way. ''Faith'' is neutral. All depends on what is believed in. I have no desire to live forever. The concept frightens me. I am 69, have had cancer, will die sooner than most of those reading this. That is in the nature of things. In my plans for life after death, I say, again with Whitman:

I bequeath myself to the dirt to grow from the grass I love,

If you want me again look for me under your boot-soles.

And with Will, the brother in Saul Bellow's ''Herzog,'' I say, ''Look for me in the weather reports.''

Raised as a Roman Catholic, I internalized the social values of that faith and still hold most of them, even though its theology no longer persuades me. I have no quarrel with what anyone else subscribes to; everyone deals with these things in his own way, and I have no truths to impart. All I require of a religion is that it be tolerant of those who do not agree with it. I know a priest whose eyes twinkle when he says, ''You go about God's work in your way, and I'll go about it in His.''

What I expect to happen is that my body will fail, my mind will cease to function and that will be that. My genes will not live on, because I have had no children. I am comforted by Richard Dawkins' theory of memes. Those are mental units: thoughts, ideas, gestures, notions, songs, beliefs, rhymes, ideals, teachings, sayings, phrases, cliches that move from mind to mind as genes move from body to body. After a lifetime of writing, teaching, broadcasting and telling too many jokes, I will leave behind more memes than many. They will all also eventually die, but so it goes.

O'Rourke's had a photograph of Brendan Behan on the wall, and under it this quotation, which I memorized:

I respect kindness in human beings first of all, and kindness to animals. I don't respect the law; I have a total irreverence for anything connected with society except that which makes the roads safer, the beer stronger, the food cheaper and the old men and old women warmer in the winter and happier in the summer.

That does a pretty good job of summing it up. ''Kindness'' covers all of my political beliefs. No need to spell them out. I believe that if, at the end, according to our abilities, we have done something to make others a little happier, and something to make ourselves a little happier, that is about the best we can do. To make others less happy is a crime. To make ourselves unhappy is where all crime starts. We must try to contribute joy to the world. That is true no matter what our problems, our health, our circumstances. We must try. I didn't always know this and am happy I lived long enough to find it out.

One of these days I will encounter what Henry James called on his deathbed ''the distinguished thing.'' I will not be conscious of the moment of passing. In this life I have already been declared dead. It wasn't so bad. After the first ruptured artery, the doctors thought I was finished. My wife, Chaz, said she sensed that I was still alive and was communicating to her that I wasn't finished yet. She said our hearts were beating in unison, although my heartbeat couldn't be discovered. She told the doctors I was alive, they did what doctors do, and here I am, alive.

Do I believe her? Absolutely. I believe her literally—not symbolically, figuratively or spiritually. I believe she was actually aware of my call and that she sensed my heartbeat. I believe she did it in the real, physical world I have described, the one that I share with my wristwatch. I see no reason why such communication could not take place. I'm not talking about telepathy, psychic phenomenon or a miracle. The only miracle is that she was there when it happened, as she was for many long days and nights. I'm talking about her standing there and knowing something. Haven't many of us experienced that? Come on, haven't you? What goes on happens at a level not accessible to scientists, theologians, mystics, physicists, philosophers or psychiatrists. It's a human kind of a thing.

Someday I will no longer call out, and there will be no heartbeat. I will be dead. What happens then? From my point of view, nothing. Absolutely nothing. All the same, as I wrote to Monica Eng, whom I have known since she was six, ''You'd better cry at my memorial service.'' I correspond with a dear friend, the wise and gentle Australian director Paul Cox. Our subject sometimes turns to death. In 2010 he came very close to dying before receiving a liver transplant. In 1988 he made a documentary named ''Vincent: The Life and Death of Vincent van Gogh.'' Paul wrote me that in his Arles days, van Gogh called himself ''a simple worshiper of the external Buddha.'' Paul told me that in those days, Vincent wrote:

Looking at the stars always makes me dream, as simply as I dream over the black dots representing towns and villages on a map.

Why, I ask myself, shouldn't the shining dots of the sky be as accessible as the black dots on the map of France?

Just as we take a train to get to Tarascon or Rouen, we take death to reach a star. We cannot get to a star while we are alive any more than we can take the train when we are dead. So to me it seems possible that cholera, tuberculosis and cancer are the celestial means of locomotion. Just as steamboats, buses and railways are the terrestrial means.

To die quietly of old age would be to go there on foot.

That is a lovely thing to read, and a relief to find I will probably take the celestial locomotive. Or, as his little dog, Milou, says whenever Tintin proposes a journey, ''Not by foot, I hope!''

Mr. DURBIN. I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

JACKSON, MOORE, AND NUNLEY NOMINATIONS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, last month, I spoke at the Judicial Conference about the damaging effect of sequestration on our Federal courts and our system of justice. These indiscriminate cuts are already causing both Federal prosecutors and Federal public defenders to be furloughed. The Administrative Office of U.S. Courts has done its best to address these cuts, but the judicial system can only weather the effects of sequestration for so long before it is irreparably harmed. In a letter dated March 5, 2013, Judge Thomas Hogan, the director of the Administrative Office of U.S. Courts, wrote that the cuts from sequestration could not be ''sustained beyond fiscal year 2013 and will be difficult and painful to implement.'' He went on to note: ''The Judiciary cannot continue to operate at such drastically reduced funding levels without seriously compromising the constitutional mission of the federal courts.'' In that same letter, he wrote that sequestration will mean reduced funding for drug testing and mental health treatment, and fewer probation officers.

Along the same lines, last month Andrew Cohen wrote an article in The Atlantic entitled ''How the Sequester Threatens the U.S. Legal System.'' He suggests that sequestration will threaten defendants' constitutional rights, and law enforcement's ability to effectively fight crime, writing: ''Beyond a reasonable doubt, the sequester is having a profound and pernicious effect on the government's ability to observe its constitutional commands—and to provide justice to its citizens.''

I ask unanimous consent that copies of Judge Hogan's letter and the article from The Atlantic be printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks.

Justices Stephen Breyer and Anthony Kennedy testified before the House Appropriations Committee last month about the impact of sequestration and budget cuts. Justice Kennedy said that funding for programs like drug testing and mental health services is ''[A]bsolutely urgent for the safety of society.'' The Justices also noted the harm that would result from cuts to public defenders, as the government would then have to pay private defense attorneys to provide counsel. Justice Breyer highlighted the additional costs to the government from mistakes being made in trials, including wrongful convictions.

These budget cuts to our courts are also bad for our economy. Fewer court staff will mean further delays for civil and bankruptcy cases. There are already more than 30,000 civil cases that have been pending for more than 3

years. We know that justice delayed is justice denied, and hardworking Americans who look to our courts to protect their rights deserve better.

Even before sequestration went into effect, our Federal courts have spent nearly 4 years burdened by unnecessarily high numbers of judicial vacancies. Judicial vacancies have been near or above 80, and for over 2 years were at ''historically high'' levels, according to the Congressional Research Service. The Senate must do much more to fill these vacancies and make real progress.

Unfortunately, Senate Republicans have been unwilling to work with President Obama. The Judiciary Committee's ranking Republican member recently expressed concern that not all judicial emergency vacancies have nominees. Of the 35 judicial emergency vacancies, 24 are in States with Republican Senators. In fact, close to half of all judicial emergency vacancies are in just three States, each of which is represented by two Republican Senators. Those Senators should be working with the White House to fill those vacancies. Even for judicial emergency vacancies in those three states that have a nominee, Republican Senators have not supported moving forward. So I encourage Republican Senators to work with the President to find good nominees for those important vacancies and to allow qualified nominees to move forward. I take very seriously our responsibilities of both advise and consent on nominations. Senators should stop pocket filibustering the President's nominees and work with him to fill these judicial vacancies.

Regrettably, qualified, consensus nominees are being delayed, even nominees who are supported by home State Republican Senators. They are subjected to unnecessary and unprecedented delays on the Senate floor. These nominees have been vetted in a lengthy process, and often have the support of all Senators on the Judiciary Committee, so there is no reason we cannot consider them in regular order. For the last 4 years, Senate Republicans have consistently refused to consent to what used to be the routine consideration of consensus judicial nominees. That is why the Majority Leader has been forced to file cloture on 30 of President Obama's nominees, which is already over 65 percent more nominees than had cloture filed during the 8 years of the George W. Bush administration. Many of those nominees are then confirmed unanimously after months or even a year of waiting. There is no good reason the Senate cannot consider them more expeditiously. These deliberate delaying tactics hurt the Senate, our courts, and the American people.

Before the most recent recess, the Senate was finally allowed to vote on the nomination of Ketanji Brown Jackson to fill a judicial vacancy on the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. She currently serves as Vice Chair and Commissioner of the U.S. Sentencing Commission, to which the Senate previously confirmed her. Previously, Ketanji Jackson was a counsel at Morrison & Foerster LLP and an Assistant Federal Public Defender in the Office of the Federal Public Defender in the District of Columbia. After graduating, cum laude, from Harvard Law School, where she served as Supervising Editor of the Harvard Law Review, she served as a law clerk to Judge Patti Saris of the District of Massachusetts, Judge Bruce Selya of the First Circuit, and Justice Stephen Breyer of the U.S. Supreme Court. When confirmed, she will be the first female African-American judge appointed to the court in 32 years and the only one currently serving on the court. She had her hearing last year and her confirmation could have been expedited then. It was not and she is among those who had to be renominated by the President this year. Her nomination was then reported unanimously in February by the Judiciary Committee.

The Senate was finally allowed to consider, as well, the nomination of Troy Nunley to fill a judicial emergency vacancy in the Eastern District of California. That court has one of the heaviest caseloads per judge of any in the country. Judge Nunley could and should have been confirmed last year when the Judiciary Committee reported his nomination unanimously. Instead, he was among those Republican Senators refused to consider before adjourning. The President had to renominate him and the Senate Judiciary Committee again voted unanimously to proceed with his confirmation this year more than a month ago. He is currently a judge of the Superior Court of California and he served previously as Deputy Attorney General for the California Department of Justice and as Deputy District Attorney for both the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office and the Alameda County District Attorney's Office. He has the support of both his home State Senators, Senator FEINSTEIN and Senator BOXER.

The Senate will also vote on the nomination of Raymond Moore to fill a judicial emergency vacancy in the District of Colorado. He currently serves as the Federal Public Defender in the Federal Public Defender's Office for the Districts of Colorado and Wyoming in Denver, CO, where he formerly served as the Acting Federal Public Defender and as an Assistant Federal Public Defender. Raymond Moore has also worked in private practice and served as a Federal prosecutor. He received the ABA Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary's highest possible rating, unanimously ''well qualified,'' and has the support of his home State Senators, Senator UDALL and Senator BENNET. He was reported unanimously last February by the Judiciary Committee.

There are still another 15 judicial nominees pending before the Senate. All of these nominees had to be renominated after being returned at the end of the last Congress. It is unusual to have such a backlog so early in a Congress, and this is the result of Senate Republicans' refusal to allow votes on 11 nominees at the end of last year, including Judge Nunley, and their refusal to consider another four, which included the D.C. district court nominee being confirmed today, who had hearings and could have been expedited. We have yet to work our way through the nominees who were available for Senate consideration and confirmation last year. The delayed consideration of those nominees, at this pace, could easily extend into June. I urge Senate Republicans to join with us so that we can clear the calendar and confirm these consensus nominees during the current work period. Let us come together in a bipartisan manner and restore the best traditions of the Senate. The Americans who depend on our courts for justice deserve no less.

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

[From the Atlantic]

HOW THE SEQUESTER THREATENS THE U.S. LEGAL SYSTEM

(By Andrew Cohen)

When the chief justice of the United States and the chief judges of each of the federal circuits gavel down the semi-annual meeting of the Judicial Conference of the United States on Tuesday, they will have on their agenda an unusual item: the alarming impact of the funding ''sequester'' on the nation's federal court system. The world won't end if students are denied the chance to tour the White House. It will not end if our National Parks open days late this spring. But citizens everywhere will see vital legal rights denied or delayed by the forced budget cuts.

All of the constituencies of the judiciary agree on this issue. Federal trial judges are quietly seething at the inability of the legislative and executive branches to avoid sequester. Federal public defenders, whose budgets have been cut twice in two months, are furloughing and laying off staff. The attorney general of the United States has expressed grave concern on behalf of prosecutors and federal law enforcement officials. And court administrators are expressing alarm over the effect of the cuts upon federal judicial services.

At the core of the problem is the fact that the judicial branch is financially beholden to the other two branches of government. This separation of powers was designed by our nation's founders to limit the judiciary's independence, and it has, and nowhere is this dynamic more visible than when a chief justice like John Roberts has to grovel for funding or otherwise justify the judiciary's minuscule portion of the budget. If the sequester isn't unconstitutional per se, it is causing an unconstitutional effect upon the swift, fair and equal administration of justice.

FOR FEDERAL COURT ADMINISTRATORS

In a letter forwarded last week to members of the House and Senate Appropriations and Judiciary committees, U.S. District Judge Thomas F. Hogan, the Reagan appointee who now serves as director of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, succinctly described the scope of the problem:

Public safety will be impacted because there will be fewer probation officers to supervise criminal offenders released in our

communities. Funding for drug testing and mental health treatment will be cut 20 percent. Delays in the processing of civil and bankruptcy cases could threaten economic recovery. There will be a 30 percent cut in funding for court security systems and equipment and court security officers will be required to work reduced hours, thus creating security vulnerabilities throughout the federal court system. In our defender services program, federal defender attorney staffing levels will decline, which could compromise the integrity of the defender function. . .

Dennis Courtland Hayes, president of the American Judicature Society, the non-partisan national organization dedicated to the preservation and improvement of the American legal system, was even blunter in late February with the statistics he offered:

Nationally, up to 2,000 more court staff could be laid off or furloughed under sequestration. This would come on top of the more than 1,800 positions eliminated by the courts over the past 18 months, representing a potential 18% reduction in court staff since July 2011 . . . Of particular concern to the American Judicature Society, which has worked for decades to improve access to the courts for self-represented litigants, those people seeking justice without a lawyer would have fewer services to help them navigate the judicial system.

''Sequestration's almost $350 million cut will not be fully felt in one day, one month or even one year,'' Judge Hogan wrote last week. ''Reductions of this magnitude strike at the heart of our entire system of justice and spread throughout the country. The longer the sequestration stays in place, the more severe will be its impact on the courts and those who use them.'' The federal judiciary is being held hostage, in other words, because of the failure or the refusal of Congress and the White House to make a responsible budget deal.

FOR FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDERS

If federal court administrators offer the big picture impact of the sequestration, federal public defenders all over the country are sharing the details on an office-by-office basis. These stories are bad in two dimensions. First, there is the grim business of laying off desperately needed federal workers. Second, there is the impact those layoffs will have on ordinary people who for one reason or another are involved in the federal court system. It's really quite simple: The people being laid off try each day to help the rest of us secure our constitutional rights.

