United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 159 WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2013 No. 48

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 11, 2013.

I hereby appoint the Honorable VIRGINIA FOXX to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

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

REGULATE THE REGULATORS—THE REINS ACT

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

Mr. POE of Texas. The regulators continue their reign of regulation terror on businesses across America.

Jerry McKinney, from Crosby, Texas, wrote me this:

> I work in the industrial chemical business and I see the result of government regulations like those from the EPA. These cost my company good money, with no positive effects.

Larry, a doctor from Kingwood, Texas, said this to me:

> Small businesses need relief from the ridiculous OSHA standards. Our veterinary practice is having to spend hours and money trying to decipher all the regulations some bureaucrat has dreamed up to justify his job.

Madam Speaker, the fourth branch of government meddles in every aspect of our lives. In the name of saving us from ourselves, the regulators regulate, regulate, and when they're through, they regulate some more, without regard to the consequences of these expensive government mandates. Sometimes they put businesses out of business because of their regulations.

Dana, from southeast Texas, writes me this:

> I owned a business—bought a bowling center, my dream job, in 2007. Was totally unprepared for the amount of regulation and fees and taxes. I employed 32 people. I went bankrupt in October of 2012 because of this. I have the drive and desire and a great business plan for a new business that would employ 20 to 30 people, but I'm not sure I want to dive back into all this.

Michael, from Houston, said:

> Where should I begin? Real estate market is flooded with, yes, new regulations. It seems that banks are prevented from foreclosing on homeowners who are basically living in the house for free for several years.

Susan, a small business owner in Texas, says this:

> Our small business has operated on a shoestring for several years, and we started way back in 1978, but I fear we are at an end. We manufacture 400 products, all made from the same materials. But the new product safety regulations require we certify every product to the tune of about $500 per product, even though they're all made from the same materials. Do the math: $175,000 or more just to get these same products that we've been making since 1978 certified by the Federal Government. Add on the health care fines and the rising cost of gasoline and the rising property and sales taxes and income taxes—well, you know the rest of the story.

Madam Speaker, this ought not to be—regulators putting businesses out of business by dreaming up new, sometimes silly rules that don't solve any problem. The regulators dream up new rules to add to their 100,000 commandments every day.

Regulators regulate. That's what they do. That's what they like to do. But their addiction to power and to new, unnecessary rules must stop. Burdensome, expensive Federal regulations cost $2 trillion a year. What does that mean? That's the same amount of money all American citizens and corporations paid in income tax in 2008—$2 trillion. A lot of money.

Regulators have no concept of the cost of running a business. They don't even understand the rules and business costs that can put some American businesses out of business. So Congress should approve any regulation that reaches a certain cost threshold or has a significant economic impact. That's why I'm an original cosponsor of the REINS Act. The REINS Act requires Congress, the elected, to approve the expensive rules of the unelected or the rules will not take effect. If a new rule affects the economy in the United States over $100 million throughout the country, Congress must approve this new rule or it does not take effect by the rulemakers.

We should make new rules for the rulemakers. That's what our responsibility is. So it's time for Congress to rein in the out-of-control government and start regulating regulators.

And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO ANNE SMEDINGHOFF

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

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, on Sunday, April 6, at 11 a.m., America lost five of our best and brightest in Afghanistan when the convoy they were traveling in, along with an Afghan doctor, was attacked by a suicide bomber. One of them, 25-

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year-old Anne T. Smedinghoff, who grew up in River Forest, Illinois, in the Seventh Congressional District where her family still lives, became the first U.S. State Department officer to die in Afghanistan since the 1970s. She had less than 4 months left to serve in Afghanistan.

Secretary of State Kerry said in Istanbul, where he is on a diplomatic trip:

> A brave American was determined to brighten the light of learning through books written in the native tongue of the students that she had never met, but whom she felt compelled to help, and she was met by cowardly terrorists determined to bring darkness and death to total strangers.

Anne was killed while delivering donated textbooks to children at a new school. For Anne, who could have remained relatively safe in the embassy, delivering these books was essential to her mission, just as appearing on one of the most watched Afghan television shows to explain to the Afghan people the similarities between Eid, a Muslim holiday that celebrates giving and sharing, and Thanksgiving. Both give thanks for life's blessings, and Anne Smedinghoff discussed how she and her family celebrated back at home.

Anne recently worked on a campaign to end gender violence by producing and distributing videos to the press across the country and was rewarded when she and her colleagues saw photographs of Afghan men in markets wearing purple ribbons, a symbol of the campaign.

Her parents, Tom and Mary Beth Smedinghoff, said the foreign service was a calling, and Afghanistan was her second deployment, an assignment for which she had volunteered after a tour in Caracas, Venezuela. She died her parents said, doing a job she thought must be done. They said:

> She particularly enjoyed the opportunity to work directly with the Afghan people, and was always looking for opportunities to reach out and help make a difference in the lives of those living in a country ravaged by war. We are consoled knowing that she was doing what she loved and that she was serving her country by helping to make a positive difference in the world.

Before she joined the State Department, Anne served on the board of directors for the Ulman Cancer Fund for Young Adults' 4K for Cancer program, spending a summer cycling across the United States to raise money and awareness. She was full of life and hope. She rode her bicycle from the Red Sea to the Dead Sea. She was once photographed with a boa constrictor around her neck in South America.

□ 1010

The residents of the Seventh Congressional District join me in honoring her life and work. Her bravery, her focus on using public diplomacy for positive change, her vision of the human potential, wherever it might be, sets a standard that it behooves all of us to try and emulate.

Today a flag is being flown across the United States Capitol in her honor in recognition of her service to our country. My thoughts and prayers are with her parents, brothers, sisters, and friends during these difficult days. She is indeed a hero.

WHO WILL SPEAK FOR UNDERPRIVILEGED WOMEN?

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

Mr. PERRY. I'm wondering who will speak for underprivileged women, not only in the United States, but very particularly in Philadelphia.

I'm here today to talk about an uncomfortable subject which no one seems to want to talk about. It is the Gosnell trial in Philadelphia. The media doesn't want to talk about it—not NBC, CBS, ABC, CNBC, not Fox, and not the leaders of our Nation, not the President. It is uncomfortable, and I'd ask you to bear with me while I read to you some of the testimony that comes from this trial because I feel we must.

This man is charged with killing seven babies and murdering one woman. The prosecutors believe Mr. Gosnell killed hundreds of infants and destroyed the related records so we will never know. Mr. Gosnell ''induced labor, forced the live birth of viable babies in the sixth, seventh, eighth month of pregnancy and then killed those babies by cutting into the back of the neck with scissors and severing their spinal cord.'' He called it ''snipping.'' Sherry West, one of his clinic employees, testified on Monday that one newborn at the clinic was 18 to 24 inches long when it was killed:

> There were scores more. At least one other mother died following an abortion in which Gosnell punctured her uterus and then sent her home. He left an arm and a leg of a partially aborted fetus in the womb of another woman, and then told her he did not need to see her when she became sick days later, having developed a temperature of 106 degrees. He perforated bowels, cervixes, and uteruses. He left women sterile.

The clinic reeked of animal urine. Furniture and blankets were stained with blood, and instruments were not properly sterilized, according to the grand jury report.

These women are the most vulnerable women in our society, and they were, indeed, most likely at their darkest hour. They went to this clinic to seek help, and they did not know that this man was not qualified nor was his staff qualified to perform any of the procedures that they performed:

> There were bags and bottles holding aborted fetuses scattered throughout the building. There were jars lining shelves with severed feet that he kept for no medical purpose.

These women came because they were probably the product of violent home lives, where they felt they had no options. They came to this care provider, who was essentially unregulated. This does fall into the purview of the United States Attorney General because these patients oftentimes traveled across State lines.

This is an isolated incident. It would be disingenuous to think that all caregivers fall into this category because we know that they do not. But we also know that if there is one, there may likely be others, and that is, indeed, sad.

Prosecutors say that none of Gosnell's staff were licensed nurses or doctors and that a 15-year-old student performed anesthesia with potentially lethal narcotics.

Abortions after the 24th week are illegal in Pennsylvania. However, Gosnell allegedly aborted and killed babies in the sixth and seventh month of pregnancy and charged more for bigger babies. He also took extra precautions with white women from the suburbs, according to a grand jury report. He allegedly ushered them into a slightly cleaner area because he thought they would be more likely to file a complaint.

The abortions of the biggest babies allegedly were scheduled for Sundays, when the clinic was closed. The only person allowed to assist with such cases was Gosnell's wife, Pearl Gosnell. She was one of nine employees charged with him as well in this, and she has not obtained a lawyer at this time. He allegedly took the files home with him from the patients that he dealt with and then disposed of them.

I would say this. It gives me great pain and sorrow to have this entered and read into the RECORD. But since the media outlets refuse to cover this because it's uncomfortable, because it might not meet with their agenda, and because many of the leaders of this country refuse to discuss it, I think it's important that we have it read into the RECORD so that this history and their stories don't remain untold—the stories of these women in their most desperate hours, and the stories of these little babies that will never know the privilege of being an American, that will never realize their dream.

I would make this charge today: Mr. President, your silence is deafening. Are you so blind, are you so intractable, are you so extreme that you yourself can't even call this out for what it is, something that is reprehensible? Pro-life or pro-choice, this is reprehensible. As a father, as I am, of two little girls, it is worthy of your attention, it is worthy of your leadership, it is worthy of your direction.

DON'T FILIBUSTER GUN CONTROL LEGISLATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Today, the bodies of this Congress have an opportunity to save lives. In fact, they have an historic moment. They actually have the ability to act for once after a tragedy of the proportions of

Newtown, having not acted over the years—after Columbine, the theater in Aurora, the horrific tragedy at Virginia Tech, and many, many others, including that of our colleague in Arizona.

So I am hoping that as we stand here today that the right consciences of those who have the opportunity in the other body to pass sensible gun legislation will do so. In order to aid them, to listen to the voices of the people, 50 Members of the United States House of Representatives have asked for those in the other body not to filibuster any gun legislation, but to have an up-or-down vote. The reason we say that is because of the massive numbers of loss of children, some 80 children who die every month by gunshot, the thousands of teenagers who pick up guns to resolve differences, and the million people who were killed by guns since the assassination of Martin Luther King and John F. Kennedy.

This is a Nation that is gunned, but not safe. The tragedy that happened in my area just a few days ago with the slashing of students by another student at a community college. Just imagine—14 people were injured—if that person had had an assault weapon with multiple rounds, similar to the heinous acts that occurred in Newtown, when 155 rounds were shot in 5 minutes. So I'm hoping that this letter will move those Senators not to filibuster and to let us have an up-or-down vote.

I also rise today to encourage us to do the right thing and to vote ''no'' on the National Labor Relations Board legislation that wants to stop the President from his Presidential authority, and that is to make sure that the government runs by appointing people to the NLRB through recess appointments, among others, just like President George Bush did 140 times, to make recess appointments to be able to move the government forward. In contrast to the D.C. Court of Appeals decision that ruled that our President cannot, three other decisions and other court decisions said you can.

We need to vote ''no'' on this legislation. It is destructive, it is only to stall government, and it is only to stop the work of the NLRB, where workers and corporations come together to solve their problems.

What we should be doing is working to create jobs. That's what Americans want us to do. They want us to make it in America. They want us to build up manufacturing. They want us to create and pass legislation, as we introduced yesterday with whip HOYER, 38 pieces of legislation that we all are joining to support to create jobs.

One thing they don't want us to do is to pass anything with a chained CPI on Social Security because Social Security is solvent. Those people are not the fault of any deficit or any debt; they are hardworking people. I will not ever vote for a chained CPI. And I am not a whiner.

□ 1020

I, frankly, see those people in my district who are supported by Social Security and Medicare, which they earn because they work for it. They did not have it as a handout, because seniors are important and seniors believe in young people. We should protect our seniors; we should invest in education.

I salute the President for his early pre-K initiative, that every child should have the opportunity to be in a pre-K program, supporting our teachers. So here we are; this is what we should be doing. We should be promoting job creation to bring down unemployment and to, in fact, get those who are underemployed and those who have completely gone out of the marketplace. They can be hired, they have skills, including our disabled.

Then we should continue to invest in education, including higher education, making it easier for parents to get the Parent PLUS Loans to send their children to college and putting the burden on colleges to make sure that these young people finish college and not go in and get debt and, therefore, come out with a large debt and no degree.

This is what America is about, investing in young people, protecting our seniors, and realizing that the chained CPI is not the way to go on Social Security. It's to save it because they earned it.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DEBATE COACH WILLIAM ''BILLY'' TATE, JR.

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

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the life and legacy of William Woods Tate, Jr., a beloved educator and high school debate coach, who was an extraordinary mentor to me and so many others. Coach Billy Tate, as he was known, was an accomplished speech and debate coach in Alabama and Tennessee for over 40 years. Coach Tate, sadly, passed away suddenly on Saturday, April 6, 2013, at the age of 69, leaving behind a legacy defined by his commitment to developing the oratorical skills of future leaders.

At the time of his death, Coach Tate was a five-diamond debate coach at Montgomery Bell Academy in Nashville, Tennessee, where he taught speech and coached winning debate teams for more than 30 years. He was an outstanding teacher and an inspirational leader in the National Forensic League, the oldest and largest honor society for high school students in speech and debate.

During his illustrious career, Coach Tate had multiple national finalists in policy debate and extemporaneous speaking. In 1999, his policy debate team reached the national finals, and in 2006 Coach Billy Tate made coaching history as two of his policy teams closed out the national finals winning the first-ever NFL co-citizenship in policy debate.

He was an extraordinary individual. Not only did he teach his students so brilliantly. In his spare time, he loved bridge. He was a devoted son, who always saw to the care of his beloved mother in Selma. Coach Tate also managed to keep up with his debate students through the years and relished their life successes. He demanded excellence from his students, teaching them not only the importance of debate prep and strategy, but also took great pride in exposing his students to the very best restaurants, and that included important table etiquette that accompanied such an experience.

Although Coach Tate spent the bulk of his career at Montgomery Bell Academy in Nashville, he began his speech and debate experience in 1975 at Selma High School in his beloved town of Selma, Alabama. I know that his students at Montgomery Bell Academy believe they had his best coaching years; but I am here to tell you from personal experience that the 1970s and 1980s at Selma High School honed his craft and greatly influenced his strategy. He produced some of the finest high school debaters the State of Alabama has ever seen to date, and I am proud to say that I was one of those students.

Billy Tate was my debate coach for 3 years at Selma High School. For a public high school in rural Alabama, we dominated the competition and won many State championships. For many years, the walls of Selma High School's library were lined with the hundreds of debate and speech trophies won by the teams coached by Billy Tate. Debate was more than an average extracurricular activity; it was a serious discipline. Those of us who had the privilege of being coached by him knew that it was a serious time commitment, a commitment of both time, money, and talent.

To be on Billy Tate's debate team, a student had to commit to attending summer debate camps and countless weekend travel to tournaments all across Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Georgia during the academic year. It was not the average debate class. I know that my life journey would not have been possible were it not for my debate experience under the tutelage of Coach Billy Tate at Selma High School.

I know that I speak on behalf of all the debaters at Selma High School and Montgomery Bell Academy in expressing our sincere gratitude for Coach Tate's guidance, his dedication, and unwavering belief in our abilities. I especially dedicate this tribute to the Selma High School debaters I had the privilege of competing with—Tom Bundenthal, Lawrence ''Bubba'' Wall, Derek Edwards, Max Andrews, John Polk, Leslie Looper, and Crystal Boykin, to name a few.

To say thank you to Coach Tate seems woefully inadequate, but I do

take comfort in knowing that his legacy will live on through those of us he influenced. May Coach Billy Tate always be remembered for the excellence he inspired in all of us.

Today, I ask my colleagues in the United States Congress to join with me and the hundreds of debaters he taught in his 40 years of coaching in celebrating the life and legacy of a native Alabamian and a nationally renowned debate coach, Mr. William Woods Tate, Jr.

HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE CARDINALS

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the University of Louisville Cardinals, who went to a second straight Final Four this season and returned home national champions.

Going into the NCAA tournament, the question was whether the Cards' stifling defense would be enough to win it all. Well, we'll never know, because the country's best defense became the best offense too, shooting 52 percent to a tournament best 79.5 points per game. That's more than crazy. It's ''Russdiculous.''

They said he never met a shot he didn't like; but during the past month, Russ Smith hardly took a shot he couldn't make, setting Louisville's new tournament-scoring record and earning the respect and affection of a city. The All-American, regional MVP, and defensive phenom no longer cares who's scoring, as long as the jersey reads Louisville.

When these guys say the team motto ''Louisville First, Cards Forever,'' they mean it. We saw it when the team rallied around their injured teammate, Kevin Ware, as he courageously repeated, ''I'm fine, just win the game,'' before being carted off the court during the Elite Eight. We saw it when they came together to ''Win for Ware.'' But before that, the Cards won with Ware. On this team, Kevin was one of eight Cardinals to score double figures in a tournament game. That doesn't even include the players who set this team off on some of the year's most unlikely and electrifying rallies.

Walk-on Tim Henderson scored six of his season's 22 points in 45 seconds to cut a late 12-point Final Four deficit in half. All year, Stephen Van Treese snatched rebounds from future NBA big men, denied them in the paint, and set precision picks strong enough to stop a truck. And freshman Montrezl Harrell provided a constant spark off the bench, his unrelenting effort the only thing close to matching his natural ability.

Peyton Siva embodies the ''Louisville First'' spirit. Happier setting up his teammates than knocking it down himself, Peyton reminded the Nation he can also drop 18 points on the Player of the Year in the championship game. Unselfish, but a thief, he'll graduate with the school record for steals in a season and career.

Big man Gorgui Deing is unselfish, too. Louisville's record-setting shotblocker and monster rebounder used his jump shot to pull defenders and find teammates for six assists in the championship game—three to Chane Behanan, who tied Louisville's single-season dunk record, officially making him the latest doctor of dunk. Cutting down the nets in Atlanta was great, but they should give Chane the backboards because he owned them all night.

□ 1030

This team also showed tremendous perseverance. Wayne Blackshear overcame two shoulder injuries to reach the starting lineup. And it's a good thing: he hit threes to start the Cards' scoring in both championship halves.

But the Final Four's breakout star was its most outstanding player, Luke Hancock, who scored his career-high in the semifinal and then broke it 2 days later. Luke didn't use the force; he was a force. And nothing would stop him from winning for his father, for Kevin Ware and, as always, for Louisville.

That's what Coach Rick Pitino taught this team, the master motivator, who's done everything this week but cartwheels on the Moon, built a team and mentored men we should be proud of.

And like Pitino, Jeff Walz will tell you this isn't about one person or even one team. It's about a program and a community. Trust him. That mad scientist led U of L's women to four straight NCAA tournament upsets, including what is considered to be the biggest upset in college basketball history.

Behind the jaw-dropping plays of Shoni and Jude Shimmel, sharpshooting of Antonita Slaughter, tenacity and skill of Sara Hammond, Sherrone Vails, and Bria Smith, and the unbelievable toughness of Monique Reid and Shelby Harper, the national runners-up crashed nearly every party around.

These players and coaches define an extraordinary program. Only three coaches in NCAA history have gone to a men's and women's basketball final in the same season. Louisville is the first to add a BCS Bowl victory to the mix.

But if you think it's the last, you don't know Athletics Director Tom Jurich. With sparkling new facilities, outstanding coaches, and stellar student athletes in competition and class, Tom has every U of L sport at the top of their game and climbing.

The university and the community have thrived along with them, continuing a proud tradition that began with Peck Hickman and rocketed to the top under the great Denny Crum.

I'm honored to congratulate the University of Louisville for its unparalleled winning streak, capped off by the Cards' third Men's Basketball National Championship. Go Cards.

THE AMERICAN JOBS MATTER ACT

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

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about our most pressing issue facing my district and our country, and that is boosting American manufacturing and creating jobs here at home.

Just this week, I introduced a bill called the American Jobs Matter Act. This commonsense bill would enable the Federal Government to find out how contracted work would impact American jobs. Contractors would be able to include how their offers would create American jobs.

My bill would raise the importance of creating jobs at home in our country and building our manufacturing industry here as Federal contractors are considered for their jobs. It would also help ensure that taxpayer money is being used to create jobs in places like Rockford, Moline, Galesburg, and Peoria, and in cities and towns across my district, across my State, and across our country—not overseas.

I'm proud to say that this bill has been incorporated into Congressman HOYER's Make It In America plan, which seeks to promote American workers, jobs, innovation, and infrastructure.

Madam Speaker, we need to do more to create jobs and support American manufacturing. My bill does just that.

THE IMMINENT THREAT POSED BY NORTH KOREA

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

Ms. GABBARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address the recent developments and the growing instability on the Korean Peninsula.

Today we are seeing an increasingly belligerent hostile stance by the North Korean regime toward its perceived enemies. For some, this may sound like a far-off annoyance, saber rattling coming from the East; however, nothing could be farther from the truth for families in my home State of Hawaii and in Guam who sit as named threats by the increasingly aggressive and unpredictable regime led by Kim Jong Un.

He has demonstrated a pattern of belligerent threats and even unprovoked attacks on South Korea in recent years. This new leader has adopted many of the same destructive policies of the past in his pursuit of nuclear weapons and ballistic missile capabilities. He's revealed the willingness to sacrifice the safety and needs of the North Korean people in order to advance his hostile, unproductive agenda. Rather than caring for his people, Kim

Jong Un remains singularly focused on making provocations and establishing a ''military first'' doctrine.

Along with Guam and Alaska, Hawaii has been placed in the crosshairs of this intensifying threat. It's crucial for the United States, and Hawaii in particular, to take these threats from North Korea seriously. We cannot be complacent. We cannot afford a mistake that puts the lives of our families at risk.

Intelligence and previous missile launches have shown that Hawaii, Guam, and Alaska are within range of North Korea's intercontinental ballistic missile capabilities. New intelligence suggests that North Korea may be planning multiple missile launches in the coming days beyond the two Musudan mobile missiles it has fueled, raised, and positioned along its east coast.

Our Nation's focus and commitment to the security and stability of the Asia-Pacific region now faces a serious test. As we rebalance and realign our presence in the region, it's vitally important that we get it right in terms of the strategy, as well as resourcing.

The United States has an important interest in maintaining peace on the Korean Peninsula, as well as in the Asia-Pacific region. We must stand together with our allies in the region ready to respond to any contingency, and we must take a forward-leaning approach to address this imminent threat to prevent further provocations and to protect our families and our national assets.

The international community has clearly stated its opposition to his actions and threats, but we need to ask more of those influential nations that have remained quiet. China, in particular, should be playing a strong role as a deterrent of North Korea's military ambitions.

We're also seeing a destabilizing effect outside of the region as a result of the dangerous partnership between the two isolated rogue states of Iran and North Korea as regimes working together to develop more powerful weapons, missile delivery systems, and nuclear capabilities.

It would be safe to assume that by addressing the threat on our country by North Korea, we are also affecting Iran and their nuclear ambitions.

I commend our military commanders for their firm and confident resolve that they've shown in response to the endless posturing and provocative behavior of North Korea; however, from a U.S. policy standpoint, it's time to make a serious change. Such a change must be comprehensive, carving a new path forward using diplomatic and military means in order to break the cycle of threats that has existed for far too long.

The carrot-and-stick approach that we've taken in the past has not effectively deterred North Korea's nuclear ambitions. To the contrary, we continue to face escalated threats which now extend beyond the region.

Considering the serious threats we face today and the fact that the threat of missile attack on the U.S. is likely to grow, I'm deeply concerned about the President's proposed cuts to the missile defense budget in fiscal year 2014. This is a portion of the budget that should be increased, not decreased, to ensure the safety and security of our people.

In the coming days and months, I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues in pushing for action and resources to ensure that Hawaii and our country is protected and any potential attack is prevented.

□ 1040

NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF SEQUESTRATION ON LOCAL EMPLOYERS

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

Mr. CONNOLLY. During the past 2 weeks, I met with local employers and constituents who expressed continued frustration with the negative effects of sequestration in our community. Republicans and Democrats alike spent most of the past year warning of the dire consequences these cuts would have on our economy, and yet the recently adopted continuing resolution for the rest of the fiscal year bakes in those very harmful cuts. I share my constituents' frustrations, which is why I voted against the self-inflicted wound on our economy.

Every community in America will feel the ripple effects of sequestration, but my northern Virginia district will be disproportionately impacted because of the high concentration of military facilities, Federal employees and businesses that partner with the Federal Government. We do cybersecurity, custodial services, and everything in between. I met with a number of these employers. They expressed real concern that the lingering uncertainty over sequestration threatens job security and the ability to remain competitive economically.

I fear the consequences of sequestration and what that will mean to small businesses that don't have the same resources as their larger counterparts to weather these steep cuts. I visited one company with 200 employees who are developing a laser-based flight guidance system for NASA through a Small Business Innovation Research grant. Just recently, it announced that their technology is being deployed through a contract with the Defense Department to assist with remote detection of explosives to better protect our troops in the field. They're worried about cutbacks.

The Small Business Administration's fiscal '13 budget will be reduced by more than $92 million as a result of sequestration, and more than one-fourth of those cuts will come from the Small Business Loan Program, directly affecting small businesses, veteran-owned businesses, and female- and minority-owned businesses in their ability to hire. As my colleagues know, the Federal Government has a small business contracting goal of 23 percent. We have fallen short of that goal in the last 6 years, and sequestration will actually make it harder to ever achieve that goal.

I also met with my local chamber of commerce to discuss its desire to expand the regional Metro system here in the Nation's Capital to accommodate future growth and development throughout the region. The most recent census data says our community has the highest concentration of mega-commuters in the country. There is no question we need to invest more in our regional transportation network. This particular proposal enjoys bipartisan support, but yet, under sequestration, it's headed nowhere because the New Starts program, under the Federal Transit Administration, will be cut by as much as $100 million because of sequestration.

Whether it's cuts in small business assistance or in transportation, sequestration is reducing our investments in the very things that create jobs and provide for our competitive advantage in the future. Local realtors I met with expressed concern about the uncertainty of sequestration putting the brakes on sales just as regional and national housing markets are finally showing signs of a robust recovery. The slow-down in Federal spending is already creating a drag on local economies. A 22 percent drop in defense spending shaved nearly 3 points off economic growth in the last quarter, and the CBO projects it could be half of the growth otherwise projected in all of 2013 because of sequestration.

Madam Speaker, I don't argue that cuts are needed, but sequestration uses a mindless, meat-ax approach in which nothing is spared and nothing is differentiated. I've long called for Members of the House to work together in a bipartisan fashion and in a balanced way—balanced between revenue growth and discrete spending cuts—to move forward and reduce the debt. This week's delivery of the President's budget is a heartening sign because he does just that. I hope we will heed his budget. I hope we will try to work with the President to achieve a balanced approach that replaces this mindless sequestration.

THE HOUSING FAIRNESS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. I thank the many persons who have labored long and hard to help fulfill Dr. Martin Luther King's dream. He devoted his life to transforming neighborhoods into brotherhoods, and I'd like to speak to you today about this concept because, to do this—to transform neighborhoods into brotherhoods—we must become

neighbors. We have to have communities wherein all persons are a part of the fiber and fabric of the various communities that we live in.

Dr. King was in Memphis, Tennessee, in 1968, and he was there on this mission of bringing people together. He was there to help with some issues related to workers and workers' rights. Unfortunately, on April 4 of 1968, Dr. King was assassinated. His life's work did not end, however. His dream is still alive, and because he dared to transform neighborhoods into brotherhoods, the President of the United States at that time, President Johnson, took up the fight for Dr. King, and within 7 days a piece of legislation passed through the House that dealt with discrimination as it relates to where people live.

This legislation had bipartisan support. The Democratic supporter was Senator Walter Mondale, a very well-known figure in American politics. The Republican supporter was an African American, by the way, who was a member of the Senate, the Honorable Edward Brooke. These two Senators had for years been trying to pass this legislation to eliminate discrimination in housing. They had some degree of success, but they were not able to get the legislation passed.

In 1968, 7 days after Dr. King's death, the Fair Housing Act of 1968 passed, prohibiting discrimination based upon race, color, religion or national origin as it relates to the sale or to the financing of housing. In 1974, the act was amended to include sex discrimination. In 1988, it was amended to prohibit discrimination based upon physical or mental handicap as well as familial status.

The Housing Fairness Act, which I have introduced, models this piece of legislation. It, too, deals with discrimination that is invidious with reference to refusing to rent to a person, to sell housing to a person, to negotiate housing, to make housing available, to set different terms for some than for others, to falsely deny that housing is unavailable when it is available. This kind of discrimination still exists, but it's important for us today to realize that it is very much having an impact on persons whom many of us do not assume are victims of housing discrimination. The FY 2011 statistics, the latest available to me, connote that 27,092 complaints were filed with programs associated with the Fair Housing Initiatives, and of these complaints about 12 percent to 54 percent of them were complaints based upon disability.

Now, it's important for us to focus on disability for a moment because many of our veterans returning from wars, persons who chose to go to distant places, don't always return the same way they left. Many of them have given their lives, and others have survived, but they have survived and they are handicapped. Many of them returning will be discriminated against because there are people who discriminate against people who are handicapped. They may not know that it's a veteran, but whether they know or not, the act of discrimination is still harmful.

I will submit to you that it makes sometimes tears well in the eyes of people who understand how our veterans have fought for us. So I am here today to make an appeal that we support Fair Housing Initiatives and that we do all that we can to transform neighborhoods into brotherhoods.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 48 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

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

PRAYER

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

Dear God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Bless abundantly the Members of this people's House. During the season of new growth, may Your redemptive power help them to see new ways to productive service, fresh approaches to understanding each other, especially those across the aisle, and renewed commitment to solving the problems facing our Nation.

May they, and may we all, be transformed by Your grace and better reflect the sense of wonder, even joy, at the opportunities to serve that are ever before us.

The issues of our day are a challenge for a Nation who claims Your blessing. May we not forget the reminders to Your chosen people of once having been oppressed foreigners and the admonitions of Scripture that we might be entertaining angels in the strangers among us. Help the Members of this House to find a balance that meets the demands of our beliefs with the practical realities that challenge us as a complex Nation.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. WALBERG 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

THE BUDGET

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

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, President Obama finally released his 2014 budget this week, 2 months late and trillions of dollars short.

Similar to last year's plan, it taxes more to spend more. While the President claims his budget will reduce the deficit in a balanced way, it won't ever balance—not in 10 years, not ever.

The President's plan is $8.2 trillion of new debt. It also includes $1.1 trillion in new taxes. Hardworking taxpayers don't deserve more taxes; they deserve a budget that allows them to keep more of their own money and not worry about financial debt being placed on their children and grandchildren.

House Republicans have passed such a budget, one that balances: a proactive budget that eliminates the deficit while also providing economic security for employers and employees, a sustainable safety net for the poor and those retiring, and a secure future for our children and grandchildren.

Americans know what it takes to create a balanced budget for their own families and their own businesses, and they deserve the same from their government.

EARTH DAY

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, the founder of Earth Day, Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson, was asked in 2005,

just before his death at the age of 89, if Earth Day should be celebrated. ''Our work is not finished,'' he replied. ''There's a lot more that needs to be done.''

As we enter wildfire season, watershed infrastructure that would mitigate future contamination of local rivers and reservoirs is still being rebuilt from last season, and funding for rebuilding is only now being allocated, having been delayed under sequestration, affecting lives and homes.

We've yet to craft an agenda that talks of a multiyear transportation plan or climate change. And, of course, the green legislator at heart would love to see tools like the Antiquities Act as a job-creating mechanism rather than spending time on the floor fighting against rolling back NEPA as we're doing this week with H.R. 678, unnecessarily, at the expense of supporting hydropower, as we should.

No, our work is not finished. There's a lot more to be done.

MOVING FORWARD WITH LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS

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

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, in 2009, the United States surpassed Russia in becoming the world's largest producer of natural gas. Due to recent technological advancements, large deposits of natural gas, mainly shale gas, are now being harvested. Through the use of hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling, previously inaccessible hydrocarbons are now seeing the light of day.

Having Henry Hub located in the center of the Third Congressional District, I'm fully aware that the market price of U.S. natural gas is at an all-time low and much lower than Asian and European natural gas prices. While this fact presents challenges, it also provides an opportunity for our Nation to fast become a global energy hub by exporting one of our most abundant natural resources in the form of liquified natural gas, or LNG.

With domestic demand being met, exporting LNG leads to job creation at home, a reduction in the national trade deficit, and an increase in revenues for the Federal Government. As a member of the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Trade, these are all value-added benefits for our Nation.

The domestic natural gas boom presents the United States with an enormous economic opportunity and geopolitical opportunity. Our Nation should seize this opportunity and not let it pass. It's in the public interest.

INVEST IN AMERICAN MANUFACTURING

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, this week I took part in a town hall meeting in Buffalo, along with the Alliance for American Manufacturing, and discussed the importance of manufacturing jobs to our region and to our Nation.

With western New York's dedicated workforce and history of manufacturing success, we are ready to grow our economy with the resurgence of advanced manufacturing industry. But to do this, our workers and businesses need a willing partner in their government.

This Congress must make investing in our infrastructure and investing in our people top priorities. Robust funding to rebuild roads and bridges, along with fostering job-training programs and passing legislation in the House Democrats' Make It In America agenda, will enable us to compete with any other nation in the world.

Mr. Speaker, investing in American manufacturing creates jobs and reduces the deficit. There is much work to be done, and there are Americans who need the work.

□ 1210

THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE'S REPORT ON WASTE

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

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, we engage in so much Washington speak in our debates—words like ''sequestration,'' ''continuing resolutions,'' and ''debt ceiling''—that the structure of our debates, I feel, can be off-putting to many Americans. So let's try to be a little more straightforward.

The reality is that we have a huge mismatch between revenues and expenditures. We all know that this is a struggle, but we have to get our fiscal house in order, just like American families do, businesses do and even local governments do; but instead of hashing through the same old debates, perhaps there is an easier way forward.