Let's start with Jon Sands, the longtime Federal Public Defender for the District of Arizona. Last month, Sands was forced to lay off 10 employees from the defenders' office. There were more cuts to federal public defenders' offices earlier this month (the Defender Program budget was slashed 5.17 percent in February and another 5.52 percent last week). ''Even with the layoffs, I still must furlough,'' Sands told me this weekend via email. He wrote:

We have clients who need mental health experts to examine them, but whom must wait until the next budget allotment comes. We have investigators who can no longer go to the scenes of crimes, but call instead. We watch pennies so we can order transcripts. The impact of sequestration in criminal justice further makes the playing field uneven, with DOJ able to shift resources, while we can't. We are seeing offices shuttered, and staff sent home for 30, 40 even possibly 90 days.

In Utah, when news of furloughs hit the federal PDs office, Kathy Nester told me over the weekend that ''several [Assistant Federal Public Defenders] stepped up to take extra days because we have staff that are single moms and this financial blow would be devastating to them and their kids.'' Another federal public defender, who asked to remain unidentified because of the nature of the situation, is facing a thirty-day furlough and had to lay off four employees. His story:

I laid off a young off a young [Assistant Federal Public Defender] Thursday, and he said he still wanted to work for us full-time while looking for other work. Makes me want to cry. Laid off a clerical type in another office. She is going for disability, but meanwhile, may come back 3 days a week with no pay, and staff there are covering her bus fare and coffee and lunch each day out of their own pockets. Definitely makes me want to cry.

Other federal public defenders have been more formal with their expressions of concern. In the Eastern District of Virginia, Michael Nachmanoff, the Federal Public Defender, informed the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals via letter last week that ''at least seven public defender offices (and one community defender office) . . . will be required to turn down major case assignments—such as death penalty cases, large white collar cases and representation of defendants facing civil commitment''—as a result of the sequester.

Nachmanoff's counterpart in the Western District of New York, Marianne Mariano, offers more examples of the impact of the sequester upon federal judicial employees. In a letter last week to Dennis Jacobs, the Chief Judge of the 2nd U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Mariano wrote: ''I anticipate all attorneys and staff will be furloughed 22 days. I have one employee who volunteered to take 28 days of leave without pay.'' In the Northern District of Texas, federal public defenders just warned judges that they ''anticipate a likely need to withdraw from cases that require expert witnesses because our budget for expert witnesses has been decimated.''

FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

One federal public defender, who also asked to remain anonymous because of the sensitivity of the current situation, offered this overview of what sequestration will mean to those who often need legal help and guidance the most. He wrote:

Sequestration has hit the truly indigent clients of the Federal Defender particularly hard. For example, Spanish-speaking families often write moving letters of support for relatives facing federal sentencing. Defenders have routinely paid to translate these letters translated into English, and these mitigation documents have played a central role in federal sentencing. With budget cuts, however, Defenders can no longer afford to pay outside interpreters the translation fees. As a result, Spanish-speaking families have effectively been silenced at sentencing, depriving indigent clients of critical evidence in mitigation.

The cuts have been particularly brutal for mentally-ill defendants. Many federal defendants suffer from a host of mental illnesses, and retained psychiatric evaluations are critical in determining competency, challenging allegations, and ensuring proper psychotropic medication is administered. Sequestration has devastated funds for these psychiatric experts. As a result, Defenders are forced to rely on their own lay knowledge, ''talk'' their client through appearances and pleas, and struggle with the risk of first submitting to an evaluation by government psychiatrists.

Even if you are not mentally ill, the sequester will impact you. If you are a creditor or a debtor and you want to resolve a bankruptcy in a timely fashion. If you are on federal probation and you can't get in to see your officer. If you are a state or local prosecutor and you no longer have federal funds to help you prosecute drug cases. If you are waiting for a federal drug test. If you are responsible for courthouse security or care about the safety of judges and court staff. If you want to go to trial in a civil case or are charged with a federal crime.

FOR FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

It's not easy on the other side of the fence, either. On the one hand, Congress and the Obama Administration want aggressive enforcement of criminal laws. On the other hand, they have been willing through the sequester to financially neuter the organizations directly responsible for such enforcement. National Public Radio's Carrie Johnson, in a smart report last week, revealed that Justice Department employees already are receiving their furlough notices. The FBI's abilities will be harmed, she reports. And then there is this:

At that meeting in Washington this week, state attorneys general worried about their share of the pie under a huge federal grant program. Janet Mills, the attorney general in Maine, was waving her hand with a question for Holder. ''Could you please comment on the prospects for continued funding through the Byrne grants for drug enforcement and drug prosecutions and other criminal justice measures?'' Mills asked. Holder said the states are right to worry about federal participation in drug task forces and other money the department sends to the states to help fight crime.

Crime—and specifically border patrol work. Word in Arizona is that Operation Streamline, the longtime federal program of aggressive arrest and prosecution of unlawful immigrants, reportedly has been eased in the Ajo sector of the state as a result of the sequester—evidently there isn't enough money to pay for the overtime for law enforcement officials. For his part, Attorney General Eric Holder told Senate Judiciary Committee members during his appearance last week:

As we speak, these cuts are already having a significant negative impact not just on Department employees, but on programs that could directly impact the safety of Americans across the country. Important law enforcement and litigation programs are being disrupted. Our capacity—to respond to crimes, investigate wrongdoing, and hold criminals accountable—has been reduced. And, despite our best efforts to limit the impact of sequestration, unless Congress quickly passes a balanced deficit reduction plan, the effects of these cuts—on our entire justice system, and on the American people—may be profound.

Beyond a reasonable doubt, the sequester is having a profound and pernicious effect on the government's ability to observe its constitutional commands—and to provide justice to its citizens. That's why the members of the Judicial Conference have a difficult and delicate task this week. The judges and administrators must adequately express the scope of their concern, and effectively explain the impact the sequester will have on the judiciary, without offending the very politicians who control the federal judiciary's budget. It's not right. It's not fair. It's a terrible testament to judicial independence. But sadly it's the way the politics of law works in America today.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE
UNITED STATES COURTS,
Washington, DC, March 5, 2013.

Hon. PATRICK J. LEAHY,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Administrative Office of the United States Courts (AO) recently received several requests for information about how the Judiciary is preparing to handle the impact of funding sequestration. The Judiciary's efforts to address this budgetary emergency have been extensive, involving countless hours spent by judges, and court and AO staff working to determine how best to withstand the severe cuts while still continuing to perform core constitutional duties. As background, following months of information gathering and planning, the Executive Committee met on December 19, 2012, to consider proposed actions to deal with the impact of sequestration on the federal courts. With enactment of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 and the subsequent delay in the effective date of sequestration, from January 2 to March 1, 2013, the Executive Committee met again on February 7, 2013, to finalize actions based on updated sequestration calculations for the Judiciary.

We consider the emergency measures approved by the Executive Committee (discussed below) to be one-time only. They cannot be sustained beyond fiscal year 2013 and will be difficult and painful to implement. The Judiciary cannot continue to operate at such drastically reduced funding levels without seriously compromising the constitutional mission of the federal courts. This is especially true if those funding levels continue into fiscal year 2014 and beyond. We are hopeful that Congress and the Administration will ultimately reach agreement on alternative deficit reduction measures that render the current sequestration cuts unnecessary.

The Executive Committee approved a number of emergency measures that applied primarily to the non-salary parts of the Judiciary budget. Because of our decentralized budget and management system for the courts, the planning is primarily done on the local level. The goal of the emergency measures was to minimize the impact of sequestration on court staff by providing maximum flexibility to court managers. This was only partially successful. The sequestration cuts that went into effect March 1, 2013, total nearly $350 million for the Federal Judiciary. Fiscal year 2013 court allotments on a national level would have declined by 14.6 percent below fiscal year 2012 allotments. Instead, after applying the emergency measures, court allotments have declined by 10.4 percent below fiscal year 2012 allotments. While this is a marked improvement, the allotments, after sequestration and implementation of the emergency measures, could still result in up to 2,000 on-board employees being laid off or thousands of employees facing furloughs for one day each pay period (a 10 percent pay cut). These sequestration staffing losses would come on top of the almost 9 percent decline in staff (over 1,800 probation officers and clerks' office staff) that has already been experienced in the courts since July 2011.

These budget reductions to the Judiciary will have serious implications for the administration of justice and the rule of law. Public safety will be impacted because there will be fewer probation officers to supervise criminal offenders released in our communities. Funding for drug testing and mental health treatment will be cut 20 percent. Delays in the processing of civil and bankruptcy cases could threaten economic recovery. There will be a 30 percent cut in funding for court security systems and equipment and court security officers will be required to work reduced hours, thus creating security vulnerabilities throughout the federal court system. In our defender services program, federal defender attorney staffing levels will decline, which could compromise our defender function, and delay payments to private attorneys appointed under the Criminal Justice Act could for nearly three weeks in September. Sequestration will also require deep cuts in our information technology programs on which we depend for our daily case processing and on which we have successfully relied in past years to achieve efficiencies and limit growth in our budget.

I have enclosed for your information a description of guidance regarding sequestration given to federal courts nationwide in late February. While some of it is technical in nature, our guidance provides important information for the courts on funding levels under sequestration as well as practices for managing payroll and personnel activities under sequestration. As the enclosed description indicates, decisions about court closures, furloughing staff or other adverse personnel actions, managing court operations at lower funding levels, and salary policies under sequestration, reside with each court unit. Allowing individual court units to set their own funding priorities under sequestration is consistent with the decentralized structure of the federal court system and long established Judiciary budget execution policies. I have, however, urged courts to delay implementation of any involuntary personnel actions, such as furloughs or terminations, until April when we hope to have a clearer picture of full-year funding for fiscal year 2013.

I hope this letter has provided you with insight into the actions we are taking to address sequestration as well as the devastating impact the cuts will have on the administration of justice in this country.

This letter is being provided in similar form to the chairman and ranking minority member of the House and Senate Judiciary Committees and to the chairman and ranking minority member of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees and their relevant subcommittees. If you require any additional information, please contact our Office of Legislative Affairs.

Sincerely,

THOMAS F. HOGAN,
Director.

Enclosure.

RETIREMENT OF GENERAL CARTER HAM

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, today I honor an exceptional warrior. After a lifetime of service to our Nation, GEN Carter F. Ham is retiring from the U.S. Army and his current position as Commander of the U.S. Africa Command. On this occasion I believe it is fitting to recognize General Ham's years of uniformed service to our Nation.

General Ham has served and led at all levels in the Army. He began his career as an enlisted infantryman in the 82nd Airborne Division and he retires as a theater level commander. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant through the Reserve Officers' Training Corps in the Infantry as a Distinguished Military Graduate of John Carroll University in Cleveland, OH in 1976. General Ham's distinguished military service has taken him all over the United States, Italy and Germany. Prior to his current command he served as the commanding general of U.S. Army Europe.

During these last 24 months as Commander, U.S. Africa Command, he has led combat operations to oust a tyrant, coordinated economic and infrastructural development programs to improve conditions on the ground, and orchestrated international security cooperation activities aimed at strengthening the abilities of American and African forces to deal with the range of complex challenges facing the continent. These were no small tasks and all the while he continued to make the well-being of our service men and women his highest priority. I can think of no better leader to have had carrying the guidon!

Our Nation and our international partners will feel the loss of this distinguished soldier and statesman. I join many members of the Senate Armed Services Committee in expressing my respect and gratitude to General Ham for his outstanding service to our Nation. The strength of our Nation is our Army; the strength of our Army is our soldiers. Thank you, General Ham, for your service as a soldier and general, and for keeping our Nation Army Strong! I wish him and his wife Christi ''fair winds and following seas.''

RETIREMENT OF GENERAL JOHN ALLEN

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, today I honor an exceptional warrior. After a lifetime of service to our Nation, Gen. John R. Allen is retiring from the U.S. Marine Corps. On this occasion I believe it is fitting to recognize General Allen's years of uniformed service to our Nation.

The general was commissioned a second lieutenant following graduation from the Naval Academy with the class of 1976. He has led at every level from platoon to theater command, including being the first Marine Commandant of the U.S. Naval Academy. He spent 2 years in Iraq's Anbar province, where he led an effort to reach out to Sunni tribal leaders to try to persuade them to stand against al-Qaida militants—a shift that helped turn the course of the war in western Iraq. And during his recent command in Afghanistan, which he proclaimed to be ''the honor of a lifetime,'' he spent 19 months winding down America's longest war while strengthening Afghanistan's military to fight insurgency.

General Allen's record of service is remarkable and highly decorated. He has distinguished himself in every aspect from graduating with academic honors to receiving some of the highest military awards of the U.S. and foreign armed forces. However, he recognizes the most important distinction, and that is his family. In the last decade he has spent plenty of time away from his family in service to our Nation. He said that his family had not vacationed

since his two adult daughters were young. His service and sacrifice will truly be missed by a grateful nation, and we hope that he gets that vacation he so clearly deserves and more.

Our Nation will feel the loss of this distinguished officer, warrior and patriot; however, I have the utmost respect for his decision to put his family first. I join many members of the Senate Armed Services Committee in expressing my respect and gratitude to General Allen for his outstanding service to our Nation. I wish him and his wife Kathy ''fair winds and following seas.''

RETIREMENT OF GENERAL JAMES MATTIS

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, today I honor an exceptional warrior and scholar. After a lifetime of service to our Nation, Gen. James N. Mattis is retiring from the U.S. Marine Corps and his current position as Commander of the United States Central Command. On this occasion I believe it is fitting to recognize General Mattis' 41 years of uniformed service to our Nation.

The general was commissioned a second lieutenant on January 1, 1972. He has served in every major combat operation of his era and led at every level from platoon to theater command. Upon promotion to brigadier general, he commanded first the 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade and then Task Force 58, during Operation Enduring Freedom in southern Afghanistan. As a major general, he commanded the 1st Marine Division during the initial attack and subsequent stability operations in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. General Mattis led marines into Afghanistan in 2001 and Iraq in 2003—the defining conflicts of our age.

General Mattis is well known for his dedication and intellect. When selected to command the U.S. Central Command, then Secretary of Defense, Robert Gates, called him ''one of the military's most innovative and iconoclastic thinkers.'' He has proved to be that and more. General Mattis is known to carry books on philosophy with him on every combat mission. He is said to have a personal library of over 6,000 books that he takes with him to every new command. Even more important than his intellect and bravery, is his ability to connect with and lead our soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines. In March 2003, he wrote a letter to all forces under his command, telling them to ''engage your brain before you engage your weapon.'' I have had the pleasure of meeting those under his command and am always impressed by the respect and favor he carries amongst them.

I most respect General Mattis' willingness to speak truth to power. His candor is a facet of a professionalism that has been exacted over a lifetime and exercised during a most impressive military career. Thoughtful leaders throughout government will feel his absence. I join many past and present members of the Senate Armed Services Committee in my gratitude to General Mattis for his outstanding leadership and his unwavering support of servicemembers. General James Mattis' service has evinced the meaning of the words ''Semper Fidelis.'' I wish him ''fair winds and following seas.''

RIDING FOR CHANGE

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, last month a group of 26 cyclists set off on a 3-day, 400 mile journey from Newtown, CT, to the steps of our Nation's Capitol. They began their ride with a stop at Sandy Hook Elementary School, a place that should be synonymous with childhood, innocence, and learning. Instead, for now, it reminds us of tragedy. The cyclists left Newtown that morning to bring Washington a simple message: It is time for Congress to finally take steps to stop gun violence.

These riders were not special interest groups or highly paid lobbyists. They were everyday people—teachers, police officers, librarians, healthcare professionals. People like Heather Peck, a school psychologist and mother of two from Newtown, who wrote that she was riding ''for those beautiful smiling faces that I see coming down the hallway each day and their right to feel safe and secure at school.'' Like Gary Lyke of Brookfield, CT, a Vietnam veteran who wrote that he was riding ''in the hope I can help encourage our leaders to join in creating meaningful, common sense laws making it safe for children to grow and inherit the freedoms I and other veterans served for.'' Like Officer Jeff Silver of the Newtown Department of Police Services, who wrote simply, ''I ride for commonsense gun control laws.''

But sadly, in a Nation where polls have shown that a majority of Americans support background checks for all gun sales, the status quo defies common sense. Around our country today, anyone, including convicted felons or domestic abusers or the mentally ill, can go to a gun show and purchase a firearm without having to pass any sort of background check. Studies have estimated that 40 percent of U.S. gun sales are conducted by unlicensed sellers without background checks. In 2012, an estimated 6.6 million guns were sold in this way, no questions asked.

Likewise, in a Nation where studies have shown that mass shootings involving assault weapons result in an average of 14.8 people shot. It is startling that almost anyone can walk into a shop or gun show and purchase the same type of military-style assault rifle that was used at Sandy Hook Elementary that horrible day. This includes suspected terrorists, because nothing in current law prohibits individuals on terrorist watch lists from purchasing firearms, unless they fall into another disqualifying category. Polls have shown that 63 percent of Americans support a ban on the assault weapons and high-capacity ammunition magazines that lead to such horrific crimes.

Legislation has already been introduced into the Senate that, if enacted, would make our society and our schools safer. For example, I am a cosponsor of the Denying Firearms and Explosives to Dangerous Terrorists Act. This bill would close the 'terror gap' in Federal law by denying the transfer of a firearm when a Federal Bureau of Investigation, FBI, background check reveals that the prospective purchaser is a suspected terrorist and the Attorney General has a reasonable belief that the purchaser may use the firearm in connection with terrorism. I am also a cosponsor of the Assault Weapons Ban of 2013, which would stop the flood of military-style assault weapons into our society.

We should listen to the Sandy Hook riders and take action. We should listen to our law enforcement communities, who have implored us to ban the military-style weapons and high-capacity ammunition magazines which can so easily escalate confrontation into murder and a killing of one or two people into a massive slaughter. No law can prevent all tragedies, but these bills could help prevent some. They could help stop another quiet elementary school from falling victim to a Sandy Hook tragedy. They could help save the lives of children. That is more than enough reason to act. I urge my colleagues to swiftly take up and pass these measures.

FISHING RESTRICTIONS PREVENTION

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, on March 27, Governor Bill Haslam signed a resolution passed by the Tennessee General Assembly supporting efforts in the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives to prevent the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from restricting public access to fishing areas below dams on the Cumberland River in Tennessee.

The resolution, sponsored by State Senator Jim Tracy, recognizes the traditions that Tennessee anglers have enjoyed for generations, and the dire economic impact that the Corps' proposed restrictions would have on the State of Tennessee. I, along with the members of the Tennessee General Assembly, will continue to urge the Corps to consider alternatives that do not unilaterally prohibit access to some of the highest quality fishing areas in Tennessee and address the concerns of Tennesseans.

I ask that Senate Joint Resolution 114, as passed by the Tennessee General Assembly and signed by Governor Bill Haslam, be printed in the RECORD.

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

STATE OF TENNESSEE

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 114

BY SENATORS TRACY, BURKS, OVERBEY AND REPRESENTATIVES MARSH, EVANS

A Resolution commending United States Senator Lamar Alexander for his efforts to prevent the United States Army Corps of Engineers from restricting fishing access to sections of the Cumberland River near dams.

Whereas, the members of this General Assembly commend United States Senator Lamar Alexander for his efforts to introduce federal legislation preventing the United States Army Corps of Engineers from constructing physical barriers to restrict fishing access to sections of the Cumberland River located near United States Army Corps of Engineers dams; and

Whereas, the members of this General Assembly encourage Senator Alexander to offer his legislation as soon as possible; and

Whereas, the members of this General Assembly encourage the United States Army Corps of Engineers to work with Senator Alexander and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency on implementing a solution that addresses the concerns of Tennesseans and recognizes the dire economic impact the United States Army Corps of Engineers restrictions would have on the State of Tennessee; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the one hundred eighth General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, The House of Representatives Concurring, that we commend United States Senator Lamar Alexander for his efforts to prevent the United States Army Corps of Engineers from restricting fishing access to sections of the Cumberland River near dams and protecting the traditions of Tennessee anglers and their economic impact on the State of Tennessee. Be it further

Resolved, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

Senate Joint Resolution No. 114

Adopted: March 25, 2013

RON RAMSEY,
Speaker of the Senate.

BETH HARWELL,
Speaker, House of Representatives.

Approved this 27th day of March 2013

BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING BARBARA GELLER

• Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I would like to pay tribute to a strong community leader, dedicated public servant, and advocate from the State of Washington, Barbara Geller.

I first met Barbara early in my political career and I would not be where I am today without her support and encouragement.

She was always willing to pitch in to do whatever was needed. Her strong commitment to her community showed in everything she did. She was a State committeewoman, chair of the 41st LD Democrats, and a delegate to the Democratic National Convention too many times to count.

But more importantly, she was a dedicated mother, grandmother, wife, and friend to many.

You could always count on Barb helping out. She never hesitated to pick up a phone, plan the Annual Eastside Democrats Annual Dinner, and to do every task in between. No matter how small the task, Barb would make it fun.

As a longtime Mercer Island resident, her kindness and grace inspired all who were around her.

Barb passed away on March 17, 2013, from pancreatic cancer at the age of 71.

Barb is survived by her husband Art, her two children, Randy and Betsy Geller, daughter-in-law Jennifer Hubbard Geller, and her two grandchildren, Rachel and Lucy Geller.

She will be missed by many, but her legacy of service will live on with all she has touched.

I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in paying homage to Barbara Geller. She lived a full life and our thoughts are with her loved ones at this time of great loss.•

OBSERVING PURPLE UP DAY

• Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I would like to call attention to Purple Up! for Military Kids Day in Alaska celebrated on April 19th as part of the Month of the Military Child. Every April since 1986, to honor the unique contributions and sacrifices military children make in support of their parents, the Department of Defense names April as the Month of the Military Child.

On a designated day in April, people across the United States and in Alaska come together by wearing purple in honor of our servicemembers' children. Nationwide, more than two million kids have a parent or parents serving in either an Active Duty or Reserve role for the U.S. Armed Forces. In my home State of Alaska, more than 13,000 children have one or more parents on full-time duty status in the military.

Purple Up! is a fun way to show our support and is an opportunity to call attention to these special challenges faced by military kids.

The frequent moves and multiple deployments faced by these families add even more strain to the difficult task of growing up. These children bravely face the uncertainty of their parent's safety when they are away, as well as the difficult reintegration when they return.

It is important for these military-connected youth to know that their Nation and community stand by them in support, and that we recognize their strength and the sacrifices they have made. I ask Alaskans to join me in wearing something purple on Purple Up! Day and participate in events during the Month of the Military Child to show our gratitude, such as conducted by the University of Alaska's Cooperative Extension Service and Alaska Operation Military Kids.•

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 RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the order of the Senate of January 3, 2013, the Secretary of the Senate, on March 25, 2013, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 11. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and an adjournment of the House of Representatives.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of March 23, 2013, the following reports of committees were submitted on April 5, 2013:

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary:

Report to accompany S. 54, A bill to increase public safety by punishing and deterring firearms trafficking (Rept. No. 113–9).

By Mr. LEVIN, from the Committee on Armed Services, under the authority of the order of the Senate of 03/23/2013 (legislative day, 03/22/2013):

Special Report entitled ''Report on the Activities of the Committee on Armed Services, 112th Congress'' (Rept. No. 113–10).

By Mr. SCHUMER, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, under the authority of the order of the Senate of 03/23/2013 (legislative day, 03/22/2013):

Special Report entitled ''Review of Legislative Activity During the 112th Congress'' (Rept. No. 113–11).

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment:

S. Res. 92. A resolution authorizing the expenditures by the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS DURING ADJOURNMENT

On April 5, 2013, under the authority of the order of the Senate of March 23, 2013, the following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. LEAHY:

S. Res. 92. A resolution authorizing the expenditures by the Committee on the Judiciary; from the Committee on the Judiciary; placed on the calendar.

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. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. KIRK, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. VITTER, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. THUNE, Mr. WYDEN, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 666. A bill to prohibit attendance of an animal fighting venture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 667. A bill to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to allow the rebuilding, without elevation, of certain structures that are located in areas having special flood hazards and are substantially damaged by fire, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 668. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 Main Street in Brockport, New York, as the ''Staff Sergeant Nicholas J. Reid Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. PRYOR):

S. Res. 93. A resolution designating April 4, 2013, as ''National Association of Junior Auxiliaries Day''; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 141

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 141, a bill to make supplemental agricultural disaster assistance available for fiscal years 2012 and 2013, and for other purposes.

S. 146

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 146, a bill to enhance the safety of America's schools.

S. 150

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 150, a bill to regulate assault weapons, to ensure that the right to keep and bear arms is not unlimited, and for other purposes.

S. 153

At the request of Mr. BEGICH, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 153, a bill to amend section 520J of the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants for mental health first aid training programs.

S. 169

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 169, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to authorize additional visas for well-educated aliens to live and work in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 204

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 204, a bill to preserve and protect the free choice of individual employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations, or to refrain from such activities.

S. 289

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 289, a bill to extend the low-interest refinancing provisions under the Local Development Business Loan Program of the Small Business Administration.

S. 308

At the request of Mr. BEGICH, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 308, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make improvements in the old-age, survivors, and disability insurance program, to provide for cash relief for years for which annual COLAs do not take effect under certain cash benefit programs, and to provide for Social Security benefit protection.

S. 316

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) were added as cosponsors of S. 316, a bill to recalculate and restore retirement annuity obligations of the United States Postal Service, to eliminate the requirement that the United States Postal Service prefund the Postal Service Retiree Health Benefits Fund, to place restrictions on the closure of postal facilities, to create incentives for innovation for the United States Postal Service, to maintain levels of postal service, and for other purposes.

S. 321

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 321, a bill to reduce the deficit by imposing a minimum effective tax rate for high-income taxpayers.

S. 326

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 326, a bill to reauthorize 21st century community learning centers, and for other purposes.

S. 330

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 330, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish safeguards and standards of quality for research and transplantation of organs infected with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

S. 338

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 338, a bill to amend the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 to provide consistent and reliable authority for, and for the funding of, the land and water conservation fund to maximize the effectiveness of the fund for future generations, and for other purposes.

S. 346

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 346, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit veterans who have a service-connected, permanent disability rated as total to travel on military aircraft in the same manner and to the same extent as retired members of the Armed Forces entitled to such travel.

S. 377

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 377, a bill to add the 9/11 Health and Compensation Programs to the list of exempt programs under PAYGO.

S. 409

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 409, a bill to add Vietnam Veterans Day as a patriotic and national observance.

S. 424

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 424, a bill to amend title IV of the Public Health Service Act to provide for a National Pediatric Research Network, including with respect to pediatric rare diseases or conditions.

S. 425

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. 425, a bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to improve the quality, health outcomes, and value of maternity care under the Medicaid and CHIP programs by developing maternity care quality measures and supporting maternity care quality collaboratives.

S. 429

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) were added as cosponsors of S. 429, a bill to enable concrete masonry products manufacturers to establish, finance, and carry out a coordinated program of research, education, and promotion to improve, maintain, and develop markets for concrete masonry products.

S. 452

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from New York

(Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 452, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to reduce the incidence of diabetes among Medicare beneficiaries.

S. 462

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 462, a bill to enhance the strategic partnership between the United States and Israel.

S. 470

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 470, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require that the Purple Heart occupy a position of precedence above the new Distinguished Warfare Medal.

S. 480

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, his name was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 480, a bill to improve the effectiveness of the National Instant Criminal Background Check System by clarifying reporting requirements related to adjudications of mental incompetency, and for other purposes.

S. 482

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 482, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide protections for consumers against excessive, unjustified, or unfairly discriminatory increases in premium rates.

S. 484

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 484, a bill to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act relating to lead-based paint renovation and remodeling activities.

S. 495

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 495, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require Federal agencies to hire veterans, to require States to recognize the military experience of veterans when issuing licenses and credentials to veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 526

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 526, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the special rule for contributions of qualified conservation contributions, and for other purposes.

S. 534

At the request of Mr. JOHANNS, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 534, a bill to reform the National Association of Registered Agents and Brokers, and for other purposes.

S. 542

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 542, a bill to provide limitations on maritime liens on fishing licenses and for other purposes.

S. 603

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 603, a bill to repeal the annual fee on health insurance providers enacted by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

S. 617

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 617, a bill to provide humanitarian assistance and support a democratic transition in Syria, and for other purposes.

S. 629

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 629, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to recognize the service in the reserve components of the Armed Forces of certain persons by honoring them with status as veterans under law, and for other purposes.

S. 631

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 631, a bill to allow Americans to earn paid sick time so that they can address their own health needs and the health needs of their families.

S. CON. RES. 6

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 6, a concurrent resolution supporting the Local Radio Freedom Act.

S. CON. RES. 7

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 7, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding conditions for the United States becoming a signatory to the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty, or to any similar agreement on the arms trade.

S. RES. 26

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) and the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 26, a resolution recognizing that access to hospitals and other health care providers for patients in rural areas of the United States is essential to the survival and success of communities in the United States.