Right here, Mr. Speaker, is a Government Accountability Office report that came out this week. It's a new report that builds upon former reports. There are more than 300 areas in which we can tackle redundant spending across the Federal Government. So here is the right place to start, Mr. Speaker—in delivering a smarter and more effective government while also saving money.

GUN REFORM

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

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, throughout the United States, in red and blue States alike, we have speed limits for travel on public roads. These laws are good public policy because they prohibit behavior that can endanger the lives of others. But imagine if we blocked our police from using speed detection devices so they could never prove that you were speeding or if we only allowed the use of those devices on certain roads. Such a policy would make speed limits mere suggestions with no consequences for those who would violate the law.

It sounds ridiculous, but this is exactly the strategy we currently use to prohibit the purchase of firearms by criminals and those with serious mental illness. Federal law bans the purchase of guns by dangerous people, but massive loopholes in our background check system permit at least 40 percent of purchases to evade the law without detection by law enforcement.

The NRA and its supporters often claim that we need to enforce the laws on the books. Agreed. Universal background checks are designed to do just that—to provide an actual enforcement mechanism. That's what the Congress should require because 90 percent of the American public wants us to do at least that.

SITTIN' ON THE DOCK OF THE BAY

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

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, this week, the President hosted a star-studded concert at the White House for his friends, featuring the music of Otis Redding and others. One of Otis Redding's lines in his ''(Sittin' on) the Dock of the Bay'' sums up my thoughts on the President's budget: ''Looks like nothing's gonna change. Everything remains the same.''

Just like the Senate, the President's budget raises taxes, increases the debt and never, ever, ever balances. The Obama budget has a trillion dollars in new taxes on top of the trillion-dollar ObamaCare tax and the $600 billion ''fiscal cliff'' tax from earlier this year. The Obama budget spends $46 trillion, borrows another $8 trillion, and increases the national debt to $25.4 trillion over the next 10 years. Then, after all those taxes and all that spending, we still have a budget that never, ever, ever balances.

Mr. President, we can't borrow forever. We can't keep spending more than we take in. These problems are staring us right in the face, but the big spenders in Washington are just sittin' on the dock of the bay, wasting time.

NEW JERSEY'S LIFE SCIENCES CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY

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

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the contributions of the

biopharmaceutical and medical technology companies in New Jersey to Hurricane Sandy relief activities.

New Jersey companies in the biopharmaceutical field have donated an estimated $11.1 million towards Sandy relief efforts. The New Jersey biopharmaceutical and medical technology companies made contributions to a large number of organizations, including the American Red Cross, AmeriCares, Direct Relief International, Feeding America, the Salvation Army, Save the Children, United Way, and the Hurricane Sandy New Jersey Relief Fund.

The community also coordinated with the Department of Health and Human Services to ensure an uninterrupted supply chain of critical life-saving drugs as well as having teamed up with local pharmacies to provide free or discounted prescriptions to affected patients. In addition, individual companies performed a variety of services in the immediate aftermath of Sandy, including the distribution of hygiene kits; providing generators to local municipalities; deploying emergency decontamination units; preparing food for first responders; and working to supply hospitals, pharmacies, and retailers with supplies that their patients and customers needed.

While our community as a whole came together to provide relief to the victims of Sandy, we thank the biopharmaceutical industry of New Jersey.

THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSED BUDGET

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

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, there is much that could be said about the President's proposed budget, but I think ordinary taxpayers need to know its impact on jobs and the economy.

Economists and national accounting firms have stated that the tax increases that President Obama pushed through in January have slowed the economy and contributed to a loss of 24,000 retail jobs in March, part of a very dismal jobs report. When consumers have less money in their pockets, the inevitable results in fewer jobs.

Apparently, President Obama has not learned from his mistake. His budget contains almost $600 billion in even more new taxes. At a time when millions of Americans are giving up hope of finding jobs and are exiting the workforce, President Obama's budget will only inflict more pain on ordinary families.

House Republicans have passed a responsible budget that leads to balance while also preserving Social Security and Medicare. Let's work together for fiscally accountable government that will help restore jobs to American families.

REDUCING GUN VIOLENCE IN AMERICA

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, today, the Senate is taking up commonsense legislation to help reduce gun violence in America.

I have and always will be a staunch supporter of the Second Amendment, and I strongly support the constitutional rights of my constituents to own guns. This bipartisan legislation to expand background checks does not infringe on the rights of law-abiding gun owners. Instead, it strengthens our existing system of background checks to help keep guns out of the hands of dangerous offenders.

Forty percent of guns sold in the United States currently don't go through background checks. Failing to act means that just anyone can continue to buy weapons at gun shows or over the Internet without being subject to a background check. The vast majority of Americans support background checks. Democrats and Republicans support background checks. The vast majority of responsible gun owners support background checks.

It is commonsense legislation that should be enacted, and it will make our country safer. I urge the House to take this up as soon as the Senate completes its work.

KEYSTONE XL WILL HELP LOWER UTILITY RATES

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

Mr. DAINES. Mr. Speaker, last week, I was home in Montana to highlight the important role that natural resources play in our State's economy. In fact, I put 3,000 miles in traveling around our great State. One question I was asked repeatedly was: When will the Keystone pipeline be approved?

We all know the tremendous economic impact the Keystone pipeline would have and the jobs that would be created; but when I was in Glasgow, Montana, I learned of a relatively unknown benefit as a result of the pipeline.

You see, NorVal Electric Co-Op in Glasgow is slated to supply electricity to one of the Keystone XL pump stations. If the pipeline is built, this rural electric co-op will be able to spread its cost burdens with the pipeline and, consequently, hold rates steady for its 3,000-plus Montana customers. If the pipeline is not approved, it told me that NorVal customers will see upwards of a 40-percent increase in their utility rates over the next 10 years.

As I've said time and time again, this is common sense. Keystone means jobs; it means another step towards energy independence; and it means lower utility rates for rural Montanans, for hardworking Montana families.

President Obama, it's time to approve the Keystone pipeline.

□ 1230

HUMANE IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank the faith-based communities in this country for praying for a humane and just immigration reform. We heard from the Chaplain today in his prayer, and we probably all caught the three references. The first one was from Leviticus 19, the issue of treating the foreign born as your own. Then we heard the Hebrews treating the stranger, treat him well because he may be the angel among you. And then of course, lastly, Matthew 25, treating the stranger because that's how you're going to be judged.

I want to thank each and every pastor, each and every priest, each and every rabbi that has been praying for us on this issue. I think that hardened hearts are changing here. Certainly the debate that we've been having has been humane. Much of the leadership has come from a bipartisan group of Democrats and Republicans with open hearts, and I appreciate that. And that has not happened by itself. It has happened because of the prayers and the supplication of all of these people around the Nation saying we have to do something that matches our values.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET

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

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, the President's just-released budget calls for higher taxes, more spending, and bigger government, all of which would make it more difficult for hardworking Americans, like those in the Third District of Missouri, to find jobs. More troubling yet is the President's budget simply does not balance. Every family must balance their budget, and we in Washington should, too. We cannot continue to spend money we don't have, and it's not right for the President to take more to spend more.

Several weeks ago, I proudly supported a Republican budget that provides for a balanced budget, will foster a healthier economy and help create jobs. The President's budget, meanwhile, holds any reforms and spending cuts hostage in exchange for more tax hikes.

The American people are tired of the same old song and dance from the President and his allies when it comes to spending their hard-earned tax dollars. This budget proposal, which is months overdue, isn't a serious plan.

Mr. Speaker, I'm from the ''Show Me'' State, and this budget doesn't show me anything.

SHOUT OUT TO MEMPHIS MUSIC

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Ohio mentioned the concert that the President hosted with PBS and the Grammys on Tuesday, and did a poor imitation, I guess, of Justin Timberlake on ''(Sittin' on) the Dock of the Bay.''

It was a phenomenal shout-out to Memphis music; and while there were a lot of great performers there, I want to put a particular shout-out to Ms. Cyndi Lauper because she's special. She did another Otis Redding song, ''Try a Little Tenderness,'' and it was a phenomenal performance.

I would suggest to some of my colleagues on other side of the aisle that they ought to try a little tenderness on occasion.

Ms. Lauper is special. She did an album called ''Memphis Blues'' in 2010. It was one of the best albums of the year. It brought blues back. She had Memphians B.B. King and Ann Peebles and Charlie Musselwhite on the album. She's a phenomenal lady, and I give a special shout-out to Cyndi Lauper and Memphis music.

BALANCING THE BUDGET

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

Mr. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, after decades of Washington irresponsibility, Americans are facing nearly $17 trillion of debt and struggling through a deficit-driven unemployment crisis.

Unfortunately, this administration isn't offering solutions. Yesterday, President Obama introduced a budget that never ever balances and will only make these problems worse. Two months after he missed the law's deadline, President Obama introduced a reheated version of the same failed tax, borrow, and spend policies that created this mess to begin with. President Obama's budget raises taxes by $1.1 trillion, adds another $8.2 trillion to the national debt, and doesn't come close to addressing the long-term stability of our Nation's safety net programs. Under the President's plan, taxpayers can expect consequences of endless deficits and future downgrades.

House Republicans are offering a real solution. We've put forward a reasonable plan that actually balances the budget in 10 years, not because we are interested in spreadsheets and timetables, but because Americans shouldn't have to wait any longer for success and prosperity.

Let's balance the budget and put our trust in hardworking Americans.

ADDRESSING GUN VIOLENCE

(Mrs. BEATTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, elementary schools, high schools, movie theaters, universities, and shopping malls have all been scenes of horrific incidents where innocent lives were lost, along with our sense of security. After each tragedy, we hear sermons, speeches, console survivors and loved ones, but we in Congress have done little to change the way we address gun violence. I want to change that.

While massacres such as the one that occurred in Newtown draw significant attention to the issue of gun violence, it is a persistent problem throughout the Nation. According to a recent Johns Hopkins University survey, a solid majority of Americans, gun owners and nongun owners alike, support several initiatives to slow gun violence. For example, 89 percent of all respondents, and 75 percent of those identified as NRA members, support universal background checks for gun sales.

President Obama's plan also calls for a ban on military-style assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, like the kind that have been commonly used in so many of the mass shootings we have witnessed in the United States.

We can never prevent all crimes or gun violence, but we can work together to find ways to limit the loss of lives with commonsense solutions.

COMMON SENSE IN COMPENSATION ACT

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

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, over the past 2 months, Federal official after Federal official has talked about the need to furlough employees due to sequestration, yet the government continues to hand out millions of dollars in bonuses to Federal employees. Seventy-five percent of senior executive service employees received bonuses, at an average of $13,081. Regular, oftentimes blue-collar Federal workers are facing furloughs while senior employees are cashing in.

The FAA has been talking about 90-minute waits for passengers, but yet in fiscal year 2011, they handed out $40,000 bonuses to more than 86 different employees. This is unacceptable, and the recent OMB guidelines don't go far enough.

The Common Sense in Compensation Act bill that I am introducing today would prohibit those bonuses for the rest of fiscal year 2013 and cap them at a maximum of 5 percent of the salary going forward. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor my bill.

UNEMPLOYMENT IS OUR TRUE DEFICIT

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

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it has now been 830 days since I arrived in Congress, and the Republican leadership has still not allowed a single vote on serious legislation to address our unemployment crisis. I have news for my colleagues: unemployment is our true deficit.

By getting Americans trained and back to work, we can increase our tax base and stop our borrowing. By reducing unemployment, we can stop our national epidemic of foreclosures. Regardless of the assistance you receive, you cannot keep your home if you do not have a job. My State is the Nation's foreclosure State, and my hometown, Miami, is the foreclosure capital.

Mr. Speaker, unemployment is destroying families and depressing property values. It is devastating our people and dragging down our recovery. Our mantra in this Congress should be: Jobs, jobs, jobs.

□ 1230

A TALE OF TWO CITIES

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

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, Members of Congress have just come back now from 2 weeks of recess being at home. And group after group after group that I spoke with talked about exactly the same thing that the previous speaker and others are talking about, and that is jobs, job creation, and the opportunity for our children, and sometimes our spouses, to get back into the jobs marketplace.

I remind the people of Dallas, Texas, that there's really a tale of two States or two cities. One is Dallas, Texas, and the other is Chicago, Illinois, the State of Illinois vs. Texas.

Texas, over the last few years, has created more jobs than the other 49 States combined. The reason why we've done this is because we chose not to do the path that Illinois has done, and that is, raising taxes, lowering job expectations and performance, and the ability for people to want to invest in that State and their future.

Mr. Speaker, that's exactly the same background and philosophy that our President and Democrats are having to run jobs out of America. I stand for the Texas model, lowering taxes and making sure we have jobs.

GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION LEGISLATION

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

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I'm happy that, finally, we are moving forward on gun violence prevention legislation in this country. And I really applaud our Senators, JOE MANCHIN and PAT TOOMEY, for coming together, finally, in a bipartisan fashion to push forward legislation to expand background checks in gun shows and for online purchases.

This is a strong first step towards a meaningful solution to end gun violence in this country. And I hope the House, I hope we take this up soon, and pass this legislation.

But I think we need to do more. And if losing 20 young innocent lives doesn't shake us up to end this epidemic of gun violence that has plagued our Nation's neighborhoods, schools, and churches, then nothing will.

If we harden our hearts to the tears and the testimonies of the parents of Newtown here with us this week, then we're telling every family that has been shattered by a gun and every family that has been shattered by this kind of violence that, if we don't act, we're washing our hands of their agony.

You know, I hope that we still have a ban on military-style assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, but this is a good first start.

THE HOUSE REPUBLICAN BUDGET

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, saving Medicare and Social Security for future generations is something Republicans and Democrats can and should agree on. The House Republican budget preserves Social Security and Medicare for current seniors and future generations by beginning the work of making incremental cost-saving reforms.

President Obama, however, sees the threat to Medicare and Social Security solvency as a chance to get more of what he wants. While Medicare and Social Security are going bankrupt, the President is refusing to consider reforms to save our senior safety nets unless he's allowed to raise taxes in exchange.

When it comes to tax increases, how quickly the President forgets. The President just got done raising taxes on the American people on January 1.

The American people send enough of their hard-earned money to Washington each year, and more should not be taken from them to enable further travails in misguided ''stimulus.''

Reforms to save Medicare and Social Security are critically important to future generations of Americans. They should be treated as more than bargaining chips by the President.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF GENE SEGERBLOOM

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

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Gene Segerbloom, who recently passed away at the age of 94. A true public servant to the end, Gene served Nevada throughout her life, first as a high school teacher, then a Boulder City Councilman and, finally, as a four-term assemblywoman in the Nevada State Legislature, beginning at the young age of 74.

While in the legislature, she worked hard to defend the rights of women and children, as well as to protect the environment and Nevada's beauty, which was painted by her husband, Cliff, in many beautiful watercolors.

The Segerbloom family has been a fixture in Nevada politics for four generations. Gene's legacy continues through her son, Tick, who is a State senator today. Tick put it perfectly when he said simply, ''She loved Nevada. My mother always had a smile on her face, and she never had a bad day.''

I miss her personally, and Nevada mourns her loss.

LET'S PUT OUR FISCAL HOUSE IN ORDER

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

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, over the past break, I had the chance to go home to the beautiful Georgia Ninth, where I'm born and raised. And one of the things that I find when I go back that is always refreshing is people seem to want to find answers. They find answers to the problems of their life. They want to know what is happening, and they do not understand inside-the-Beltway-thinking that simply adds more and more talk and more and more rhetoric.

Over the past week I have sat in two committees in which the government's own inspectors have found waste, have found duplication, have found fragmentation, in which everything is going in a way in which people back home don't understand.

Sometimes we come to this well and we say, People, we need to come together. Well, what we've got to understand is what we have just heard the last 2 weeks from people in our district is that they want to see action. They don't understand sequester when you've got all this money sitting out there that is being wasted and duplication in programs such as three programs to study catfish.

As I said in the committee the other day, I've fished for catfish all my life. I don't understand why we need that much inspection.

What we need now is action to cut the waste. We've proposed a balanced budget from the Republican perspective. We're going to continue to fight to put our fiscal house in order.

REDUCING GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, the gun safety debate that we are having is not about politics or political means. It is about doing what's right by our families, protecting our children, and reducing the gun violence that persists in the streets of my district every single day. If Congress has the power to prevent some of this senseless violence, then we have a moral obligation to do so.

Background checks are an absolute must. Criminals and the mentally ill should not be able to go online or walk into a gun show and walk away with a gun.

My bill, the Safer Neighborhoods Gun Buyback Act, provides a 25 percent markup on guns traded in, creating an incentive to get the most widely used guns in crimes off of our streets.

It's not complicated. These are commonsense reforms, and the victims of gun violence and their families deserve a vote.

So I urge my Republican colleagues to bring this legislation to the floor. We owe it to the American people, and New Jersey families should not have to wait any longer for commonsense reform.

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE USS ''THRESHER'' DISASTER

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

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. This week marks the 50th anniversary of a terrible submarine disaster. The USS *Thresher*, the first in a new class of subs designed to answer the Soviet threat in the Cold War, left the world's greatest shipyard, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, to conduct sea trials on April 10, 1963. Disaster struck, and America lost 129 of its finest men that day.

I honor these men who are on eternal patrol, and I honor their families, their wives and their children, some of whom never met their dads. Their sacrifices did lead to a sub safety program.

One of the surviving children wrote a song about his dad, and he said, ''A man whose love is stronger than the tide that's taken you away.''

Let's pause and remember these great men and their families.

STOP THE SENSELESS GUN VIOLENCE

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

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I'm here because of Angel. Angel was just an ordinary teenager. She loved basketball. She liked to hang out. In fact, that's all she was doing on a balmy night in West Palm Beach, just hanging out, when she was violently killed by a man, devoid of humanity, armed with a gun.

And so, instead of dressing Angel for her prom, her mother dressed her for her funeral. Instead of attending Angel's graduation, her family visited her gravesite.

Isn't it time to take the guns out of the hands of criminals and madmen?

Isn't it time for this Congress to stop the senseless gun violence?

Mr. Speaker, let us vote.

□ 1240

AMERICA WORKS ACT

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, this week, Mr. HOYER launched his Make It In America initiative to strengthen our manufacturing sector and spur job growth. American manufacturing has been a bright spot in our economic recovery, but too often I hear from my district that a lack of skilled workers is limiting their opportunities for growth. In Illinois' 10th District, we have nearly 700 manufacturing facilities employing over 98,000 people. These businesses, and our country, will remain globally competitive only if we continue to develop and train our workforce with the skills necessary for the highly technical work that 21st-century manufacturing requires.

That's precisely why I introduced the AMERICA Works Act. I'm proud to have it included in the Make It In America agenda. This commonsense legislation promotes collaboration between industry leaders, colleges, and job-training programs to prepare students and workers with the precise skills and jobs where talented people are most needed. AMERICA Works and the Make It In America agenda is the comprehensive approach we need to ensure success for American workers and manufacturers.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1120, PREVENTING GREATER UNCERTAINTY IN LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS ACT

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 146 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 146

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 1120) to prohibit the National Labor Relations Board from taking any action that requires a quorum of the members of the Board until such time as Board constituting a quorum shall have been confirmed by the Senate, the Supreme Court issues a decision on the constitutionality of the appointments to the Board made in January 2012, or the adjournment sine die of the first session of the 113th Congress. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 113-6, shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce; and (2) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of Georgia). The gentlewoman from North Carolina is recognized for 1 hour.

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

GENERAL LEAVE

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 146 provides for a closed rule providing for consideration of H.R. 1120, the Preventing Greater Uncertainty in Labor-Management Relations Act. Although the Rules Committee solicited amendments last week, we received only two amendments, one Democrat and one Republican, neither of which was germane to the bill.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues on the House Education and Workforce Committee and I have been hard at work conducting oversight and challenging the National Labor Relations Board on its anti-jobs agenda. In January 2012, President Obama made three so-called ''recess appointments'' to the National Labor Relations Board while Congress was not in recess, in violation of the Constitution. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia recently ruled these appointments were unconstitutional. This decision calls into question every action the Board has taken since these so-called recess appointments were made.

The bill before us today, H.R. 1120, would provide greater certainty for employers and unions by requiring the Board to cease all activity that requires a three-member quorum and prohibits the Board from enforcing any decision made since the appointments in question were made in January 2012.

It is important to note also what this bill does not do. It does not prohibit the National Labor Relations Board's regional offices from accepting and processing charges of unfair labor practices. The bill also allows the Board to resume activities if one of the three following conditions is met:

The U.S. Supreme Court rules on the constitutionality of recess appointments;

A quorum of the Board is confirmed by the Senate;

The expiration of the recess appointees' terms at the end of this year.

Finally, H.R. 1120 ensures any action approved by the so-called ''recess appointees'' is reviewed and approved by a future Board that has been constitutionally appointed.

As my colleagues across the aisle are sure to point out, the President has recently nominated three individuals for Senate confirmation, in addition to the two he nominated in February. The bill before us remains necessary as a commonsense pause button on the Board's activities while the legal uncertainty is resolved. It would give employers and unions the certainty they need to operate in the interim.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this rule and the underlying bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. I thank the gentlelady for yielding the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to both the rule and the underlying bill. The bill is inaccurately named. In fact, quite to the contrary, the bill should be called the Creating Greater Uncertainty in Labor-Management Relations Act, throwing into question actions of this Board, decisions on both sides, as well as agreements that have been reached through the process in the interest of business, as well as working Americans.

Two weeks ago, Congress approved a continuing resolution on a bipartisan basis to prevent the Federal Government from closing. There were give-and-takes. There were things in it from both sides that weren't perfect. Nevertheless, the majority and minority in this House, the Republicans and Democrats, worked together in good faith, successfully, to prevent a government shutdown, consistent with what the American people wanted and consistent with any responsible stewardship of the public trust.

After achieving that, I was initially optimistic that when the House reconvened this week, we might be able to build on the spirit of compromise, perhaps tackling the difficult issue of fixing our broken immigration system and replacing it with one that works, that restores the rule of law, perhaps dealing with some of the gun safety issues that are being debated across society, perhaps dealing with tax reform and bringing down our rates and broadening the base, perhaps dealing with finally battling our budget deficit.

But, instead, here we are back in Congress, picking up where we were before we worked together on the continuing resolution, passing pointless bills for presumably political reasons—bills that have no sign of passage in the Senate, bills that have a direct veto threat from the President of the United States, which is in his Statement of Administration Policy which I entered into the RECORD last night in the Rules Committee, and just as importantly, a bill that has no positive impact on the

most important issue facing our country today—job creation and economic growth.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is an attack on American workers; this bill is an attack on American businesses. Pure and simple, H.R. 1120 would effectively shut down the National Labor Relations Board, invalidate all 569 decisions that the NLRB made between January 12 and March of this year.

My colleagues claim this is a response to the D.C. Circuit Court decision. But when have we ever enshrined an intermediate court decision into statute? It makes absolutely no sense. This court decision found that nearly all recess appointments are invalid; but the reality is the decision of the D.C. Circuit conflicts entirely with judicial precedent and past practice.

President Reagan made 232 recess appointments. George H.W. Bush made 78. George W. Bush made 171. So far, President Obama has made 32—far fewer than his predecessors. In fact, every President since Reagan has appointed a member of the NLRB through a recess appointment.

In the absence of legislative action, any responsible Chief Executive takes the prerogative to make our laws and system of government work. If this body fails to pass immigration reform, the President might build upon the deferred action program and try to do what he can for detention reform. We need to change the laws. But failing that, what can a President do besides try to make those laws work?

□ 1250

In the absence of taking up ESEA reauthorization, in the absence of replacing No Child Left Behind with a Federal education law that gets accountability right and expands and replicates what works in public education and improves what isn't working, in the absence of doing that, the President and Secretary Duncan have taken the prerogative to grant waivers for States on a statutory framework that we know is insufficient and doesn't work.

So, again, it's no surprise that, in the absence of taking up nominees, the President used his recess appointment power to make sure that the important functions of government could continue.

When have we ever, as a House, responded directly to intermediate circuit court decisions by instantly making them statutes? Look, the majority of this House of Representatives wasn't so confident in the D.C. Circuit when it said that ObamaCare was constitutional. We didn't see bills instantly to say ObamaCare is constitutional because the D.C. District Court said it was constitutional. What about when the D.C. District Court upheld the constitutionality of civil unions in Washington, D.C.? Was there a bill from my colleagues on the other side to instantly say that civil unions are constitutional?

Look, this is in process through the judicial branch of government. We need to wait until the Supreme Court has decided if they will even rule in this case before we decide what to do on a statutory basis.

The executive branch needs to make the mechanisms of government work to the best of their ability. The legislative branch makes the laws. The judicial branch determines if either of the other two branches impugn the rights of one another or of the American people. It is a system that has served us well since our founding, and it's one that this bill flies in the face of.

Again, despite this bill's title, ''Preventing Greater Uncertainty in Labor-Management Relationships,'' it actually achieves the exact opposite—creates greater uncertainty in labor-management relationships. It throws judicial precedent and nearly 600 NLRB rulings into limbo.

American businesses would be severely harmed if this bill were to become law, which, of course, there is no chance of. It won't be taken up by the Senate. The President would veto it.

But were it to become law, like many other political measures that have been pursued in this body, it would generate regulatory uncertainty that would hang over business, hurting their valuations, preventing hiring of new employees, hurting the public marketplace, impacting entrepreneurs, employers, and workers to the detriment of our economy, destroying jobs in this country. Without a forum in which to mediate disagreements, labor and management, alike, have no recourse to iron out their differences and less incentive to iron out their differences. Passage of this bill could cause more strikes from workers, damaging businesses and hurting workers.

The underlying bill could very well be named the ''Strike Promotion Act.'' Instead of allowing Members and encouraging both sides of labor-management disputes to offer improvements and find common ground, quite the contrary, it destroys the very incentives that they have to reach agreement.

Mr. Speaker, it's too bad that the NLRB has become such a political punching bag, because I and many of my colleagues would certainly enjoy the opportunity to debate commonsense proposals to improve the relationship between employers and employees. If we want to have a debate about the NLRB, let us have that debate directly, not through some imposition into judicial prerogative. Let's bring in representatives from businesses and labor organizations. Let's hear from workers and businesses across America.

Look, if there's improvements to be made to the process that can lead to quicker response times, that can lead to fairer adjudication, if there's improvements that American businesses and American workers can agree on to make the process work better for economic growth and prosperity, let's do it. This bill does none of that. It leads to more strikes, leads to greater economic uncertainty, leads to destruction of jobs, leads to an interruption in the ability of a Chief Executive of this country—whomever he or she may be—from implementing the law to the best of their ability; and it's a bill that is, frankly, a waste of our time to even debate here on the floor of the House since we know that it has no chance of passage.

This bill is purely put before us for political intentions to perhaps satisfy some fringe element somewhere that likes this bill and likes to bash the rights of workers. But there's a lot of important work to be done, work that is too important for us to waste our time on this form of political posturing, which only stands to destroy jobs, hurt the economy, and create greater uncertainty, damaging American businesses and American workers.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, we need jobs in this country. There are nearly 12 million Americans unemployed and anxious to find work.

President Obama and the Senate Democrats' policies of higher taxes, record spending, and bigger government have failed to create jobs or boost economic growth. Put simply, this economy is growing too slowly to replace the millions of jobs lost. The failure of the President's runaway spending, deficits, and debt is being felt by every family struggling to put food on the table and pay their mortgages.

The March 2013 labor force participation rate is the lowest since 1979, and the 1-month increase in March 2013 of 663,000 new people not in the labor force is the largest increase ever recorded for the month of March since this data started being collected in 1975. If these individuals ''not in the workforce'' were counted in the official unemployment rate, that rate would increase to 11.2 percent.

Additionally, there are 47.3 million Americans receiving food stamps, which is equivalent to 15 percent of the population and represents, by far, the largest number in history. This number stands in stark contrast to when President Obama took office and there were only 31.9 million Americans using food stamps. Today, nearly one in seven Americans is on food stamps. What a sad commentary about our country.

All these statistics ultimately say the same thing: everyday Americans will keep struggling until our economy turns around. Fortunately for the American people, House Republicans have a plan for helping to restore economic growth and create jobs throughout the country.

The liberal elite simply cannot understand that more spending does not mean more jobs. Reckless deficit spending, mounting debt, growing red tape, higher taxes, a confusing Tax Code, higher energy prices, and rampant uncertainty all have job creators playing defense.

Campaigning for another failed stimulus and more job-destroying taxes, President Obama has repeatedly and falsely asserted that ''Congress isn't willing to move'' legislation to facilitate job growth.

While the President plays politics, House Republicans have been working and approving legislation to promote economic growth and job creation. The Republican plan for growth tears down barriers to job creation because jobs are priority number one.

As part of this plan, we are working diligently to cut job-killing red tape that costs small businesses $10,585 per employee each year; reduce gas prices; create jobs by producing more American energy, which is important since every penny increased per gallon of gas costs consumers $4 million per day; simplify the job-killing Tax Code that cost Americans $168 billion in 2010 just to comply with it; prevent job-killing tax hikes on small businesses; reduce uncertainty by tackling the debt crisis with responsible spending cuts; and the Republican plan will get Washington out of the way and put American job creators back on the offense.

Growing jobs and eliminating the deficit go hand in hand. To balance the budget, we need both spending cuts and real economic growth.

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

Mr. POLIS. Well, it sounds like I agree with the gentlelady on many of our national priorities. For goodness sake, let's reform the Tax Code; let's bring down rates. Gas prices, my constituents are complaining about them; let's take action. Preventing tax increases, balancing the budget, making sure that we have a business climate that's friendly for small businesses, why aren't we talking about any of that on the floor of the House today instead of enshrining a D.C. District Court decision into statute, to the detriment of job creation, to the detriment of American business, against many of those great concepts that my colleague, Dr. FOXX, espoused?

So, I mean, I think there's got to be a connection here. I think the American people are smart enough to make it. It's great to pay lip service to all these wonderful things that Democrats and Republicans want to pursue, but what are we doing with our legislative time that taxpayers pay for here in the House? We're trying to prevent the President from implementing the law that Congress has made.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS).

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

Mr. ANDREWS. I thank my friend for yielding.

In the summer of 2011, as the country continued to see rising deficits, Members of the Congress knew that they had to do something about that in connection with the extension of what we call the debt ceiling, which lets the country borrow money to pay its bills.

□ 1300

As a part of that agreement, a large number of people from both parties voted for something that hasn't turned out very well, and it's called sequestration. This is not something that's just a word that gets tossed around in this Chamber and has political consequences; it is having a real and negative impact on the country.

I just came from a hearing of the Armed Services Committee where the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Secretary of Defense told us that nine battle groups and three bomber groups of our Air Force and our Navy planes have been grounded. About one-third of the Nation's air capacity isn't flying.

Across the country today, people who are on Medicare who need chemotherapy treatments from their doctors' offices are finding that many doctors are declining to do chemotherapy treatments for cancer patients because of the cuts that take place in sequestration.

I met earlier this week with employees of the Naval Sea Systems engineering command in Philadelphia, whom I represent. They are looking at a 20 percent pay cut because of furloughs. These are real problems that are affecting real people. The House is opting to do nothing about this—nothing.

The economists have told us that these ill-advised sequestration cuts will cost the economy 750,000 jobs this year. Mr. VAN HOLLEN, my friend from Maryland, has a bill, and that bill says that we should save an amount of money equal to what the sequestration is allegedly saving and not have these cuts in cancer care and not have a third of our air power grounded and not have Federal employees take a 20 percent pay cut.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN proposes that we cut subsidies to huge oil companies, that we cut subsidies to huge agribusinesses, and we have people who make more than $1 million a year in income pay a slightly higher tax rate. I understand, ladies and gentlemen of the House, that some would agree with that proposal and others would disagree with that proposal. That's democracy.

We're not even taking a vote on that proposal because the majority Republican leadership has refused to put on this floor any piece of legislation that would stop this harm to the country. I know they'll say it's the President's fault or it's the Senate's fault or it's whoever.

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

Mr. POLIS. I yield the gentleman an additional minute.

Mr. ANDREWS. I thank my friend for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I know that there will be lots of back and forth about whose fault it was that we got into this position. It's everyone's fault. There are people on both sides of the aisle that made a bad judgment on this. I'm one of them. But now we have a responsibility to fix it; and if the majority has an idea as to how we could fix the sequester problem, bring it to the floor.

Since the new Congress took office on January 3 of this year, there has not been one hearing, not one markup, not one bill, not one vote on fixing this problem that threatens the jobs of 750,000 Americans. Rather than this metaphysical legal debate we're about to have about the National Labor Relations Board, why don't we put on the House floor legislation that would create jobs in this country, postpone the sequester, and deal with the problems that we talked about here today. The House is in session, but it's missing in action when it comes to addressing the real problems of the American people.

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

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

If we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to this rule that will allow the House to hold a vote on the Paycheck Fairness Act. Here we are in 2013—2013—and yet women make 77 cents for every dollar made by a man for equal work. Equal pay is not just a problem for women, but for all American families who work hard to pay their bills. It's high time that this body took up the Paycheck Fairness Act, which we will do if we defeat the previous question.

To discuss our proposal, I would like to yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO).

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the previous question. Defeat of the previous question will allow the gentleman from Colorado to amend the rule to provide for consideration of the Paycheck Fairness Act, an act that addresses the persistent problem of unequal pay in our economy.

It has now been 50 years since Congress passed the Equal Pay Act to confront the ''serious and endemic'' problem of unequal wages in America. President John F. Kennedy signed that bill into law to end ''the unconscionable practice of paying female employees less wages than male employees for the same job.''

But that practice persists today. Today, even though women are now half of the Nation's workforce, they are still only being paid 77 cents on the dollar as compared to men. This holds true across occupations and education levels. Don't let anyone fool you or tell you that if you hold constant for education and other areas that, in fact, there is no wage gap; it is just not true. A simple piece of legislation that says: men and women—same job, same pay. Those of us who serve in the Congress, men and women, all parts of the country, different education skills, different skill sets in general, we get paid the same amount of money. It's true in the military as well.

This week, we once again recognize Equal Pay Day, the day in 2013 when a woman's earnings for 2012 catch up to what a man made last year. Unequal pay not only affects women; it affects families all across the country who are trying to pay their bills, trying to achieve the American Dream, and are getting less take-home pay than they deserve for their hard work.

Everyone here agrees that women should be paid the same as men for the same work. That is what paycheck fairness is all about—same job, same pay.

It is why President Obama called for passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act in the State of the Union address in January.

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

Mr. POLIS. I yield the gentlelady an additional 30 seconds.

Ms. DELAURO. Because it is time for us to come together and take the next steps to stop pay discrimination—by putting an end to pay secrecy, strengthening workers' ability to challenge discrimination, and bringing equal pay law into line with other civil rights laws.

I urge my colleagues to defeat the previous question, support the Paycheck Fairness Act and unequal pay for good. Fifty years after the Equal Pay Act, it is finally time to give women the tools they need to ensure that they are paid what they deserve for the same day's work. What are we waiting for in this body?

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

This is a typical liberal habit: do as I say, not as I do.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that our colleague from Connecticut should direct her comments to the White House. There is absolutely nothing to stop the White House from correcting the egregious pay differentials that exist there among the most liberal group in the country.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Before further yielding, I am going to yield 30 seconds to the gentlelady from Connecticut to respond.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I would tell my colleague that, in fact, this body, under different leadership than this current majority, passed the paycheck fairness bill twice. It has to be done through the Congress; we have the ability to do it. I would suggest to my colleagues, who on the other side of the aisle would like to talk about pay equity for women, that they sign the discharge petition. We have 200 Members who are aboard. Let's get this bill out of the committee, onto the floor, vote for it as we did in the past, and send it to the Senate so that it could be passed there as well.

I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. DELANEY).

□ 1310

Mr. DELANEY. I appreciate my good friend from Colorado yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I also rise in support of the Paycheck Fairness Act.

Last year, 58 percent of the college graduates in this country were women. Right now in this country, over 50 percent of the individuals that have college degrees are women, and last year in corporate America, 53 percent of new hires for positions that required a college degree were given to women. This reflects broad, gender-based parity with respect to universities and with respect to entry-level positions in corporate America.

However, Mr. Speaker, when we look at what's going on with respect to advancement—in other words, women's ability to climb or ascend the corporate ladder—we see a very different story emerging. Even though 50 percent of the workers with college degrees in corporate America are women, when it came to promotions for managers, only 37 percent of those went to women. When it came to promotions for vice presidents, only 25 percent went to women. And when it came to promotions towards the executive committee level or the C-suite, if you will, only 15 percent went to women. This reflects a significant talent drain that occurs with respect to women as they advance in corporate America.

Mr. Speaker, this is a very significant problem for this country and for every American. It's a problem if you care about our economy. To have a productive and growth-oriented economy, we need diversity, diversity of ideas, and we cannot have that unless women are represented in policymaking decisions of corporations.

This is a problem, Mr. Speaker, if we care about competitiveness because we cannot have a competitive economy if we make decisions based on gender and not based on merit.

This is a problem, Mr. Speaker, if you care about working families. More than 50 percent of the breadwinners in this country are women. If they don't have the same access that men do, it not only affects them, but it affects their children.

Mr. Speaker, this is a problem if we care about women, if we care about young women in particular and our daughters. And as a father of four daughters, I care very deeply about making sure my daughters have a view that they have equality of opportunity regardless of whatever career they choose.

We have to change the mindset of institutions, the mindset of individuals, and this legislation helps do that.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to reiterate again—and my colleague from Connecticut has left—that there is absolutely nothing that would prevent the White House from giving equal pay to people in jobs there. We don't need new legislation to do that. It's certainly possible for the White House to do it now. And that is one of the most egregious situations of differential pay that exists in the country right now.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I would respond to the gentlelady that most women in this country don't work for the White House. Most women in this country work for private sector employers, public sector employers, and others.

We care about all women. We want to ensure paycheck fairness—same work, same pay. But somehow addressing this among a handful of women in the White House hardly addresses the real needs of American families, where women across our country in Colorado, in California, North Carolina, and Texas are earning 77 cents on the dollar.

It's unfair. And as my colleague Mr. DELANEY pointed out, it doesn't enhance American economic competitiveness. It hurts us as a country to have pay based on bias rather than merit. It's simply the wrong way to go.

President Obama needs this body to act and pass the Paycheck Fairness Act for us to be able to make sure that pay discrimination cannot endure in this country.

With that, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues and friends who are managing this legislation.

We are in the Judiciary Committee passing something called the REINS Act because our friends on the other side of the aisle don't believe that the President is omnipotent.

Frankly, as my good friend from Colorado said, the President doesn't control the bus drivers and school aides and nurses aides and doesn't control the secretaries and doesn't control the construction workers who happen to be women. They don't control those individuals. Oh, and let's not forget the office workers who happen to be women.

Many of my constituents who get up every morning—I saw one young woman, Mr. POLIS, get on a city bus, drop her child off at the school, really do a marathon dash to the school in order for the bus to make a U-turn around—not a school bus, a city bus—to get on that bus to track all the way across to get to her job. I can assure you that she is not getting probably equal pay for equal work because that is the dilemma that we have.

So I support ordering the previous question and voting ''no'' so that we can move forward and do the right thing.

And that just compounds my reason for coming to oppose this rule on the Preventing Greater Uncertainty in Labor-Management Relations Act because it is, in essence, a complete opposite. I would call it something else, but

I'm going to restrain myself. H.R. 1120 is ridiculous.

In actuality, my friends, what it does is put a spear through the relationships that corporate and workers are able to have before the NLRB. The President has just finished appointing Republicans and Democrats—three Democrats and two Republicans—to do the work that brings businesses together for a fair assessment of their issue with working people.

Many resolutions of issues dealing with fair pay, dealing with working conditions are done at the NLRB.

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

Mr. POLIS. I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. I thank the gentleman.

Do you know what this bill does? It puts a knife in the process that has been used by President Bush 140 times—recess appointments—to keep the work of the American people going forward. How backwards is that?

I love my friends, but we need to put on the floor sensible gun legislation, we need to be talking about immigration reform. But to talk about blocking the NLRB from work when President Bush used the same process. And the fact that a court ordered something—300 other opinions said the recess appointments are legitimate.

I ask my colleagues to vote down the rule, vote down the bill, stand with your working friends in America, stand with our unions, stand with making America great, and stand with peace and reconciliation by a working NLRB.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose this rule, and the underlying bill, H.R. 1120, the "Preventing Greater Uncertainty in Labor-Management Relations Act."

This bill effectively prevents American employees from seeking remedies when their rights under the National Labor Relations Act, or NLRA, are violated.

The NLRA guarantees American workers in the private sector the right to act collectively to improve the conditions of their workplace. This applies for formal meetings with supervisors, as well as to employees who gather in the break room to discuss a new company policy or compare their paychecks. It also protects workers when they act together to protest working conditions, such as leaving the building because the employer refuses to turn on the heat. Recently, these laws protected employees who discussed their salaries with each other on facebook. You don't need to be part of a union to be protected by these laws.

Under the NLRA, employees can go to the National Labor Relations Board, or NLRB, with these grievances.

The NLRB is also charged with conducting elections for labor union representation and with investigating and remedying unfair labor practices involving unions.

Recently, the D.C. Circuit, one of our federal appellate courts, ruled that the National Labor Relations Board, or NLRB, cannot carry out its congressionally delegated duties of enforcing the NLRA because it deemed President Obama's appointments to the Board invalid.

The entire decision hinged on a controversial interpretation of the word "the" in our Constitution. Article II states that "The President shall have Power to fill up all Vacancies that may happen during the Recess of the Senate." The court decided that this clause of our Constitution refers to some recesses, but not others. Many other federal courts have disagreed with this stretched reading of our Constitution, and in areas of the U.S. covered by these courts, the D.C. Circuit decision does not apply.

While we eagerly await the Supreme Court's verdict on the meaning of the word "the," the NLRB is still allowed to continue carrying out its statutory duties under the NLRA, and American workers still retain their rights under the NLRA.

That is why I am opposing. This bill merely eliminates the rights of American workers in places outside the D.C. Circuit to seek a remedy when their employer violates our National Labor Relations Act. Without a remedy, rights are meaningless. Depriving employees of this remedy during these difficult economic times is merely a stab in the back to hard working Americans across the country. This Congress should not take actions that undermine American employees and working families.

The argument that an active NLRB produces economic uncertainty is unfounded. America has prospered since the creation of the NLRB. Other countries that have much stronger laws protecting worker rights and are much more heavily unionized, such as Australia, Canada, Germany, and the Netherlands, are doing better or at least as well as the United States in this economic downturn. H.R. 1120 merely seeks to add more uncertainty and create fewer rights for American workers during these tough economic times.

Mr. Speaker, I oppose this rule, and the underlying bill. Congress should not remove the ability for employees to seek redress for workplace wrongs. Instead, we need to stand up for our employees and working families.

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

I want to respond again to my colleague from Colorado in his saying that we have to pass a bill on pay equity to get the President to do the right thing. That just seems incomprehensible to me.

I think the President should be our leader in this country and should practice what he preaches, and so should our colleagues across the aisle. I think that the White House could show itself as a model for the rest of the country by paying the women in the White House the same as the men are being paid. I find it interesting that our colleagues have simply ignored what is happening in the White House and call for a bill to be passed to make the President do what is the right thing. In the past, our country and the people in our country have looked to our President to be a role model for us.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time, and I would ask the gentleman if he is ready to close.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I have one remaining speaker.

I happen to have a gentlelady currently working for the Rules Committee sitting next to me here and helping with our research on this bill, and she informs me she used to work for the White House. She's a female. She tells me she was paid the exact same amount as her male colleagues.

With that, I'd like to yield 2 minutes to the gentlelady from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

Ms. KAPTUR. I thank Congressmen Polis, a leader on these issues, for yielding me time.

I rise, Mr. Speaker, in opposition to the rule and the underlying bill, which would prevent the National Labor Relations Board from doing its job.

The NLRB is tasked with protecting employees' rights to organize by helping employees determine whether they want a union to represent their interests or not.

Nations with bargaining rights have middle classes; those that don't have bargaining rights don't have middle classes.

The NLRB also investigates charges of unfair labor practices from both employees and employers, facilitates settlements rather than expensive lengthy litigation, and enforces rules by administrative law judges that provide orderly procedures to prevent the disruption of the flow of commerce due to a labor dispute.

This bill before us is just another partisan ploy to undermine union workers and continues the Republican war against the middle class.

First we had the Ryan budget, which would put the burden of paying for two wars and tax cuts for the wealthy on the backs of seniors and our middle class families. Now we have a bill that would result in violations of worker rights going unpunished, union elections not being certified, and that would end recourse for workers who are wrongfully terminated.

Instead of letting the courts do their job, Republicans want to take a Big Government action by preempting any decision from a higher court.

□ 1320

This bill ignores the fact that Republicans in the Senate would not allow for a vote on any of the President's nominees, and said publicly that they just wanted to make the NLRB inoperative.

It is ironic that when President Obama follows the path as President Reagan and President Bush did, that of appointing individuals to carry out the work of our government, the Republican House proposes a bill to completely undermine an independent Federal agency.

Finally, studies show that the world's best performing economies and strongest middle classes have high union density and a high level of cooperation between labor and management. If Republicans care about creating jobs and strengthening our economy, then why are they considering a bill that would take away a forum for employers and unions to work out their differences?

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing this rule and the underlying bill.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I assume the gentleman is ready to close, so I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. I am ready to close, and I yield myself the remainder of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Colorado is recognized for 4 minutes.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of the amendment in the RECORD, along with extraneous material, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, rather than addressing a number of issues that my colleagues have talked about here today, whether that issue is gas prices, whether it's equal pay for women, whether that's equal pay in the White House or equal pay for Main Street America, that's something that's important to American families. Whether it's balancing our budget, whether it's keeping taxes low and making sure that American businesses can go and create jobs, none of those things are being talked about here today. Instead, we are bringing forward a bill that would be a bureaucratic nightmare, all without protecting a single American worker and without protecting a single American business.

This bill was reported out of the Education and the Workforce Committee, on which I serve, without a single Democratic vote, and it is being rushed to the floor for consideration at a time when we face record deficits, record gas prices, have a crisis for which we need to create jobs; yet here we are, debating a bill that will go nowhere, and if it did, it would destroy jobs in our country.

I'd love to see us spending more time balancing the budget and in training and educating our workforce—preparing kids for the jobs of the future. We have limited floor time here in Washington. Every moment that we have is sponsored by the taxpayers of this great country. We owe it to those who elect us and those who pay for this body to be open as they pay for the very cameras which allow Americans to watch us here today. We owe it to them to invest the limited time we have here wisely, on critical issues of national importance, including making sure that women across our country are paid the same amount for equal work.

If we are going to have a discussion of the NLRB, let's at least do it in a serious way rather than trying to enshrine a D.C. District Court decision into law. Let's bring businesses and workers together and have serious discussion; involve Senate Republicans, involve Senate Democrats, involve the administration to come up with a better framework for ensuring that labor and management can work together to promote American competitiveness, to grow jobs and to grow the middle class.

That's not what today's process is about, but these are just a few of the ways we could improve the broken process. Unfortunately, again, it seems like the Republicans have chosen none of the above.

I urge a ''no'' vote on the rule and on the bill, and I urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' and defeat the previous question.

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

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

In closing, Mr. Speaker, House Republicans are committed to upholding the Constitution and providing certainty for employers, employees, and unions. The rule before us today provides for the consideration of a bill that ensures that certainty by pressing ''pause'' on the National Labor Relations Board's activities until the legal uncertainty is resolved.

Therefore, I urge my colleagues to vote for this rule and the underlying bill.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, research released this week from the National Federation of Independent Business indicates that more small businesses are decreasing their number of employees than increasing. On top of that, the net percent of owners planning to hire new employees fell last month to zero percent.

Some of this unfortunate news can be attributed to the legal chaos created by the Administration's recess appointments to the National Labor Relations Board, NLRB—appointments that a U.S. Court of Appeals rendered unconstitutional. Despite this ruling, the NLRB continues to issue job-crushing edicts.

Unfortunately, this confusion is only creating more costly litigation—not jobs.

The Preventing Greater Uncertainty in Labor-Management Relations Act, H.R. 1120, will resolve this confusion by preventing the NLRB from implementing, administering, or enforcing any new decisions, until a duly appointed and confirmed board can be organized.

I am proud to support this legislation on behalf of businesses through Southwest Ohio, and I hope the Senate will act quickly on it in order to provide some certainty for employees and employers.

The material previously referred to by Mr. POLIS is as follows:

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 146 OFFERED BY MR. POLIS OF COLORADO

At the end of the resolution, add the following new sections:

SEC. 2. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution the Speaker shall, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 377) To amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions. If the Committee of the Whole rises and reports that it has come to no resolution on the bill, then on the next legislative day the House shall, immediately after the third daily order of business under clause 1 of rule XIV, resolve into the Committee of the Whole for further consideration of the bill.

SEC. 3. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of the H.R. 377 as specified in section 2 of this resolution.

THE VOTE ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION: WHAT IT REALLY MEANS

This vote, the vote on whether to order the previous question on a special rule, is not merely a procedural vote. A vote against ordering the previous question is a vote against the Republican majority agenda and a vote to allow the Democratic minority to offer an alternative plan. It is a vote about what the House should be debating.

Mr. Clarence Cannon's Precedents of the House of Representatives (VI, 308–311), describes the vote on the previous question on the rule as ''a motion to direct or control the consideration of the subject before the House being made by the Member in charge.'' To defeat the previous question is to give the opposition a chance to decide the subject before the House. Cannon cites the Speaker's ruling of January 13, 1920, to the effect that ''the refusal of the House to sustain the demand for the previous question passes the control of the resolution to the opposition'' in order to offer an amendment. On March 15, 1909, a member of the majority party offered a rule resolution. The House defeated the previous question and a member of the opposition rose to a parliamentary inquiry, asking who was entitled to recognition. Speaker Joseph G. Cannon (R–Illinois) said: ''The previous question having been refused, the gentleman from New York, Mr. Fitzgerald, who had asked the gentleman to yield to him for an amendment, is entitled to the first recognition.''

The Republican majority may say ''the vote on the previous question is simply a vote on whether to proceed to an immediate vote on adopting the resolution . . . [and] has no substantive legislative or policy implications whatsoever.'' But that is not what they have always said. Listen to the Republican Leadership Manual on the Legislative Process in the United States House of Representatives, (6th edition, page 135). Here's how the Republicans describe the previous question vote in their own manual: ''Although it is generally not possible to amend the rule because the majority Member controlling the time will not yield for the purpose of offering an amendment, the same result may be achieved by voting down the previous question on the rule . . . When the motion for the previous question is defeated, control of the time passes to the Member who led the opposition to ordering the previous question. That Member, because he then controls the time, may offer an amendment to the rule, or yield for the purpose of amendment.''

In Deschler's Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives, the subchapter titled ''Amending Special Rules'' states: ''a refusal to order the previous question on such a rule [a special rule reported from the Committee on Rules] opens the resolution to amendment and further debate.'' (Chapter 21, section 21.2) Section 21.3 continues: ''Upon rejection of the motion for the previous question on a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules, control shifts to the Member leading the opposition to the previous question, who may offer a proper amendment or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon.''

Clearly, the vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Republican majority's agenda and allows those with alternative views the opportunity to offer an alternative plan.

Ms. FOXX. I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 and clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on ordering the previous question will be followed by 5-minute votes on adopting House Resolution 146, if ordered, and approving the Journal.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 226, nays 192, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 97]

YEAS—226

Aderholt
Alexander
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barr
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Coble
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Conaway
Cook
Cotton
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Daines
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Holding
Hudson
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
Latta
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Marchant
Marino
Massie
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Petri
Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Posey
Price (GA)
Radel
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Scalise
Schock
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NAYS—192

Andrews
Barber
Barrow (GA)
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bera (CA)
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farr
Fattah
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Heck (WA)
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Huffman
Israel
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Kuster
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Michaud
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Nolan
O'Rourke
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—13

Barton
Blumenauer
Braley (IA)
Castor (FL)
Collins (NY)
Costa
Hastings (FL)
Huelskamp
Lynch
Markey
Pompeo
Speier
Young (FL)

□ 1351

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 97, H. Res. 146, On Ordering the Previous Question, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 11, 2013.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I have the honor to transmit herewith a scanned copy of a letter received from Mr. Rupert T. Borgsmiller, Executive Director, Illinois State Board of Elections, indicating that, according to the unofficial returns of the Special Election held April 9, 2013, the Honorable Robin L. Kelly was elected Representative to Congress for the Second Congressional District, State of Illinois.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk.

Enclosure.

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS,
STATE OF ILLINOIS,
Springfield, IL, April 11, 2013.

Hon. KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk, House of Representatives, The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MS. HAAS: Although it is not the normal practice of the Illinois State Board of Elections to release unofficial election results, in response to a request from your office, we are hereby transmitting UNOFFICIAL election results for the April 9, 2013 Special Election in the Second Congressional District in the State of Illinois.

Sincerely,

RUPERT T. BORGSMILLER,
Executive Director.

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE ROBIN L. KELLY, OF ILLINOIS, AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentlewoman from Illinois, the Honorable Robin Kelly, be permitted to take the oath of office today.

Her certificate of election has not arrived, but there is no contest and no question has been raised with regard to her election.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. Will Representative-elect Kelly and the members of the Illinois delegation present themselves in the well.

All Members will rise and the Representative-elect will please raise her right hand.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations, you are now a Member of the 113th Congress.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE ROBIN L. KELLY TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GUTIERREZ) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield that 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Illinois, BOBBY RUSH. His name obviously ends in R and mine in G and that's why I got to be the dean, but we're sharing this together because this is a joyous day.

Congressman BOBBY RUSH, please introduce the gentlelady.

Mr. RUSH. I want to thank my colleague, LUIS GUTIERREZ, the dean of the Illinois delegation.

Ladies and gentlemen of the House, it is my honor to introduce to you one of the most remarkable persons that you will ever want to meet—a fine, outstanding, accomplished public servant, one who has cut her teeth helping to address the pain and the problems of those who reside in the Second Congressional District.

This fine woman is a sterling example of the kind of public officials that we send to Washington from the Land of Lincoln. She's beyond reproach in every area of her life. She commits herself day and night to solving the problems of common, everyday, ordinary people. She's a person with keen vision, enormous insight, and enormous capacity to accomplish what she starts out and what she began. She is indeed an inspiration to all of us. She is a person that's going to make this House proud, the State of Illinois proud, and the people from the Second Congressional District very, very proud of her.

As the Congressman from the First Congressional District, I'm so glad to introduce you to the new Congresswoman from the Second Congressional District, ROBIN KELLY.

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS).

Mr. SHIMKUS. I thank my colleague.

We want to welcome ROBIN KELLY to the Chamber. You'll find that people are working hard on both sides of the aisle to represent the folks that they are here to represent. The Illinois delegation has a monthly bicameral luncheon, and we look forward to meeting with you there so that those downstaters and those from other districts can understand the concerns of the south side of Chicago, and the like, and you can understand the concerns of real rural, deep southern Illinois.

Thank you, and welcome to the Chamber.

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Thank you, Congressman SHIMKUS.

And now, ladies and gentlemen, the newest distinguished lady from the State of Illinois (Ms. KELLY).

The SPEAKER. The gentlewoman from Illinois is recognized.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Thank you so very much. It is truly an honor to be standing here and humbling to have been chosen to represent the families of the Second Congressional District. I thank the entire Illinois delegation for their support and advice. I would also like to thank my many family members, friends, and staff who are here in the gallery today.

□ 1400

As I look around this hallowed Chamber, I know this is a place where so much history has been made. But today, I stand before you to talk about our present.

I ran for Congress so that I could work to bring about a safer, less violent, and more prosperous future, one in which our children can grow up without the fear of gun violence. Today is an important day in that fight. I look forward to working with you to protect our children from criminals and to protect our Second Amendment rights for law-abiding citizens. Because we should—and can—do both.

I look forward to working on the many issues we face, such as creating jobs, passing immigration reform, and continuing the hard work of improving our health care system. But today is about a new beginning for the people of the Second Congressional District, who I am so proud and honored to represent. I look forward to being their advocate and their champion and to working with you to create a brighter future for all of our constituents.

Thank you and God bless.

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY), the whole number of the House is 433.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1120, PREVENTING GREATER UNCERTAINTY IN LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS ACT

The SPEAKER. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the resolution.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 226, nays 194, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 98]

YEAS—226

Aderholt
Alexander
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barr
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Coble
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Conaway
Cook
Cotton
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Daines
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Holding
Hudson
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
Latta
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Marchant
Marino
Massie
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Petri
Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Posey
Price (GA)
Radel
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Scalise
Schock
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner
Upton

Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NAYS—194

Andrews
Barber
Barrow (GA)
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bera (CA)
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farr
Fattah
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Heck (WA)
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Huffman
Israel
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Kuster
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Michaud
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Nolan
O'Rourke
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—12

Barton
Braley (IA)
Castor (FL)
Collins (NY)
Hastings (FL)
Huelskamp
Lynch
Markey
Pompeo
Rush
Speier
Young (FL)

□ 1408

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 98, H. Res. 146, On Adoption of the Rule, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of Georgia). The unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 272, nays 136, answered "present" 1, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 99]

YEAS—272

Aderholt
Alexander
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barber
Barletta
Barrow (GA)
Beatty
Becerra
Bera (CA)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cartwright
Cassidy
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chu
Cicilline
Clay
Coble
Cole
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Cooper
Cramer
Crawford
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Daines
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Doggett
Doyle
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farenthold
Fattah
Fincher
Fleischmann
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Gibbs
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Grayson
Grimm
Guthrie
Hahn
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Himes
Hinojosa
Holt
Horsford
Hoyer
Huffman
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Johnson, Sam
Kaptur
Kelly (PA)
Kildee
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kline
Kuster
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Levin
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lummis
Marino
Massie
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mica
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moore
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neugebauer
Noem
Nunes
Nunnelee
O'Rourke
Olson
Pascrell
Paulsen
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Pocan
Polis
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruiz
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Scalise
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Sinema
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Stewart
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Upton
Van Hollen
Vela
Wagner
Walden
Walorski
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Yarmuth
Yoho
Young (IN)

NAYS—136

Amash
Andrews
Barr
Bass
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bishop (NY)
Bonner
Brady (PA)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Burgess
Capuano
Chaffetz
Clarke
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Collins (GA)
Conyers
Costa
Cotton
Courtney
Crenshaw
Crowley
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
Denham
Dent
Dingell
Duckworth
Duffy
Fitzpatrick
Flores
Foxx
Garcia
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Gutierrez
Hall
Hanna
Heck (NV)
Herrera Beutler
Holding
Honda
Hudson
Huizenga (MI)
Israel
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Kilmer
Kind
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Lance
Larson (CT)
Latham
Latta
Lee (CA)
Lewis
LoBiondo
Lowenthal
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Matheson
McDermott
McGovern
Miller (FL)
Miller, George
Negrete McLeod
Nugent
Palazzo
Pallone
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Peterson
Pittenger
Poe (TX)
Price (GA)
Radel
Rahall
Reed
Renacci
Ribble
Rigell
Rooney
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salmon
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schock
Sires
Slaughter
Southerland
Stivers
Stockman
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Owens

NOT VOTING—23

Barton
Braley (IA)
Castor (FL)
Collins (NY)
Farr
Gohmert
Granger
Grijalva
Hastings (FL)
Higgins
Huelskamp
Johnson (GA)
Lynch
Markey
Moran
Nolan
Pompeo
Rangel
Reichert
Simpson
Speier
Stutzman
Young (FL)

□ 1416

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 99, Journal, On Approval of the Journal, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained by the Medal of Honor ceremony for Father Emil Kapaun on Thursday, April 11th and missed rollcall votes 97, 98 and 99.

Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: "yea" on rollcall No. 97, "yea" on rollcall No. 98, "yea" on rollcall No. 99.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

PROTECTING LIFE

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

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, there is nothing on Earth more precious than life. No matter where you stand on the abortion issue, most Americans find the practice and actions of Dr. Kermit Gosnell, an abortion provider, to be brutal, unconscionable, and barbaric.

The astounding reality is that Dr. Gosnell's methods of killing babies who survive abortions are commonly used by clinics across the Nation. Similar deadly actions take the lives of 1 million unborn children each year in the United States. This is a violent act that is entirely unjustifiable.

I am a firm believer that every human being is created in God's own image, every life is precious, and we have an obligation to protect life at every stage. It's time we get rid of this gruesome procedure once and for all, and I hope and pray that the President will consider it before more innocent lives are taken.

HONORING THE MEMORY AND MOURNING THE LOSS OF RONNIE RASPBERRY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the greatest labor leaders that I have known and to honor the memory and mourn the loss of Ronnie Raspberry of Houston, Texas. I rise to pay tribute to him as a champion of working people, one of the great community leaders in the cities of Houston and Harris in Texas.

Unfortunately, he passed. In this month of April, we lost a dear friend. Ronnie Raspberry was born in 1941 in the midst of the times of challenge. And he married his beloved wife, Roycie, and they are proud parents of five children.

Being born in the midst of World War II, he understood as a child the value of service, and so he joined the United States Marine Corps and was honorably discharged.

He then began to work in an apprenticeship program under the Houston Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee for the Electrical Industry. He then became a member of Local Union No. 716 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, where I first met him. What a generous heart; what a man who loved people. He loved to train people. He was a fighter to ensure that there was dignity in the workplace.

In 1974, at age 32, he was elected as business manager. He held that position for 15 years. During his stewardship, he served as its chief contract negotiator, chairman, and secretary of numerous boards and trusts and committees. He continued to represent labor at labor conferences. He was elected and served 5 years as a representative of the Sixth District International Executive Council.

Ronnie was awarded the West Gulf Ports Council ''Labor Leader of the Year,'' Mr. Speaker, and appointed to many other positions by Governor White. We knew he was a good leader.

So I stand here today to offer my deepest sympathy to his wife and family and to thank him for his service as he rests in peace. We love you. We thank you for being the great leader that you've been to all those who are in need, fighting for the working people. Thank you, Ronnie. God bless you. And, again, may you rest in peace.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Ronnie Raspberry, a great American, a champion of working people, and one of the great community leaders in the City of Houston. Ronnie Raspberry died this past Monday, April 8, 2013, at the age of 71. His loss is mourned not only by his family and friends but the thousands of people he helped and inspired over the course of his full and eventful life.

Born on August 14, 1941, Ronnie Raspberry later met and married his beloved wife, Roycie, and they were the proud parents of five children.

After serving and receiving an Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps, Ronnie applied for and was accepted into a 4-year Apprenticeship Program under the Houston Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee for the Electrical Industry.

After completing his first of apprenticeship training, Ronnie became a member of Local Union #716 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Ronnie served on every committee his local union, IBEW Local #716, would allow.

Ronnie completed his apprenticeship, graduating with honor. He then ran for and was elected to a number of Board positions in his Local Union.

In 1974, at the age of 32, he was elected as Business Manager of IBEW Local Union #716. He held this position for 15 years.

During Ronnie's stewardship of Local Union No. 716, he served as its Chief Contract Negotiator, and as both Chairman and/or Secretary of numerous Boards, Trusts, and Committees, as well as all other responsibilities that go with being Business Manager. He continued to represent labor at Labor Conferences and Conventions, as well as Political Conferences and Conventions.

Ronnie was elected and served 5 years as representative to the Sixth District International Executive Council of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers representing the IBEW members from Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas, New Mexico, and Arizona.

In 1986, Ronnie was awarded the West Gulf Ports Council "Labor Leader of the Year" Award. Ronnie also appointed by then Governor Mark White, to serve on the Management Task Force for the Texas State Treasurer, Ann Richards. He later was appointed by Governor Ann Richards as a Commissioner on the Texas State Licensing and Regulation Commission, a position he held for six years.

Ronnie served as the Executive Secretary of the Houston Gulf Coast Building and Construction Trades Council until December 2012 when he finished his term. He then joined the high respected law firm of Williams Bailey, now Williams Kherkher, of Houston, Texas, serving as Labor Relations Officer, a position he held until he passed away earlier this week.

Mr. Speaker, Ronnie Raspberry lived a full and consequential life and he will be deeply missed by all who knew him as a friend, colleague, advocate, and community leader. Most of all he will be missed by his relatives and his children who knew and loved him as Dad; his loving wife, Roycie.

Mr. Speaker, I ask a moment of silence in honor of the memory of Ronnie Raspberry.

□ 1420

THE RECOVERING SERVICE MEMBERS DISABILITY BENEFITS ACT

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today my colleague, Representative LOEBSACK, and I are proud to reintroduce the Recovering Service Members Disability Benefits Act. This legislation is commonsense and fixes a glaring problem.

Currently, our Nation's wounded warriors are forced to wait 5 months for their approved Social Security disability benefits. This is injustice to our Nation's heroes. These are benefits that they have earned at a very high price, and they deserve better.

The Recovering Service Members Disability Benefits Act will remove this mandatory 5-month waiting period, allowing the wounded warriors to collect the benefits for which they have been already approved. To be clear, this bill does not approve benefit requests or add new individuals into the system. The bill simply expedites earned and approved benefits to eligible wounded warriors.

It is an honor to introduce this legislation and correct this issue. Our disabled servicemembers deserve the immediate reassurance of knowing there is financial support as they cope with the emotional and physical challenges of recovery.

Together, we hope this bipartisan legislation will be brought through committee and to the House floor in a swift manner.

Thank you, and God bless all those who serve our country.

CLIMATE CHANGE

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in solidarity with my colleagues from the Safe Climate Caucus to call on Republicans to end their silence and join the conversation on climate disruption.

A recent United Nations report provides a stark warning, saying that if we don't address climate disruption, the number of people living in extreme poverty could increase by up to 3 billion by 2050.

The report is clear: failing to act now creates a much larger and more costly problem later. Fortunately, we have the ability and the means to address climate disruption.

I'm proud to say that clean-energy companies and universities in my own district are leading the way in research, clean-job creation, and sustainable long-term solutions.

But this type of innovation and job creation cannot go on if Republicans continue to ignore the threat of climate change and recklessly cut funding to important programs that protect the air we breathe and the water we drink.

I urge my Republican colleagues to think about their moral responsibility to join this dialogue and to protect our planet for their children and for the long-term stability of this country.

THE BUDGET

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

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the President on finally sending up a budget, though it was 65 days late with no real explanation for why it was late.

Of course, the House passed its budget on time. The Senate, to their credit, for the first time in 4 years passed a budget on time. And the amazing thing, Mr. Speaker, is that in the face of an almost $1 trillion deficit and a $17 trillion debt, the President sent up a budget that increases spending, increases taxes, increases the deficit, cuts Social Security and Medicare, and still never balances. That's quite a feat.

Mr. Speaker, America knows our debt and our deficit are strangling our economy. Let's roll up our sleeves, work with the Senate, and solve the fiscal mess this Nation is in.

GUN SAFETY

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I am encouraged by the clear bipartisan support in the Senate for a full and fair debate on meaningful ways to reduce gun violence in our country.

Having experienced a gun accident myself that left me paralyzed more than 30 years ago, I know firsthand that the answer to keeping people, especially our children, safe is not having more guns around our kids and our communities as the gun lobby has proposed.

I am hopeful that the Senate has heard the public outcry for real change with 90 percent of Americans favoring the basic step of universal background checks.

Forty percent of the gun sales in America occur at gun shows that require no background check at all. Let's close the gun show loophole and ensure that whenever a gun is bought or sold in this country, that there's a background check so we keep the guns out of the hands of criminals or those who have mental illness that is so severe that they would be a danger to themselves or their community.