S. RES. 75

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 75, a resolution condemning the Government of Iran for its state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 667. A bill to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to allow the rebuilding, without elevation, of certain structures that are located in areas having special flood hazards and are substantially damaged by fire, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Fire-Damaged Home Rebuilding Act.

This legislation is simple. It allows families living in FEMA-designated flood plains to rebuild their home in the event it is destroyed by fire.

The bill allows communities to waive requirements that were meant to block reconstruction after floods, but have been applied to block reconstruction of homes after fires and other natural disasters as well.

I was first made aware of this issue by a constituent from Sacramento. Her home in the Natomas neighborhood burned down, and when she applied for a permit to rebuild it she was denied. The County informed her that FEMA floodplain regulations required her to elevate the home 20 feet above ground level because of existing deficiencies in the levee protecting her neighborhood.

Can you imagine what that would look like? Every house in the neighborhood at ground level, and one home towering 20 feet above the rest?

More importantly though, the cost would be exorbitant. And it would be imposed by the federal government on a family trying to get back on its feet after a personal tragedy.

When the home burned down, the family collected $71,000 from their insurance company. Contractors estimated the cost to restore the home to its original condition was $170,000—a significant burden, but one the family was willing to bear.

But when the family factored in the cost of elevating their home 20 feet, the cost skyrocketed. Contractors estimated the elevation project would cost an additional $200,000.

Just to restore their home to its previous size and condition, the family would owe $300,000 more than what they received from their insurance.

There is a fundamental issue of fairness at stake.

This family tragically lost their home and many of their personal belongings. But instead of helping the

family during this difficult time, the federal government is instead blocking them from rebuilding. Why? Because the federal government has failed to maintain adequate flood protection.

It just doesn't seem fair.

The Fire-Damaged Home Rebuilding Act addresses this issue by allowing local communities to grant variances to FEMA flood plain regulations without jeopardizing their participation in the program.

The legislation allows waivers to be granted only if all of the following conditions are met.

Communities must already have taken steps to repair damaged levees, such as seeking Federal authorization of a levee project, and there must be previously existing plans to obtain the requisite 100-year flood protection in the near future.

The destroyed house must be within a deep floodplain where it would be too expensive and unsightly to elevate the home.

The new home must be built within the footprint of the destroyed structure.

The homeowner cannot qualify for new insurance discounts; and the property has never been associated with a claim to the National Flood Insurance Program.

Representative DORIS MATSUI and I worked with FEMA to ensure that these limitations will only allow individual to rebuild very limited circumstances.

I strongly oppose new development in the flood plain. It is irresponsible to permit new homes or businesses in an area where you know that flooding is likely.

But rebuilding a single existing home after a tragic fire is different than building a new tract of homes. If an entire neighborhood is burned down, for instance, it should be rebuilt at a safe level. A single home is also different than building new schools or new shopping malls, which would be prohibited under the bill.

But just to be sure that local governments don't abuse this power, the number of waivers they can approve is capped at ten per year. We need to make sure that the waiver is used judiciously.

The FEMA regulations were put in place to block individual homeowners from voluntarily renovating and improving their homes. It was also designed to block homeowners from rebuilding after a flood. By doing so, the federal government limits its liability for future flood insurance claims.

I agree with the goals of those FEMA regulations. But fire-damaged homes clearly do not fit in either category. So we need to adjust the law to eliminate an unfortunate and unintended consequence of an otherwise good policy.

City and County governments must be empowered to make case by case judgments about whether it makes sense to elevate damaged structures by 10, 15, or 20 feet when the rest of the neighborhood remains at ground level.

That is exactly what the Fire-Damaged Home Reconstruction Act does. It provides limited authority to local governments, which will allow them to do what makes sense for their communities.

This is a commonsense piece of legislation, and I hope my colleagues will work to quickly adopt the bill.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS DURING ADJOURNMENT

SENATE RESOLUTION 92—AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LEAHY submitted the following resolution; from the Committee on the Judiciary; which was placed on the calendar:

S. RES. 92

Resolved,

SECTION 1. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on the Judiciary (in this resolution referred to as the ''committee'') is authorized from March 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013; October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014; and October 1, 2014 through February 28, 2015, in its discretion to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, to use on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. EXPENSE LIMITATIONS.

(a) EXPENSES FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 1, 2013 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2013.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013 under this resolution shall not exceed $5,882,131, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $200,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 72a(i))); and

(2) not to exceed $20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(b) EXPENSES FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2013 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2014.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014 under this resolution shall not exceed $10,083,653, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $200,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 72a(i))); and

(2) not to exceed $20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2014 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2015.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2014 through February 28, 2015 under this resolution shall not exceed $4,201,522, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $200,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 72a(i))); and

(2) not to exceed $20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 3. REPORTING LEGISLATION.

The committee shall report its findings, together with such recommendations for legislation as it deems advisable, to the Senate at the earliest practicable date, but not later than February 28, 2015.

SEC. 4. EXPENSES AND AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee.

(2) VOUCHERS NOT REQUIRED.—Vouchers shall not be required for—

(A) the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate;

(B) the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(C) the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery;

(D) payments to the Postmaster of the Senate;

(E) the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(F) the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services; or

(G) the payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate.

(b) AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.—There are authorized such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee from March 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013; October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014; and October 1, 2014 through February 28, 2015, to be paid from the appropriations account for ''Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations'' of the Senate.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 93—DESIGNATING APRIL 4, 2013, AS ''NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JUNIOR AUXILIARIES DAY''

Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. PRYOR) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

Whereas the National Association of Junior Auxiliaries and the members of the National Association of Junior Auxiliaries provide valuable service and leadership opportunities for women who wish to take an active role in their communities;

Whereas the mission of the National Association of Junior Auxiliaries is to encourage member chapters to render charitable services that—

(1) are beneficial to the general public; and

(2) place a particular emphasis on providing for the needs of children; and

Whereas since the founding of the National Association of Junior Auxiliaries in 1941, the

organization has provided strength and inspiration to women who want to effect positive change in their communities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 4, 2013, as ''National Association of Junior Auxiliaries Day'';

(2) recognizes the great contributions made by members of the National Association of Junior Auxiliaries to their communities and to the people of the United States; and

(3) especially commends the work of the members of the National Association of Junior Auxiliaries to better the lives of children in the United States.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will meet in open session on Thursday, April 11, 2013, at 10 a.m. in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled ''A New, Open Marketplace: The Effect of Guaranteed Issue and New Rating Rules.''

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact Emily Schlichting of the committee staff on (202) 224–6840.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will meet in executive session on Wednesday, April 10, 2013, at 10 a.m. in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to mark-up S.___, Mental Health Awareness and the nomination of Jenny Yang, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact the Committee at (202) 224–5375.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet during the session of the Senate on April 10, 2013, in room SD–628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, at 2:15 p.m., to conduct a hearing on Identifying Barriers to Indian Housing Development and Finding Solutions.

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee at 202–224–2251.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2013, at 10 a.m., in room SD–366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing is to consider the nomination of Ernest J. Moniz to be the Secretary of Energy.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510–6150, or by email to Abigail_Campbell@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Sam Fowler at (202) 224–7571 or Abigail Campbell at (202) 224–4905.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2013, at 10 a.m., in room SD–366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of this hearing is to consider the President's Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2014 for the Forest Service.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, 304 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510–6150, or by email to John_Assini@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact please contact Meghan Conklin (202) 224–8046 or John Assini (202) 224–9313.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Water and Power of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2013, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD–366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing will be to hear testimony on the following measures:

S. 211, the Provo River Project Transfer Act;

S. 284, the Fort Sumner Project Title Conveyance Act;

S. 510, the Scofield Land Transfer Act;

S. 659, to reauthorize the Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1991;

S.J. Res. 12, A joint resolution to consent to certain amendments enacted by the legislature of the State of Hawaii to the Hawaiian Homes Commission, Act, 1920; and,

H.R. 316 and S. Amdt. 579, the Collinsville Renewable Energy Promotion Act.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510–6150, or by email to John_Assini@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Sara Tucker at (202) 224–6224 or John Assini at (202) 224–9313.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The hearing will be held on Thursday, April 18, 2013, at 10 a.m., in room SD–366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on the U.S. Department of Energy's budget for fiscal year 2014.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record may do so by sending it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510–6150, or by email to lauren_goldschmidt@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Abigail Campbell at (202) 224–4905 or Lauren Goldschmidt at (202) 224–5488.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2014

On Friday, March 22, 2015, the Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 8, as amended as follows:

S. CON. RES. 8

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014.

(a) DECLARATION.—Congress declares that this resolution is the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2014 and that this resolution sets forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2013 and 2015 through 2023.

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

Sec. 1. Concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2014.

TITLE I—RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS

Sec. 101. Recommended levels and amounts.
Sec. 102. Social Security.
Sec. 103. Postal Service discretionary administrative expenses.
Sec. 104. Major functional categories.

TITLE II—RECONCILIATION

Sec. 201. Reconciliation in the Senate.

TITLE III—RESERVE FUNDS

Sec. 301. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to replace sequestration.
Sec. 302. Deficit-neutral reserve funds to promote employment and job growth.
Sec. 303. Deficit-neutral reserve funds to assist working families and children.
Sec. 304. Deficit-neutral reserve funds for early childhood education.
Sec. 305. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for tax relief.

Sec. 306. Reserve fund for tax reform.
Sec. 307. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to invest in clean energy and preserve the environment.
Sec. 308. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for investments in America's infrastructure.
Sec. 309. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for America's servicemembers and veterans.
Sec. 310. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for higher education.
Sec. 311. Deficit-neutral reserve funds for health care.
Sec. 312. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for investments in our Nation's counties and schools.
Sec. 313. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for a farm bill.
Sec. 314. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for investments in water infrastructure and resources.
Sec. 315. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for pension reform.
Sec. 316. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for housing finance reform.
Sec. 317. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for national security.
Sec. 318. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for overseas contingency operations.
Sec. 319. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for terrorism risk insurance.
Sec. 320. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for postal reform.
Sec. 321. Deficit-reduction reserve fund for Government reform and efficiency.
Sec. 322. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve Federal benefit processing.
Sec. 323. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for legislation to improve voter registration and the voting experience in Federal elections.
Sec. 324. Deficit-reduction reserve fund to promote corporate tax fairness.
Sec. 325. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for improving Federal forest management.
Sec. 326. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for financial transparency.
Sec. 327. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to promote manufacturing in the United States.
Sec. 328. Deficit-reduction reserve fund for report elimination or modification.
Sec. 329. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for the minimum wage.
Sec. 330. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve health outcomes and lower costs for children in Medicaid.
Sec. 331. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve Federal workforce development, job training, and reemployment programs.
Sec. 332. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for repeal of medical device tax.
Sec. 333. Deficit-neutral reserve fund prohibiting Medicare vouchers.
Sec. 334. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for equal pay for equal work.
Sec. 335. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to women's health care.
Sec. 336. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to require State-wide budget neutrality in the calculation of the Medicare hospital wage index floor.
Sec. 337. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for the promotion of investment and job growth in United States manufacturing, oil and gas production, and refining sectors.
Sec. 338. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to allow States to enforce State and local use tax laws.
Sec. 339. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to the definition of full-time employee.
Sec. 340. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to the labeling of genetically engineered fish.
Sec. 341. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for the families of America's servicemembers and veterans.
Sec. 342. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to establishing a biennial budget and appropriations process.
Sec. 343. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to the repeal or reduction of the estate tax.
Sec. 344. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for disabled veterans and their survivors.
Sec. 345. Deficit reduction fund for no budget, no OMB pay.
Sec. 346. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating hardrock mining reform.
Sec. 347. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to end ''too big to fail'' subsidies or funding advantage for wall street mega-banks (over $500,000,000,000 in total assets).
Sec. 348. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to authorizing children eligible for health care under laws administered by Secretary of Veterans Affairs to retain such eligibility until age 26.
Sec. 349. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for State and local law enforcement.
Sec. 350. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to establish a national network for manufacturing innovation.
Sec. 351. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to ensure that any carbon emissions standards must be cost effective, based on the best available science, and benefit low-income and middle class families.
Sec. 352. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to address the eligibility criteria for certain unlawful immigrant individuals with respect to certain health insurance plans.
Sec. 353. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to ensure no financial institution is above the law regardless of size.
Sec. 354. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to helping homeowners and small businesses mitigate against flood loss.
Sec. 355. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to restore family health care flexibility by repealing the health savings account and flexible spending account restrictions in the health care law.
Sec. 356. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for BARDA and the BioShield Special Reserve Fund.
Sec. 357. Deficit-reduction reserve fund for postal reform.
Sec. 358. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to broaden the effects of the sequester, including allowing Members of Congress to donate a portion of their salaries to charity or to the Department of the Treasury during sequestration.
Sec. 359. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to ensure the Bureau of Land Management collaborates with western states to prevent the listing of the sage-grouse.
Sec. 360. Deficit-Reduction Reserve Fund for Eminent Domain Abuse Prevention.
Sec. 361. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for export promotion.
Sec. 362. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for the prohibition on funding of the Medium Extended Air Defense System.
Sec. 363. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to increase the capacity of agencies to ensure effective contract management and contract oversight.
Sec. 364. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for investments in air traffic control services.
Sec. 365. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to address prescription drug abuse in the United States.
Sec. 366. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to support rural schools and districts.
Sec. 367. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to strengthen enforcement of free trade agreement provisions relating to textile and apparel articles.
Sec. 368. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to assist low-income seniors.
Sec. 369. Reserve fund to end offshore tax abuses by large corporations.
Sec. 370. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to ensure that domestic energy sources can meet emissions rules.
Sec. 371. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to increasing funding for the inland waterways system.
Sec. 372. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for achieving full auditability of the financial statements of the Department of Defense by 2017.
Sec. 373. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to sanctions with respect to Iran.
Sec. 374. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to prevent restrictions to public access to fishing downstream of dams owned by the Corps of Engineers.
Sec. 375. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to address the disproportionate regulatory burdens on community banks.
Sec. 376. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to authorize provision of per diem payments for provision of services to dependents of homeless veterans under laws administered by Secretary of Veterans Affairs.
Sec. 377. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to support programs related to the nuclear missions of the Department of Defense and the National Nuclear Security Administration.
Sec. 378. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to phase-in any changes to individual or corporate tax systems.
Sec. 379. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to increases in aid for tribal education programs.
Sec. 380. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to expedite exports from the United States.
Sec. 381. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to supporting the reauthorization of the payments in lieu of taxes program at levels roughly equivalent to property tax revenues lost due to the presence of Federal land.
Sec. 382. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to ensure that the United States will not negotiate or support treaties that violate Americans' Second Amendment rights under the Constitution of the United States.

Sec. 383. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to increase funding for Federal investments in biomedical research.
Sec. 384. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to uphold Second Amendment rights and prevent the United States from entering into the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty.