As the Senate moves forward, I continue to urge Speaker BOEHNER to stop delaying full debate on the House floor on responsible gun safety legislation. The House Gun Violence Prevention Task Force has put forward a comprehensive set of proposals, and I welcome ideas from both parties.

What is inexcusable in the wake of so many gun tragedies is inaction. We cannot sit back and wait any longer.

THE BUDGET

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

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, I come to the House floor today fresh from a Budget Committee hearing. We had the OMB Director presenting the President's budget today.

I know so many folks have said, I thought the budget was required by law to be here the first week of February. That's true. Better late than never continues to be true, as well. But as we listened to the details of the budget, Mr. Speaker, what we heard was that the President is proposing to increase spending, increase taxes, and increase the debt.

Mr. Speaker, there are thousands of pages to this budget. I hope we'll find some things that we can agree on. But I know that the American people agree with Republicans in this House when we say taxes are already too high, spending is already too high, and the debt is already too high.

The President's budget never, ever pays one penny of our Federal debt. It's wrong. We can do better. This House must come together and lead that charge.

REGARDING NATIONAL MEDIA COVERAGE OF PHILADELPHIA MURDER TRIAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PITTENGER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the subject of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, will the decades-long national news media cover-up of the brutality and the violence of abortion methods ever end?

Will Americans ever be told of the horrifying details as to how and how often abortionists dismember, decapitate, and chemically poison innocent babies?

Will Americans ever be informed by a conscientious, unbiased national news media that in the past 40 years over 55 million child victims have been brutally killed by abortion, a staggering loss of children's lives that equates to the entire population of England, and that many women have been hurt physically, emotionally, and psychologically? And according to the Center for Disease Control—and this is a very conservative estimate from CDC—over 400 women have actually died from legal abortions.

Will Americans ever be told that of the 55 million children, Planned Parenthood alone claims responsibility for destroying 6 million babies and that just 2 weeks ago a Planned Parenthood leader in Florida testified at a legislative hearing at a State initiative to protect born-alive infants that even when a child survives an abortion, the decision to assist or kill the born-alive infant should be ''up to the woman, her family and her physician''? In other words, if a child intended to be aborted survives the assault, the choice to kill remains—so-called ''after-birth abortion.''

□ 1430

Isn't that extreme child abuse?

Murdering newborns in the abortion clinic, it seems to me, is indistinguishable from any other child predator wielding a knife or a gun. Why isn't the child also seen as a patient in need of medical care, warmth, nutrition, and—dare I say—love?

Now another national media cover-up—in this case, even when a Jeffrey Dahmer-like murder trial of an abortionist named Kermit Gosnell, who ran the benign-sounding Women's Medical Society unfolds in a Philadelphia courtroom, replete with shocking testimony of beheadings, unfathomable abuse, death, and body parts in jars. To this day, the national news media remains uninterested, woefully indifferent—AWOL.

Why the censorship? Why does Gosnell's house of horrors—his trial—fail to this day to attract any serious and meaningful national news reporting?

Dr. Kermit Gosnell is on trial for eight counts of murder. One count is for the death of a woman, a victim who

died during an abortion in his clinic. Seven counts are for babies who survived their abortions and were born alive but then killed by severing their spinal cords with a pair of scissors.

In the words of the grand jury report: ''Gosnell had a simple solution for unwanted babies—he killed them.'' He didn't call it that. He called it ''ensuring fetal demise''—a nice euphemism. The way he ensured fetal demise was by sticking scissors in the back of the baby's neck and cutting the spinal cord. He called that ''snipping.'' Over the years, according to the grand jury report, there were hundreds of snippings.

Indeed, the national news media has not only taken a pass and looked the other way, but their stunning indifference has done a grave disservice to Gosnell's victims: the woman killed, other women injured, and children slaughtered by Gosnell. Because of the national news media's indefensible silence and because of their failure to report, other women and children at other abortion mills might also be at risk.

The grand jury report, again in January of 2011, pointedly pointed out and noted that an absence of press coverage and gross negligence by the health department in Pennsylvania enabled Gosnell to show a ''contemptuous disregard for the health, safety, and dignity of his patients that continued for 40 years.''

Right from the beginning of Roe v. Wade, he was overlooked by a media that was disinterested. Some media commentators, however, are beginning to take note of the national news media blackout and the bias that undergirds and is inherent in that blackout.

The title of an editorial yesterday in the Investors Business Daily was ''Newtown in the Clinic: The Media Ignore the Gosnell Trial.'' It begins in part:

> Media bias: A basketball coach who shoves and curses at his players merits constant coverage by a media also transfixed by Newtown; but a Philadelphia doctor on trial for murdering a woman and seven babies? It's ignored.
>
> Those who get their news from the three major networks have probably not heard of Dr. Kermit Gosnell, now on trial in Philadelphia, charged with seven counts of first-degree murder and one count of third-degree murder for killing seven babies who survived abortions and a woman who died after a botched painkiller injection.

The editorial points out that, according to the Media Research Center, in 1 week, Rice—who is the coach from Rutgers—received 41 minutes, 26 seconds on ABC, CBS, and NBC in 36 separate news stories. Gosnell received zero coverage.

The editorial points out:

> If Dr. Gosnell had walked into a nursery and shot seven infants with an AR–15, it would be national news and the subject of Presidential hand-wringing.

In today's edition of USA Today, columnist Kirsten Powers writes:

> Infant beheadings, severed baby feet in jars, a child screaming after it was delivered during an abortion procedure. Haven't heard about those sickening accusations?
>
> It's not your fault. Since the murder trial of Pennsylvania abortion doctor Kermit Gosnell began March 18, there has been precious little coverage of the case that should be on every news show and front page.

She goes on to write in her column:

> A LexisNexis search shows none of the news shows on the three major national television networks has mentioned the Gosnell trial in the last 3 months. The exception is when Wall Street Journal columnist Peggy Noonan hijacked a segment on ''Meet the Press.''

Again, I ask my colleagues, and I ask the news media: Why the blackout?

Will America ever be told the brutality of abortion and the violence that is commonplace inside the abortion industry; or will the media, the national media especially, continue to censor and censor and, in this case, censor a trial—a trial of the century—that exposes all of the all too inconvenient truth: that not only are unborn children destroyed in these killing centers by being decapitated and dismembered but that even babies who survive the abortions can't escape the deadly hand of these child predators?

I would like to yield to my good friend and colleague, VICKY HARTZLER.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Thank you so much. I appreciate this opportunity to share today, as we look at the national media coverup of this very, very horrific act.

As we gather today to bring awareness to the trial of Kermit Gosnell and to the horrific actions he has been charged with, we remember the many who were murdered at the Women's Medical Society clinic and denied the chance to be our siblings, playmates, our friends, our peers. We mourn their losses, and we mourn the deep pain and confusion that abortion has inflicted upon women, men, and their families.

This trial provides revealing insights into the abortion industry, and it specifically highlights the reality that abortion involves taking a human life. These killings expose the very gruesome nature of what happens in abortion clinics all across this country where over 1.2 million unborn children die in abortions every year.

As a legislator, I will continue to speak in defense of the most basic human right—life. I will continue to support legislation that would stop the Federal funding for abortion providers, and I will continue to champion the inherent human dignity of every life born and unborn.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank my good friend and colleague Mrs. HARTZLER for her very eloquent statement, for her championing the rights of the unborn and their mothers, and for joining us in this Special Order today.

I'd like to now yield to a medical doctor who has been the leader on conscience rights in the House of Representatives, in the Congress, Dr. FLEMING.

Mr. FLEMING. I certainly want to thank my good friend from New Jersey for all the great work that you've done on this and the work you continue to do.

I have to say, Mr. Speaker, that just hearing about this trial—and quite frankly, I haven't heard about it on TV. If I weren't informed about it in leading up to this Special Order, I wouldn't know about the Gosnell trial—one in which, I think, it is really sickening just to hear the facts.

It's interesting. This country has reached a point in which we have focused so much on the humane treatment of animals—that is, to treat animals like humans. Then that leaves the question: Why do we not treat people like people? Why don't we treat humans humanely? I think that is an important question. What do people say who themselves have survived abortion?

I was at a meeting several months ago, and I met two fantastic mothers, mothers of children today. As to one of them, her mom, while she was still pregnant with her, attempted to have an abortion, but for whatever reason, she never could get around to it. She couldn't get it lined up or whatever, and eventually, she just ended up not having the abortion. Of course, this beautiful lady was eventually born, and now she has grown up to be an adult, and is very productive and very beautiful and herself has children. Of course, if you asked her, Well, what do you think about your mother's attempt to have an abortion of you while you were still in the womb? she would say—speaking, I think, for millions of unborn today and unborn in the past—Let me live. Give me an opportunity—I, the innocent unborn—to live. Give me a chance to live in society.

□ 1440

I met another beautiful lady at this meeting. Her mother, while still pregnant with her, late term, actually attempted to have a saline abortion. It was a botched abortion. It didn't work. By that I mean she was born alive and remained alive. And, fortunately for her, the health care workers decided to go ahead and revive and resuscitate her. And, of course, we know that saline abortions, if you have a child that survives, it scalds the skin. It creates injury to that baby. But she was treated, and she grew up to be a beautiful woman who married and who had children. If you asked her today, she would tell you she speaks for the millions of the unborn, both in the past and those who are killed in the womb today: Yes, let me live. Give me a chance to live.

Well, what about the question of infanticide? That's really what we're talking about in the Gosnell case. These babies, for whatever reason, he certainly wasn't a good enough doctor to accomplish the abortion while the babies were still in the womb, and then has to go on and do something I think most Americans would consider murder, and that is infanticide. In most

places, perhaps all places in America today, infanticide is murder.

But the question is: Do you realize there are two bioethicists in Australia who have recently proposed a concept called ''post-delivery abortion?'' Of course, we know that to be infanticide. Once the baby is born, if you kill the baby, that's infanticide. But they want to do a little wordsmithing and call it something else—post-delivery abortion. What they mean is this: if the baby is born and there's something about the baby that you're dissatisfied with, maybe it has an abnormality of some sort, maybe it's going to cost some money for a heart deformity or a facial deformity, maybe it's born with a genetic defect, that you should have, as a mother, the option of killing that baby even outside of the womb. There has even been a hint that perhaps taking a baby's life, even up to the age of conscious life, which can be, I don't know, a year or even more, would be still incongruent with the concept of post-delivery abortion.

So you see, Mr. Speaker, this is a slippery slope. Once you get past the fact that life begins at conception, and of course with today's technology, infants born as early as age 22 weeks, certainly 24 weeks, often survive at a time when they couldn't in the past. This has become an extremely slippery slope to the point where there are many out there who would actually turn their backs on life even after the point of delivery.

Well, Mr. Speaker, what about the lives of the women themselves? I'm a physician, and I've seen women after they've had an abortion. I can even think of a couple of cases in my practice when of course I would never send a lady for an abortion, but I was forced to treat a lady after an abortion because she was treated by an itinerant physician who comes into town, does a bunch of abortions, leaves town, and says if you have any complications, go see your family doctor. Well, of course, that is sickening for me. That means I am involuntarily participating, at least tacitly, in treating a lady who has had complications from an abortion.

This really goes to show you to the point with Dr. Gosnell just how unfeeling and inhumane the whole consideration is.

But what drives people to do this? Well, we know if you look at studies, it's about money. It's all about money, Mr. Speaker. They make millions of dollars. I think in the case of Dr. Gosnell, he became a multimillionaire because of all of the many abortions he provided over the years.

But, again, back to the women. What happens to the women who have abortions? Well, these are some things that we know. Once a woman has an abortion, her chance of having a future miscarriage goes up. And so now we're talking about miscarriages, stillborn, and the issue of infertility. Rate of suicides, they're higher in women who have had abortions. What about the rate of other complications, rates of depression and other things? We know they're all higher. The outcomes in the future lives of young women, and even not-so-young women who undergo abortions, Mr. Speaker, are really not very positive. So why would we encourage this? And certainly we know that a woman who gets an abortion a first time is far more likely to get a second and a third abortion, and oftentimes it really becomes a form of birth control.

So, in summary, Mr. Speaker, I stand up with my colleagues today to speak out against the fact that not only are we seeing abortion continue, the taking of innocent life through this Nation, but even the mere consideration of ending the life of an infant after birth, either because of a botched abortion or even deliberately just because there is some dissatisfaction with the outcome. I think is really horrible and something we should be ashamed of. Certainly, Mr. Speaker, if we can give consideration and humane treatment to animals, should we not do this for our own as well?

So, again, I rise in support of my colleagues on this very important issue. I do think that if we can't do it on a Federal level, we need to move forward in our States, such as my own State of Louisiana, where we have developed certain requirements, elevated requirements of accountability for doctors who provide abortions so that they can't just fly in and fly out and leave a mess. They have to have certain credentials and maintain hospital privileges perhaps; create limitations after so many weeks can an abortion actually be done. Let's do away with late-term abortions, again, an abominable act. We know through studies that the unborn feel pain at least as early as 20 weeks gestation, and maybe earlier.

Certain States, such as Arkansas, recently passed laws against late-term abortions. And, again, in my home State of Louisiana, we have a cooling-off period where you have to think about this. Think one more time, just think for 24 hours, maybe even pray about it: Is this something I really want to go forward with, end the life of my progeny? And certainly the requirement of an ultrasound, at least a requirement of the option of seeing your baby before you terminate its poor life.

Once again, I thank my colleagues. It is certainly a privilege and an honor to speak on what is, I think, one of the most important issues that we have in America.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank you, Dr. FLEMING, so much for your leadership and for that very concise statement. And now I would like to yield to my good friend and colleague, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT).

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for arranging today's Special Order. I thank the gentleman from New Jersey also for his leadership on this very important issue, not just today, not just yesterday, but over years, year after year after year, coming to this floor, speaking around our State, speaking around the Nation as well, speaking for those who do not have a voice, speaking for the weak, the unborn. We thank you for your leadership in this area. We recognize that you have done a profound thing for this Nation, and we thank you for that.

I, too, come from New Jersey; and tonight I would like to speak briefly, and I will reference a woman who lived in New Jersey, who lived in Bergen County, who actually lived in Tenafly, up in my neck of the woods. And maybe some of you have heard her name before, and you would if you've walked about this Capitol, because she is commemorated in a sculpture located in the rotunda of this building, and I'm talking about Elizabeth Cady Stanton. She was a suffragette. She was a women's rights activist. She was someone who fought long and hard to ensure the equality of women before the law in this country. And also she fought for the important issue of the sanctity of life. Way back over 100 years ago in 1873, she wrote a letter to Julia Ward Howe, a prominent abolitionist and also a suffragette, and in it she wrote the following:

> When we consider that women are treated as property, it is degrading to women that we should treat our own children as property to be disposed of as we see fit.

□ 1450

So she classified abortion as a form of infanticide.

Today, Mrs. Stanton, I believe, would be horrified. I believe she would be disgusted, as my colleagues are as well, with what millions of Americans are watching going on in Philadelphia right now.

Kermit Gosnell is on trial in a city that gave birth to America, in a city that gave birth to the Declaration of Independence, a city that gave birth to the idea, the promise of life and liberty and the pursuit of happiness. He's there on trial for the callous murder of eight Americans, one woman, she who died from a botched abortion, and seven innocent, defenseless children who were born alive and healthy but then were killed by the abortionist.

These are only the murders that Gosnell is being charged with. His clinic, it is recorded, has carried out literally hundreds, thousands of abortions over the years using the doctor's own gruesome techniques on children, who were often over the Pennsylvania legal limit of 24 weeks.

Now, as was pointed out, news reports on the trial are nonexistent. Reports of testimony in the grand jury are basically nonexistent in the media. But if you dig down and you get a copy of the grand jury's report, you see what we're talking about and how gruesome it is.

According to the grand jury's report, ''Gosnell had a simple solution''—this

is from the grand jury's report. ''Gosnell had a simple solution for unwanted babies; he killed them.'' He didn't call it that. He called it, ensuring fetal demise. He called it, then, ''snipping.'' Over the years there were literally hundreds of snippings. This we find from the grand jury's report.

Snipping? This is not a medical procedure. This is murder, and we should call it for what it is.

Where, then, is the protection of life? Where, then, is the protection of liberty? Where is the protection of the pursuit of happiness?

Where is the outrage at what is going on there? Where is the outrage that nothing of this is being reported in any of the major newspapers across this country, on any of the major radio stations, on any of the major TV or cable channels across this country?

You have to dig, as I did, to find it in the back pages. The media and the pro-abortion movement are more concerned about things like Rush Limbaugh's comments on contraception, or ensuring that girls under 18, kids, have easy access to the morning after pill than they are with this trial, the gruesome acts in the trial, they allege, of Dr. Gosnell, or for the 1.2 million unborn Americans who die in America every year.

So, Mr. Speaker I join the rest of my colleagues tonight in expressing my disgust with this case and the failure also, the disgust also with the media to cover these actions.

Every child is precious. Every child is a gift. We must continue, then, this fight to protect this most fundamental right for the unborn, and each of us, the right to life. And we must also make sure that when it is destroyed, that it is exposed.

Again, with that, I conclude, and I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for his actions tonight.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I want to thank Mr. GARRETT for his eloquence, but also for his faithfulness in defending the powerless and the people who need voices, unborn children and their mothers, all those who are similarly situated, the vulnerable and the weak. He is always there, and I want to thank you so much, SCOTT.

I'd like to now yield to the chairman of the Health Subcommittee for the Energy and Commerce Committee for the House of Representatives, JOE PITTS, and note that Congressman PITTS, Chairman PITTS, is the author of the Abortion Control Act of 1980, the legislation that established, within the framework of Roe v. Wade, a very aggressive attempt to protect, to the maximum extent possible, pursuant to that onerous decision by the Supreme Court, and it was upheld by the Supreme Court, to do investigations of clinics and to just hold to a higher standard so that, to the greatest extent possible, life would be protected.

Congressman PITTS has been leading the charge on life for his entire career, both in the State legislature and in the U.S. House of Representatives, so it is a distinct honor to yield to my good friend.

Mr. PITTS. Thank you, Congressman SMITH, for your leadership on this issue here in Congress, very, very wonderful, inspiring leadership to all of us who've been engaged in this, on this issue for years in State legislatures like Pennsylvania and across the other parts of the country.

But U.S. Route 30 runs through the heart of my district, in Lancaster County and Chester County, in Pennsylvania. You follow that road all the way into Philadelphia, you'll pass a nondescript, triangle-shaped brick building at 38th Street. And for years, Dr. Kermit Gosnell operated a factory of death in this location, just across the street from a church.

This week, Gosnell is on trial for multiple homicides that demonstrate just how thin the line between abortion and murder is in this country.

Dr. Kermit Gosnell spent years taking advantage of vulnerable women, offering illegal and dangerous abortions in exchange for cash. He also operated a pill mill, selling prescription drugs to anyone in the neighborhood with enough cash.

He sold death to the poor, and he lived handsomely for years. State authorities never darkened the door of what he called a ''clinic'' until a mother died of an overdose during one of Gosnell's procedures.

He used clinical terminology to pave over the fact that in many cases he was killing a child who had already been born. While he is charged with seven counts of murdering an infant and a single count of murdering a mother, we don't really know how many children died after they were born.

Just as he was careless with the lives of children, he was careless with the lives of mothers, and he treated them in terrible conditions, often sending them out of the clinic injured and still under the influence of anesthesia.

We should always remember that abortion is the most violent form of death known to humankind. And there are always two victims in every abortion. One is the child, the unborn child. The other is the mother. One is dead, one is wounded.

An abortion is violence against the unborn. It's also violence against women.

But the facts of this case raise the disturbing question of just how close legal abortion practices come to outright murder. Gosnell knew that there was little real medical difference between killing the child in-utero and killing them outside of the mother.

Like standard, legal abortion practice, he would use chemicals to first poison the unborn child. And if he had waited until death to remove their bodies, he would be within the law. Because he took the children out of the mothers while they were still alive, he is guilty of murder.

Gosnell only took a leap that certain intellectuals and so-called medical ethicists have been talking about for decades. Just last year, two researchers published a paper in the prestigious Journal of Medical Ethics entitled ''After Birth Abortion.'' Their assertion was that a fetus doesn't become a child until they are wanted.

Let us never say that these are unwanted children, not while there are tens of thousands of married couples waiting to adopt, couples who wait months or years to bring home a baby boy or a girl. Many Americans even travel far abroad in order to adopt. In many cases, they go all the way to China or Ethiopia.

Gosnell's victims, and the millions of other lives lost to abortion are, by no means, unwanted.

The case of Dr. Gosnell is gruesome. The place that he ran was a gruesome factory and disturbing, but only because it strips away the clinical nature of most abortions.

□ 1500

His carelessness exposed what the fetus actually was—a human that he cruelly murdered. And yet the press will ignore, will remain silent on what is happening in this very important trial in Philadelphia. We ignore the tiniest human life at great peril because, as Gosnell demonstrates, flippancy for life creeps from the infant to the adult. We must protect all life, no matter how small or at what stage.

And so I commend Congressman SMITH and my other colleagues who have come to speak today about this important policy issue. It's about people, it's about children, it's about women.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I want to thank Chairman PITTS for his very eloquent statement. Even the grand jury report noted that if Mr. PITTS' law had been followed faithfully, the whole Gosnell destruction of not only women's lives but the death and murder of one woman and the killing of these children might not have occurred.

I'd like to yield to Dr. ANDY HARRIS, a Johns Hopkins physician and also a Member of the U.S. House from Maryland.

Dr. HARRIS.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you very much. I would like to thank the gentleman from New Jersey for bringing this subject to the attention of the American people because this is a subject that's not going away.

What we're talking about today, of course, is a trial going on in Pennsylvania, little heard about in the press, but one that's very significant. Because when it's coupled with what the gentleman from Pennsylvania and the gentleman from Louisiana spoke about, the overarching medical ethics question, it's something that we have to come to deal with. Because, Mr. Speaker, it is true that apparently in Dr. Gosnell's mind there was little difference between a late-term abortion and killing a baby after birth. And make no mistake about it, these children were killed. Because the trial

right now is for seven cases of murder on those newborns. Interestingly, it was only discovered because of the death of the mother. And to show how flippantly many States have dealt with the issue of regulating clinics like that, we would never have known unless this mother died.

In my home State of Maryland, two deaths have recently occurred; and only as a result of those deaths has the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene decided that, yes, maybe we actually should regulate clinics where this kind of surgery is done. And, in fact, they have closed four of those clinics until they can bring them up to standards that we would consider modern medical practice.

But let's pay attention—because my specialty is anesthesiology—to what was going on in that clinic in Pennsylvania. Dr. Gosnell hired a surgical technician. This is someone he hired to clean instruments. He had that person administer anesthesia to those poor women going to that clinic thinking they were going to get good medical care. This is someone whose training was in how to clean a metal instrument and now administering life-threatening drugs. And, Mr. Speaker, we know they're life threatening because the misuse of those drugs resulted in that woman's death. In fact, three drugs administered—Demerol, a powerful narcotic; Valium, a powerful sedative; and promethazine, another sedative—administered by someone whose training was to clean medical instruments. And that is what's considered acceptable practice in many States in the country because many States choose not to regulate clinics where these abortion procedures are done.

But let's make no mistake about it. It wasn't just the killing of the mother that's at issue here. It's the grotesque procedure that was done in that clinic by the doctor and the people he trained to end the lives of those babies who were born alive. We might think this is a terrible thing. In fact, that grand jury thought it was a terrible thing. They, in fact, indicted on seven counts of murder. They called it ''murder.''

But the gentleman from Pennsylvania and the gentleman from Louisiana bring up an article published just last year in the Journal of Medical Ethics by professors from Italy and Australia. These are fairly civilized countries. The title of the article is fascinating. If the gentleman doesn't mind, I'm going to go through some of this because America has to understand what this moral discussion going on worldwide is. I will tell you I'm shocked because 10 years ago—I'm shocked now that this article is published, and 10 years ago, it wouldn't even be thinkable. The title is, ''After-Birth Abortion: Why Should the Baby Live?'' And it's about committing what this author calls after-birth abortion, which is currently called euthanasia or murder, or infanticide in our current speech. But these authors propose a new term: after-birth abortion. We're going to make this sound better because we know abortion is legal so we're just going to call this after-birth abortion. What it is is justification for killing a child after birth when no abortion was intended.

Mr. Speaker, this is just the next step to what Dr. Gosnell did. Dr. Gosnell killed a child after an abortion was intended. We think that's bad. A grand jury thought it was bad. There's seven indictments for murder in Pennsylvania. These medical ethicists propose that even if it wasn't an intentional abortion, that mother went and had her baby and decided that her daughter just wasn't going to fit in with the family, literally, and that it was okay to kill that baby. And if you don't believe me, ladies and gentlemen, just go and Google it. Read the article yourself. It's chilling.

Some people say, Well, maybe the child is born disabled or born with some terrible illness or something that's very painful and maybe we're just doing a good thing for the child. But the authors say these include cases where the newborn is not disabled. And I'm going to read from these word-for-word because I want to get this right and, Mr. Speaker, I want America to understand what's at stake here.

They make the argument that the fact that a fetus or a newborn has the potential to become a person who will have an acceptable life is no reason for prohibiting an abortion, or in this case, killing that child after birth. They argue that—and I'm going to quote:

> When circumstances occur after birth such that they would have justified abortion, what we call after-birth abortion should be permissible.

Mr. Speaker, let me remind you that in the United States, sex-selection abortion is legal in many States, in China. And if we don't think this is a slippery slope, remember what's happened in China over the past decade. They've decided under their one-child policy that if you have a live birth of a second child, it's legal to kill that child for the sole purpose of it being a second child. And, Mr. Speaker, as we know, occasionally the girls were killed, if they were the first child, knowing that you can only have one child and the family wanted a boy. So in China it's gone past sex-selection abortion to sex-selection infanticide. But that's exactly what this article speaks about.

This article, again, was written by professors from Italy and Australia, published in a prestigious journal that ethically justifies killing a child after birth because, well, Mr. Speaker, for any reason. Because they argue that child has no right to grow up. And if you don't believe me, they go on to say that this is not an actual person. It's a potential person. It's not an actual person.

So they say if a potential person like a fetus or a newborn does not become an actual person because you don't allow it to grow up like you or I, then there is neither an actual nor a future person who can be harmed—I'm not sure I understand that—which means there is no harm at all. So killing the fetus or the child, there's no harm at all.

But they go on to say this, which is amazing and this is why people have to understand how foreign a thought this is to many of us, ''So if you ask one of us if we would have been harmed had our parents decided to kill us when we were fetuses or newborns, our answer is no.''

□ 1510

What, Mr. Speaker? They're suggesting that if someone came up to me and said, would I have been harmed if my parents had decided to kill me when I was a newborn, my answer should be no? How many people do they really think you can go up to and ask, if your parents had killed you as a newborn, would you have been harmed? Do they really think people are ready to say, no, no harm, no foul; I wasn't a person, that's all right, that's totally ethical.

They create an ethical framework completely consistent with abortion policy throughout most of the United States, and that is, that a late-term, third-trimester fetus has no rights as a person, and only merely extend that logic to the period after birth. That's all they're doing.

So although this may sound grotesque and shocking that they suggest that there is no moral problem with killing a newborn, it's merely an ethical, logical extension of the way we have been treating fetuses since 1973.

It gets worse. Because the gentleman from Pennsylvania suggested, well, there are plenty of people who would adopt this child. They go on to say that it's actually better in many cases to kill the child than to put it up for adoption. This is stunning. The reason they say that is that we need to consider the interests of the mother, who might suffer psychological distress for giving her child up for adoption. They suggest there would be no psychological distress for that woman to have carried that child for 9 months, given birth to a normal baby, decided they don't want it, and agree to have someone kill it? It's stunning. It's striking.

Let me tell you, and I'll close on this, because we're shocked by this. But let me tell you something, we can't argue with nature. We can't argue with what nature tells us. It answers the question: Why in the world is the younger generation more pro-life than my generation? It comes up in poll after poll after poll. How in the world can that be? We have an enlightened younger generation? Isn't it enlightened to think about this ethical framework? How can this be?

Mr. Speaker, let me suggest how this can be. This is the first generation where two things hold true: They fully

understand what makes a human a human because they learned genetics and chromosomes, and they know that every single person is unique from every other person ever, based on science.

There's one other thing they know, Mr. Speaker. This is the first generation where they know that they could have been aborted legally. The first generation where they actually answer those ethicist questions: Would harm have been done to me if I would have been killed as a fetus? Their answer, resoundingly—because that's why the polling shows this—is they know the answer is yes. We are harming a human in the decision to take its life. That is true whether it is at 3 months, 6 months, 8 months. Because they know that was them as an embryo and a fetus at 3 months, and that was them at 6 months, and that was them at 9 months. And if they were in Philadelphia, in Dr. Gosnell's clinics, that would have been them 1 minute after birth or 5 minutes after birth. They know that under that construct of ethics by those professors in Italy and Australia, published in Journal of Medical Ethics, they're proposing that could have been them at 1 day, 1 week. Because those professors actually go on to say we can't really set what the deadline is for how long it's ethical. Mr. Speaker, that younger generation is smarter than my generation on this issue.

I want to thank again the gentleman from New Jersey for bringing this issue up. This is something that is so troubling, we have to come to grips with this. We have to understand the slope we are on when we neglect to treat every human being as one worthy of protection.

I thank the organizer of this Special Order.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Dr. HARRIS, thank you for that very insightful—and I would say brilliant—defense of not just the unborn, but the newly born, and your very logical argument as to how this is already being extended in what is euphemistically called after-birth abortion to those, like Dr. Gosnell's victims, who have been born and then are killed.

I would point to my colleagues, before going to Mr. STUTZMAN, that one of the clinic individuals who was actually killing these children—this came out in testimony at the trial—said that when he heard the child crying, it was like an alien.

Children cry when they're being killed—and in this case, a very painful—as you pointed out, pain-capable children are at least 20 weeks gestational age. Many of these kids were 23, 24, 25, even higher. As we've learned from the grand jury, as well as from these proceedings, some of these children were as old as 30 weeks gestational age—very, very large children, very mature children, but no different than the child who just a few weeks and even months before, same child, just a little more mature and, as you said, worthy of protection always.

I'd like to yield to Mr. STUTZMAN.

Mr. STUTZMAN. I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for yielding, and I appreciate his efforts to bring this particular matter to the attention of the American people.

I also want to thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HARRIS), who just spoke so eloquently and factually and knowledgeably about this particular issue as a doctor.

My heart is torn, as I stand here on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives as we're discussing a matter that's happened right here in our own country. I tell the gentleman from New Jersey that I was just meeting with a doctor in my office within the last couple of hours who worked in one of the neonatal clinics in northeastern Indiana. The work and the technology, the ability and the effort that doctors in a neonatal facility go through to save the life of a baby that is wanted is amazing and is heart-touching. And to then come to this particular matter and to hear the details of this tragic location in Philadelphia that was performing abortions like this is just heart-wrenching.

Mr. Speaker, I would just share with this body that certain places are permanent reminders that evil men will do evil things, whether it's in Auschwitz's ovens, Cambodia's killing fields, and now a run-down brick building on the corner of 38th and Lancaster in west Philadelphia.

In that building—crawling with animals, reeking with urine, and filled with blood-stained furniture—Kermit Gosnell was running a slaughterhouse. On a regular basis, he used a pair of scissors to sever the spinal cords of helpless babies who were born alive during illegal, late-term abortions.

The loss of these lives should scar the conscience of civilized people everywhere. This is not a discussion about abstract concepts like choice. We are talking about brutal deaths of newborn children.

Mr. Speaker, Kermit Gosnell is a predator who must be publicly exposed and openly denounced. That's why I come to the floor, to bring attention to this case, that the American people are informed of it, aware of it, and realizing the acts that are happening within our own country.

I have no doubt that in this life or the next he will be held accountable for his crimes. However, right here and right now we ought to take a serious look at our culture's careless disregard of this story in particular, and innocent life in general.

How is it that in our age of constant news not a single major news outlet has devoted serious attention to the atrocities that weren't committed halfway around the world but in west Philadelphia, Pennsylvania?

□ 1520

Has our national conscience been irreversibly seared by the deaths of more than 1.2 million unborn children every year in this country. I believe this is something that the media should be talking about. They talk about so many other issues that affect our country, and rightly so. But I believe this is one of those that should be discussed and reported on by the media.

I've only seen a brief report on this within the last week. Mr. Speaker, I am confident that one day the era of abortion on demand will close and we will restore a lasting respect for life. However, until that day comes, each of us must take up the cause of those who cannot speak for themselves.

I thank Congressman SMITH for his unwavering commitment and his leadership and his efforts to protect life, and especially to bring this particular matter to the attention of the American people, so that we as a country will stand up and do the right thing for those who cannot speak for themselves.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Indiana for that very extraordinary and eloquent speech, bringing to the American people an inconvenient truth that needs to be exposed, and for, again, reminding us all that the major news media—NBC, CBS, ABC—have all had a blackout, there's been a coverup. If this was any other trial of a horrific bloodletting, a house of horrors, it would be front page, it would be the lead story, maybe second or third on some nights on the major networks.

The Philadelphia Inquirer, to its credit, a newspaper that is not pro-life editorially, and I know that because I've talked to them over the many years, they, nevertheless, have deployed reporters who have done a very, very good job in covering this trial. But that's pretty much where it ends. And, again, the major networks ought to be there.

I would point out that the reason why this clinic in this house of horrors was allowed to do much of what it has done is because of the chilling effect that the proabortion side has had on inspections of clinics where children are routinely slaughtered.