TITLE IV—BUDGET PROCESS

Subtitle A—Budget Enforcement

Sec. 401. Discretionary spending limits for fiscal years 2013 and 2014, program integrity initiatives, and other adjustments.
Sec. 402. Point of order against advance appropriations.
Sec. 403. Adjustments for sequestration or sequestration replacement.
Sec. 404. Senate point of order against provisions of appropriations legislation that constitute changes in mandatory programs affecting the Crime Victims Fund.
Sec. 405. Supermajority enforcement.
Sec. 406. Prohibiting the use of guarantee fees as an offset.

Subtitle B—Other Provisions

Sec. 411. Oversight of Government performance.
Sec. 412. Budgetary treatment of certain discretionary administrative expenses.
Sec. 413. Application and effect of changes in allocations and aggregates.
Sec. 414. Adjustments to reflect changes in concepts and definitions.
Sec. 415. Exercise of rulemaking powers.
Sec. 416. Congressional budget office estimates.

TITLE V—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 501. To require transparent reporting on the ongoing costs to taxpayers of Obamacare.
Sec. 502. To require fuller reporting on possible costs to taxpayers of Obamacare.
Sec. 503. To require fuller reporting on possible costs to taxpayers of any budget submitted by the President.
Sec. 504. Sense of Senate on underutilized facilities of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and their potential use.

TITLE I—RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS

SEC. 101. RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS.

The following budgetary levels are appropriate for each of fiscal years 2013 through 2023:

(1) FEDERAL REVENUES.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution:

(A) The recommended levels of Federal revenues are as follows:

Fiscal year 2013: $2,038,311,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $2,290,932,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015: $2,646,592,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016: $2,833,891,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017: $2,973,673,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018: $3,111,061,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019: $3,245,117,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020: $3,400,144,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: $3,592,212,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: $3,800,500,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: $3,991,775,000,000.

(B) The amounts by which the aggregate levels of Federal revenues should be changed are as follows:

Fiscal year 2013: $0,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $20,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015: $40,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016: $55,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017: $70,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018: $82,110,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019: $95,881,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020: $115,534,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: $135,203,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: $149,801,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: $159,630,000,000.

(2) NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the appropriate levels of total new budget authority are as follows:

Fiscal year 2013: $3,054,195,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $2,963,749,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015: $3,046,506,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016: $3,211,506,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017: $3,386,445,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018: $3,568,528,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019: $3,779,446,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020: $3,973,331,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: $4,136,110,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: $4,350,282,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: $4,492,138,000,000.

(3) BUDGET OUTLAYS.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the appropriate levels of total budget outlays are as follows:

Fiscal year 2013: $2,956,295,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $2,997,884,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015: $3,082,375,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016: $3,240,376,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017: $3,382,809,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018: $3,542,197,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019: $3,749,797,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020: $3,926,818,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: $4,103,496,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: $4,323,224,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: $4,451,446,000,000.

(4) DEFICITS.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the amounts of the deficits are as follows:

Fiscal year 2013: $917,984,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $706,952,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015: $435,783,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016: $406,486,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017: $409,137,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018: $431,136,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019: $504,680,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020: $526,674,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: $511,283,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: $522,724,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: $459,672,000,000.

(5) PUBLIC DEBT.—Pursuant to section 301(a)(5) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the appropriate levels of the public debt are as follows:

Fiscal year 2013: $17,113,638,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $18,008,333,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015: $18,626,857,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016: $19,222,298,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017: $19,871,057,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018: $20,558,744,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019: $21,312,959,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020: $22,094,877,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: $22,863,179,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: $23,634,787,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: $24,364,925,000,000.

(6) DEBT HELD BY THE PUBLIC.—The appropriate levels of debt held by the public are as follows:

Fiscal year 2013: $12,274,763,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $13,059,985,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015: $13,588,003,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016: $14,081,252,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017: $14,574,683,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018: $15,081,187,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019: $15,669,625,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020: $16,297,499,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: $16,929,319,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: $17,600,005,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: $18,229,414,000,000.

SEC. 102. SOCIAL SECURITY.

(a) SOCIAL SECURITY REVENUES.—For purposes of Senate enforcement under sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the amounts of revenues of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund are as follows:

Fiscal year 2013: $669,920,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $731,717,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015: $766,392,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016: $812,200,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017: $861,554,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018: $908,130,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019: $951,691,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020: $994,855,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: $1,038,909,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: $1,083,586,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: $1,129,163,000,000.

(b) SOCIAL SECURITY OUTLAYS.—For purposes of Senate enforcement under sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the amounts of outlays of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund are as follows:

Fiscal year 2013: $634,822,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $711,355,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015: $756,949,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016: $805,969,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017: $856,933,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018: $907,679,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019: $962,040,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020: $1,022,374,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: $1,086,431,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: $1,154,554,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: $1,227,009,000,000.

(c) SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—In the Senate, the amounts of new budget authority and budget outlays of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund for administrative expenses are as follows:

Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $5,643,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $5,658,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $5,782,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $5,801,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $5,966,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $5,941,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $6,174,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $6,144,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $6,390,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $6,358,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $6,617,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $6,584,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $6,844,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $6,810,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $7,070,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $7,036,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $7,301,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $7,266,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $7,541,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $7,505,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $7,789,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $7,751,000,000.

SEC. 103. POSTAL SERVICE DISCRETIONARY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.

In the Senate, the amounts of new budget authority and budget outlays of the Postal Service for discretionary administrative expenses are as follows:

Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $255,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $255,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $262,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $262,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $272,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $272,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $284,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $283,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:

(A) New budget authority, $295,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $294,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $308,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $307,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $319,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $318,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $332,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $331,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $345,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $344,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $357,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $356,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $371,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $370,000,000.

SEC. 104. MAJOR FUNCTIONAL CATEGORIES.

Congress determines and declares that the appropriate levels of new budget authority and outlays for fiscal years 2013 through 2023 for each major functional category are:

(1) National Defense (050):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $648,215,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $658,250,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $560,243,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $599,643,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $567,553,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $575,701,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $575,019,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $575,203,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $582,648,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $573,557,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $590,411,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $574,884,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $598,867,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $587,226,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $607,454,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $595,192,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $616,137,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $603,369,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $625,569,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $617,186,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $636,480,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $621,603,000,000.

(2) International Affairs (150):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $58,425,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $48,716,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $47,883,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $47,508,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $46,367,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $46,830,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $47,521,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $46,580,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $48,666,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $46,792,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $49,831,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $47,157,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $51,004,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $47,707,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $52,194,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $48,729,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $52,898,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $49,801,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $54,417,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $51,209,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $55,664,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $52,212,000,000.

(3) General Science, Space, and Technology (250):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $29,154,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $28,949,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $29,700,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,426,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $30,301,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $30,022,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $31,019,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $30,553,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $31,749,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $31,229,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $32,508,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $31,962,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $33,264,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $32,655,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $34,030,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $33,408,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $34,795,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $34,073,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $35,590,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $34,851,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $36,396,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $35,643,000,000.

(4) Energy (270):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $6,243,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $9,122,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $4,465,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $5,270,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $4,061,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,078,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $4,185,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $3,563,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $4,309,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $3,822,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $4,489,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,105,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $4,622,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,316,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $4,803,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,538,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $4,875,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,696,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $5,000,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,862,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $5,072,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,913,000,000.

(5) Natural Resources and Environment (300):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $44,150,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $41,682,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $43,019,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $43,121,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $42,872,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $43,165,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $44,055,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $44,394,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $45,500,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $45,681,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $47,245,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $47,014,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $48,036,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $48,112,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $49,596,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $49,435,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $50,174,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $50,074,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $51,331,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $50,862,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $52,759,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $51,703,000,000.

(6) Agriculture (350):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $22,373,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $28,777,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $22,550,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $21,136,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $20,180,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,909,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $19,717,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,283,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $19,780,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,289,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $19,613,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,087,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $19,908,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,301,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $20,379,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,878,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $20,588,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $20,116,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $21,105,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $20,626,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $21,421,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $20,959,000,000.

(7) Commerce and Housing Credit (370):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $−30,498,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−24,504,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $16,201,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,408,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $10,733,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−2,394,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $11,112,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−4,110,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $11,827,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−5,624,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $14,224,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−3,938,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $16,885,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−6,483,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $16,984,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−6,238,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $17,099,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−981,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $17,226,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−2,004,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:

(A) New budget authority, $17,334,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−3,032,000,000.
(8) Transportation (400):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $100,501,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $93,656,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $88,556,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $94,621,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $88,419,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $95,092,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $89,319,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $95,855,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $90,186,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $96,577,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $91,115,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $96,478,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $91,977,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $97,757,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $93,143,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $99,308,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $94,330,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $101,593,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $95,586,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $103,395,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $96,864,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $105,364,000,000.
(9) Community and Regional Development (450):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $51,911,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $38,409,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $24,995,500,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,779,500,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $25,362,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $31,033,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $25,808,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,233,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $26,360,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,216,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $26,442,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,660,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $26,610,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,831,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $27,212,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,873,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $27,828,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,154,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $28,461,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,487,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $29,098,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,953,000,000.
(10) Education, Training, Employment, and Social Services (500):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $77,536,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $82,279,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $78,349,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $86,546,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $89,537,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $96,269,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $106,927,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $98,922,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $117,961,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $111,494,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $123,744,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $122,679,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $119,139,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $117,997,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $120,411,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $119,806,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $122,546,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $121,459,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $124,565,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $123,422,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $126,825,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $125,845,000,000.
(11) Health (550):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $365,206,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $361,960,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $420,326,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $415,573,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $500,356,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $493,639,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $554,680,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $560,173,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $611,908,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $614,248,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $648,773,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $648,945,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $685,879,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $684,985,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $732,529,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $721,193,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $764,934,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $763,469,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $808,026,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $806,172,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $852,829,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $851,028,000,000.
(12) Medicare (570):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $511,692,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $511,240,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $535,596,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $535,067,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $540,503,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $540,205,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $586,873,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $586,662,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $602,495,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $602,085,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $626,619,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $626,319,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $687,071,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $686,851,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $734,468,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $734,051,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $782,452,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $782,386,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $855,410,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $855,061,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $883,491,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $883,062,000,000.
(13) Income Security (600):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $544,094,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $542,998,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $530,103,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $526,954,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $528,197,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $524,043,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $537,117,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $536,196,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $536,006,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $531,153,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $538,914,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $529,716,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $565,188,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $560,677,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $578,159,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $573,775,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $592,348,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $587,965,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $611,644,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $612,070,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $619,422,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $614,921,000,000.
(14) Social Security (650):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $52,803,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $52,883,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $27,506,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,616,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $30,233,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $30,308,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $33,369,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $33,407,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $36,691,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $36,691,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $40,005,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $40,005,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $43,421,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $43,421,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $46,954,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $46,954,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $50,474,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $50,474,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $54,235,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $54,235,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $58,441,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $58,441,000,000.
(15) Veterans Benefits and Services (700):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $140,646,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $138,860,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $145,488,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $145,254,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $150,218,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $149,672,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $162,493,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $161,876,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $161,405,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $160,549,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $159,902,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $159,031,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $171,529,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $170,622,000,000.

Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $176,188,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $175,286,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $180,118,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $179,169,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $191,846,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $190,875,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $188,517,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $187,433,000,000.
(16) Administration of Justice (750):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $53,094,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $57,120,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $66,526,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $55,445,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $56,476,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $57,912,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $59,937,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $62,665,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $59,940,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $65,090,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $61,751,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $63,405,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $63,708,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $63,959,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $65,672,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $65,153,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $67,840,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $67,246,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $70,695,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $70,066,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $76,218,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $75,564,000,000.
(17) General Government (800):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $24,000,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,263,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $23,616,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,527,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $24,258,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,540,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $24,995,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,616,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $25,640,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $25,247,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $26,497,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,039,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $27,377,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,724,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $28,210,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,520,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $29,089,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $28,437,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $29,996,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,353,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $30,900,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $30,304,000,000.
(18) Net Interest (900):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $331,271,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $331,271,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $342,703,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $342,703,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $370,274,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $370,274,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $419,485,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $419,485,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $506,103,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $506,103,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $608,623,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $608,623,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $683,623,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $683,623,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $752,067,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $752,067,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $806,870,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $806,870,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $859,077,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $859,077,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $905,971,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $905,971,000,000.
(19) Allowances (920):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $99,868,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $3,853,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $31,869,500,000.
(B) Outlays, $39,233,500,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $1,469,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $32,941,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $−35,734,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $2,211,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $−42,592,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−20,253,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $−51,675,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−36,471,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $−61,088,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−48,910,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $−68,207,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−61,194,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $−76,108,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−70,697,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $−84,378,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−80,463,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $−92,680,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−89,556,000,000.
(20) Undistributed Offsetting Receipts (950):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $−76,489,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−76,489,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $−75,946,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−75,946,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $−80,864,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−80,864,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $−86,391,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−86,391,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $−90,137,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−90,137,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $−90,503,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−90,503,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $−97,574,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−97,574,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $−98,916,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−98,916,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $−103,177,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−103,177,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $−105,117,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−105,117,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $−108,885,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−108,885,000,000.

TITLE II—RECONCILIATION

SEC. 201. RECONCILIATION IN THE SENATE.

Not later than October 1, 2013, the Committee on Finance of the Senate shall report changes in laws, bills, or resolutions within its jurisdiction to increase the total level of revenues by $975,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

TITLE III—RESERVE FUNDS

SEC. 301. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO REPLACE SEQUESTRATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that amend section 251A of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901a) or section 901(e) of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–240) to repeal or revise the enforcement procedures established under those sections, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023. For purposes of determining deficit-neutrality under this section, the Chairman may include the estimated effects of any amendment or amendments to the discretionary spending limits in section 251(c) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(c)).

SEC. 302. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUNDS TO PROMOTE EMPLOYMENT AND JOB GROWTH.

(a) EMPLOYMENT AND JOB GROWTH.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to employment and job growth, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

(b) SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that provide assistance to small businesses, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

(c) UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that provide assistance to the unemployed, or improve the unemployment compensation program, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years

2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

(d) TRADE AND INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to trade, including Trade Adjustment Assistance programs, trade enforcement, (including requiring timely and time-limited investigations into the evasion of antidumping and countervailing duties), or international agreements for economic assistance, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 303. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUNDS TO ASSIST WORKING FAMILIES AND CHILDREN.

(a) INCOME SUPPORT.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG), the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, child support enforcement programs, or other assistance to working families, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

(b) HOUSING ASSISTANCE.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to housing assistance, which may include working family rental assistance, or assistance provided through the Housing Trust Fund, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

(c) CHILD WELFARE.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to child welfare programs, which may include the Federal foster care payment system, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 304. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUNDS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION.

(a) PRE-KINDERGARTEN.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to a pre-kindergarten program or programs to serve low-income children, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

(b) CHILD CARE.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to child care assistance for working families, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

(c) HOME VISITING.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to a home visiting program or programs serving low-income mothers-to-be and low-income families, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 305. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR TAX RELIEF.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that provide tax relief, including extensions of expiring tax relief or refundable tax relief, relief that supports innovation by United States enterprises, relief for low and middle income families or relief that expands the ability of startup companies to benefit from the credit for research and experimentation expenses, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that the provisions in such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 306. RESERVE FUND FOR TAX REFORM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that reform the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure a sustainable revenue base that leads to a fairer, more progressive, and more efficient tax system than currently exists, and to a more competitive business environment for United States enterprises, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that the provisions in such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 307. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO INVEST IN CLEAN ENERGY AND PRESERVE THE ENVIRONMENT.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to—

(1) the reduction of our Nation's dependence on imported energy and the investment of receipts from domestic energy production;

(2) energy conservation and renewable energy development, or new or existing approaches to clean energy financing;

(3) the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program;

(4) low-income weatherization and energy efficiency retrofit programs;

(5) Federal programs for land and water conservation and acquisition;

(6) greenhouse gas emissions levels;

(7) the preservation, restoration, or protection of the Nation's public lands, oceans, coastal areas, or aquatic ecosystems;

(8) agreements between the United States and jurisdictions of the former Trust Territory;

(9) wildland fire management activities;

(10) the restructure of the nuclear waste program; or

(11) to provide assistance for fishery disasters declared by the Secretary of Commerce during 2012;

by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 308. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR INVESTMENTS IN AMERICA'S INFRASTRUCTURE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that provide for Federal investment in the infrastructure of the United States, which may include projects for transportation, housing, energy, water, telecommunications, including promoting investments in broadband infrastructure to expedite deployment of broadband to rural areas, or financing through tax credit bonds, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 309. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR AMERICA'S SERVICEMEMBERS AND VETERANS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to—

(1) eligibility for both military retired pay and veterans' disability compensation (concurrent receipt);

(2) the reduction or elimination of the offset between Survivor Benefit Plan annuities and Veterans' Dependency and Indemnity Compensation;

(3) the improvement of disability benefits or the process of evaluating and adjudicating benefit claims for members of the Armed Forces or veterans;

(4) the infrastructure needs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, including constructing or leasing space, to include leases of major medical facilities, and maintenance of Department facilities;

(5) supporting the transition of servicemembers to the civilian workforce, including by expanding or improving education, job training, and workforce development benefits, or other programs for servicemembers or veterans, which may include streamlining the process associated with Federal and State credentialing requirements; or

(6) supporting additional efforts to increase access to health care for veterans in rural areas through telehealth and other programs that reduce the need for such veterans to travel long distances to a medical facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs;

by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 310. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR HIGHER EDUCATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that make higher education more accessible and affordable, which may include legislation to increase college enrollment and completion rates for low-income students, standardize financial aid award letters, or promote college savings, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 311. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUNDS FOR HEALTH CARE.

(a) PHYSICIAN REIMBURSEMENT.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that increase payments made under, or permanently reform or replace, the Medicare Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) formula, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that the provisions in such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

(b) EXTENSION OF EXPIRING HEALTH CARE POLICIES.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that extend expiring Medicare, Medicaid, or other health provisions, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

(c) HEALTH CARE IMPROVEMENT.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that promote improvements to health care delivery systems, which may include changes that increase care quality, encourage efficiency, focus on chronic illness, or improve care coordination, improve overall population health, promote health equity or reduce health disparities, and that improve the fiscal sustainability of health care spending over the long term, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

(d) THERAPY CAPS.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that protect access to outpatient therapy services (including physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology services) through measures such as repealing or increasing the current outpatient therapy caps, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

(e) DRUG SAFETY.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports relating to drug safety, which may include legislation that permits the safe importation of prescription drugs approved by the Food and Drug Administration from a specified list of countries, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 312. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR INVESTMENTS IN OUR NATION'S COUNTIES AND SCHOOLS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that make changes to or provide for the reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–393) or make changes to chapter 69 of title 31, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Payments in Lieu of Taxes Act of 1976''), or both, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 313. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR A FARM BILL.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that provide for the reauthorization of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–246; 122 Stat. 1651) or prior Acts, authorize similar or related programs, provide for revenue changes, or any combination of the purposes under this section, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 314. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR INVESTMENTS IN WATER INFRASTRUCTURE AND RESOURCES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that relate to water infrastructure programs or make changes to the collection and expenditure of the Harbor Maintenance Tax (subchapter A of chapter 36 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986), by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 315. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR PENSION REFORM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports to strengthen and reform the pension system, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 316. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR HOUSING FINANCE REFORM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that promote appropriate access to mortgage credit for individuals and families or examine the role of government in the secondary mortgage market, which may include legislation to restructure government-sponsored enterprises, or provide for mortgage refinance opportunities, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 317. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR NATIONAL SECURITY.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that support Department of Defense auditability and acquisition reform efforts, which may include legislation that limits the use of incremental funding, or that promotes affordability or appropriate contract choice, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 318. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to the support of Overseas Contingency Operations, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 319. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR TERRORISM RISK INSURANCE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that make changes to or provide for the reauthorization of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act (Public Law 107–297; 116 Stat. 2322), by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such

legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 320. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR POSTAL REFORM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports to strengthen and reform the United States Postal Service, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 321. DEFICIT-REDUCTION RESERVE FUND FOR GOVERNMENT REFORM AND EFFICIENCY.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that achieve savings through the use of performance data or scientifically rigorous evaluation methodologies for the elimination, consolidation, or reform of Federal programs, agencies, offices, and initiatives, or the sale of Federal property, or the reduction of duplicative Federal financial literacy programs, or the reduction of duplicative Federal housing assistance programs or the reduction of duplicative Federal grant programs within the Department of Justice, or the reduction of duplicative Federal unmanned aircraft programs, or the reduction of duplicative Federal science, technology, engineering, and mathematics programs or the reduction of duplicative Federal economic development programs or the reduction of duplicative Federal support for entrepreneurs programs, or the reduction of duplicative preparedness grants by the Federal Emergency Management Agency or the reduction of duplicative Federal green building programs, or the reduction of duplicative Federal diesel emissions programs, or the reduction of duplicative early learning child care programs, or the reduction of duplicative domestic food assistance programs, or the reduction of duplicative teacher quality programs, or the reduction of duplicative food safety programs, or the reduction of duplicative Defense language and cultural training programs, or the reduction of duplicative nuclear nonproliferation programs, or reduce improper payments, and reduce the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023. The Chairman may also make adjustments to the Senate's pay-as-you-go ledger over 6 and 11 years to ensure that the deficit reduction achieved is used for deficit reduction only. The adjustments authorized under this section shall be of the amount of deficit reduction achieved.

SEC. 322. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO IMPROVE FEDERAL BENEFIT PROCESSING.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to business process changes at the Office of Personnel Management, which may include processing times for Federal employee benefits or other efficiencies or operational changes, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 323. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE VOTER REGISTRATION AND THE VOTING EXPERIENCE IN FEDERAL ELECTIONS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to the improvement of voter registration and the voting experience in Federal elections, which may include funding measures or other measures addressing voter registration or election reform, by the amounts provided by that legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 324. DEFICIT-REDUCTION RESERVE FUND TO PROMOTE CORPORATE TAX FAIRNESS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may reduce the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to corporate income taxes, which may include measures addressing loopholes used by large profitable corporations that pay no Federal income tax and use such savings to reduce the deficit. The Chairman may also make adjustment to the Senate's pay-as-you-go ledger over 6 and 11 years to ensure that the deficit reduction achieved is used for deficit reduction only. The adjustments authorized under this section shall be of the amount of deficit reduction achieved.

SEC. 325. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR IMPROVING FEDERAL FOREST MANAGEMENT.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports relating to the management of Federal forest lands, which may include—

(1) the increase of timber production within sustainable levels;

(2) the protection of communities from wildfires, or the enhancement of forest resilience to insects or disease; or

(3) the improvement, protection, or restoration of watersheds and forest ecosystems;

by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 326. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports to increase the transparency of financial and performance information for Federal agencies, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 327. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PROMOTE MANUFACTURING IN THE UNITED STATES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to investment in the manufacturing sector of the United States, which may include educational or research and development initiatives, public-private partnerships, or other programs, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 328. DEFICIT-REDUCTION RESERVE FUND FOR REPORT ELIMINATION OR MODIFICATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that achieve savings through the elimination, modification, or the reduction in frequency of congressionally mandated reports from Federal agencies, and reduce the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023. The Chairman may also make adjustments to the Senate's pay-as-you-go ledger over 6 and 11 years to ensure that the deficit reduction achieved is used for deficit reduction only. The adjustments authorized under this section shall be of the amount of deficit reduction achieved.

SEC. 329. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR THE MINIMUM WAGE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to income inequality, which may include an increase in the minimum wage, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 330. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO IMPROVE HEALTH OUTCOMES AND LOWER COSTS FOR CHILDREN IN MEDICAID.

(a) PROTECTING MEDICAID FOR AMERICA'S CHILDREN.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that preserve Medicaid's role in protecting children's health care, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

(b) MEDICALLY COMPLEX CHILDREN.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that improve the health outcomes and lowers costs for medically complex children in Medicaid, which may include creating or expanding integrated delivery models or improving care coordination, by the amounts

provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

(c) ORAL HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN WITH MEDICAID COVERAGE.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that improve the oral health outcomes for children covered by Medicaid, including legislation that may allow for risk-based disease prevention and comprehensive, coordinated chronic disease treatment approaches, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 331. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO IMPROVE FEDERAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, JOB TRAINING, AND REEMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would ensure effective administration, reduce inefficient overlap, improve access, and enhance outcomes of Federal workforce development, youth and adult job training, and reemployment programs, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 332. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR REPEAL OF MEDICAL DEVICE TAX.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the House and the Senate, motions, or conference reports related to innovation, high quality manufacturing jobs, and economic growth, including the repeal of the 2.3 percent excise tax on medical device manufacturers, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 333. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND PROHIBITING MEDICARE VOUCHERS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to access for Medicare beneficiaries, which may include legislation that provides beneficiary protections from voucher payments, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 334. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports related to efforts to ensure equal pay policies and practices, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 335. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to women's access to health care, which may include the protection of basic primary and preventative health care, family planning and birth control, or employer-provided contraceptive coverage for women's health care, by the amounts provided in such legislation for these purposes, provided that such legislation does not increase the deficit or revenues over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 336. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO REQUIRE STATE-WIDE BUDGET NEUTRALITY IN THE CALCULATION OF THE MEDICARE HOSPITAL WAGE INDEX FLOOR.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would adjust Medicare outlays, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 337. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR THE PROMOTION OF INVESTMENT AND JOB GROWTH IN UNITED STATES MANUFACTURING, OIL AND GAS PRODUCTION, AND REFINING SECTORS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for 1 or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that may result in strong growth in manufacturing, oil and gas production, and refining sectors of the economy through the approval and construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in the legislation for those purposes, provided that the legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 338. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO ALLOW STATES TO ENFORCE STATE AND LOCAL USE TAX LAWS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of any committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to allowing States to enforce State and local use taxes already owed under State law on remote sales by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023 and provided that such legislation may include requirements that States recognize the value of small businesses to the United States economy by exempting the remote sales of business inputs from sales and use taxes.

SEC. 339. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO THE DEFINITION OF FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to employer penalties in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which may include restoring a sensible definition of ''full-time employee'', provided that such legislation does not increase the deficit or revenues over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 340. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO THE LABELING OF GENETICALLY ENGINEERED FISH.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for 1 or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the labeling of genetically engineered fish, without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in the legislation for those purposes, provided that the legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 341. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR THE FAMILIES OF AMERICA'S SERVICEMEMBERS AND VETERANS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports relating to support for the families of members of the Armed Forces and veterans, including—

(1) expanding educational opportunities;

(2) providing increased access to job training and placement services;

(3) tracking and reporting on suicides of family members of members of the Armed Forces;

(4) ensuring access to high-quality and affordable healthcare; or

(5) improving military housing;

by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 342. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO ESTABLISHING A BIENNIAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports relating to establishing a biennial budget and appropriations process, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 343. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO THE REPEAL OR REDUCTION OF THE ESTATE TAX.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the repeal or reduction of the estate tax, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 344. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR DISABLED VETERANS AND THEIR SURVIVORS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to protecting the benefits of disabled veterans and their survivors, which may not include a chained CPI, by the amounts provided in that legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 345. DEFICIT REDUCTION FUND FOR NO BUDGET, NO OMB PAY.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget shall reduce allocations, pursuant to section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, equal to amounts withheld pursuant to one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between houses, motions, or conference reports related to the federal budget process, which may include prohibiting paying the salaries of either the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the OMB Deputy Director, or the OMB Deputy Director for Management, or all three officials, for the period of time after which the President fails to submit a budget, pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, and until the day the President submits a budget to Congress.

SEC. 346. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING HARDROCK MINING REFORM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for 1 or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to Federal land management, which may include provisions relating to budget deficit reduction, establishment of a reclamation fund, imposition of a locatable mineral royalty, revenue sharing with States, and improvements to the permitting process, by the amounts provided in the legislation for those purposes, provided that the legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 347. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO END "TOO BIG TO FAIL" SUBSIDIES OR FUNDING ADVANTAGE FOR WALL STREET MEGA-BANKS (OVER $500,000,000,000 IN TOTAL ASSETS).

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between houses, motions, or conference reports related to any subsidies or funding advantage relative to other competitors received by bank holding companies with over $500,000,000,000 in total assets, which may include elimination of any subsidies or funding advantage relative to other competitors resulting from the perception of Federal assistance to prevent receivership, or any subsidies or funding advantage relative to other competitors resulting from the perception of Federal assistance to facilitate exit from receivership, or to realign market incentives to protect the taxpayer, except in the case of Federal assistance provided in response to a natural disaster, without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2014 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2014 through 2023.