The grand jury itself said: ''The politics in question were not antiabortion, but proabortion. With the change of administrations from Governor Casey,'' a Democrat pro-lifer, ''to Governor Tom Ridge,'' a proabortion Republican, ''officials concluded that inspections would be putting a barrier up to women seeking abortions. Better to leave the clinics to do as they please,'' went on the grand jury report, ''even though, as Gosnell proved, that meant both women and babies would pay.'' That is found on page 9.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield to my good friend and colleague from Pennsylvania (Mr. ROTHFUS) for as much time as he may consume.

Mr. ROTHFUS. Thank you.

''Troubling'' is the word for what we see happening in Philadelphia. I think if you look at what this trial is about, about 20 years ago we had a decision

from our Supreme Court that basically said:

> At the heart of liberty is the right to define one's own concept of existence, of meaning, of the universe, and of the mystery of the human life.

I suggest that at the heart of Dr. Gosnell's trial is this understanding on the part of Dr. Gosnell that he had the liberty to define his own concept of existence and of meaning and of the universe. But that's to be juxtaposed with what our Founders described as self-evident truths, that we are endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among them are the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

That concept was enshrined in our Constitution, where our Fifth Amendment provides that no person is to be deprived of life without due process of law; and, again, our 14th Amendment adds that no State shall deprive a person of life without due process of law.

As we watch this trial unfold in Philadelphia and continue to hear the daily testimony of what's happening, I think it's appropriate that we reflect on those words of the Founders and how far we've come from those days.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank my friend for coming from his markup to be with us here today.

There was a report in the Philadelphia Inquirer—again, just tell the truth, just tell the story about what's happening in the trial—and they report that this week an ex-employee of Gosnell talked about how she perceived the brutal snipping of the spines of newborns still alive after abortion.

''Did you know it was murder?'' Assistant District Attorney Joanne Pescatore asked ex-clinic worker Lynda Williams, referring to the clinic's practice of snipping the spines of babies born alive during abortion procedures.

''No, I didn't,'' said Williams, 44.

She goes on to say that one of her duties was to retrieve fetuses from women who would sometimes spontaneously abort in the waiting room after getting large doses of drugs. ''One day,'' she testified, ''a women expelled a second trimester fetus and it was moving.'' Williams said she took a pair of scissors and snipped the spine as Gosnell showed her. ''I did it once,'' she said, ''and I didn't do it again because it gave me the creeps.''

Mr. Speaker, let me conclude. Dr. ANDY HARRIS a few moments ago talked about the bioethicists who had made statements that after-birth abortion is justified because the newborn, or children who have been out of the womb for even weeks, have the same moral stature—and that is none—as an unborn child. Those two bioethicists say: ''The devaluation of newborn babies is inextricably linked to the devaluation of the unborn.'' They said: ''We propose that this practice of after-birth abortion be called that, rather than infanticide, in order to emphasize that the moral status of the individual killed''—that is to say the baby—''is comparable to that of the fetus.''

Whether she will exist is exactly what our choice is all about. So the choice to kill extended to the point of snipping the spines of children who were born and struggling and gasping for breath and for some kind of outreach of hands that would save that child, but it wasn't there. That is now being prosecuted, as it ought to be, as murder.

Our hope is that the blackout of this trial of Kermit Gosnell will end. It is ongoing. It's occurring today. It's occurring every day. I don't know how long it will take. But to NBC, CBS, and ABC and to the major news media, The Washington Post, The New York Times, and others, just tell the story. Keep your editorials on the editorial page—you are absolutely entitled to that—but don't let that creep onto and bleed onto the other pages. Just tell the story. And the indifference, again, and the lack of coverage suggests a coverup.

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

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. POCAN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the Congressional Progressive Caucus. We are here today to talk about a specific item in the President's budget, and that item is the chained CPI in Social Security.

The chained CPI is an idea that originated with the Republicans and was included in the President's budget as a way to try to convince them to come to the table and have a budget for the Nation. But the chained CPI is more than that. We have a problem with the way the chained CPI works.

Chained CPI. No one in the real world talks about chained CPI. It's like sequester. I don't know a single person who tells their child, I'm going to sequester your toys.

Chained CPI is another Washington idea. What that idea is, in layman's terms, is essentially a cut in how people will receive the cost of living increase for Social Security. A real important way to talk about this is currently the consumer price index is how we determine any increases to people who receive Social Security.

□ 1530

When you do the chained CPI, it takes the rate that we provide for that cost of living increase and changes the cost of living increase in a different way that makes it a smaller increase for people who receive that.

The problem is specifically for seniors and disabled and children who are receiving Social Security. Seniors, especially, pay about 20 percent to 30 percent of their incomes on health care, and health care costs have risen more than the consumer price index or the cost of living increases that people have had. So by doing the chained CPI, essentially it is a cut in Social Security to people who need it the most.

There is a famous Midwesterner, a former Senator from the State of Minnesota, Hubert Humphrey who once said:

> The moral test of government is how that government treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the elderly; and those who are in the shadows of life, the sick, the needy and the handicapped.

Our moral test today is Social Security. It's our moral promise to seniors for their economic security. That promise comes in the form of Social Security.

It's also our promise to veterans, to people with disabilities and to our children and orphans in this country. If we break that American promise by moving to a chained CPI, it'll have real consequences to real people.

Granted, this was a Republican proposal that the President included. This is a Republican idea that the President included in his budget in order to try to get them to the table. Nonetheless, it is a bad idea no matter where it comes from.

Let me give you a little example about the amount of cuts that would be provided on average to some seniors through this. Benefits for someone who's 75 years old would see $658 less a year. If you're 85 years old, you would see $1,147 less a year. If you're a 95-year-old, you would see $1,622 less a year. And for our 3.2 million disabled veterans in this country who sacrificed for our country, it means they would see reduced disability in Social Security benefits as well.

These cuts grow deeper and deeper, as I explained, the older you get, but they also are especially hard on women in this country. Women have longer life expectancies. They rely more on their income from Social Security, and they already are more economically vulnerable than men.

Let me give you an example of what this means in real terms.

My mother is 84 years old. My father died in 1991, and she has been alone all those years living on Social Security. I called her and I asked her specifically what she gets from Social Security every month. She gets $1,101 a month. That comes out to $13,212 annually.

I asked her to break out her expenses for me. I went through every possible expense that we could, just to get an idea of what it's like to be 84 and to be on a modest income. I grew up in a lower middle class family. She's already gone through most of her savings, living to 84. Her mother lived to 101. Should her genes hold out, her savings will definitely not hold out that amount of time.

First of all, her utilities, her gas, electric and her water bill come to $130 a month. She said she spends $40 to $50 for groceries and other essentials a week. That comes to an average of $180 a month.

The average senior's health care is 20 percent to 30 percent of their income. That's why the chained CPI is especially hard on seniors, because it's such a large percent of their income, because so much of their income goes to health care, whether it's copayments, prescription drugs, or other needs. So with that income of $13,212, let's just go right down the middle and take 25 percent. That's $275 on average a month.

Her car insurance and home insurance averages out to $77 a month. Her property taxes are $3,285. She's fortunate she owns her home, but she has property taxes that come to about $273 a month on average. Her phone and cable bill, combined, comes to $140 a month. She has to have help doing her snow shoveling, mowing her grass, and other errands around the house. That comes to about $50 a month. Finally, her gas she has estimated—she doesn't do as much traveling as she used to—is about $40 a month.

That grand total is $1,165. That means she is underwater. She is in the red by $64 a month. That is before other expenses.

Now, she is fortunate that she doesn't have a mortgage anymore. But could you imagine if you had a mortgage and on top of that $1,165 you added another $600, $800, $1,000, $1,200 a month.

She has her car paid for, but it's from the nineties. That car, if it was a payment, would be $200 or $300 a month. Add that on top. She was just telling me about repairs. She spent $1,700 fixing her furnace at her home. That's not calculated in all of her other monthly expenses, car repairs, et cetera.

The bottom line is that that $1,101 a month, which is essentially what she lives on—and one in three seniors live on that Social Security payment a month. You cannot afford to lose, at her age range, over $100 a month. At $100 a month, that means she's either cutting back on her food, cutting back on her medicine, turning the thermostat down in winter or up in the summer. But it has real-life implications on people who can afford it the least, people like my 84-year-old mother and millions of seniors across this country.

There are some in this body who try to rewrite history. They are trying to say that our economic woes, our deficit, is somehow caused by Social Security. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Social Security, by law, cannot contribute one dime to our deficit.

Are there long-term issues with Social Security? Well, long-term we do have to make sure that we're making sure that those funds are available in the future, but there are other ways we can do that. But the chained CPI merely extends the Social Security program for 2 years. Those real cuts to every single senior that receives those payments are real dollars that people will lose.

I respect the President's desire to achieve a comprehensive and bipartisan budget proposal. I'm one of the freshmen in this building. I came from a State legislature. When we did a State budget—and I used to be the co-chair of that committee—we spent 8 hours a day, 3 days a week for 3 or 4 months crafting a budget. And every single line of that budget meant something. It was a statement of your values. It's a moral statement of your values as a government.

This government hasn't had a budget to work off of for a number of years. We just can't seem to get people on both sides of the aisle in both houses to be able to sit down and have a document that guides the country.

So the President, in an effort to do that, said, I heard the discussions we've had on the fiscal cliff, on the debt ceiling, on the sequester. He's listened to the people on the other side of the aisle. And one of the things that's been asked for by the Speaker of this Chamber and the others is the chained CPI, a cut in Social Security benefits. So the President included it in his budget in order to try to bring them to the table.

Now, I sat through the Budget Committee today, which I serve on here in the House. I can tell you, it was not bringing people to the table. With no surprise, it just brought criticism from the Republicans on the President's budget in general.

So I think the President does not need to keep the chained CPI in his budget proposal. It is a break, I believe, to the promise we've made to seniors about what they will see from us. In fact, 107 people in this House, Democrats in this House, including myself, have signed a letter to the President explicitly stating that we don't want to see any cuts to Social Security, Medicare, or Medicaid.

If I can, let me just read a little bit of this letter to you that was signed by a majority of the House Democrats back in February.

□ 1540

We thank the President for standing strong and the American Taxpayer Relief Act to protect Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid from benefit cuts that would jeopardize the well-being of millions of Americans.

We write to affirm our vigorous opposition to cutting Social Security, Medicare or Medicaid benefits in any final bill to replace sequester. Earned Social Security and Medicare benefits provide the financial and health protections necessary to keep individuals and families out of poverty. Medicaid is not only a lifeline for low-income children, pregnant women, people with disabilities, and families, it is the primary source of income of long-term care services and supports for 3.6 million individuals.

We cannot overstate their importance for our constituents and our country. That is why we remain deeply opposed to proposals to reduce Social Security benefits through use of the Chained CPI to calculate cost-of-living adjustments. We remain committed to making the changes that will extend solvency for 75 years, but Social Security has not contributed to our current fiscal problems, and it should not be on the bargaining table.

Then it goes on to discuss Medicare and Medicaid.

We have been very explicit that there are other ways that we can extend the solvency of Social Security. Remember, it did not cause the financial situation this country is in right now. That was an economic uncertainty caused by the financial institutions and the housing crisis that put every State in this country into fiscal chaos, but that was not caused one dime by Social Security. So for us to balance the budget on the backs of seniors and the disabled, of veterans and the children who receive Social Security doesn't make sense.

Now, there is something that does make sense. Currently, we take a portion out of every person's check to pay for Social Security. It is your earned benefit. You pay in in every paycheck to Social Security so that, when you need it, it is available for you whether it be at retirement or through disability. At $113,700, you are capped when you make that much income. Not $1 more in income do you pay additional dollars into Social Security. If we lift that cap and, like so many other provisions, you continue to pay taxes on your salary—so, if you make $500,000, you don't just stop at $113,700 and paying into Social Security, but you would continue to pay into Social Security like you do on all your other taxes—that would extend the solvency of Social Security for at least 75 years.

Now, that is a commonsense way for us to make sure a program that is probably one of the most popular and crucial programs the Federal Government offers to its citizens that we've all paid into—our money, our social contract, our insurance so when we need it we have it—can be extended simply by lifting that cap, and that would go a long way to providing the economic certainty that we need.

So while we are supportive of so many of the measures that the President has in his budget, the President's budget focuses on what we need to, which is the immediate need to make sure that we are improving the economy and that we are creating jobs. That is our focus that we need to do in this country.

In fact, the Congressional Budget Office, which is our nonpartisan agency that we work with—that both Republicans and Democrats work with to get the financial numbers that we work with in our bills and to make all the decisions we make—has said that three-quarters of this Nation's deficit in the next year that we're all talking about a budget for, 2014, is caused by economic weakness—in other words, unemployment and underemployment. If we address those two issues, that is

the best way to stop the trajectory with the deficit and the debt. By getting people back to work, you can do that.

I'll tell you, in this budget, the President does much of that. The President includes extra funding for research and development. It's what we have been told by businesses is the best thing we can do to be competitive in a global market. It includes $50 billion for infrastructure investment—to get people working now, to have us help stimulate the economy.

I can tell you, when we had the last recovery dollars that happened at the very start of the recovery that we had with this bad economy—when we were at our worst and our lowest point—we were bleeding hundreds of thousands of jobs a month. When those recovery dollars came to the States and my committee, the Joint Committee on Finance, we had to approve every single dollar that went to roads and schools and other programs. We had our road-building industry and our vertical construction industry in our State tell us that 54,000 jobs were saved or created because of those dollars.

In the Budget Committee, I asked the question of Dr. Elmendorf from the Congressional Budget Office nationally, what did that do for us, those recovery dollars. They estimated—not the Democrats, not the Republicans, not anyone else but our official agency—up to 3.3 million jobs were saved or created because of those recovery dollars.

The President has $50 billion in infrastructure to make sure that people are working again, and he's getting them back out, while we need to, to keep the economy moving. He has focused on advanced manufacturing: some innovative ideas that we could create these hubs where people can create new jobs and have jobs come back to America from overseas. He also provides tax credits for small business owners who will hire new workers so that we can, again, continue to have the private sector, as well as what we can provide through infrastructure, to help get the economy to grow and to create the jobs we need to.

Those are all good provisions the President has. At the same time, he is working at $1.8 trillion in deficit reduction, which, on top of the previous $2.5 trillion, takes us exactly to the target people have been talking about of the $4 trillion deficit we need to address in the immediate amount of time. It has the long-term picture in mind as well. It's not saying the Holy Grail is the deficit reduction, but the Holy Grail is the economy and job creation to solve our deficit problems, and the budget does that.

There are many strong provisions in the President's budget, but many in this House—107 people who signed a letter in this House on the Democratic side and many of us in the Progressive Caucus—have been especially outspoken about the one provision that we think takes a completely wrong turn. That completely wrong turn is the Chained CPI—to change how we deal with increases for Social Security, how we estimate the payments for Social Security—which essentially turns out to be a cut, a real dollar cut, to people on Social Security. I can tell you they have given us some really better ways to illustratively explain what those cuts mean.

If you take the cuts under Chained CPI and if you are 65 years old, that cut will be about 2 weeks' worth of groceries. When you're at 70, it's about 6 weeks' worth of groceries, and it continues to grow. At 75, 9 weeks of groceries; at 80, 13 weeks of groceries. That's a quarter of the year that you have less for groceries that you need to get by. At 85, people like my mother, 16 weeks of groceries, and if you make it to 90 and 95, 20 and 23 weeks of groceries. That's the cut in real terms that comes from Chained CPI.

We stand to make sure that we are raising the issue that as we continue to talk about the budget—and we need to go to conference committee. We have a House budget; we have a Senate budget; and we have the President's budget. But do you know what that means? We have no budget. That means we will continue to have continuing resolutions, that we will continue to fight every 2 or 3 months and do stopgap measures with chewing gum and Band-Aids unless we have a budget.

So I appreciate what the President did. He's giving us a measure specifically to make us all come to the table to try to do this. His intention was to take a Republican idea, Chained CPI, and put it in his proposal to show he's willing to compromise. Unfortunately, all we've heard from the Republicans has been criticism of the budget.

In the House, their budget is a fantasy as far as balancing the budget in 10 years as they claim. It is a fantasy because it repeals the Affordable Care Act, benefits of which include making sure that people with preexisting conditions have health care, making sure that children up to 26 have health care, making sure that we have dollars for preventative care. It repeals the benefits, but it keeps the savings and the revenue. Well, you can't do that. We can't tax the people in the Affordable Care Act so that we can pay for the benefits but not give them and keep that money and try to balance the budget. So it's not a real budget.

What we need to do is have a real budget, and we need to get people to the table. I urge this House to announce conferees so we can start the hard work of doing that. The three positions are on the table. We need to do that.

We want to say strongly—the Progressive Caucus and 107 Democrats in this body—that the one thing that is unacceptable is to balance that budget on the backs of people who didn't create the crisis, and they are our seniors, the disabled, our veterans, and our children and orphans who rely on Social Security; and the Chained CPI would provide just that sort of a cut to those people.

□ 1550

So, Mr. Speaker, those are some of the strongest problems that we have with the change in the Consumer Price Index. That is called chained CPI. There are a number of organizations, Mr. Speaker, that have joined us in this. They range from the AFL–CIO, on behalf of the working people of this country, to PCCC, to MoveOn, and a number of other national organizations that have stood with us at multiple press conferences this week to try to raise awareness that this is a bad idea.

This is taking the budget situation we have in the future and balancing it today on those who can least afford it. We need to have the backs of our seniors and our disabled, not put the budget on their backs. And the chained CPI is a provision that, unfortunately, does just that.

So while it is not the President's idea, it is absolutely not the Democrats' idea. It was an idea proposed by the Republican Speaker and other Republicans just in the last couple of years. It was put forward in the President's budget to try to bring people to the table. We want to make sure that it is heard loud and clear that many of us will not support a bill that includes a chained CPI. It will not get the support of many people in this room if it includes those cuts to our country's promise, which is to our seniors.

Mr. Speaker, it is a huge concern to those of us in the Progressive Caucus. There are a number of groups, including Strength in Social Security, who join us in our efforts against this, who've put out some various estimations of what this means. They have said that for someone who is 75 years old, the cut they would see would be about $658, which is 3.7 percent of what they are currently receiving in Social Security.

If you're 85, they estimate that to be $1,147 a year, 6.5 percent. Again, to my mother, who's getting that $1,101, that is almost a $100 a month cut. As I estimated from her utilities to her groceries to her other payments that she has, none of those are necessarily luxuries at 85. None of those are excessive payments. They are the basic payments just to get by that she comes up with, for about $1,165 a month. After burning through savings for 20 years, she just doesn't have it left.

So like a third of Americans who live on that Social Security check, they live on $1,101. They live on that $13,212 a year. And I don't think there is anyone who could honestly say that that's too much. After you've paid in your entire life, it's your earned benefit that you paid into, that insurance for when you need it, for when you are a senior and you retire, or when you become disabled, or God forbid your parents die and now you're an orphan, that payment is this country's promise to each

and every one of those people. So to go after that $13,000 payment to this 84-year-old person and get that 6.5 percent cut, that means real things.

I remember a few years back, before, in Wisconsin, we created about a decade ago a program called SeniorCare to help seniors afford prescription drugs. It has been a great success with bipartisan support. But prior to that, my mother was one of those people who cut pills in half because she couldn't afford her medications. She doesn't have to do that anymore because of SeniorCare, but we're the only State, Wisconsin, which has SeniorCare in the entire country. There are seniors in the other 49 States who, if they get that cut, that means cutting pills in half, that means deciding which pills you're taking, and it means deciding which meal you're not eating. It means those sort of basic, basic cuts.

It is estimated that at 95 years old, according to Strength in Social Security, it's a $1,622 cut. That is a 9.2 percent cut. We're balancing the budget on the backs of those who can least afford it who didn't create the financial times we're in, and that seems entirely wrong.

What that means in a lifetime, what your cumulative benefit loss is, and that is where it really starts to add up, and maybe this will be more illustrative:

At 75, at that point on Social Security, you've lost $4,631.

At 80, you've lost $8,660.

At 85, people like my mother, she has lost $13,910 of what she has paid into and expected to get during her twilight years. That's the enormity of these cuts.

I have been joined by an extremely articulate and solid progressive colleague of mine, a mentor of mine, someone who is not only a strong leader, not only in this entire House, but especially during this hour with the Progressive Caucus, and I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE).

Ms. LEE of California. First, let me thank the gentleman for yielding and for your kind words, and also for your tremendous leadership and for really coordinating the message hour of the week, not only on behalf of the Progressive Caucus, but for this entire body and for the American people. It is so important that the truth be told and that we continue to beat the drum to protect the priorities of all of the American people, not just the few. So thank you very much.

We are here today to talk about the budget and its priorities, and also some of the issues that are very troubling, which I'll mention in just a minute.

I'm pleased, though, to see that the President's budget clearly understands the need to create jobs and to grow our economy. This budget makes critical investments in early childhood education and brings down the cost of higher education. The budget protects vital nutrition programs like SNAP and WIC. This budget permanently extends vital expansion of the child tax credit, the earned income tax credit, which has lifted about 1.6 million Americans out of poverty in 2010 alone.

In stark contrast, our Republican colleagues proposed yet another $6 trillion tax cut for the wealthiest, while focusing a majority of their draconian budget cuts on shredding our Nation's safety net.

Every Member of Congress may claim to support the goal of cutting poverty in America, but gutting programs that families rely on to put food on their tables is simply not how we achieve that goal. Now, as I said, I was very pleased to see some of the innovative and groundbreaking proposals that the President included in his budget.

However, I have to join Mr. POCAN in our strong opposition to the inclusion of the so-called chained CPI in the budget. As many of us have said, chained CPI is a benefit cut, which it is, to Social Security, and I wholeheartedly oppose it.

So thank you again for beating that drum today on this because this is not the President's ideal deficit reduction plan. We should not be bargaining for Republican goodwill with policies that hurt our seniors. Social Security was established more than 77 years ago, providing economic security to generations of Americans who have made contributions over their lifetime. They worked for this.

Changing the cost of living adjustment now will disproportionately hurt seniors who rely on every single dollar of support as income. The chained CPI would cut one full month's income from a 92-year-old beneficiary's annual Social Security benefits. Seniors cannot afford that. The chained CPI will also cut living standards, and most deeply for the poorest households, which tend to rely on Social Security for all or most of their income.

The fact of the matter is Social Security should not even be a part of this discussion. It should not be a part of this budget. The program has accumulated assets of $2.7 trillion and does not contribute to the Federal budget deficit. Voters across the political spectrum oppose cuts to Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security benefits, and we must do whatever it takes to protect these vital benefits from cuts.

Democrats believe that the best way to reduce our deficit and make our economy grow is to create jobs. That's why I join my CPC colleagues in rejecting any and every cut to Medicare, Medicaid, or Social Security benefits, including raising the retirement age or cutting the cost of living adjustments that our constituents earned and that they need.

We also know there are commonsense reforms that would reduce health care costs and save taxpayers hundreds of billions of dollars without cutting benefits. If Republicans are serious about deficit reduction, we really can make additional savings, and they should come from those who can most afford it. We can save over $110 billion just by eliminating wasteful subsidies to oil companies who have already made record profits. We can close corporate tax loopholes—that would save billions of dollars to invest in education—and we can end wasteful Pentagon weapons programs and focus our military on addressing 21st century threats.

So there are many ways that we can accomplish this. Instead of supporting policies that harm seniors, let's get back to the real problems facing our country, and that's creating 21st century jobs and growing our economy for all.

So thank you again for your leadership. This has been a tremendous hour that you have put together, and I hope that the American people are listening today. So much is at stake.

□ 1600

Mr. POCAN. Thank you so much, Ms. LEE. We really appreciate it. And again, your history in this House has been recognized by so many of us who are new and proud to be here. We appreciate all that you've done on behalf of the middle class and those who are striving to be in the middle class and those who are just getting by in this country.

Ms. LEE is also leading an initiative for the Democrats to address poverty. We are doing everything we can on the Democratic side, but it's under your leadership that's happening, and thank you so much for that.

We've been joined by another colleague who is from California who has been another one of our freshman Members of the House, and he is here to talk to us also about the issues before us on chained CPI and perhaps some other issues. I'd like to introduce, from the State of California, Mr. MARK TAKANO.

Mr. TAKANO. Thank you. I thank the gentleman from Wisconsin. I will be speaking today on equal pay. Today I signed the discharge petition to bring the Paycheck Fairness Act to the floor to ensure that women across the country receive equal pay for equal work.

This week, on Tuesday, we recognized Equal Pay Day, which is the symbolic day that marks the time it takes for women's earnings to equal men's earnings from the previous year. Thanks to the 23 percent wage gap, it takes an extra 3 months for women in America to catch up. The wage gap persists at all levels of education and exists across occupations.

In my home State of California, the typical woman, working full-time, year-round, is paid, on average, only 84 cents to every dollar her male counterparts make. In my home district the pay discrepancy is even worse. Women living in the Inland Empire make 81 cents to every dollar, and many are the sole breadwinners in their households. This isn't just an insult to women who work hard at their jobs every day, it hurts families and children.

In my district, the wage gap amounts to an average loss of $8,900 that could be used to pay for rent, groceries, and child care. This is unacceptable.

When President Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act into law, he criticized the unconscionable practice of paying female employees less wages than male employees for the same job. Fifty years later, this unconscionable practice is alive and well, which is why we have a duty to our mothers, sisters, and daughters to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act in this Congress.

Mr. POCAN. Mr. TAKANO, would you yield to a question?

Mr. TAKANO. Yes, sir.

Mr. POCAN. Mark, I just want to ask you, you've been a leader in this body on chained CPI.

Mr. TAKANO. Yes.

Mr. POCAN. We did several press conferences this week. You're the author of a major letter from many people in this House about it.

Could you just address a little bit about why you're so passionate about the need to make sure we have Social Security for generations in the future and why you oppose the chained CPI.

Mr. TAKANO. Well, I believe chained CPI is bad for veterans and it's bad for our seniors, but let me focus on the seniors for a moment.

The chained CPI, explained in a very simple way, is a way that the government would ostensibly index Social Security COLAS, cost-of-living increases. Said very simply, under chained CPI, seniors would be paid less over time.

The assumption is that seniors would be able to substitute less costly items for the current items they might currently buy. But, you know, seniors really use health care a lot more than the rest of us, and that's the largest burden that they're facing, trying to pay for their health care costs, prescription drugs.

I think it's a false premise to say that seniors will be able to find less costly substitutions. More and more of their income would be going to that.

I believe that many people call Social Security, Medicare, entitlements. I call them sacred promises that we made to our seniors. I don't believe that we should break those promises. We must keep those promises.

People have earned these benefits over a lifetime. They planned their lives around them, and we simply can't go back on what we've promised our parents and grandparents.

Mr. POCAN. Thank you, Representative TAKANO, again, for you leadership on this issue. As I said, you've authored one of the major letters that's out there talking about chained CPI and cuts to Social Security, Medicaid, and Medicare.

And also, as a member of the Veterans Committee, I know you've been especially articulate on the effects on veterans. I thank you for your time.

Mr. TAKANO. Thank you, sir.

Mr. POCAN. As Representative TAKANO said, these are sacred promises to people who've paid into the program, and now the expectation is, as with any insurance, you've paid in and now you're able to get the benefit when you need it. That's why you've paid in all your life.

And that benefit is for people who retire and for people who become disabled and, God forbid, children who become orphans. It allows them to be able to continue, in our society, to get by.

But as I've shown, an 84-year old woman like my mother—this is my mother's actual story—gets $1,101 a month. That's $13,212 a year. We went through her expenses, from utilities, $130 a month, food and other miscellaneous items she has to buy, $180 a month.

Health care, as Representative TAKANO said, it's about 20 to 30 percent of the average senior's monthly expense or their income. I'll take it right in the middle, 25 percent; that's $275 a month.

Her car and house insurance, $77 a month, her taxes, $273 a month, her phone and cable, $140 a month, miscellaneous, having people mow her grass and shovel, et cetera, $50 a month, and her gas about $40 a month.

That's $64 a month more than she makes. And unfortunately, she has, at the age of 84, having been widowed since 1991, expended through almost all of her savings and, like a third of seniors, is living on that Social Security paycheck.

But what about the senior who's in the exact same situation, receiving and living off that check, but they still pay rent or have a mortgage? Six hundred to $1,200 more dollars you're going to have to add on to that.

And what if they have a car or they have a bus pass? Two to $300 a month you're going to add on to that.

Miscellaneous repairs. My mother, this year, had to replace her heater, at $1,700. How do you do that with a cut in Social Security?

So additional expenses, still, on the low end, add that up, you're almost at $2,000 a month. There's no way that $100 hit that'll happen is something that the average senior or person with disabilities, veteran, or child can be able to get by. That is a real life cut, and where they have to cut and make tough decisions is on their groceries, on their medicine, on whether or not they're going to be able to drive the car that they have. It's serious consequences.

And I know that the Democrats have been especially strong in the Progressive Caucus. The Progressive Caucus penned a letter that 107 Democrats in this House have signed on to that said, do not do any cuts to Social Security, Medicare, or Medicaid.

Now, there are some who say that you can't ignore it, that in the future, far down the road, decades in the future, we have to make sure that these programs, these earned benefits are still alive. But we have argued there are ways to do that.

If you lift the cap at which you pay into Social Security, you could extend it, the program, Social Security for 75 years into the future. And remember, Social Security has not added one dime to the deficit. By law, it can't add one dime to the deficit.

But, instead, we are balancing the budget, with this provision, on the backs of the very people who can least afford it.

So the senior who makes $1,101 is going to see a cut, but the company that sends jobs overseas under the Republican budget still gets a tax break for sending jobs overseas. And that CEO with the corporate jet still gets a tax break under the Republican budget.

And when you go down the list of breaks that are out there for the most wealthy, we need to find a different way to do this than balancing the budget on the backs of those who can least afford it, those who've paid in their entire lives, those who didn't create the financial situation we're in.

Our Progressive Caucus has been strong in talking about this. We have tried to take quite a bit of time today to really explain this as plainly as we can and as absolute simply as we can a person's monthly budget.

□ 1610

We all know you have other surprise expenses like your heater goes out at your home or your car needs repair. We don't even factor that in. Most people will probably still have some rent or perhaps a house payment to make. When you add all this in and if you have expended your savings like one-third of our seniors who live on that Social Security check, it is impossible to continue to get by. And to take a cut to the very people who can least afford it seems wrong.

We are honored in our Progressive Caucus to have two people that lead us, Representative RAÚL GRIJALVA and Representative KEITH ELLISON. Representative KEITH ELLISON is a fellow Midwesterner and I think a man of incredible common sense, coming from the Midwest, like we like to at least think we do back in the Midwest, coming here. And he has done an extraordinary job of leading the progressives and the Democrats in this House to make sure that we stand up for our seniors and our disabled and our veterans and the children who receive Social Security. I would like to yield to the chairman of the Progressive Caucus, the gentleman from Minnesota, Mr. KEITH ELLISON.

Mr. ELLISON. Congressman POCAN, thank you. Thanks for holding down this very important Progressive Caucus progressive message. The fact is that the Progressive Caucus and the Democrats generally are about protecting seniors. That's who we are. That's our brand. That's our identity. Social Security came out of the Roosevelt administration, came out of core Democratic values. That's what we stand for, that's what we believe in,

and that's why we are standing opposed to the chained CPI. We're not going to relent. We've been fighting this thing for months. We're not going to give up the fight. We're going to keep on pressing until this thing is settled.

The reality is that this chained CPI takes place within the general debate on budget, a general debate on fiscal items. And I happen to know that the chained CPI is an idea that emerged from Republican leaders only a few months ago. That's who came up with this. And so now the President has offered a budget in which he says, Okay, we're going to try to compromise from the beginning. We're going to try to take some compromise ideas and put them in here, along with some other good ideas like early childhood education, like investing in infrastructure and jobs. Those things are okay. But I think it was a mistake to ever include anything about Social Security in a budget because the Social Security does not contribute to the deficit. And so if you want to deal with lifting the sequester, deal with something that has to do with taxes or spending. If you want to deal with the budget, deal with something that adds to or takes away from the budget. If you want to deal with deficit reduction, deal with something that has to do with that. But don't drag in something that is actually irrelevant.

The fact is that Social Security is one of the oldest, best programs that this country has ever seen and it has taken care, literally, of millions of people. It's not an entitlement. It's an earned benefit program. It is social insurance people pay into. They earn it and then they pay into it. And then they expect it at the end years of their lives. Congressman POCAN, I think it's important just to point out that a full third of widowed women on Social Security rely entirely on Social Security.

Some people like to say chained CPI is not that big of a cut. Well, it depends on how much money you have, doesn't it? It depends on what you start with. If you're getting by on $13,000 a year, or under $20,000 a year, $250 may seem like a lot of money. My own experience as a Member of Congress is that people would ask me at community meetings all the time, Are we going to get our COLA check? Are we going to get that $250? Why? Because that's a lot of money to folks who are really trying to get by.

And so what I'm saying is let's embrace our core Democratic values. Let's look after our seniors. Let's take care of this great program, Social Security, that has done so much for so many for so long. And let's reject this idea of chained CPI, and let's stand together and say chained CPI is not a good idea. It's not something we should offer as a bargaining chip for a grand bargain. Let's just take it off the table.

I yield back to the gentleman.

Mr. POCAN. Thank you, Mr. ELLISON.

As a leader of the Progressive Caucus, I have been talking about how 107 Democrats in this House and the leadership of the Congressional Progressive Caucus have signed a letter and asked the President to not cut Social Security, Medicare, or Medicaid. So the majority of the Democrats have already signed a letter saying, Keep the hands off. As we deal with our Nation's budget, the one place we shouldn't go is to those who need it the most—our seniors, our disabled, our veterans, and their children and orphans who receive Social Security benefits.