SEC. 348. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO AUTHORIZING CHILDREN ELIGIBLE FOR HEALTH CARE UNDER LAWS ADMINISTERED BY SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO RETAIN SUCH ELIGIBILITY UNTIL AGE 26.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to authorizing children who are eligible to receive health care furnished under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to retain such eligibility until age 26, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 349. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other levels in this resolution by the amounts provided by a bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report to support State and local law enforcement, which may include investing in State formula grants, to aid State and local law enforcement and criminal justice systems in implementing innovative, evidence-based approaches to crime prevention and control, including strategies such as specialty courts, multi-jurisdictional task forces, technology improvement, and information sharing systems, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 350. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL NETWORK FOR MANUFACTURING INNOVATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that relate to accelerating the development and deployment of advanced manufacturing technologies, advancing competitiveness, improving the speed and infrastructure with which small- and medium-sized enterprises and supply chains commercialize new processes and technologies, and informing industry-driven education and training, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 351. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO ENSURE THAT ANY CARBON EMISSIONS STANDARDS MUST BE COST EFFECTIVE, BASED ON THE BEST AVAILABLE SCIENCE, AND BENEFIT LOW-INCOME AND MIDDLE CLASS FAMILIES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports relating to carbon emission standards, that any such standards must be cost effective, based on best available science and benefit low-income and middle class families, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 352. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO ADDRESS THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR CERTAIN UNLAWFUL IMMIGRANT INDIVIDUALS WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports related to limiting undocumented immigrants from qualifying for federally subsidized health insurance coverage, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 353. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO ENSURE NO FINANCIAL INSTITUTION IS ABOVE THE LAW REGARDLESS OF SIZE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to criminal liability of a financial institution operating in the United States, which may include measures to address the criminal prosecution of a large financial institution operating in the United States or executives of a large financial institution operating in the United States, including for wrongdoing relating to money laundering or violation of sanctions laws, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 354. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO HELPING HOMEOWNERS AND SMALL BUSINESSES MITIGATE AGAINST FLOOD LOSS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to providing better coordination among flood mitigation programs to meet the unmet mitigation needs of homeowners and small businesses, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes,

provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 355. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO RESTORE FAMILY HEALTH CARE FLEXIBILITY BY REPEALING THE HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT AND FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNT RESTRICTIONS IN THE HEALTH CARE LAW.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between houses, motions, or conference reports that restore families' health care flexibility, which may include repealing tax increases on tax-advantaged accounts in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111–148; Stat. 119), without raising revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2014 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2014 through 2023.

SEC. 356. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR BARDA AND THE BIOSHIELD SPECIAL RESERVE FUND.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that may provide for full funding for the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority under section 319L of the Public Health Serve Act (42 U.S.C. 247d–7e) and the Special Reserve Fund under Section 319–F2 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d–6b) without raising new revenue by the amounts provided in such authorizing legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation does not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 357. DEFICIT-REDUCTION RESERVE FUND FOR POSTAL REFORM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to the United States Postal Service, which may include measures addressing the nonprofit postal discount for State and national political committees, and use such savings to reduce the deficit. The Chairman may also make adjustments to the Senate's pay-as-you-go ledger over 6 and 11 years to ensure that the deficit reduction achieved is used for deficit reduction only. The adjustments authorized under this section shall be of the amount of deficit reduction achieved.

SEC. 358. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO BROADEN THE EFFECTS OF THE SEQUESTER, INCLUDING ALLOWING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO DONATE A PORTION OF THEIR SALARIES TO CHARITY OR TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY DURING SEQUESTRATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that are related to broadening the impact of the sequester, which may include allowing Members of Congress to donate 20 percent of their salaries to charity or to the Department of the Treasury if the enforcement procedures established under section 251A of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 and section 901(e) of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 go into, or remain in effect, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 359. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO ENSURE THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT COLLABORATES WITH WESTERN STATES TO PREVENT THE LISTING OF THE SAGE-GROUSE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for 1 or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports that would improve the management of public land and natural resources, by the amounts provided in the legislation for those purposes, provided that the legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 360. DEFICIT-REDUCTION RESERVE FUND FOR EMINENT DOMAIN ABUSE PREVENTION.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget shall reduce allocations, pursuant to section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, equal to amounts withheld pursuant to one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports related to federal economic development assistance, which may include amendments to the eligibility of a State or local government to receive benefits, including restricting benefits when eminent domain has been used to take private property and transfer it to another private use, and reduce the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023. The Chairman may also make adjustments to the Senate's pay-as-you-go ledger over 6 and 11 years to ensure that the deficit reduction achieved is used for deficit reduction only. The adjustments authorized under this section shall be of the amount of deficit reduction achieved.

SEC. 361. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR EXPORT PROMOTION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that relate to promoting exports, which may include providing the President with trade promotion authority, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 362. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR THE PROHIBITION ON FUNDING OF THE MEDIUM EXTENDED AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to prohibiting use of funds for defense programs not authorized by law, which may include the Medium Extended Air Defense System (MEADS), without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 363. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF AGENCIES TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE CONTRACT MANAGEMENT AND CONTRACT OVERSIGHT.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would increase the capacity of Federal agencies to ensure effective contract management and contract oversight, including efforts such as additional personnel and training for Inspectors General at each agency, new reporting requirements for agencies to track their responses to and actions taken in response to Inspector General recommendations, urging the President to appoint permanent Inspectors General at agencies where there is currently a vacancy, and any other effort to ensure accountability from contractors and increase the capacity of Inspectors General to rout out waste, fraud, and abuse in all government contracting efforts, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 364. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR INVESTMENTS IN AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SERVICES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to Federal investment in civil air traffic control services, which may include air traffic management at airport towers across the United States or at facilities of the Federal Aviation Administration, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 365. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO ADDRESS PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE IN THE UNITED STATES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to addressing prescription drug abuse, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 366. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO SUPPORT RURAL SCHOOLS AND DISTRICTS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to the establishment of the Office of Rural Education Policy within the

Department of Education, which could include a clearinghouse for information related to the challenges of rural schools and districts or providing technical assistance within the Department of Education on rules and regulations that impact rural schools and districts, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 367. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO STRENGTHEN ENFORCEMENT OF FREE TRADE AGREEMENT PROVISIONS RELATING TO TEXTILE AND APPAREL ARTICLES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that relate to strengthening the enforcement of provisions of free trade agreements that relate to textile and apparel articles, which may include increased training with respect to, and monitoring and verification of, textile and apparel articles, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 368. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO ASSIST LOW-INCOME SENIORS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the Older Americans Act of 1965, which may include congregate and home-delivered meals programs, or other assistance to low-income seniors, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 369. RESERVE FUND TO END OFFSHORE TAX ABUSES BY LARGE CORPORATIONS.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports related to corporate income taxes, which may include measures to end offshore tax abuses used by large corporations, or measures providing for comprehensive tax reform that ensures a revenue structure that is more efficient, leads to a more competitive business environment, and may result in additional rate or deficit reductions, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 370. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO ENSURE THAT DOMESTIC ENERGY SOURCES CAN MEET EMISSIONS RULES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for 1 or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that are related to the research, development, and demonstration necessary for domestically abundant energy sources and current energy technologies to comply with present and future greenhouse gas emissions rules while still remaining economically competitive, by the amounts provided in the legislation for those purposes, provided that the legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 371. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO INCREASING FUNDING FOR THE INLAND WATERWAYS SYSTEM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to funding the inland waterways system, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 372. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR ACHIEVING FULL AUDITABILITY OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BY 2017.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to achieving full auditability of the financial statements Department of Defense by 2017, without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 373. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO IRAN.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to Iran, which may include efforts to clarify that the clearance and settlement of euro-denominated transactions through European Union financial institutions may not result in the evasion of or otherwise undermine the impact of sanctions imposed with respect to Iran by the United States and the European Union (including provisions designed to strictly limit the access of the Government of Iran to its foreign exchange reserves and the facilitation of transactions on behalf of sanctioned entities), by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 374. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PREVENT RESTRICTIONS TO PUBLIC ACCESS TO FISHING DOWNSTREAM OF DAMS OWNED BY THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for 1 or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports relating to prohibiting the Corps of Engineers from restricting public access to waters downstream of a Corps of Engineers dam, without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in the legislation for those purposes, provided that the legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 375. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO ADDRESS THE DISPROPORTIONATE REGULATORY BURDENS ON COMMUNITY BANKS.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to alleviating disproportionate regulatory burdens on community banks, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 376. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO AUTHORIZE PROVISION OF PER DIEM PAYMENTS FOR PROVISION OF SERVICES TO DEPENDENTS OF HOMELESS VETERANS UNDER LAWS ADMINISTERED BY SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between both Houses, motions, or conference reports related to care, services, or benefits for homeless veterans, which may include providing per diem payments for the furnishing of care for dependents of homeless veterans, without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 377. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO SUPPORT PROGRAMS RELATED TO THE NUCLEAR MISSIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND THE NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that support programs related to the nuclear missions of the Department of Defense and the National Nuclear Security Administration, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 378. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PHASE-IN ANY CHANGES TO INDIVIDUAL OR CORPORATE TAX SYSTEMS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports relating to the phase-in of any changes to the individual or corporate tax systems, including any changes to individual or corporate income tax exclusions, exemptions, deductions, or credits, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would

not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 379. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO INCREASES IN AID FOR TRIBAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to increases in aid for tribal education programs, including the Tribally Controlled Postsecondary Career and Technical Institutions Program administered by the Department of Education, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2014 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2014 through 2023.

SEC. 380. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO EXPEDITE EXPORTS FROM THE UNITED STATES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for 1 or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to promoting the export of goods, including manufactured goods, from the United States through reform of environmental laws, which may include the regulation of greenhouse gas emissions produced outside the United States by goods exported from the United States, without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in the legislation for those purposes, provided that the legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 381. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO SUPPORTING THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES PROGRAM AT LEVELS ROUGHLY EQUIVALENT TO PROPERTY TAX REVENUES LOST DUE TO THE PRESENCE OF FEDERAL LAND.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for 1 or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to that make changes to or provide for the reauthorization of the Payment in Lieu of Taxes program at levels roughly equivalent to lost tax revenues due to the presence of Federal land without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in the legislation for those purposes, provided that the legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 382. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO ENSURE THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL NOT NEGOTIATE OR SUPPORT TREATIES THAT VIOLATE AMERICANS' SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the implementation of treaties, including upholding the constitutional rights of citizens of the United States when treaties are negotiated, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 383. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR FEDERAL INVESTMENTS IN BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to Federal investments in biomedical research, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 384. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO UPHOLD SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS AND PREVENT THE UNITED STATES FROM ENTERING INTO THE UNITED NATIONS ARMS TRADE TREATY.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that relate to upholding Second Amendment rights, which shall include preventing the United States from entering into the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit or revenues over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

TITLE IV— BUDGET PROCESS

Subtitle A—Budget Enforcement

SEC. 401. DISCRETIONARY SPENDING LIMITS FOR FISCAL YEARS 2013 AND 2014, PROGRAM INTEGRITY INITIATIVES, AND OTHER ADJUSTMENTS.

(a) SENATE POINT OF ORDER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this resolution, it shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill or joint resolution (or amendment, motion, or conference report on that bill or joint resolution) that would cause the discretionary spending limits in this section to be exceeded.

(2) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEALS.—

(A) WAIVER.—This subsection may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by the affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(B) APPEALS.—Appeals in the Senate from the decisions of the Chair relating to any provision of this subsection shall be limited to 1 hour, to be equally divided between, and controlled by, the appellant and the manager of the bill or joint resolution. An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this subsection.

(b) SENATE DISCRETIONARY SPENDING LIMITS.—In the Senate and as used in this section, the term ''discretionary spending limit'' means—

(1) for fiscal year 2013—

(A) for the security category, $684,000,000,000 in budget authority; and

(B) for the nonsecurity category, $359,000,000,000 in budget authority; and

(2) for fiscal year 2014—

(A) for the revised security category, $497,352,000,000 in budget authority; and

(B) for the revised nonsecurity category, $469,023,000,000 in budget authority;

as adjusted in conformance with the adjustment procedures in this resolution.

(c) ADJUSTMENTS IN THE SENATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—After a bill or joint resolution relating to any matter described in paragraph (2) or (3) is placed on the calendar, or upon the offering of an amendment or motion thereto, or the laying down of an amendment between the Houses or a conference report thereon—

(A) the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may adjust the discretionary spending limits, budgetary aggregates, and allocations pursuant to section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, by the amount of new budget authority in that measure for that purpose and the outlays flowing therefrom; and

(B) following any adjustment under subparagraph (A), the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate may report appropriately revised suballocations pursuant to section 302(b) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to carry out this subsection.

(2) MATTERS DESCRIBED.—Matters referred to in paragraph (1) are as follows:

(A) EMERGENCY REQUIREMENTS.—Measures making appropriations in a fiscal year for emergency requirements (and so designated pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985).

(B) DISABILITY REVIEWS AND REDETERMINATIONS.—Measures making appropriations in a fiscal year for continuing disability reviews and redeterminations (consistent with section 251(b)(2)(B) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985).

(C) HEALTH CARE FRAUD AND ABUSE.—Measures making appropriations in a fiscal year for health care fraud and abuse control (consistent with section 251(b)(2)(C) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985).

(D) DISASTER RELIEF.—Measures making appropriations for disaster relief (and so designated pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985).

(3) ADJUSTMENTS FOR OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS.—

(A) ADJUSTMENTS.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may adjust the discretionary spending limits, allocations to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, and aggregates for one or more—

(i) bills reported by the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate or passed by the House of Representatives;

(ii) joint resolutions or amendments reported by the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(iii) amendments between the Houses received from the House of Representatives or Senate amendments offered by the authority of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; or

(iv) conference reports;

making appropriations for overseas contingency operations by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes (and so designated pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985), up to the amounts specified in subparagraph (B).

(B) AMOUNTS SPECIFIED.—The amounts specified are—

(i) for fiscal year 2013, $99,670,000,000 in budget authority (and outlays flowing therefrom); and

(ii) for fiscal year 2014, $50,000,000,000 in budget authority (and outlays flowing therefrom).

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term ''nonsecurity category'' means all discretionary appropriations not included in the security category;

(2) the term ''revised nonsecurity category'' means all discretionary appropriations other than in budget function 050;

(3) the term ''revised security category'' means discretionary appropriations in budget function 050; and

(4) the term ''security category'' means discretionary appropriations associated with agency budgets for the Department of Defense, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the National Nuclear Security Administration, the intelligence community management account (95–0401–0–1–054), and all budget accounts in budget function 150 (international affairs).

SEC. 402. POINT OF ORDER AGAINST ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) POINT OF ORDER.—Except as provided in subsection (b), it shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill, joint resolution, motion, amendment, amendment between the Houses, or conference report that would provide an advance appropriation.

(2) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ''advance appropriation'' means any new budget authority provided in a bill or joint resolution making appropriations for fiscal year 2014 that first becomes available for any fiscal year after 2014 or any new budget authority provided in a bill or joint resolution making appropriations for fiscal year 2015 that first becomes available for any fiscal year after 2015.

(b) EXCEPTIONS.—Advance appropriations may be provided—

(1) for fiscal years 2015 and 2016 for programs, projects, activities, or accounts identified in the joint explanatory statement of managers accompanying this resolution under the heading ''Accounts Identified for Advance Appropriations'' in an aggregate amount not to exceed $28,852,000,000 in new budget authority in each year;

(2) for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting; and

(3) for the Department of Veterans Affairs for the Medical Services, Medical Support and Compliance, and Medical Facilities accounts of the Veterans Health Administration.

(c) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—

(1) WAIVER.—In the Senate, subsection (a) may be waived or suspended only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(2) APPEAL.—An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under subsection (a).

(d) FORM OF POINT OF ORDER.—A point of order under subsection (a) may be raised by a Senator as provided in section 313(e) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

(e) CONFERENCE REPORTS.—When the Senate is considering a conference report on, or an amendment between the Houses in relation to, a bill, upon a point of order being made by any Senator pursuant to this section, and such point of order being sustained, such material contained in such conference report shall be stricken, and the Senate shall proceed to consider the question of whether the Senate shall recede from its amendment and concur with a further amendment, or concur in the House amendment with a further amendment, as the case may be, which further amendment shall consist of only that portion of the conference report or House amendment, as the case may be, not so stricken. Any such motion in the Senate shall be debatable. In any case in which such point of order is sustained against a conference report (or Senate amendment derived from such conference report by operation of this subsection), no further amendment shall be in order.

(f) INAPPLICABILITY.—In the Senate, section 402 of S. Con. Res. 13 (111th Congress) shall no longer apply.

SEC. 403. ADJUSTMENTS FOR SEQUESTRATION OR SEQUESTRATION REPLACEMENT.

(a) ADJUSTMENTS UNDER CURRENT LAW.—If the enforcement procedures established under section 251A of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 and section 901(e) of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 go into, or remain in effect, the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may adjust the allocation called for in section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633(a)) to the appropriate committee or committees of the Senate, and may adjust all other budgetary aggregates, allocations, levels, and limits contained in this resolution, as necessary, consistent with such enforcement.

(b) ADJUSTMENTS IF AMENDED.—If a measure becomes law that amends the discretionary spending limits established under section 251(c) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the adjustments to discretionary spending limits under section 251(b) of that Act, or the enforcement procedures established under section 251A of that Act or section 901(e) of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may adjust the allocation called for in section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633(a)) to the appropriate committee or committees of the Senate, and may adjust all other budgetary aggregates, allocations, levels, and limits contained in this resolution, as necessary, consistent with such measure.

SEC. 404. SENATE POINT OF ORDER AGAINST PROVISIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS LEGISLATION THAT CONSTITUTE CHANGES IN MANDATORY PROGRAMS AFFECTING THE CRIME VICTIMS FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the Senate, it shall not be in order to consider any appropriations legislation, including any amendment thereto, motion in relation thereto, or conference report thereon, that includes any provision or provisions affecting the Crime Victims Fund (as established by section 1402 of Public Law 98–473 (42 U.S.C. 10601)) which constitutes a change in a mandatory program that would have been estimated as affecting direct spending or receipts under section 252 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (as in effect prior to September 30, 2002) were they included in legislation other than appropriations legislation. A point of order pursuant to this section shall be raised against such provision or provisions as described in subsections (d) and (e).

(b) DETERMINATION.—The determination of whether a provision is subject to a point of order pursuant to this section shall be made by the Committee on the Budget of the Senate.

(c) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—This section may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn. An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

(d) GENERAL POINT OF ORDER.—It shall be in order for a Senator to raise a single point of order that several provisions of a bill, resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report violate this section. The Presiding Officer may sustain the point of order as to some or all of the provisions against which the Senator raised the point of order. If the Presiding Officer so sustains the point of order as to some of the provisions (including provisions of an amendment, motion, or conference report) against which the Senator raised the point of order, then only those provisions (including provision of an amendment, motion, or conference report) against which the Presiding Officer sustains the point of order shall be deemed stricken pursuant to this section. Before the Presiding Officer rules on such a point of order, any Senator may move to waive such a point of order as it applies to some or all of the provisions against which the point of order was raised. Such a motion to waive is amendable in accordance with rules and precedents of the Senate. After the Presiding Officer rules on such a point of order, any Senator may appeal the ruling of the Presiding Officer on such a point of order as it applies to some or all of the provisions on which the Presiding Officer ruled.

(e) FORM OF THE POINT OF ORDER.—When the Senate is considering a conference report on, or an amendment between the Houses in relation to, a bill, upon a point of order being made by any Senator pursuant to this section, and such point of order being sustained, such material contained in such conference report or amendment shall be deemed stricken, and the Senate shall proceed to consider the question of whether the Senate shall recede from its amendment and concur with a further amendment, or concur in the House amendment with a further amendment, as the case may be, which further amendment shall consist of only that portion of the conference report or House amendment, as the case may be, not so stricken. Any such motion shall be debatable. In any case in which such point of order is sustained against a conference report (or Senate amendment derived from such conference report by operation of this subsection), no further amendment shall be in order.

SEC. 405. SUPERMAJORITY ENFORCEMENT.

Section 425(a)(1) and (2) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 shall be subject to the waiver and appeal requirements of subsections (c)(2) and (d)(3) of section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

SEC. 406. PROHIBITING THE USE OF GUARANTEE FEES AS AN OFFSET.

(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to ensure that increases in guarantee fees charged by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac shall not be used to offset provisions that increase the deficit.

(b) BUDGETARY RULE.—In the Senate, for purposes of determining budgetary impacts to evaluate points of order under this resolution and the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, this resolution, any previous resolution, and any subsequent budget resolution, provisions contained in any bill, resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that increases any guarantee fees of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac shall not be scored with respect to the level of budget authority, outlays, or revenues contained in such legislation.

Subtitle B—Other Provisions

SEC. 411. OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE.

In the Senate, all committees are directed to review programs and tax expenditures within their jurisdiction to identify waste, fraud, abuse, or duplication, and increase the use of performance data to inform committee work. Committees are also directed

to review the matters for congressional consideration identified on the Government Accountability Office's High Risk list and the annual report to reduce program duplication. Based on these oversight efforts and performance reviews of programs within their jurisdiction, committees are directed to include recommendations for improved governmental performance in their annual views and estimates reports required under section 301(d) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to the Committees on the Budget.

SEC. 412. BUDGETARY TREATMENT OF CERTAIN DISCRETIONARY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.

In the Senate, notwithstanding section 302(a)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, section 13301 of the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990, and section 2009a of title 39, United States Code, the joint explanatory statement accompanying the conference report on any concurrent resolution on the budget shall include in its allocations under section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to the Committees on Appropriations amounts for the discretionary administrative expenses of the Social Security Administration and of the Postal Service.

SEC. 413. APPLICATION AND EFFECT OF CHANGES IN ALLOCATIONS AND AGGREGATES.

(a) APPLICATION.—Any adjustments of allocations and aggregates made pursuant to this resolution shall—

(1) apply while that measure is under consideration;

(2) take effect upon the enactment of that measure; and

(3) be published in the Congressional Record as soon as practicable.

(b) EFFECT OF CHANGED ALLOCATIONS AND AGGREGATES.—Revised allocations and aggregates resulting from these adjustments shall be considered for the purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 as allocations and aggregates contained in this resolution.

(c) BUDGET COMMITTEE DETERMINATIONS.—For purposes of this resolution the levels of new budget authority, outlays, direct spending, new entitlement authority, revenues, deficits, and surpluses for a fiscal year or period of fiscal years shall be determined on the basis of estimates made by the Committee on the Budget of the Senate.

SEC. 414. ADJUSTMENTS TO REFLECT CHANGES IN CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS.

Upon the enactment of a bill or joint resolution providing for a change in concepts or definitions, the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may make adjustments to the levels and allocations in this resolution in accordance with section 251(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 415. EXERCISE OF RULEMAKING POWERS.

Congress adopts the provisions of this title—

(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate, and as such they shall be considered as part of the rules of the Senate and such rules shall supersede other rules only to the extent that they are inconsistent with such other rules; and

(2) with full recognition of the constitutional right of the Senate to change those rules at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as is the case of any other rule of the Senate.

SEC. 416. CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE ESTIMATES.

(a) REQUEST FOR SUPPLEMENTAL ESTIMATES.—In the case of any legislative provision to which this section applies, the Congressional Budget Office, with the assistance of the Joint Committee on Taxation, shall prepare, to the extent practicable, as a supplement to the cost estimate for legislation affecting revenues, an estimate of the revenue changes in connection with such provision that incorporates the macroeconomic effects of the policy being analyzed. Any macroeconomic impact statement under the preceding sentence shall be accompanied by a written statement fully disclosing the economic, technical, and behavioral assumptions that were made in producing—

(1) such estimate; and

(2) the conventional estimate in connection with such provision.

(b) LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS TO WHICH THIS SECTION APPLIES.—This section shall apply to any legislative provision—

(1) which proposes a change or changes to law that the Congressional Budget Office determines, pursuant to a conventional fiscal estimate, has a revenue impact in excess of $5,000,000,000 in any fiscal year; or

(2) with respect to which the chair or ranking member of the Committee on the Budget of either the Senate or the House of Representatives has requested an estimate described in subsection (a).

TITLE V—OTHER MATTERS

SEC. 501. TO REQUIRE TRANSPARENT REPORTING ON THE ONGOING COSTS TO TAXPAYERS OF OBAMACARE.

When the Congressional Budget Office releases its annual Update to the Budget and Economic Outlook, the Congressional Budget Office shall report changes in direct spending and revenue associated with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111–148) and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–152), including the net impact on deficit, both with on-budget and off-budget effects. The information shall be similar to that provided in Table 2 of the Congressional Budget Office's March 20, 2010 estimate of the budgetary effects of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), as passed by the Senate.

SEC. 502. TO REQUIRE FULLER REPORTING ON POSSIBLE COSTS TO TAXPAYERS OF OBAMACARE.

When the Congressional Budget Office releases its annual update to the Budget and Economic Outlook, the Congressional Budget Office shall provide an analysis of the budgetary effects of 30 percent, 50 percent, and 100 percent of Americans losing employer sponsored health insurance and accessing coverage through Federal or State exchanges.

SEC. 503. TO REQUIRE FULLER REPORTING ON POSSIBLE COSTS TO TAXPAYERS OF ANY BUDGET SUBMITTED BY THE PRESIDENT.

When the Congressional Budget Office submits its report to Congress relating to a budget submitted by the President for a fiscal year under section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, such report shall contain—

(1) an estimate of the pro rata cost for taxpayers who will file individual income tax returns for taxable years ending during such fiscal year of any deficit that would result from the budget; and

(2) an analysis of the budgetary effects described in paragraph (1).

SEC. 504. SENSE OF SENATE ON UNDERUTILIZED FACILITIES OF THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION AND THEIR POTENTIAL USE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds the following:

(1) The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is the ninth largest real property holder of the Federal Government, with more than 124,000 acres and more than 4,900 buildings and other structures with a replacement value of more than $30,000,000,000.

(2) The annual operation and maintenance costs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration have increased steadily, and, as of 2012, the Administration has more than $2,300,000,000 in annual deferred maintenance costs.

(3) According to Office of Inspector General (OIG) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Administration continues to retain real property that is underutilized, does not have identified future mission uses, or is duplicative of other assets in its real property inventory.

(4) The Office of Inspector General, the Government Accountability Office (GAO), and Congress have identified the aging and duplicative infrastructure of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration as a high priority and longstanding management challenge.

(5) In the NASA Authorization Act of 2010, Congress directed the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to examine its real property assets and downsize to fit current and future missions and expected funding levels, paying particular attention to identifying and removing unneeded or duplicative infrastructure.

(6) The Office of Inspector General found at least 33 facilities, including wind tunnels, test stands, airfields, and launch infrastructure, that were underutilized or for which National Aeronautics and Space Administration managers could not identify a future mission use and that the need for these facilities have declined in recent years as a result of changes in the mission focus of the Administration, the condition and obsolescence of some facilities, and the advent of alternative testing methods.

(7) The Office of Inspector General found that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration has taken steps to minimize the costs of continuing to maintain some of these facilities by placing them in an inactive state or leasing them to other parties.

(8) The National Aeronautics and Space Administration has a series of initiatives underway that, in the judgment of the Office of Inspector General, are ''positive steps towards 'rightsizing' its real property footprint'', and the Office of Inspector General has concluded that ''it is imperative that NASA move forward aggressively with its infrastructure reduction efforts''.

(9) Existing and emerging United States commercial launch and exploration capabilities are providing cargo transportation to the International Space Station and offer the potential for providing crew support, access to the International Space Station, and missions to low Earth orbit while the National Aeronautics and Space Administration focuses its efforts on heavy-lift capabilities and deep space missions.

(10) National Aeronautics and Space Administration facilities and property that are underutilized, duplicative, or no longer needed for Administration requirements could be utilized by commercial users and State and local entities, resulting in savings for the Administration and a reduction in the burden of the Federal Government to fund space operations.

(b) SENSE OF SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the levels in this concurrent resolution assume—

(1) the National Aeronautics and Space Administration should move forward with plans to reduce its infrastructure and, to the greatest extent practicable, make property available for lease to a government or private tenant or report the property to the General Services Administration (GSA) for sale or transfer to another entity;

(2) the National Aeronautics and Space Administration should pursue opportunities for

streamlined sale or lease of property and facilities, including for exclusive use, to a private entity, or expedited conveyance or transfer to a State or political subdivision, municipality, instrumentality of a State, or Department of Transportation-licensed launch site operators for the promotion of commercial or scientific space activity and for developing and operating space launch facilities; and

(3) leasing or transferring underutilized facilities and properties to commercial space entities or State or local governments will reduce operation and maintenance costs for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, save money for the Federal Government, and promote commercial space and the exploration goals of the Administration and the United States.

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent the Rules Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 10 and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 10) authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent the concurrent resolution be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 10) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in the RECORD of March 22, 2013, under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JUNIOR AUXILIARIES DAY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 93, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 93) designating April 4, 2013, as National Association of Junior Auxiliaries Day.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 93) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2013

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 9; 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 time until 11:30 a.m. be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each with the first 30 minutes controlled by the majority and the second 30 minutes controlled by the Republicans; further, that at 11:30 a.m., the Senate proceed to executive session under the previous order; and, finally, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, there will be a rollcall vote at noon tomorrow on the nomination and confirmation of Patty Shwartz to be U.S. circuit judge for the Third Circuit.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:56 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, April 9, 2013, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

BRIAN C. DEESE, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, VICE HEATHER A. HIGGINBOTTOM, RESIGNED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be general

GEN. PHILIP M. BREEDLOVE

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate April 8, 2013:

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

MARY JO WHITE, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING JUNE 5, 2014.