As I talked about the realities of that $1,001 a month, as Mr. ELLISON just said, when you receive that additional $100 cut, that additional $100 cut is almost 10 percent of your budget. Think about if you had a 10 percent cut in your budget and you're not able to make any more money. At 84, I'm sorry, my mom is not going back to Taco Bell. She worked there in her seventies to continue to make money because she just didn't have it and to have something to continue to get by on. But at 84 she's already had a couple of falls. There's nothing else she can do to make additional money. So she has to make that tough cut. And I would argue that this bad idea that the Republicans came up with and the President included just to get them to the table to talk about the budget, this bad Republican idea, chained CPI, will have a real effect on tens of millions of people across this country. There are way too many seniors for whom this means just about everything in their lives.

She can't really cut her utilities. She can change the thermostat. She can set it to 60 in the winter. She cannot use any kind of air conditioning in summer. In Wisconsin, I won't recommend that in the summer. We have some humid, humid days. So you can't cut this line. Her groceries and other things she has to buy for the home, she can cut back. But she already tells me stories. There's a place in her neighborhood she'll go to that has a $1 burger special. She'll go there. This is going back over the holidays. We had to convince her to tip 35 cents. Because she said, My God, that's 35 percent. I don't tip 35 percent. But we're trying to explain to her in the economics of it, it's 35 cents to give. But she gets a burger for $1. And she says, Sometimes I get two. So she's deciding about a $2 meal. Are we going to take that away from someone, the very groceries they live on?

Health care: with rising health care costs, the facts are that 20 to 30 percent—I think specifically 26 percent is the current number—of your annual costs, seniors' health care costs. She can't change that line. Insurance: Does she not insure her vehicle? Does she not insure her home in case of a fire? That's $77 a month. We all know you can't get away and not pay your taxes. That line is off the table.

I'm going to jump down a line to her miscellaneous. She has to have people shovel and do other things around the home. That's very hard to change. That's only a $50 item. Finally, gas: she doesn't control the price of gas. So the only line she really has left is her telephone and her cable bill.

And with the way we have to deal with the budget, rather than making those who can most afford it in the country and all the tax loopholes and tax breaks for some of the wealthiest in this country, instead we're going to go to this 84-year-old woman and say you can no longer have a telephone to talk to your family and friends on, or lose the little bit of entertainment you have through a television seems wrong. It's not the values of this country. It's certainly not the values of the Democrats in this House. Yet that's what they'll face with a chained CPI cut. That's the bottom line. And when those other expenses come up, how does a senior pay for them?

So we really want to express to the President in the strongest possible terms that the Republicans may have had this bad idea of chained CPI to provide a cut to Social Security payments, but you included it in your budget to bring them to the table to make them negotiate, and all you've heard for the last 36 hours is criticism and that they won't sit at the table. You've got dollars in the budget to help grow the economy. The Progressive Caucus had a Back to Work Budget. We worked hard and steadfast in talking about growing the economy as our best way to solve the deficit and our economic problems. But if the Republicans are going to criticize that and refuse to have one more dime in revenue, not one more CEO can't still get his tax break for that corporate jet, not one more company can't get that tax break for sending jobs overseas—those are the types of tax breaks we have in this country.

And if we can't get one more dime from programs like that so that a senior doesn't have to make those tough, real-life decisions, then we're failing as a government and we are breaking our promise to the seniors of this country.

□ 1620

So I would hope that we can continue to get people who are watching this to realize it may be called chained CPI, it may have an obscure term—we're the body that came up with a sequester, right? It's a term. It's in the dictionary. But I guarantee not one person that I know of has ever used it in real life. No one has said to their child: I'm going to sequester your toys today. It's just not something that real people do. Well, chained CPI is the same thing. It may be an obscure economic term, but the bottom line, the reality of what it means to the average person who's listening, is it means a cut to those who can least afford it, to those third of seniors who live on that check exclusively to get by. And all the other seniors who rely largely on that to get by, should they have the good fortune to grow old, they'll have the bad fortune of seeing that savings go down, as they have these expenditures.

In the end, we have made a promise—a sacred promise, as Representative TAKANO said—to the people of this country that as we take their money, their Social Security, through their earned benefit they have paid into—we have put up a social insurance program to ensure that when they retire or become disabled or, God forbid, lose their parents and become an orphan, they will continue to have an ability to live in this country. It's not those people that created our financial woes that this country has. There are real ways to deal with the deficit. There are real ways to deal with Social Security. But those real ways are not the ways that are proposed through the chained CPI.

In fact, another thing that was said, I believe it was by Ms. LEE from California, was she talked about, on this floor, we have other people trying to fix Social Security. We had 104 Members of the other side of the aisle vote for a version of the budget that raised the Social Security retirement age to 70. I'll tell you, I don't know many construction workers or nurses or teachers who could necessarily still be able to do that job as well as they would like to between 67 and 70. The construction field, there is not the ability to do that job. As a nurse, when you have to lift bodies and help move people, you just can't do that job for those additional years. So, to me, to raise the Social Security retirement age is, again, part of breaking that promise.

There is a way we can continue the promise, and that is to lift the cap on Social Security. Right now, no matter how much you make, we tax for Social Security up to $113,700; but as soon as you make a dollar more, you don't get taxed for Social Security. Now, we tax in every other way in a progressive way, as you make more, you pay more in taxes, but we don't tax a dime more at $113,700. If we were simply to lift that cap or raise that amount, you would extend Social Security for decades. In fact, if you lift the cap entirely, it is estimated at least 75 years of life would go into the Social Security program. Wouldn't that make a lot more sense than instead nickel-and-diming those who can least afford to, to preserve the program?

So that is the hope of this Progressive Caucus that we have. You've heard from a number of leaders, both freshmen and people who have been here for a long time. You've heard from people from different parts of the country. It is an important promise that we have to the public.

We are the party that has been there to protect seniors. The fact that the President has it included in his budget, we all know—and the President has been very clear—it is not his idea. This was an idea from the Republican Speaker and other Republicans, and he put it in his budget proposal to try to get them to come and finally have a budget for this country, to make them come to the table.

Right now, we have very different documents. We have the Democratic document in the Senate and the President's document that invests in the economy so we can create jobs and grow the economy right now. And we have a Republican version of the budget that focuses almost exclusively on getting rid of the deficit. The holy grail is the deficit; it will cost us millions of jobs. Just in the next year it is estimated 2 million jobs will be lost. But you can't have those diverse documents and still fund Congress. So what does Congress do? We continue to have continuing resolutions that get us by for months at a time.

I have heard on this floor so many times where people will talk about a wasteful program—and there are wasteful programs in the Federal Government we should address. There is a GAO report that specifically outlines about 45 areas of duplication, where we are doing the same thing across different agencies. We have a focus on the Oversight and Government Reform Committee to find waste, fraud, and abuse wherever we can. We are working on that. The problem is when you don't have a budget that says we're going to cut these programs so we can fund these programs, we punt. And as a government, we have punted far too many times. We have not had a serious budget in place.

So the President's goal is indeed sincere, that he wants people to come to the table. I, perhaps, would have waited to compromise until we got to the table, but the President in this case put their request right in his budget and put it on the table. The problem is, that is a bad compromise. There are so many other things that we can do that will better serve the public than to cut the benefits from our seniors and our veterans and our disabled and the children and orphans who rely on Social Security.

So, Mr. Speaker, our Progressive Caucus has been here for close to the last hour to make sure that we are talking about an important program that the public, I'm sure, is concerned about. I know I'm getting the calls in my office. But we really plead with the President to make sure that as we move forward and try to bring the Republicans to the table to try to have a national budget—as we all need to—do not balance that budget on the backs of those who can least afford it.

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

ADMINISTRATION IN REVIEW

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEWART). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I know the intention of my friends on the other side of the aisle. We all want the country to run at maximum peak performance so that people have jobs. But it's interesting the ways we have going about trying to see that that happens.

Interesting, in fact, we got the President's budget yesterday—of course it took 2 months or so beyond what the law says that the President must do. We also know that when it comes to people being in the country illegally, the President decided that he didn't like the laws that were passed by Congresses of the past, both Democrat and Republican, signed into law by Presidents, both Democrat and Republican, and so President Obama got up and did what you don't normally find in a country with representative government, he just announced: I don't like the law the way it is, so here's the new law, and basically pronounced new law into being with regard to who will be allowed to have amnesty in the country, and that program has already started.

In the past, the Founders' intent was well carried out because I've been advised by people who worked here in Democratic majorities as Democratic leaders and Republican leaders of the past who said, yes, in the past, if you had a President stand up and say, I'm choosing to ignore the law that has been passed by prior Congresses, signed into being by their Presidents; I'm going to ignore those and just pronounce new law: So as I say it, so shall it be—if you had a President that acted like that, then both Democratic and Republican leaders would get together and they would head down Pennsylvania Avenue, that way. They would announce themselves and let the President know that either he would begin to comply with the law and stop doing what is solely the responsibility of Congress, or they would cut off all funding to everything he cared about. And that would take care of it.

□ 1630

Unfortunately, these days the President, those in power in the White House and executive branch, have noted that since the Democratic Party is the majority in the Senate, then even when there are enough people in the Republican Party in the House who have the nerve to stand up and say we will no longer allow violations of the law or creations of law out of whole cloth without following the Constitution, the Senate would stop those actions because they're not going to let anything like that pass the Senate. And, therefore, we have bureaucrats who begin to announce to elected Members of this government that they really don't care what we have to say, that we're not going to stop them from doing whatever they want, because the Senate will block anything we try to do here at the House.

Because this is a divided Capitol building with the Senate in the majority of Democratic hands and the House in Republican majority control, it is very important that we note what the other branch, the Presidency, is pronouncing. Under the President's proposed budget, there is an article here dated April 10 from CNS News that says:

The OMB's historical tables also reveal that the White House does not expect this administration to ever run an annual deficit as low as $458.5 billion, which was the deficit the government ran in fiscal 2008, the last fiscal year completed before Obama took office.

It's also important to note that in 2006, the last year Republicans were in control of the House, we were properly ridiculed by Democrats on this side of the aisle because we ran $160 billion-or-so budget spending over the amount that was coming in, that we had $160 billion in deficit spending. And the Democrats were correct: we should not have had $160 billion in deficit spending.

Having no idea that the promises from the friends on this side of the aisle who said, If you will just put us in the majority, we'll cut that $160 billion deficit spending the Republicans have done and we will get a balanced budget, we won't deficit spend, who would have believed that when they took over as a majority, that within 2 years they would have tripled—basically tripled—the amount of deficit spending. So much for the promise that we're going to cut deficit spending. So the $160 billion or so went to $458.5 billion, about tripled the deficit.

And then who could have possibly imagined that during President Obama's first year in office, when Democratic control was both the House and the Senate, that they would have the nerve to not run $160 billion deficit, as they said they would never do, or the $458 billion deficit, nearly three times as much as 2008, but that they would go 10 times that amount of $160 billion and hit about $1.6 trillion in deficit spending.

There are several markers being laid down in this country that make it very clear that this country is on a crash course. There are no seat belts, there are no harnesses, there are no air bags. We are barreling down this road to a definite end unless we get this thing under control.

And for the President to propose for the first time in American history that before he leaves office in 2017, under the President's proposed budget he will preside over the spending of $4.0898 trillion in fiscal year 2016, it's unbelievable. We've got somewhere between $2.3 trillion and $2.5 trillion that is expected to be coming in to the Treasury this year, and the President is proposing $3.8 trillion in spending. It is outrageous.

And at the same time, the President has closed down tours. There's no indication that there has actually been even $18,000 or $74,000 or $78,000 in savings from not having White House tours. So you begin to wonder, now, wait a minute, you said it was to save all this money is the reason you cut out White House tours, that it wasn't just a temper tantrum to make people suffer. So, let's see, where is the savings? If there are no Secret Service being furloughed, there are no Secret Service being laid off, it would appear there's no savings.

So what then could have possibly been the purpose for saying no more White House tours? Some have said, well, Congress is just mad because it complicates their job. People saying those types of things really have no clue what's going on in Washington, because the fact is a Member of Congress' life, be it Democrat or Republican, is actually less complicated when you don't have to arrange for White House tours.

It's something that Members of Congress had taken on voluntarily in order to help the White House. So we would make the arrangements, people would call and come through our office, then we would have to write requests, beg the White House, can you find enough tickets for these individuals to allow them to go through the White House, and then we would get word back. There for a while it was unpleasant when the President first started, because we had trouble getting tickets for anybody the first year or so, which meant that the President got to have people furious with Members of Congress because they blamed Members of Congress for not being able to go through the White House on a tour, when actually we would just get notice and only be able to pass that on.

So it actually makes Members of Congress' life far less complicated when we don't have to arrange for White House tours. But the Members of Congress I know, on both the Democratic side and the Republican side, really want to enhance visits for their constituents to Washington, D.C., and so we are willing to spend part of our budget to have somebody help arrange those tours for constituents coming to Washington. We help the White House by doing that.

Even though our offices, every congressional budget has been cut about 20 percent over the last 3 years, we haven't cut out those constituent services. We have one person less in my office we just didn't replace by attrition. We've had to make adjustments. And I'm grateful to have a staff that is willing to work hard and long hours. They don't get paid overtime, but they're willing to do that because they realize this is a servant's job. I am a servant. People who work in my office are servants. We serve the public and serve at their will.

Apparently, that is not something that all bureaucrats have been able to understand and take to heart. Then we also see big news today that a gun bill has cleared the Senate hurdle as the filibuster falls short. This is a FoxNews.com story that was released today.

□ 1640

There is another story here that indicates Senator LEE says, ''Background Checks Could Allow Holder''—the attorney general—''to Create Gun Registry Using Regulations.''

In fact, ''On Wednesday,'' it says, ''Senator MIKE LEE, Republican from Utah''—the fantastic Senator that he is; that's a parenthetical insertion—''took to the Senate floor and warned that universal background checks could lead to a national registry system for guns.''

A quote from my friend, Senator LEE, is:

> ''Some of the proposals, like, for example, universal background checks, would allow the Federal Government to surveil law-abiding citizens who exercise their constitutional rights. One of the provisions we expect to see in the bill, based on what we saw in the Judiciary Committee on which I sit, would allow the attorney general of the United States, Eric Holder, to promulgate regulations that could lead to a national registry system for guns, something my constituents in Utah are very concerned about, and understandably so.''

LEE also said that the government had no place monitoring the legal exercise of any constitutional right a citizen chooses to exercise:

> ''You see, the Federal Government has no business monitoring when or how often you go to church, what books and newspapers you read, who you vote for, your health conditions—''

And actually, I have to differ with Senator LEE on health conditions. ObamaCare means the government gets to monitor all your health conditions and actually will have all of your health care records, as well.

Senator LEE goes on:

> —''what you eat for breakfast and the details of your private life, including the lawful exercise of your rights protected by the Second Amendment and other provisions of the Bill of Rights.''

Important quotes by Senator MIKE LEE.

With regard to the gun bill that's been rushed through the Senate, it is worth noting again that when bills are rushed through without being given proper scrutiny, we create bad laws, we make mistakes, and the country and the Constitution suffer. It's part of our oath that we will protect and defend the Constitution of the United States; and I would humbly submit we don't do that job when we rush through bills that people have not had a chance to read, to participate in.

As my friends know, I have, on this very floor, read quotes from Minority Leader JOHN BOEHNER who, in essence, told Major Garrett that:

> If we get back the majority, a Speaker JOHN BOEHNER will bring bills through regular order. I'm not going to rush them to the floor like Speaker PELOSI has done.

And I've had to remind my own leadership of those promises because we keep rushing through bills as Republicans that people do not have enough time to read. And I'm hoping and praying and arguing and cajoling to try to make sure we stop that process and that we return to regular order.

There are some bad bills that come out of regular order to be sure; but when we have full debate at a subcommittee level over a proposed bill and any member of that subcommittee—this is called regular

order—any member of that subcommittee can bring an amendment to any provision in that bill, you get some scrutiny of the bill in its entirety.

Then when we have a markup at the full committee level and any member—Republican or Democrat. It doesn't matter. It doesn't matter if they're on or not on any of the subcommittees. At the full committee, any member of the full committee can bring an amendment to that bill.

We took most of the day today marking up a pretty simple bill, I thought, on the issue of reining in overregulation and getting Congress to take a look at the tens of thousands of pages of regulations that come out so regularly from bureaucrats that never catch the eye of elected officials. It was a pretty simple bill. It took hours and hours to go through that because there were so many proposed amendments. And each amendment that gets made has a chance for the proponent to argue for at least 5 minutes in favor of his amendment; and then under the rules, any member of the committee can spend up to 5 minutes on each amendment. It's not a pretty process, it's not pleasant to sit through, but we get better bills when we go through that process.

Then it comes to the Rules Committee. And I prefer if the Rules Committee allows for a fully open debate. We have an open amendment process. It's not pretty either, but it gives people across America a chance to see who is advocating for what amendment, what language. And you have had all this time, from the subcommittee to the committee to the House floor; and every Member of the House, no matter who you are or no matter whether you're in disfavor with the leadership like some of us may be, you can bring amendments in an open process under regular order, and you have a chance to debate those and America has a chance to see who's standing for what positions. It gives them a chance at the next election to better select who they want better representing them by virtue of what positions they're taking.

But when it goes through the process it just did through the Senate, there's not proper scrutiny and things come to the floor and we're not sure what the impact is. It can get so ridiculous that you can even have a Speaker of the House say, ''But we have to pass the bill so that you can find out what is in it.'' That's not the way we're supposed to govern. We have an obligation to do better than that.

Now, we've also gotten word that from the sequester that hit here just recently—this is an article by Elizabeth Harrington, dated April 9 of this week, ''Safe from Sequester: $704,198 for Gardening at NATO Ambassador's Home.''

Well, that should be a nice garden. I like to work in the yard around our house. I don't have as much chance as I used to, nor does my wife, but I'm pretty sure that the gorgeous yard we have didn't cost $704,198 on our property. So you would have thought that perhaps if people were going to help the President that are in the President's administration, they'd go, Hey, I can make do on $200,000 for my yard work this year. So you can get another half million back right there.

Gee, just think of all the White House tours that would fund, even though it doesn't look like the cutting of the tours actually saved anything.

Then we have some very salient points made by Investors.com, titled, ''Six Ways Obama's Budget Is Worse Than Everyone Thinks.'' It's posted 4/10/2013:

> Fiscal policy: Shorn of its accounting gimmicks, the President's budget isn't a balanced plan to get the debt crisis under control. It's a monument to fiscal irresponsibility.
>
> With much fanfare and a lot of media hype, President Obama unveiled his latest budget plan—2 months late. An IBD review of Obama's budget finds that, among other things, it:
>
> Boosts spending and deficits over the next 2 years. Obama's own budget numbers show that he wants to hike spending over the next 2 years by $247 billion compared with the ''baseline,'' which even after his proposed new tax hikes would mean $157 billion in additional red ink.

And it's important to understand, and I insert this parenthetically here, when we talk about a baseline—yes, the bill I've been pushing for 8 years, a zero-baseline budget where no Federal department has automatic increases, did pass the House a year ago. And I'm very grateful to ROB WOODALL and PAUL RYAN and to the Speaker keeping his word and bringing it to the floor. We passed it in the House. But the Senate, under Senator REID, made clear, no, we want every department in the Federal bureaucracy having an automatic increase in their budget every year. We want their budgets going up every year.

□ 1650

Now, Social Security, they may not get an automatic increase. Medicare, they may be cut by $700 billion as they were under ObamaCare; but when it comes to every Federal bureaucracy, Senator REID made clear they were not going to pass a zero-baseline budget, that they were not going to do away with the automatic increases. They were going to push forward and make sure the government bloat—the government obesity as a bureaucracy—would continue and that there would be automatic increases in every single Federal budget.

So, when this article points out that the President adds to the baseline, it means the President is already adding to what has been an automatic increase in their budgets for every department already. It may take another election to get people who are thinking correctly in the Senate, Democrat or Republican, who will finally stand up and say, You know what? There isn't an individual, there's not a family, there's not a charity, there's not a business anywhere in America that has an automatic increase every year in their budget, so we're stopping it for the government. If an agency or a department wants an increase, they're going to have to come in and justify it.

Now, some of us wouldn't mind starting every year with a zero sum, and you'd have to justify anything that you'd get at all; but all the zero baseline does is say we are willing to start where we were last year, and if you need an increase, we'll increase. That way, when those of us conservatives who advocate for a decrease in the increase are actually still allowing for an increase, we aren't vilified for making draconian cuts, because the increases are still there. If we can get to a zero baseline, then you will actually be able to have honest and accurate criticism because, at that point, a cut would actually be a cut; it would not be a decrease in the automatic increase. But President Obama, not content with the overspending and the waste, fraud, and abuse that's going on, is adding even above the automatic increases with his budget.

This article from Investors.com says:

> Vastly exaggerates spending cuts: The press has widely reported that Obama's budget would cut spending a total of $1.2 trillion over the next decade, but Obama's own budget shows that he actually cuts spending a mere $186 billion. (The relevant tables can be found at http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/ fy2014/assets/tables.pdf.)
>
> Obama inflates his claimed savings by first cancelling the automatic sequester spending cuts he previously signed into law, then reclaiming them as new savings, and by adding in cuts in interest payments on the debt.

I didn't realize that that went on, actually.

The article says:

> Relies almost entirely on tax hikes: Obama's budget shows his plan would increase revenues by $1.14 trillion over the next decade. That means his budget proposes $6 in new taxes for every $1 in spending cuts.
>
> Cuts the deficit less than claimed: ''My budget will reduce our deficits by nearly another $2 trillion,'' Obama said Wednesday. But his budget shows total deficit reduction over the next decade would be just $1.4 trillion. Plus, deficits start rising again after 2018.

It should be noted that CBO does not have a good grasp on reality. I've met with Director Elmendorf. I've talked to him more than once. I appreciate the job they're trying to do, but when they estimate the cost of ObamaCare at $800 billion, and then after it passes say, Whoops, maybe $1.1 trillion, and then after it's almost coming into effect say, You know what? It could be $1.6 trillion or $1.8 trillion, and then others more accurately say, You know what? It may be $2.8 trillion, that means, if they originally estimate $800 billion and it ends up being $2.8 trillion, then they've got a margin of error rate of plus or minus, not 1, 2, 3, or 4 percent, but more like 300 to 400 percent.

Why are we even considering CBO projections when they're projecting costs with a margin of error of 300 to

400 percent? I think you'd have better luck just bringing somebody right out of college in here and saying, You give us your guess. Surely, your margin of error would be closer than 300 or 400 percent.

Anyway, Investors.com points out that Obama's budget ''creates a new entitlement without a reliable means to pay for it.''

Obama claims he can finance a new $76 billion ''preschool for all'' program by raising tobacco taxes again; but after an initial spike, tobacco tax revenues will start trending downward year after year as more people quit smoking while the costs of this new program will keep climbing. The last time Obama hiked tobacco taxes—to pay for an expansion of Medicaid—revenues came in $2.2 billion less than expected.

So, apparently, if the President wants more revenue from smoking, he's going to need to start doing a campaign to encourage people to smoke more so that he can get more taxes in and bring down the massive deficit that he is wanting to create.

This report points out from Investors.com:

The President boosts taxes on the middle class: Obama proposes to change the government's consumer price index in a way that will lower the official inflation rate. He's selling it as a way to cut Social Security annual cost of living adjustments, which are based on the CPI; but because his chained CPI would also apply to annual tax bracket adjustments, it will end up hiking taxes on the middle class $124 billion.

The American people deserve better, and I hope and pray the Senate will wake up, come to their senses and stop trying to ram legislation through that America does not deserve.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

AGAINST THE CHAINED CPI AND SOCIAL SECURITY REDUCTIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for 30 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to speak against any proposed reduction in earned Social Security benefits through the so-called chained CPI calculation. No issue better focuses the interests of the senior citizens of our country versus the top 1 percent greater than the debate over Social Security.

Earlier this year, over my objections, this Congress cut senior meals by $823,000 in Ohio—or, roughly, 145,000 meals. Now some here in Washington are approaching the jugular for our seniors' Social Security benefit cuts.

The majority of seniors across our land depend on every single dollar they get from Social Security to put food on the table, to pay for utilities, to pay for housing. So many struggle with that every day. By slashing benefits in Social Security, while continuing to give tax havens to the richest people in this country, it proves that the priorities in Washington lie with the 1 percent, not with those Americans who struggle every day.

The White House has chosen to include the so-called chained CPI method for calculating Social Security cost of living adjustments in its fiscal proposed 2014 budget, the one that we will be considering.

□ 1700

But I agree with Senator TOM HARKIN of Iowa, who said what a chained CPI really is is like being in a boat with a chain and a ball around your ankle, and they throw you in the water and you start to sink. That's exactly what a chained CPI is in Social Security.

Numerous government programs, including Social Security benefits, and income thresholds for tax brackets are indexed for inflation. That's what CPI is all about. Every year, seniors wait to see what their inflation adjustment will be in Social Security and in Medicare to see whether they'll get as much money as they got last year or less. The formula change that is being proposed would add up to a big cut for America's senior citizens who have earned their benefits.

Imagine, for example, a person born in 1935 who retired to full benefits at age 65 in the year 2000, and they paid into Social Security their entire working life. According to the Social Security Administration, people in that position under the current formula have an average monthly benefit of $1,435, or about $17,220 per year. Under the cost-of-living adjustment for 2012, that benefit would rise a bit to $1,986 a month this year, or about $23,832 a year. But under the chained CPI proposal, that sum would be less. It would be about $1,880 a month, or $22,560 a year. That's a cut of over 5 percent, or a $106 a month cut, and more as you go further and further into future years. In other words, it gets worse and worse.

The other problem is that the people who rely most on their Social Security benefits—people who are older, people who have illness—are the ones who sadly the chained CPI does the worst job of accommodating. In fact, the group that gets the biggest FICA tax hike is families making between 30 and $40,000 a year—dead center in our middle class. Their increase would be almost six times worse. It would affect them six times more than those who are in the millionaire tax bracket. That's because millionaires are already in the top tax bracket so they're not being pushed by the formula into higher marginal rates because of changing bracket thresholds. Isn't that convenient.

So because senior citizens spend more of their income on health care and housing, two areas where the formula is flawed and their true cost is under represented, the chained CPI proposal hurts seniors more.

Beyond the benefit inflation formula, we should not be supporting a plan that uses Social Security to pay for deficits it didn't create. The Social Security trust fund is sound. Without anything being done, it would function well into 2038; and even after that time with no changes, we could pay 80 percent of the benefits that people have earned. Now, one of the reasons that Social Security looks over a long time horizon is because of economic downturns. When people get thrown out of work, they're not contributing into the Social Security trust fund. The answer to Social Security is to put people back to work. We have 12.5 million people unemployed in this country, and that creates a temporary blip that would affect people who will retire 20–25 years from now. We can fix that problem because Social Security is an efficient and effective program, but we shouldn't be using the American people's annuity for retirement that they earned and mix it up with the regular budget. It's two different things.

About 98 percent of Social Security benefits go out in the form of benefit checks which the beneficiaries spend on whatever they value most. Most of them spend the vast majority on food. But less than 2 percent of Social Security today is put on administrative expenses. The program is very efficiently run, and no private pension plan, no 401(k) that took so much of the people's money away, no private annuity, can claim that kind of efficient operation. Cuts in promised Social Security benefits, whether they occur because of the chained CPI, or some people here are talking about a higher retirement age or means testing, will shift more costs onto already struggling American families and our senior citizens. Frankly, I don't support that.

I applaud that the chained CPI proposal that was in the White House budget had a provision to protect the very oldest and disabled persons who receive supplemental security income and low-income veterans, but let me put on the record: these groups represent less than half of the seniors who have earned Social Security benefits. The formula doesn't really take care of others who are impacted by this proposed CPI change.

Frankly, this is not the time to cut earned benefits of millions of senior Americans who are already struggling financially. And I can guarantee you, the lowest-income citizens in this country are women over the age of 85, and I would never vote to take a penny away from them. This formula should be there in a form that allows them to live in dignity.

We have been unwilling as a Congress to close tax loopholes for the billionaires and millionaires of our country. This has been a Congress unwilling to prosecute Wall Street bankers for the damage they did, but it appears that some are willing to take money from our seniors who have earned and worked for Social Security benefits that are critical to their livelihoods and which they depend upon.

You know, I have a story to tell. Last weekend, I was doing grocery shopping

for our family back home, and I saw an older gentleman. I was thinking about what I was going to say here in Congress. He was in the supermarket and he had his cart, and he was all bent over. He was trudging along aisle after aisle, and he had quite a bit of trouble even raising his neck to look at what the prices were. He seemed to be going around, and I noticed he wasn't putting a whole lot in his cart, but he was putting some things in, watching every penny. And when I finished with my shopping, I saw him out in the parking lot. I thought, Is he going to his car? Where's he going? I watched him push his shopping cart, and he had put all of his groceries in two backpacks. I saw him pushing his grocery cart across the parking lot way to the corner by the sidewalk, and I realized what he was doing: he wasn't going to a car—he didn't have a car. What he was doing was, he was putting his groceries in these backpacks to put on his back, and then in his condition walk to wherever his home or wherever he was residing. I looked at that, and I thought, you know, I have to go back to Congress and tell that story because that's exactly the kind of person that the chained CPI would impact the most.

These senior citizens shouldn't have to have this Congress debating about their benefits because they get scared all across our country. We should never do anything that upsets our seniors, who are dealing with so many issues in their own lives that each of us someday will have to deal with. And I find it sad, really, that this issue of Social Security has been included in the budget debates that we are about to get into. Social Security is separate. It has its own trust fund. It is sound. It has a formula that works. The best thing we can do for future generations is to get everybody back to work so that the FICA trust fund works 50 years down the road. But right now, we shouldn't be worrying our seniors.

We shouldn't be asking them to take cuts in senior meals. The people who go for senior meals are senior citizens who actually need better nutrition. I've gone to many senior sites. One image that remains in my mind at one site in my own district is a very thin senior woman who is probably 85 years old, and the senior center served a small sandwich for lunch. They served a little bit of warm corn. There was a little pudding, and an apple and a can of milk on the tray, and that woman ate everything but half her sandwich, and she took that half of the sandwich that she didn't eat and she wrapped it up and put it into her worn purse, and she left that senior center and walked home. Those are the seniors that we have to see here and care about.

I'm just glad and I'm very grateful to the citizens of my region that they've sent me here, and I urge my colleagues to oppose any Social Security cuts for current or future beneficiaries in any deficit reduction package, especially that contained in the chained CPI proposal. My vote will always be to give our seniors freedom from worry, freedom from the chains of the CPI proposal that would pull them down if they're thrown overboard.

□ 1710

The American people would not want to do what is being proposed in this chained CPI to the senior citizens of our country if they really understood what it means. $100 to a senior in a monthly check is doled out penny by penny by penny.

We have a program in the Department of Agriculture where, in the summer months, our seniors can go to some fruit stands around our country and they get a little coupon and they can buy fruits and vegetables. And the owner of this one fruit stand in Ohio said to me, you know, Congresswoman, I never realized, among seniors, how much they had to sacrifice. They can't buy things that normal families buy.

I said, tell me more. And the farmer said, you know, I had a woman in here last week who stared and stared at a container of raspberries. And the price on the raspberries at that stand was $4. That senior woman had not eaten raspberries in 25 years because she couldn't afford them.

And that farmer said, you know, when I saw her coupons, I told her, ma'am, I will cut the price in half. And her total bill came up to, like, I think he said it was like $10.96, and he was going to give her the four pennies back. And he said, you know what? How about if I give you some green beans to put in your sack for the extra 4 cents? And that's exactly what happened at that one transaction.

Multiply that times millions of seniors across this country and get a sense of what they face. I can tell you in Ohio, and I'm sure it's the same everywhere, the largest increase in the number of people coming into our food banks across this country are senior citizens. You can say, why is that?

Well, you know, if they had a bank account, if they were able to save a little bit, it doesn't pay anything in interest now, after the crash of 2008, so they're not making anything off any savings that they might have.

A lot of them, if their kids are unemployed, they've let them move in with them; and so grandma and grandpa are the ones that are holding millions of families across this country together until their kids and grandkids can get back on their feet again.

And I think what the seniors are doing, because prices are rising, prices haven't gone down, they're going into these food banks and they're getting a bag of groceries to help them stretch the meager dollars that they have.

So as we move into this deficit debate and into the budget debate, I want my colleagues to think about the citizens that they represent and how vital that Social Security check is, and to do nothing to those who have not asked for any reduction. They can't afford any reduction.

There are so many other places in this economy where we can go in order to try to balance the budget. We should not do it on the backs of our senior citizens.

So I would say, free our seniors from the CPI. Oppose any proposals to change the formula that would cut their benefits. We already tax those who have significant assets if they earn over a certain amount on Social Security with other income. We don't need to harm the millions of Americans who just get by month after month.

I thank my colleagues for listening.

I ask the Members of this Congress to oppose the chained CPI and to stand with our senior citizens to give them the dignity in their retirement years that they have earned.

I yield back the balance of my time.

COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING) for 30 minutes.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the privilege to address you here on the floor of the House of Representatives and take up the topic that has come to the forefront of the American discussion, and do so again.

And that is that on the night of November 6, as people across America watched the election returns come in, there were many Republicans, people on my side of the aisle that watched with, I'll say, shock and disappointment, as the great predictions that Mitt Romney would be the next President of the United States fell by the wayside in swing State after swing State from the east coast. By the time it got west of the Mississippi, it was pretty clear the final result of the Presidential election.

And many of the predictors, who are self-assigned experts on polling and politics and the decision of the American voters, had predicted that Mitt Romney would be President, that Republicans would win the majority in the United States Senate, that there would be a three-way majority between the House, the Senate and Presidency, and we could put America back on the right track.

I hoped for that, Mr. Speaker. I prayed for that. I worked for it. But I watched as those election results came to be untrue, as we lost some seats here in the House and lost some seats in the Senate, and, of course, the President was re-elected that night.

The plans of probably half, very close to half, of the American people had to be changed and altered, because we planned to put free enterprise back in place. We planned to repeal ObamaCare. We planned to do some other things.

But one of the things we didn't really plan so much to do was take up the immigration issue in the 113th Congress.

And even though immigration was hardly a blip on the Presidential debate that took place—and being from Iowa, Mr. Speaker, I will tell you that if it was debated in the Presidential race, it likely was debated in Iowa, likely debated in Iowa first, and likely debated in Iowa the longest.

Yet as I tuned my ear to these issues, I didn't notice that it was a paramount topic or a significant plank in the platform of either Mitt Romney or Barack Obama, and I don't think the American people did either.

Nonetheless, the election polls closed on the night of the 6th of November, and those results are clear. And the morning then of the 7th of November, some self-appointed experts woke up and decided—oh, probably they didn't sleep very well because it was clear that they were wrong on their predictions. And so how would they then describe why they were so wrong in their bold predictions, even as high as 60 or more Republican seats in the Senate, and Mitt Romney sweeping swing State after swing State?

It didn't happen, of course, Mr. Speaker. How would they describe why they were so wrong?

It didn't take them very long, after the sun came up, or maybe even before they went to bed that night, to decide they were going to tell the American people that the election loss—and I wouldn't characterize it as a loss—it was a failure to achieve the goals we had set, but the President maintained his seat in the White House. But that election loss, as they characterized it, came about because Mitt Romney said two words—''self-deport''—and that explains it all, almost as logically as the video explains the violence in Benghazi.

No, it wasn't because Mitt Romney said those two words, and it wasn't because we had failed to achieve as large a percentage of the Hispanic-Latino vote, although that number dropped off from about 31 percent that JOHN MCCAIN achieved, down to 27 percent, according to the exit polls, that Mitt Romney achieved.

It wasn't even the low. The modern-day low percentage for Hispanic vote went to Bob Dole; and if my memory serves me correctly, that was at 22 percent.

I noticed that as they began to spin the narrative that it was all about immigration, along with that came the position that many of the advocates had had for a long time. These were the people that were the promoters of—and I put it in quotes—''comprehensive immigration reform,'' and that's the language that emerged during George W. Bush's administration when they first advocated the amnesty, the modern-day amnesty that is a policy that much of it was written off of the 1986 Amnesty Act that Ronald Reagan signed.

But their argument was Mitt Romney would be President if he had just had a better outreach to the Hispanic vote. And so those of us that heard that, first I realized that the open-borders people have always had the agenda to suspend the rule of law and grant amnesty and the path to citizenship for people that came here illegally, many times at the expense of those who came here as legal immigrants. But it always was their agenda.

So it was a pretty convenient excuse to analyze failed election results and put it all in the package of: if we had just passed comprehensive immigration reform. Now we must pass comprehensive immigration reform, or the party will become irrelevant electorally in the future, and we'll never win another national election.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, the President of the United States, President Obama, came before Republican House Members in a conference about a month ago and said just that. He said that we would never win another national election if we don't pass comprehensive immigration reform.

And here's the one that's the hardest to accept as being delivered with a serious look on his face, although I'm sure there had to be a little snicker in his mind. He said, to you Republicans, I'm trying to help you. The President said he's trying to help us by advocating for an amnesty plan, comprehensive immigration reform; and that's going to fix the problem of falling a little short in winning the Presidential election last November 6.

□ 1720

Well, there are a few facts that should be known, Mr. Speaker, and one of them is that, according to my team of staff as they sat on their Blackberrys, Barack Obama received 8 million fewer votes than he did in 2008 and Mitt Romney received 1 million fewer votes than JOHN MCCAIN did in 2008. That means there are 9 million people, at least, that stayed home—the electorate should have gotten larger—9 million people that stayed home altogether. Why were they not energized? Why didn't Barack Obama energize them? Why didn't Mitt Romney energize them? We need to know the answers to those questions just to begin this discussion.

Another one would be, how important was the immigration issue to people in this country? Not important enough that the Presidential candidates would make a debate issue out of it or campaign on it. So it wasn't on the radar screen of the Presidential candidates, who have the most extensive and expensive polling of anybody in the country.

So why was that an issue? I'd point out Republicans lost an even larger share of the Asian vote than they did the Hispanic vote, but what was the list of priorities that they had, and was immigration at the top? No, actually, it was fifth or sixth along the line.

Like everybody else, we are all human beings and we're all deserving of respect and we're all created in God's image. But people think the same way, regardless of what their race or ethnicity. They want to take care of their families. They worry about jobs and the economy. They want to have safe streets. They want good education. They want opportunity. They should want lower taxes and less government intrusion into our lives. But that same poll yielded a bit of a surprising result to many of the advocates that had spun the yarn the morning after the election that the constituency that they were losing was, naturally, Republicans. Because I'll say this: we know they are good family people, they're good faith people, they're good entrepreneurs and they can start a business with less and make it go very, very well with that network of family and work ethic. That's what we see in front of us. But if you ask the question in a setting that is the perspective of a good and effective and thorough, objective poll, you'll find out that Hispanics are about 2-to-1 in favor of larger, more government involvement, more government services, which results in higher taxes.

Well, that's the other party that advertises we need more government, more taxes, more government services. They do that because they are in the business of expanding the dependency class in America. They want, Mr. Speaker, more Americans to be dependent upon government, even if we have to borrow the money from the Chinese and the Saudis in order to provide these ''services'' because it empowers their electoral base and empowers them here in this Congress.

We're on the other side of this issue, Republicans. We want to expand personal responsibility. We want to expand all of the human potential that we possibly can. We want this American vigor to be unleashed and to grow this economy and to grow our gross domestic product. They are two competing ideologies. One is John Maynard Keynes, who believed you could borrow money and hand it to people and ask them to spend it, and somehow that spending would create this giant, endless chain letter that would stimulate the economy. The other side comes out of the Adam Smith side, or you might say the Austrian economic side, that believes that you need production on the production side of our economy for it to grow and has less emphasis on the consumption side, and if you let people invest capital and get a return on that capital investment, they will do their best and contribute and the economy will grow. That's a competing philosophy that's different between Republicans and Democrats. Republicans want to empower the individual. And to empower the individual, you have to respect and appreciate and encourage this free enterprise economy that had built the United States.

Mr. Speaker, if you take a naturalization test there are a series of flash cards, a stack of them that you can get from Citizenship and Immigration Services so that a legal immigrant can study to be naturalized as an

American citizen. These glossy flash cards are read, and they will have on them questions like, Who's the Father of our Country? Snap it over and it's George Washington. Who emancipated the slaves? Republican Abraham Lincoln. Actually, it just says Abraham Lincoln on the other side, Mr. Speaker. What's the economic system of the United States of America? Flip that flash card over and it says free enterprise capitalism.

This is not a secret. We want people to be empowered by freedom, by God-given liberty, not dependent upon some political party that's going to hand out the largesse of government at the expense of other people and actually at the expense of borrowing money from foreign countries to drive us into debt of now nearly $16.8 trillion in national debt.

So the cynical effort to expand the political base erodes the rule of law, erodes free enterprise, puts America in debt. So now that the babies that were born today in the United States of America owe Uncle Sam more than $53,000 each. That's what we have and that's what we're dealing with. And we have a country that we need to pull back from the brink of bankruptcy. We're moving in that direction under I think good, strategic leadership here in the House. We have a budget that we've approved that balances. And it's too long for me. I don't want to wait that long—10 years. But meanwhile, the President's budget balances exactly never and drives us deeper and deeper into debt and raises taxes, Mr. Speaker.

So how do we bring out the greatness of America? The greatness of America was described by Ronald Reagan when he talked about the shining city on the hill. But Ronald Reagan never spoke about the shining city on the hill as being our destiny. He spoke about it as the America that we were and presumably the America that we are. I will argue that our job is to refurbish the pillars of American exceptionalism, to strengthen us in all of those pillars. We know what they are. They're very clear. Many of them are in the Bill of Rights. Freedom of speech is a pillar of American exceptionalism. I'm exercising it at this moment, Mr. Speaker. Freedom of speech, religion, the press and assembly; the right to keep and bear arms; the right to face your accuser in a court of law and be tried by a jury of your peers; single, not double jeopardy; the right to property; the right to see that the enumerated powers that are exclusively to the United States Congress, those other powers devolve to the States or the people respectively. Those are some of the pillars. I mentioned free enterprise capitalism as another pillar of American exceptionalism. But wrapped up within this, within this Constitution that I carry in my jacket pocket, is the supreme law of the land, our Constitution, and we would not be America if we didn't have all of these pillars that I have described and also have the rule of law.

Now why would thinking people that were elected to come to this United States Congress and make good value judgments and good policy judgments, why would they be so willing and some of them eager to sacrifice the rule of law in an effort to cynically reach out and ask for a vote? Why would someone vote for someone who's willing to sacrifice the rule of law? It defies my logic application, Mr. Speaker. And amnesty is a sacrifice of the rule of law. And once you give it, once you grant it, it's almost impossible to restore it.

I remember when Ronald Reagan signed the Amnesty Act of 1986. And I was not in politics at the time. I was operating my construction company that was 11 years old at the time, raising three young sons, struggling through the farm crisis decade of the eighties. But I'm watching the news, and I'm seeing this debate take place that we have 800,000 to a million that are in the United States illegally. Generally, most of them at that time came across the southern border and stayed. And there was such a big problem that we needed to address it—800,000 to a million that were here illegally then.

So Ronald Reagan, I think under great persuasive pressure from some of the Cabinet members around him, conceded that he would sign that 1986 Amnesty Act. And when he did that, my frustration level went over the top. I believed that in spite of all the pressure that was brought on Ronald Reagan as President, he would see clearly that you can't sacrifice the rule of law in order to solve a problem that came about because of not enforcing the law, and that the promise of enforcement in the future was not going to be upheld adequately to compensate for the amnesty that they were granting in that bill.

Now the promise was this: every employer was going to have to fill out for each applicant an I–9 form. That I–9 form had—I gave it shorthand and called it name, rank, and serial number, but other data, too, of the job applicant. I remember my fear that the INS, the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the time, would come into my office and go through my files and audit me and make sure that I had every I–9 form exactly filed right, and I want to make sure I didn't miss it with anyone.

□ 1730

We religiously followed the new 1986 Amnesty Act requirements that there would be I–9 forms. We expected that there would be enforcement and penalties for employers that violated that because the premise was the Federal Government, enforced by the Justice Department at the time, would be there to audit employers and enforce the rule of law. That was the full-blown premise that came with Ronald Reagan's signature on the Amnesty Act of 1986.

I don't have any doubt that Ronald Reagan intended to follow through on the enforcement of the Amnesty Act. I can tell you that I followed my part. I've still got some of those records in my dusty files back there somewhere. Many other employers were concerned that they would not be able to follow the letter of the law. It didn't work out that way. They didn't show up in office after office, company after company. And after 20 years of the Amnesty Act that was 800,000 to 1 million. Because of document fraud and just a misestimation of the numbers, that 800,000 to 1 million became 3 million people that were granted amnesty in that act that was signed by Ronald Reagan in 1986.

Now, what did we learn from that, Mr. Speaker? And those who fail to learn from history are condemned to repeat it. Well, I have this document that's written by Attorney General Ed Meese, who was Ronald Reagan's Attorney General at that period of time and charged with enforcing the immigration law that was passed in Amnesty in '86. This is an op-ed that he wrote, published in Human Events on December 13, 2006. Among his dialogue here is this—and I'll read some of it into the RECORD, Mr. Speaker. I think it's worth our attention. It's Attorney General Ed Meese writing of Ronald Reagan's Amnesty Act.

From the article, he says:

> Illegal immigrants who could establish that they had resided in America continuously for 5 years would be granted temporary resident status, which could be upgraded to permanent residency after 18 months and, after another 5 years, to citizenship. It wasn't automatic. They had to pay application fees. They had to learn to speak English. They had to understand American civics, pass a medical exam and register for military selective service. Those with convictions for a felony or three misdemeanors were ineligible.

Mr. Speaker, this language is almost verbatim the language that was plugged into the 2006 Amnesty Act and into what is likely to come out of the Senate.

I would be happy to yield for an announcement.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 716. An act to modify the requirements under the STOCK Act regarding online access to certain financial disclosure statements and related forms.

COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM—CONTINUED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I had to pause for a minute there. I was concerned that might be the Amnesty Act coming over from the United

States Senate, but I'm relieved to know that it might be a few more days.

Picking up where I left off, I had made the point and read into this RECORD, Mr. Speaker, the language that was used in the 1986 Amnesty Act is almost identical to the language that was copied and pasted into the 2006 Amnesty Act that they called ''comprehensive immigration reform'' because they knew the word ''amnesty'' would sink the bill then. Now they know that ''comprehensive immigration reform'' is code words for amnesty. The American people figured that out in short order.

I will continue with the op-ed written by Attorney General Meese in 2006. He said, as I remarked:

> If this sounds familiar, it's because these are pretty much the same provisions that were included in the Comprehensive Reform Act of 2006, which its supporters claim is not amnesty. In the end, slight differences in process do not change the overriding fact that the 1986 law and the recent Senate legislation both include an amnesty. The difference is that President Reagan called it what it was.

We had an honest man in the White House who called it what it was. I continue from Attorney General Meese:

> The lesson from the 1986 experience is that such an amnesty did not solve the problem. There was extensive document fraud; the number of people applying for amnesty far exceeded the projections. And there was a failure of political will to enforce new laws against employers. After a brief slowdown, illegal immigration returned to high levels and continued unabated, forming the nucleus of today's large population of illegal aliens. So here we are, 20 years later, having much the same debate.

Mr. Speaker, we're here right now having the same debate that we had in 2006, which was, according to Attorney General Meese, the same debate we had in 1986.

What would President Reagan do? I often ask that. Actually, I'd like to wear a wristband, What Would Ronald Reagan Do?

Attorney General Meese continues:

> What would President Reagan do? For one thing, he would not repeat the mistakes of the past, including those of his own administration. He knew that secure borders are vital and would now insist on meeting that priority first. He would seek to strengthen the enforcement of existing immigration laws. He would employ new tools—like biometric technology for identification, and camera sensors and satellites to monitor the border—that make enforcement and verification less onerous and more effective.

That sounds like some things that a number of us have been advocating for some time.

Then Attorney General Meese continues—and I skip down a little ways:

> To give those here illegally the opportunity to correct their status by returning to their country of origin and getting in line with everyone else.

Now, Mr. Speaker, it's appalling to me to think that the advocates—I understand the other side of the aisle; I understand the political motivation of the people on the other side of the aisle—expand the dependency class, expand those who can vote for those who want to expand the dependency class. I understand those motives. They are not good motives. They undermine American exceptionalism, but I understand them.

On our side of the aisle, I don't understand—and I think it's because a lot of our own people don't have this figured out. They're looking for someone else to lead them, and they're looking for perhaps an easy way. But every proposal that has been brought forward here out of, let's say, the Gang of Eight or the ''secret gang'' in the House seems to have with it instantaneous legalization of 11, 12, 13—20 million people, all of them, with the exceptions of those who have been convicted of or perhaps charged with a felony, those who have been convicted of three serious misdemeanors. That goes right back to this language of the '86 Amnesty Act: ''Those with convictions for a felony or three misdemeanors were ineligible,'' according to Attorney General Meese.

So nothing has changed here, except we have a lot more Republicans that think instantaneous legalization—and they'd argue that it's not a path to citizenship. I happen to have this little quote from one of the Gang of Eight where he made us this point, which is he says that a green card is not a path to citizenship. The reason they have to say that is because the path to the green card is a path to citizenship if the green card is a path to citizenship.

There has been an awful lot of misinformation that's put out here and erroneous conclusions drawn, unexamined by the American public that has forgotten, perhaps, about the 2006 Amnesty Act or the 1986 Amnesty Act.

I see the gentleman from California, who was engaged in the Reagan administration and knew Ronald Reagan as well as anybody in this United States Congress, is here on this floor. I would be happy to yield so much time as he may consume, even if he consumes it all. But I would suggest it looks like it's 4 to 5 minutes left.

I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Thank you very much.

First of all, I would like to make sure that those people who are reading the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD or those people who are watching this presentation on C–SPAN, or our colleagues who are in their offices, watching from their offices, should take note of the courage and the hard work that Congressman KING has put into this issue. And it is not because Congressman KING or those of us who have worked with him on this issue have any animosity towards anyone else. Congressman KING is a strong Christian and knows that hatred and animosity is not a positive virtue.

But to the same degree, what is, then, Congressman KING's motive? Why does he put up with this? Why does he work so hard? Because he loves the people of the United States of America. That's our job. We were elected by the people of the United States to watch out for them and to watch out for their families. That doesn't mean that we don't like people in other countries. That doesn't mean that we don't like or have some animosity towards someone who has come here from another country, and even those who come here illegally. But our first loyalty and our first consideration and our heart-felt support has to be for those people who are Americans, whether they were born here or whether they came here as legal immigrants and are now part of our American family.

□ 1740

There is nothing wrong with supporting your family. That doesn't mean you're being selfish by not selling your car or giving away your children's birthright to some other person down the block. No, you should be taking care of your family. And we Americans are a family that's made up of every race, every religion, and every ethnic group.

The people who are the real racists in this whole debate are the ones who want to, first of all, tie illegal immigration with legal immigration. The fact is that they say, well, look, the immigrants, this and that. The fact is, when you want to put those same groups together, that is not what this debate is all about.

Mr. KING and I know full well that what's happening here today is an effort to take, not people who have come to our country legally, not to change their status legally, that's not my effort, that's not Mr. KING's effort, but the effort that's going on is to take 11 million to 20 million people who are in our country illegally, whose presence oftentimes is a threat to the well-being of people that have elected us to watch out for their interests, meaning the American people in our country, that the only issue is what are we going to do with those 11 to 20 million people.

If we continue to take away from those American citizens, those seniors or those kids in school, with our very limited dollars right now, and we have 22 million people who are out of work, and we continue to take away from them and give benefits and jobs to people who come here illegally, who are not part of our family, we can expect even more and more and more people to come here until it is a disaster, which it already has been a disaster for many middle-income and lower-income Americans. It will be a disaster to them.

What we are trying to do is help secure the well-being of our people. As I say, I think that's done out of love. It's done out of the idea that you don't basically give away everything to somebody who is down the street when your own family needs some food. That's not being selfish.

I recently have been through some hardship in my family, in terms of

medical hardship. I've been able to visit and see what our hospitals are like. Our hospital system in the United States and our health care system is stretched to the breaking point. We're stretched to the breaking point. We cannot afford, if we try, to take care of all of the people in the world who can come here, whether they come here illegally or not. If someone has come here illegally, we cannot afford to take care of all of their health needs without actually hurting our own people. That's what this whole debate is about.

I was down in El Salvador. Ask Congressman KING. I was in El Salvador about 3 years ago. And I'll never forget, my wife and I were sitting there at the airport, and in about 20 minutes there's a direct flight between LAX, Los Angeles, and El Salvador and back. We were there in El Salvador waiting to go back to LAX. Twenty minutes before the flight took off, out come the wheelchairs, and about 20 infirm seniors are wheeled into that plane. None of them were Americans. They were, obviously, all El Salvadorans.

Now, no one can tell me today that those people, if they're still alive, are not consuming enormous amounts of health care dollars that should be going to take care of our own people. That doesn't mean that I have any animosity towards them. I wish the people of El Salvador well.

We need to make sure that we are watching out. The fundamental issue today is whose side are you on, or who's watching out for the people of the United States? And I would ask all of us to join Congressman KING in making sure that the American people are not damaged by this irresponsibility that we have towards people from another country who have come here illegally.

Mr. KING of Iowa. I thank the gentleman from California for coming to the floor. I thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I yield back the balance of my time.

[From Human Events, April 11, 2013]

REAGAN WOULD NOT REPEAT AMNESTY MISTAKE

(By Edwin Meese)

What would Ronald Reagan do? I can't tell you how many times I have been asked that question, on virtually every issue imaginable.

As much as we all want clarity and certainty, I usually refrain from specific answers. That's because it is very difficult to directly translate particular political decisions to another context, in another time. The better way to answer the question—and the way President Reagan himself would approach such questions—is to understand Reagan's principles and how they should apply in today's politics, and review past decisions and consider what lessons they have for us.

Immigration is one area where Reagan's principles can guide us, and the lessons are instructive.

I was attorney general two decades ago during the debate over what became the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986. President Reagan, acting on the recommendation of a bipartisan task force, supported a comprehensive approach to the problem of illegal immigration, including adjusting the status of what was then a relatively small population. Since the Immigration and Naturalization Service was then in the Department of Justice, I had the responsibility for directing the implementation of that plan.

President Reagan set out to correct the loss of control at our borders. Border security and enforcement of immigration laws would be greatly strengthened—in particular, through sanctions against employers who hired illegal immigrants. If jobs were the attraction for illegal immigrants, then cutting off that option was crucial.

He also agreed with the legislation in adjusting the status of immigrants—even if they had entered illegally—who were law-abiding long-term residents, many of whom had children in the United States. Illegal immigrants who could establish that they had resided in America continuously for five years would be granted temporary resident status, which could be upgraded to permanent residency after 18 months and, after another five years, to citizenship. It wasn't automatic. They had to pay application fees, learn to speak English, understand American civics, pass a medical exam and register for military selective service. Those with convictions for a felony or three misdemeanors were ineligible.

If this sounds familiar, it's because these are pretty much the same provisions included in the Comprehensive Reform Act of 2006, which its supporters claim is not amnesty. In the end, slight differences in process do not change the overriding fact that the 1986 law and the recent Senate legislation both include an amnesty. The difference is that President Reagan called it for what it was.

LESSON OF 1986

The lesson from the 1986 experience is that such an amnesty did not solve the problem. There was extensive document fraud, and the number of people applying for amnesty far exceeded projections. And there was a failure of political will to enforce new laws against employers. After a brief slowdown, illegal immigration returned to high levels and continued unabated, forming the nucleus of today's large population of illegal aliens.

So here we are, 20 years later, having much the same debate and being offered much the same deal.

What would President Reagan do? For one thing, he would not repeat the mistakes of the past, including those of his own administration. He knew that secure borders are vital, and would now insist on meeting that priority first. He would seek to strengthen the enforcement of existing immigration laws. He would employ new tools—like biometric technology for identification, and cameras, sensors and satellites to monitor the border—that make enforcement and verification less onerous and more effective.

One idea President Reagan had at the time that we might also try improving on is to create a pilot program that would allow genuinely temporary workers to come to the United States—a reasonable program consistent with security and open to the needs and dynamics of our market economy.

And what about those already here? Today it seems to me that the fair policy, one that will not encourage further illegal immigration, is to give those here illegally the opportunity to correct their status by returning to their country of origin and getting in line with everyone else. This, along with serious enforcement and control of the illegal inflow at the border—a combination of incentives and disincentives—will significantly reduce over time our population of illegal immigrants.

Lastly, we should remember Reagan's commitment to the idea that America must remain open and welcoming to those yearning for freedom. As a nation based on ideas, Ronald Reagan believed that there was something unique about America and that anyone, from anywhere, could become an American. That means that while we seek to meet the challenge of illegal immigration, we must keep open the door of opportunity by preserving and enhancing our heritage of legal immigration—assuring that those who choose to come here permanently become Americans. In the end, it was his principled policy—and it should be ours—to ''humanely regain control of our borders and thereby preserve the value of one of the most sacred possessions of our people: American citizenship.''

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, April 12, 2013, at 10 a.m.

OATH OF OFFICE MEMBERS, RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, AND DELEGATES

The oath of office required by the sixth article of the Constitution of the United States, and as provided by section 2 of the act of May 13, 1884 (23 Stat. 22), to be administered to Members, Resident Commissioner, and Delegates of the House of Representatives, the text of which is carried in 5 U.S.C. 3331:

> ''I, AB, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God.''

has been subscribed to in person and filed in duplicate with the Clerk of the House of Representatives by the following Member of the 113th Congress, pursuant to the provisions of 2 U.S.C. 25:

ROBIN L. KELLY, Second District of Illinois.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

1029. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Clothianidin; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0860; FRL-9378-6] received March 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1030. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security,

transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket ID: FEMA-2013-0002] received March 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1031. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Disapproval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Colorado; Revision to Definitions; Common Provisions Regulation [EPA-R08-OAR-2011-0036; FRL-9284-4] received March 26, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1032. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Arkansas; Prevention of Significant Deterioration; Greenhouse Gas Tailoring Rule Revisions [EPA-R06-OAR-2012-0639; FRL-9795-4] received March 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1033. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Ohio; Particulate Matter Standards [EPA-R05-OAR-2012-0088; FRL-9783-5] received March 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1034. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Virginia; Transportation Conformity Regulations [EPA-R03-OAR-2013-0082; FRL-9795-6] received March 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1035. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Operating Permits Program; State of Missouri [EPA-R07-OAR-2012-0749; FRL-9795-2] received March 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1036. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Texas; Reasonably Available Control Technology for the 1997 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard [EPA-R06-OAR-2012-0100; FRL-9795-3] received March 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1037. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances; Technical Amendment [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2012-0842; FRL-9382-2] (RIN: 2070-AB27) received March 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1038. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Herring Fishery; Adjustment to 2013 Annual Catch Limits [Docket No.: 121022572-3075-02] (RIN: 0648-XC318) received March 27, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1039. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in the West Yakutat District of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 120918468-3111-02] (RIN: 0648-XC536) received March 27, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1040. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; Trip Limit Reduction [Docket No.: 001005281-0369-02] (RIN: 0648-XC553) received March 27, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1041. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 630 in the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 120918468-3111-02] (RIN: 0648-XC550) received March 27, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1042. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Using Trawl Gear in the Bearing Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 121018563-3148-02] (RIN: 0648-XC552) received March 27, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1043. A letter from the Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries; General Category Fishery [Docket No.: 120306154-2241-02] (RIN: 0648-XC506) received March 27, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1044. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Fishery; 2013 Accountability Measure for Gulf of Mexico Commercial Gray Triggerfish [Docket No.: 120417412-2412-01] (RIN: 0648-XC510) received March 27, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1045. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pollock in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands [Docket No.: 1112077037-2141-02] (RIN: 0648-XC543) received March 27, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1046. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Practitioner Data Bank (RIN: 0906-AA87) received April 4, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1047. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0795; Directorate Identifier 2008-SW-53-AD; Amendment 39-17395; AD 2013-05-23] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1048. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0641; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-258-AD; Amendment 39-17378; AD 2013-05-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1049. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1160; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-096-AD; Amendment 39-17381; AD 2013-05-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1050. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG Turbojet Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1006; Directorate Identifier FAA-2012-NE-28-AD; Amendment 39-17392; AD 2013-05-20] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1051. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1100; Directorate Identifier 2012-NE-29-AD; Amendment 39-17385; AD 2013-05-13] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1052. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0240; Directorate Identifier 2011-SW-060-AD] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1053. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Activation of Ice Protection [Docket No.: FAA-2009-0675; Amendment No. 121-363] (RIN: 2120-AJ43) received March 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1054. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Type Certification Procedures for Changed Products [Docket No.: FAA-2001-8994; Amdt. No. 21-96] (RIN: 2120-AK19) received March 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1055. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30889; Amdt. No. 3524] received March 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1056. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments

[Docket No.: 30890; Amdt. No. 3525] received March 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1057. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1031; Directorate Identifier 2012-NE-31-AD; Amendment 39-17391; AD 2013-05-19] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1058. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1167; Directorate Identifier 2012-NE-36-AD; Amendment 39-17396; AD 2013-06-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. H.R. 756. A bill to advance cybersecurity research, development, and technical standards, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113–33). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. H.R. 967. A bill to amend the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 to authorize activities for support of networking and information technology research, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113–34). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. WATERS (for herself, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, and Mr. CUMMINGS):

H.R. 1483. A bill to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to provide requirements for appropriate Federal banking agencies when using independent consultants in carrying out a consent order, to grant SIGTARP authority to provide oversight of such consultants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan:

H.R. 1484. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make publicly available on the official Medicare Internet site Medicare payment rates for frequently reimbursed hospital inpatient procedures, hospital outpatient procedures, and physicians' services; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LOBIONDO:

H.R. 1485. A bill to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to modify the phase-in increases in flood insurance premium rates for certain properties, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. RAHALL:

H.R. 1486. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of the Treasury and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from devising or implementing a carbon tax; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MCDERMOTT:

H.R. 1487. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XI of the Social Security Act to establish an exception from the physician self-referral prohibition and a safe harbor from Federal antikickback and other sanctions for incentive payments made by hospitals to physicians under certain incentive payment programs; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. JONES, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, and Mr. BARLETTA):

H.R. 1488. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide that the waiting period for disability insurance benefits shall not be applicable in the case of a recovering service member; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York (for himself and Mr. GIBSON):

H.R. 1489. A bill to amend the National Dam Safety Program Act to identify and ensure the safety of dams in need of repair and rehabilitation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. MILLER of Florida:

H.R. 1490. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the recording of a patient in a facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs without the informed consent of the patient; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. BONAMICI (for herself, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. FARR, Mr. HONDA, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. CHU, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. KILMER, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. HECK of Washington, and Ms. DELBENE):

H.R. 1491. A bill to authorize the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to provide certain funds to eligible entities for activities undertaken to address the marine debris impacts of the March 2011 Tohoku earthquake and subsequent tsunami, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MCDERMOTT (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. FARR, Ms. NORTON, Mr. JONES, Mr. RUSH, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. ENYART, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. LEE of California, and Mr. MCNERNEY):

H.R. 1492. A bill to establish the Commission on America and its Veterans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. COLLINS of Georgia (for himself, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. HOLDING, Mrs. ELLMERS, Mr. YOHO, Mr. STUTZMAN, Mr. SOUTHERLAND, Mr. PERRY, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. COBLE, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. GOWDY, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. BENTIVOLIO, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. KINGSTON):

H.R. 1493. A bill to impose certain limitations on consent decrees and settlement agreements by agencies that require the agencies to take regulatory action in accordance with the terms thereof, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GIBSON (for himself, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. GRIMM, Mr. OWENS, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Ms. MENG, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. WALZ, Mr. POE of Texas, and Mr. COURTNEY):

H.R. 1494. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to review the operation of certain ships during the Vietnam Era, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GOSAR (for himself, Mr. SALMON, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, and Mr. SCHWEIKERT):

H.R. 1495. A bill to prohibit the further extension or establishment of national monuments in Arizona except by express authorization of Congress; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. GRAVES of Georgia (for himself, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. LATTA, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SOUTHERLAND, Mr. STUTZMAN, Mr. YOHO, Mr. VALADAO, and Mr. BROUN of Georgia):

H.R. 1496. A bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to withdraw the proposed order published in the January 19, 2011 Federal Register (76 FR 3422) pertaining to the pesticide sulfuryl fluoride; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HUNTER (for himself, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. JONES, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. LATTA, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. COBLE, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. PETERS of California, Mr. ISSA, and Mr. KLINE):

H.R. 1497. A bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to ensure that memorials commemorating the service of the United States Armed Forces may contain religious symbols, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. JEFFRIES (for himself, Ms. MOORE, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. MCDERMOTT):

H.R. 1498. A bill to extend the interest rate for Federal Direct Stafford Loans; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. JEFFRIES (for himself, Mr. GRIMM, and Mr. CROWLEY):

H.R. 1499. A bill to ensure that homeowners who have mortgages insured by the FHA, or owned or guaranteed by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, and whose homes are located in major disaster areas are notified of any forbearance relief in connection with such disaster that is offered or recommended by the FHA, the Federal Housing Finance Agency, the Federal National Mortgage Association, or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. O'ROURKE, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. VELA, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. HINOJOSA, and Mr. YOHO):

H.R. 1500. A bill to amend section 9A of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to require that local school wellness policies include a requirement that students receive 50 hours of school nutrition education per school year; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. JEFFRIES (for himself, Mr. CROWLEY, and Mr. ISRAEL):

H.R. 1501. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument in Fort Greene Park, in the New York City borough of Brooklyn, as a unit of the National Park System; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas (for himself, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. REED, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mrs. BLACK, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. BOUSTANY, and Mr. SCHOCK):

H.R. 1502. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to prevent concurrent receipt of unemployment benefits and Social Security disability insurance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KING of Iowa (for himself and Mr. HUELSKAMP):

H.R. 1503. A bill to repeal a certain rule relating to nutrition standards in the national school lunch and school breakfast programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself and Mr. CICILLINE):

H.R. 1504. A bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to add Rhode Island to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Ms. BASS, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. HOLT, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. NADLER, Mr. MORAN, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. KING of New York, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, and Mr. WEBER of Texas):

H.R. 1505. A bill to ensure that the courts of the United States may provide an impartial forum for claims brought by United States citizens and others against any railroad organized as a separate legal entity, arising from the deportation of United States citizens and others to Nazi concentration camps on trains owned or operated by such railroad, and by the heirs and survivors of such persons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. CHU, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FARR, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HOLT, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. KEATING, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. POLIS, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. WAXMAN, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H.R. 1506. A bill to reduce the number of nuclear-armed submarines operated by the Navy, to prohibit the development of a new long-range penetrating bomber aircraft, to reduce the number of intercontinental ballistic missiles operated by the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. BURGESS, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. TSONGAS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. FATTAH, Ms. MOORE, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. RUNYAN, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. ISRAEL, and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas):

H.R. 1507. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, leading to better care and outcomes for Americans living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MARKEY:

H.R. 1508. A bill to provide for the issuance of an Alzheimer's Disease Research Semipostal Stamp; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. WOLF, and Mr. MCKINLEY):

H.R. 1509. A bill to establish a 5-year demonstration program to provide skills to classroom teachers and staff who work with children with autism spectrum disorders; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. NEUGEBAUER (for himself, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. GOODLATTE, and Mr. WILLIAMS):

H.R. 1510. A bill to improve and extend certain nutrition programs; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mrs. NOEM:

H.R. 1511. A bill to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to promote timely emergency rehabilitation and restoration of Federal forest land impacted by catastrophic events, to redirect for a 5-year-period funding normally made available for land acquisition to mechanical forest treatment and salvage operations due to catastrophic events, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PEARCE:

H.R. 1512. A bill to prohibit the further extension or establishment of national monuments in New Mexico except by express authorization of Congress; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. PERRY (for himself, Mr. MARINO, Mr. BARLETTA, and Mr. GERLACH):

H.R. 1513. A bill to revise the boundaries of the Gettysburg National Military Park to include the Gettysburg Train Station and certain land along Plum Run in Cumberland Township, to limit the means by which property within such revised boundaries may be acquired, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SARBANES:

H.R. 1514. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to authorize competitive grants to prepare and train school principals on effective core competencies and instructional leadership skills; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. SIRES (for himself and Mr. DIAZ-BALART):

H.R. 1515. A bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to codify the cooperative agreement, known as the Health Technologies program, under which the United States Agency for International Development supports the development of technologies for global health, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi (for himself, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. PIERLUISI, Mr. MICHAUD, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. HAHN, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. KINGSTON, and Mr. ELLISON):

H.R. 1516. A bill to amend title 14, United States Code, to modify the process for congressional nomination of individuals for appointment as cadets at the Coast Guard Academy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. WALBERG:

H.R. 1517. A bill to amend titles II and XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a Social Security Surplus Protection Account in the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund to hold the Social Security surplus and a Medicare Surplus Protection Account in the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund to hold the Medicare surplus, to provide for suspension of investment of amounts held in such Accounts until enactment of legislation providing for investment of the Trust Funds in investment vehicles other than obligations of the United States, and to establish a Social Security and Medicare Part A Investment Commission to make recommendations for alternative forms of investment of the Social Security and Medicare surpluses; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. WHITFIELD (for himself, Mr. LOBIONDO, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. COHEN, Mr. PITTS, and Mr. MORAN):

H.R. 1518. A bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to designate additional unlawful acts under the Act, strengthen penalties for violations of the Act, improve Department of Agriculture enforcement of the Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself, Mr. RAHALL, and Mr. MCKINLEY):

H. Res. 151. A resolution recognizing the sesquicentennial of West Virginia statehood; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. MICHAUD (for himself and Mr. HARPER):

H. Res. 152. A resolution celebrating the anniversary of the enactment of Public Law 87-788, commonly known as the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act; to the Committee on Agriculture.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. KING of New York introduced a bill (H.R. 1519) for the relief of Alemseghed Mussie Tesfamical; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Ms. WATERS:

H.R. 1483.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States of America.

By Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan:

H.R. 1484.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. LOBIONDO:

H.R. 1485.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. RAHALL:

H.R. 1486.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 and Clause 18 of the Constitution.

By Mr. MCDERMOTT:

H.R. 1487.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Article I Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 1488.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 1, which states ''All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives;''

And

Article I, Section 8, Clause 14 of the United States Constitution which gives Congress the power ''to make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;''

By Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 1489.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, §8, clause 18

By Mr. MILLER of Florida:

H.R. 1490.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

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

By Ms. BONAMICI:

H.R. 1491.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. MCDERMOTT:

H.R. 1492.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. COLLINS of Georgia:

H.R. 1493.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 1 of the United States Constitution, Article I, Section 8 of the Unitcd States Constitution, including, but not limited to, Clauses 1, 3 and 18, and Article III of the United States Constitution, Section 2.

By Mr. GIBSON:

H.R. 1494.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The Congress shall have Power . . . To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. GOSAR:

H.R. 1495.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article IV, section 3, clause 2 (relating to the power of Congress to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States).

By Mr. GRAVES of Georgia:

H.R. 1496.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 1—''All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18—''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. HUNTER:

H.R. 1497.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority for the War Memorial Protection Act is found in Section 3, Clause 2 of Article IV, which states in part that ''the Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory and other Property belonging to the United States.'' Constitutional authority is also found in Clause 18 of Article I, Section 8, which states that Congress has the authority to ''make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.''

By Mr. JEFFRIES:

H.R. 1498.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. JEFFRIES:

H.R. 1499.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 1500.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution relating to the power of Congress to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States)

By Mr. JEFFRIES:

H.R. 1501.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas:

H.R. 1502.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution, to ''provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States.''

By Mr. KING of Iowa:

H.R. 1503.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This legislation repeals a rule made by an Executive agency pursuant to an act of Congress. This bill is intended to correct the agency's errant interpretation of Congress' intent as expressed in the authorizing legislation, and, as such, follows the responsibility that Congress has, under Article 1, Section. 1, to exercise all legislative powers of the United States.

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 1504.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the authority to enact this bill.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 1505.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3, which reads: ''To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with Indian Tribes.''

By Mr. MARKEY:

H.R. 1506.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8.

By Mr. MARKEY:

H.R. 1507.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8.

By Mr. MARKEY:

H.R. 1508.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8.

By Mr. MORAN:

H.R. 1509.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This legislation is authorized by Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1, which grants Congress authority regarding Defence [sic] and general Welfare of the United States.

By Mr. NEUGEBAUER:

H.R. 1510.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mrs. NOEM:

H.R. 1511.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 4, Section 3: The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

By Mr. PEARCE:

H.R. 1512.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 4, Section 3, Clause 2 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the power to enact this law.

By Mr. PERRY:

H.R. 1513.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, and Article I, Section 8, clause 18

By Mr. SARBANES:

H.R. 1514.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution under the General Welfare Clause.

By Mr. SIRES:

H.R. 1515.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Pursuant to clause 3(d)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee finds the authority for this legislation in article I, section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi:

H.R. 1516.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The U.S. Constitution including Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. WALBERG:

H.R. 1517.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1—The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3—To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 14—To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces.

By Mr. WHITFIELD:

H.R. 1518.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

The Congress shall have Power To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. KING of New York:

H.R. 1519.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 6

The Congress shall have Power . . . To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 3: Mr. ROHRABACHER.

H.R. 36: Mr. LATTA, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. SCALISE, and Mr. BUCSHON.

H.R. 38: Mr. CHABOT, Mr. POSEY, Mr. ENGEL, and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 93: Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 137: Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. PERLMUTTER, and Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 138: Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. JEFFRIES, and Mr. GARAMENDI.

H. R. 141: Mrs. DAVIS of California and Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 146: Mr. OWENS.

H.R. 164: Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. HORSFORD, and Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico.

H.R. 184: Mr. FOSTER.

H.R. 185: Mr. OLSON.

H.R. 217: Mr. SENSENBRENNER.

H.R. 227: Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 236: Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 258: Mr. MURPHY of Florida and Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 268: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.

H.R. 301: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 310: Mrs. LUMMIS.

H.R. 324: Mr. GARCIA, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, and Mr. SERRANO.

H.R. 332: Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. TIERNEY, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 357: Mr. HOLT, Mr. LATTA, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. AMODEI.

H.R. 358: Mr. ELLISON.

H.R. 359: Mr. MORAN.

H.R. 367: Mr. BRIDENSTINE and Mr. COBLE.

H.R. 404: Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 410: Mr. BURGESS.

H.R. 421: Mr. HOLT.

H.R. 426: Mr. LYNCH.

H.R. 437: Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. ELLISON, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 455: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. LEE of California, and Mr. RANGEL.

H.R. 460: Mr. GERLACH.

H.R. 474: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 481: Mr. COOK, Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, and Mr. O'ROURKE.

H.R. 486: Mr. GRIMM.

H.R. 519: Mr. PAYNE, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. CLARKE, and Mr. TIERNEY.

H.R. 543: Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. KIND, and Ms. SHEA-PORTER.

H.R. 556: Mr. BUCHANAN.

H.R. 575: Mr. BOUSTANY.

H. R. 627: Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. STOCKMAN, Ms. ESTY, Mr. KLINE, and Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California.

H.R. 630: Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. PETERS of Michigan, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. DELAURO, Mrs. LOWEY, and Mr. TIERNEY.

H.R. 633: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 647: Mr. GOODLATTE and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.

H.R. 649: Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. HOLT, Mr. CONYERS, and Ms. LEE of California.

H.R. 654: Mr. COURTNEY.

H.R. 671: Mr. MURPHY of Florida.

H.R. 675: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 690: Mr. FINCHER.

H.R. 695: Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California and Mrs. LUMMIS.

H.R. 730: Mr. JONES, Mr. BENTIVOLIO, Mr. STIVERS, Ms. CHU, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois, Mr. LONG, Mr. BENISHEK, and Mrs. HARTZLER.

H.R. 742: Mr. GIBSON.

H.R. 755: Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.

H.R. 760: Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. MASSIE, and Mr. RADEL.

H.R. 763: Mr. TERRY, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. RIGELL, Mrs. ROBY, Mr. STUTZMAN, and Mr. RENACCI.

H.R. 783: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 792: Mr. TERRY, Mr. WITTMAN, and Mr. SCHRADER.

H.R. 795: Mrs. HARTZLER.

H.R. 798: Mr. MICHAUD.

H.R. 799: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska and Mr. RUNYAN.

H.R. 800: Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 808: Mr. HONDA.

H.R. 813: Mr. HOLT, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 818: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 847: Mr. RUIZ and Mr. HUFFMAN.

H.R. 850: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. HECK of Washington, Mr. PITTS, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. COLE, and Mr. GINGREY of Georgia.

H.R. 864: Mr. MEEKS, Mr. ENGEL, and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.

H.R. 888: Mr. GARDNER, Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois, Mr. LATHAM, and Mr. BROUN of Georgia.

H.R. 896: Mr. PERLMUTTER.

H.R. 924: Ms. PINGREE of Maine and Mr. KIND.

H.R. 940: Mr. PERRY.

H.R. 942: Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. HARPER, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.

H.R. 948: Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin.

H.R. 959: Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. JONES, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. LATTA, Mr. LONG, and Mr. BENTIVOLIO.

H.R. 960: Mrs. LOWEY.

H.R. 961: Mr. RANGEL, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SCHWARTZ, and Mr. ANDREWS.

H.R. 962: Ms. CLARKE.

H.R. 988: Mr. PASCRELL and Mr. HOLT.

H.R. 1001: Mr. BACHUS and Mr. GARCIA.

H.R. 1008: Mr. SENSENBRENNER and Mr. TIERNEY.

H.R. 1015: Mrs. ELLMERS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. JONES, and Ms. GRANGER.

H.R. 1020: Mrs. ELLMERS.

H.R. 1024: Mr. POE of Texas.

H.R. 1026: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 1038: Mr. SHERMAN and Mr. GIBBS.

H.R. 1039: Mr. BROUN of Georgia.

H.R. 1063: Mr. ROSS.

H.R. 1070: Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. MAFFEI, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BONAMICI, and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.

H.R. 1077: Mr. CRAWFORD and Mr. OWENS.

H.R. 1078: Mr. NUNNELEE.

H.R. 1091: Mr. KLINE, Mr. BENISHEK, and Mr. GIBBS.

H.R. 1093: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. JOYCE, Mr.

QUIGLEY, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. TIBERI, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. RUSH, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. TIERNEY, and Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 1094: Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. ESTY, Mr. RUNYAN, and Mr. HUFFMAN.

H.R. 1128: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 1130: Mr. MILLER of Florida.

H.R. 1141: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.

H.R. 1143: Mr. COBLE and Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia.

H.R. 1144: Mr. CRAMER.

H.R. 1146: Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 1148: Mr. GIBBS.

H.R. 1149: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 1151: Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. DESJARLAIS, and Mrs. ELLMERS.

H.R. 1154: Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 1164: Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin.

H.R. 1199: Mr. KEATING, Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. HONDA, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. MOORE, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. GRIMM, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. FARR, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. PERLMUTTER, and Mr. SCHNEIDER.

H.R. 1209: Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. BARROW of Georgia, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. LONG, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. COOK, and Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 1218: Mr. RADEL.

H.R. 1240: Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. KIND, and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.

H.R. 1247: Mr. OWENS and Mr. RANGEL.

H.R. 1249: Mr. JONES, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. KINGSTON, and Mr. GIBBS.

H.R. 1250: Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. STOCKMAN, Ms. SPEIER, and Mr. JONES.

H.R. 1288: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 1304: Mr. BROUN of Georgia.

H.R. 1312: Mr. GOWDY.

H.R. 1313: Mr. LYNCH and Mr. SCHRADER.

H.R. 1317: Ms. MCCOLLUM and Mr. OLSON.

H.R. 1318: Mr. YARMUTH.

H.R. 1319: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 1322: Mr. CONYERS.

H.R. 1331: Mr. POE of Texas and Ms. JENKINS.

H.R. 1345: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1351: Ms. TSONGAS and Mr. BERA of California.

H.R. 1354: Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. DELANEY, and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 1395: Mr. VARGAS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. SERRANO, Mr.RANGEL, and Mr. ELLISON.

H.R. 1406: Mr. BURGESS, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. COLE, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. ROONEY, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. TERRY, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. ISSA, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. LATTA, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. POSEY, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. ROYCE, and Mr. BRIDENSTINE.

H.R. 1414: Mr. OWENS, Mr. NADLER, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.

H.R. 1417: Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. KING of New York, and Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina.

H.R. 1418: Mr. PITTENGER and Ms. SINEMA.

H.R. 1424: Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, and Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.

H.R. 1433: Mr. KIND, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. MATHESON, and Mr. SMITH of Washington.

H.R. 1441: Mr. COBLE.

H.R. 1448: Mr. PEARCE.

H.R. 1476: Mr. COBLE.

H.J. Res. 20: Mr. NEAL.

H.J. Res. 21: Mr. NEAL.

H. Con. Res. 4: Mr. PEARCE.

H. Con. Res. 23: Mr. HALL.

H. Con. Res. 24: Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mrs. HARTZLER, and Mr. BENISHEK.

H. Con. Res. 27: Mr. ELLISON, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. KIND, and Mr. MCINTYRE.

H. Con. Res. 28: Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. HONDA, Mr. O'ROURKE, and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.

H. Res. 36: Mr. WOMACK, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. SHUSTER, and Mrs. WALORSKI.

H. Res. 71: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.

H. Res. 75: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H. Res. 90: Mr. QUIGLEY.

H. Res. 97: Mr. BENISHEK and Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H. Res. 106: Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. COLE, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. KING of Iowa.

H. Res. 108: Ms. LEE of California.

H. Res. 119: Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. BRIDENSTINE, and Mr. SALMON.

H. Res. 133: Mr. ROSS.

H. Res. 134: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H. Res. 148: Mr. HIMES and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 159 WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2013 No. 48

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable BRIAN SCHATZ, a Senator from the State of Hawaii.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

O Holy God, friend unseen, we lean on Your everlasting arm. Help our Senators throughout life's changing seasons. When they are discouraged, fill them with Your faith. When they are oppressed, empower them to persevere with Your might, for You are our strength, our rock, our all. Remind them that any effort You require of them will ultimately have a positive effect. Give them the spirit of wisdom so that they will know You better. Lord, guide them so that they will find a way to unite in producing creative legislation.

We pray in Your gracious Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable BRIAN SCHATZ 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 assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE:
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, April 11, 2013.

To the Senate:

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

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. SCHATZ thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following leader remarks the Senate will resume consideration of the gun legislation. The time until 11 a.m. will be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees. At 11 o'clock there will be a cloture vote on a motion to proceed to S. 649, which is the gun safety legislation.

If cloture is invoked, I hope we can reach an agreement to begin debate on the bill today. We have people waiting in the wings to offer amendments. The first amendment that will be offered is one that has been being negotiated for quite some time between Senator MANCHIN and Senator TOOMEY and Senator KIRK. I have had calls from my Republican colleagues indicating they have some amendments they want to offer. So let's get on the bill. Let's not waste 30 hours. I hope that can happen so we can start legislating today.

GUN SAFETY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, life can change in a moment. In Carson City, NV, a little over a year ago—actually, time goes quickly; it was in September of 2011, September 6—shortly before 9 o'clock in the morning, a deeply disturbed man with an automatic weapon stepped out of his car outside of a Carson City, NV, restaurant. In the few brief seconds that followed, he fired nearly 80 rounds from an automatic weapon, spraying bullets over the parking lot and into an IHOP restaurant that was packed with customers for breakfast. He killed four people instantly, wounded seven others, and then he took his own life after that. That took 85 seconds. In those 85 seconds, 5 lives ended, and countless more were altered forever.

Three Nevada Army National Guardsmen were on their way to work that morning: 31-year-old SFC Miranda McElhiney, 38-year-old SFC Christian Riege, and 35-year-old MAJ Heath Kelly. Florence Donovan-Gunderson, who was eating breakfast with her husband, was also killed—murdered.

In 85 seconds, Carson City joined the likes of Tucson, AZ, Fort Hood, TX, Blacksburg, VA, Columbine, CO, and scores of other cities and towns in America rocked by mass shootings in recent decades. And as were those other cities and towns, Carson City was left asking, Why? Maybe we will never know.

The gunman had been diagnosed earlier with schizophrenia. He had been involuntarily committed by law enforcement officials to a mental institution. He recently confided to a priest that voices he heard in his head told him to continue to do bad things. A lot is not clear.

What is clear is how the shooter obtained two assault rifles, two handguns, and almost 600 rounds of ammunition he took to the IHOP that day. I don't know—no one really knows—what happened. It is not clear what happened. Where did he get those weapons—two assault rifles, two handguns, and about 600 rounds of ammunition that he took with him to the parking lot to start shooting people?

Even though all of that is not clear in terms of how he obtained those assault weapons, this much is clear: We have a responsibility to do everything in our power to keep guns out of the hands of those who suffer from mental

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

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illness. I think it is clear we mean severe mental illness. Within our families we all have individuals who have periods of time when they are depressed. We must keep weapons out of the hands of those with illnesses that make them a danger to themselves and others. We have a responsibility also to keep the guns out of the hands of criminals—convicted felons.

The measure before the Senate today would institute universal background checks that would prevent people with severe mental illness from buying firearms—those with severe mental illness; I want to make sure we stress that—and criminals. This legislation would also crack down on anyone who buys a gun to funnel it to criminals and it would give schools the resources to improve security to keep children safe.

This bill won't stop every madman determined to take innocent lives. I know that. We all know that. Nor is this bill the only suggestion to prevent gun violence. In the coming days we will debate other proposals to make Americans safer.

An assault weapons ban will be debated and voted on. Improvements to our mental health system will be debated and voted on. A ban on high-capacity clips such as those used to kill four people in Carson City at the IHOP, and how the man in Columbine, CO, was able to get a magazine with 100 bullets in it—that is the only reason the people in Colorado weren't massacred even more. The gun jammed.

There are powerful feelings about each of the proposals I have mentioned, both strong support and strong opposition. But whichever side one is on, we ought to be able to agree to exchange thoughtful debate about these measures. Let's engage in it. We ought to be able to agree to a careful examination of the culture of violence that is growing in this Nation.

I am pleased a number of reasonable Republicans have joined Democrats in welcoming this debate saying they are not going to debate cloture. I hope we have enough to have cloture invoked. I feel fairly confident that, in fact, is the case.

As I have indicated for the last many weeks, we are going to have an open amendment process, as much as possible, on this bill. As always, the process will depend on the goodwill of all Senators. Somebody could come and do all kinds of things to stop us from doing anything on the bill. I hope that is not the case.

Once we are on the underlying bill, the first amendment, as I have indicated, will be on a substitute compromise background check proposal offered by Senators MANCHIN, TOOMEY, KIRK, and SCHUMER. I thank the Senators for their diligent work on this issue. They have been working a long time.

I am hopeful we will be able to debate and vote on a reasonable number of amendments offered by Senators who feel passionately about reducing gun violence or respecting Americans' second amendment rights. I also respect those who want to weaken the laws that now exist. They have a right to try to do that. But three soldiers—Miranda, Christian, and Heath—and Florence, who was not a soldier but was one of those killed—deserve some attention. There were seven people who were hurt as a result of these bullets as well as those killed. That was a terrible day in Carson City. Each one of them deserves a thoughtful debate, and they deserve votes.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

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

GUN SAFETY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, today the Senate will vote on whether to invoke cloture on proceeding to S. 649. I will vote against invoking cloture and I wish to explain why.

I believe the government should focus on keeping firearms out of the hands of criminals and those with mental issues that could cause them to be a threat to our society. The government should not punish or harass law-abiding citizens in the exercise of their second amendment rights. Unfortunately, S. 649 has the focus entirely backwards.

For example, the background check portion of S. 649 is Senator SCHUMER's bill that the Judiciary Committee reported out on a party-line basis. The aim of that bill, from its plain terms, could not be more clear. Section 121, the purpose section, provides that the aim of the bill is to require Americans to undergo background checks for ''all sales and transfers of firearms.'' If they don't, it is a Federal crime. Again, the requirement applies to all sales, and even transfers, of all firearms. And with very few exceptions, that is exactly what S. 649 does. The next section of the bill makes plain why that overly broad language is so problematic.

That section, section 122, provides that it is ''unlawful'' for any private party to ''transfer a firearm to any other person'' without first turning over that firearm to a commercial firearms dealer and having that dealer perform a background check. There are a few limited exceptions such as for gifts between immediate family members and inheriting a firearm. But that is it. In fact, the bill makes clear that transfer means not just sale but a ''gift, loan'' or any ''other disposition'' of that firearm.

So under the Schumer legislation, the following offenses would now be Federal crimes absent surrendering the firearms and conducting a background check. Federal offenses: An uncle giving his nephew a hunting rifle for Christmas; a niece giving her aunt a handgun for protection; a cousin loaning another cousin his hunting rifle if the loan occurs just 1 day before the beginning of hunting season; or one neighbor loaning another a firearm so his wife can protect herself while her husband is away.

The people I am describing are not criminals—they are neighbors, friends, and family—and the scenarios I am describing are not fanciful. They happen countless times in our country. But the Schumer bill would outlaw these transfers and it would make people such as these criminals.

But there are other problems with the legislation from the Senator from New York. Under his legislation, it is a crime for someone who lawfully possesses a firearm not to report a lost or stolen firearm to both the ''appropriate local authorities,'' whoever they are, and the Attorney General within 24 hours. People should report firearms that are lost or stolen, but are we really going to make their failure to do so within 24 hours a Federal crime that is punishable by up to 5 years in prison? What if the person thinks the firearm is misplaced, not lost or stolen, but the person is actually wrong about that? And what if the person comes to the realization after 2 days instead of 1, and if they report the lost or stolen firearm to their sheriff—assuming he is one of the undefined ''appropriate local authorities''—why is it a crime if they don't report it to the Attorney General?

Why would the provision target only those who ''lawfully possess'' firearms, rather than criminals who do not lawfully possess them?

I could go on and on and list other problems with S. 649, but I think I have made my point. This bill is a clear overreach that will predominantly punish and harass our neighbors, our friends, and our families. To protect the rights of the law-abiding citizens of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and other States, I will oppose invoking cloture on S. 649.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 649, which the clerk will report.

The assistant 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.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the time until 11 a.m. will be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, we are on the verge of a historic vote that will determine whether we make America safer and assure that we do everything possible as Senators and citizens to ensure there are no more Newtowns.

On the evening of December 14, when we left the firehouse at Sandy Hook, there was a vigil at a church in Newtown, St. Rose of Lima, presided over by Father Bob, who is Monsignor Robert Weiss. It was a very moving and powerful experience. The church was filled. People stood at the windows to hear what was going on.

The Governor spoke and so did I. I said that evening: The world is watching Newtown. And, in fact, the world was watching Newtown, as we knew from the horror of that afternoon, when many of us arrived at the church, and first at the firehouse, to see families emerging and learning for the first time that their children, their babies, would not be coming home that evening. It was an experience that will stay with me forever. The sights and sounds of that afternoon, filled with grief and pain, will never leave me.

The world was watching Newtown that day and that evening and has watched Newtown and Connecticut in the days and months since, and I have been privileged to spend many hours and days and weeks and these past months with the families.

The world has watched the families, and it has seen in them and in Newtown—a great community, a quintessential New England town—strength and courage that was as unimaginable as the horror of that day, strength and courage that represents what is good about America and what is strong and courageous about our Nation.

The world has watched Newtown and the families of Newtown and it has watched Connecticut. Now the world is watching the Senate. It is watching the Senate to see whether democracy works. It sounds simple, but it is true. Will democracy work to reflect the majority of the United States of America, the majority of our people who say we need to do something about the guns. That is what the families said to me that day and in days since and what people in Connecticut and across the country have said to their Senators: We must do something about gun violence.

I remember talking to one of the families that evening and saying: When you are ready, we ought to talk about what we can do in Congress to stop gun violence. She said to me: I am ready now.

The Senate must be ready now to act. It must keep faith with those families and victims—as the world watches—with Benjamin Andrew Wheeler, age 6. His father David is here today, and Benjamin is here in spirit as we decide in the Senate whether we will move forward toward progress.

Ana Grace Marquez-Greene, also age 6. Her mother Nelba is here today. Ana is with us in spirit.

Dylan Hockley, age 6, whose mother Nicole is here, is also here in spirit.

Daniel Barden, age 7. His mother Jackie and his father Mark are here.

Jesse Lewis, age 6. His father Neil Heslin is here.

Mary Sherlach, one of the six educators killed at Sandy Hook Elementary, whose husband Bill is here—Jesse and Mary are here with us too.

We know compromise and action are possible because two of our colleagues have forged a bipartisan compromise that will enable us to come closer. It is imperfect. It is less than what I would have preferred in achieving universal background checks. It is a starting point. It is a step in the right direction, and it will help us achieve a larger bipartisan compromise because background checks are only one part of a comprehensive strategy that must include a ban on illegal trafficking, strengthening school safety, as well as mental health initiatives and a ban on assault weapons and high-capacity magazines. I will be privileged to spearhead that effort on high-capacity magazines—hopefully next week—after today's vote, along with colleagues such as DIANNE FEINSTEIN, FRANK LAUTENBERG, and my colleague, CHRIS MURPHY.

Today, let us decide, as the world watches, there will be no more Newtowns. That is what the families want. That is what America wants. Let us resolve that we will make democracy work as we go beyond this first step and decide to proceed on a bill that also is imperfect but provides a starting point, provides a way forward, so we can make our communities safer.

The families of Newtown have performed an extraordinary service for our Nation. Not only has the world watched and been inspired by their strength and courage, but they have turned the tide. They have visited with our colleagues and they have impacted this process more profoundly and more directly than any other single group. They have shown we can break the stranglehold of special interests and the NRA, that speaking truth to power still works. To them we owe a special thanks. To them, as a nation, we owe a debt of gratitude for the lives that will be saved, for the futures that will be given. Even if their children and their loved ones will not enjoy that future, they have given futures to countless Americans who will be saved from the scourge of gun violence.

To them I say thank you. They are in this building, and their children, their loved ones, are with us in spirit as we take this historic step.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, I am honored to be on the floor this morning to begin today's debate on this historic gun violence measure with my colleague Senator BLUMENTHAL. I join with him in my awe of the Newtown families who are here this week. People have watched them on the news as they have gone from office to office and told the story of their loved ones. Nobody can paint a picture better as to why we need to act next week than the families of those people who lost their lives in Newtown.

There are so many stories they can tell better than anyone else. They can tell the story of their lost first graders, but they can also tell the story of the five little boys and girls who escaped that morning, who escaped when the shooter went to reload and there was a brief period of time where some kids could run out of one of those first-grade classrooms.

Better than anyone else, these families can posit as to whether their little boys and girls would still be alive if the shooter walked in with 10-round clips rather than 30-rounds clips, if he had to exchange magazines 15 times rather than 5 or 6 times. Nobody can tell that story better than these families.

What I have tried to do over the course of the last couple days is to help these families tell the story of their loved ones but to also paint a broader picture to talk about the 30 lives every day that are ended by gun violence. I think we need to talk about the victims and allow for the voices of those victims to be part of the debate, because while the tragedy in Newtown has gotten the headlines and the highlights and is certainly the reason we are standing here today, more people than were killed in Newtown die every day in this country from gun violence—on the streets of Washington and Hartford and Bridgeport and Baltimore—all across the country.

These victims need to be our imperative, whether they be the 6- and 7-year-old kids and the teachers in Newtown or the 25-year-olds and 17-year-olds who are dying every single day across our country. It has to end. The answer cannot be, as it has been for 20 years, that we are going to do nothing. So I wish to take a few minutes to continue telling these stories this morning.

I wish to begin with Dylan Hockley. Dylan's mother has probably been one of the most articulate spokesmen for this cause. His parents Nicole and Ian have been amazing in their ability to grieve and also to come down to Washington and argue their cause.

Dylan loved video games. He loved jumping on trampolines. He loved watching movies. He was autistic, but he was doing so much better. He was so proud of the fact that he had learned how to read, and he was taking out books every day from the library to bring home. His parents chose Sandy Hook Elementary School because of its great autism program.

I spoke yesterday about his paraprofessional, his special education aid, who was so wonderful to assist him in doing better every single day. Because of his autism, he was a child who loved routine and repetition, and there were a few movies he would watch over and over and over again—''Up,'' ''WALL-E,'' ''The Gruffalo''—and he would find those portions of the movies he loved so much. He would sit in front of the TV with his headphones on rewinding those portions over and over and over again, and every single time he watched those movies, he would laugh over and over and over again.

His parents have created an organization called Dylan's Wings of Change. It is a memorial fund to benefit children with autism. It is just one of a multitude of efforts that have flowed forth from this tragedy. Dylan's life was ended, but this fund is going to help make sure other kids like him have the chance to lead great, normal lives, even though they deal with complex problems such as autism.

Mr. DURBIN. Would the Senator from Connecticut yield for a question?

Mr. MURPHY. I would be happy to yield.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I wish to commend the Senator from Connecticut, Mr. MURPHY, as well as Senator BLUMENTHAL. In the last 2 days they have come to the floor many times leading the floor debate and discussion on the pending legislation we will vote on soon relative to guns and gun safety. It is appropriate that they are here because, being the Senators representing Newtown, CT, they have personal attachment to the families who have weathered this tragedy.

This morning I met with those families in my office. Tears were shed, as you might expect. These families have lost little children like Dylan and so many others. It is a loss they will feel for a lifetime, but in their grief, they have come forward and shown extraordinary courage to walk through the corridors of power in Washington to bring a simple message: that they do not want this to happen to any other parent.

I thank Senator MURPHY and Senator BLUMENTHAL for reminding us that we have the power, we have been given the power by the people we represent to make this a safer nation for families, for children, for schools, and for communities across the board. Soon we will have a vote. We are hoping—I think that is a positive hope—that enough on the other side of the aisle will step forward to defy the filibuster that has been threatened and bring this matter to the floor for a vote.

I know Senator MURPHY and Senator BLUMENTHAL have come to the floor for the last day and a half and more to dramatize that issue. What I found interesting, and I would like to ask the Senator from Connecticut to comment on it, is the promise of this community. They gave me a list of things and said: This goes beyond guns and gun safety. I would ask the Senator if he could address this promise that came out of Newtown, CT, after the terrible tragedy on December 14.

Mr. MURPHY. I thank the Senator for his career fighting on behalf of legislation that will address gun violence. The summation of all of that work hopefully will be with us this week and next week.

I thank the Senator for his question about the Sandy Hook promise. The Sandy Hook promise, which has been signed by tens of thousands of people all across the country, came out of this tragedy because there was a recognition, as you said, that this was not a sprint, that this was a marathon, that the promise we needed to make to each other in the wake of this horrific tragedy was not just that we were going to do everything within our power, our individual powers to try to reduce the incidence of gun violence—and as Senator DURBIN points out, we have more power, the 100 of us, than almost anyone else, and shame on us if we do not use it. But the Sandy Hook promise is that there are so many other things that you can do: that you can make smaller commitments in your communities to build bigger and better systems of mental health; that you can try to forge atmospheres in schools that are more inviting, that are more positive; that you can, frankly, just be nicer to your neighbors, you can be more thoughtful in your everyday interactions, knowing there could be some tragedy around the corner that takes your neighbor away from you; make sure you say everything you want to say to that person.

So this promise—a promise to do everything within our power to try to make sure this never happens again, but to bring a new level of positivity to our world in the wake of this awful violence, is one of the most important things that come from it.

We are so grateful that these families are here not just challenging us to pass specific pieces of legislation but also to make our lives change in the wake of this situation.

Mr. DURBIN. I would like to ask if the Senator would yield for a further question through the Chair.

One of the issues the Senator just raised is one I would like to have him expound on; that is, the issue of mental illness and mental health. I think this is something in my lifetime on which we have seen dramatic progress made, not just in the treatment of mental illness but in our attitude toward mental illness.

There was a time in the history of this country and this world when mental illness was viewed not as an illness but a curse. The people who were afflicted by it were often shunned and institutionalized and treated very badly because it was considered to be something incurable and they had somehow been cursed. That was their plight on Earth. Thank goodness that has changed and we now have a more positive attitude toward dealing with mental illness.

I might say I have read—I believe it is accurate—more than half the people in America suffer from some form of depression. It is very common in most families. It is treatable. Most mental illnesses are treatable. Most victims of mental health illness are people who are peaceful, God-fearing, loving people who need understanding and help. They are no threat to anyone. More often, they are the victims of violence rather than the perpetrators of violence.

One person in the community of Newtown who stepped up and clearly was unstable and used those firearms on December 14 to kill innocent people has caused us to step back and take a look at the issue of mental illness as it relates to guns and firearms. I think what we are trying to do in this legislation is to say: If your mental illness has reached such an extreme, if you are so unstable or threatening that you need to be watched in terms of purchasing firearms, let's make sure the records are there.

But I hope—I know the Senator agrees with this—I hope we will not allow this discussion to take us away from the beginning part: that treating mental illness and helping people is the right thing to do, not shunning them, not pushing them aside from the rest of the mainstream, but understanding that treatment of mental illness makes us a better people, gives them a better chance at life. It is that small, small minority of those suffering from these afflictions who need to be monitored in terms of the use and purchase of firearms.

Mr. MURPHY. I thank the Senator for that comment. As he knows, there is absolutely nothing inherent in mental illness that creates a connection to violence. As the Senator said very correctly, people with mental illness are much more likely to be the victims of violence than to perpetrate a crime. The great irony coming out of this debate could be that if we make the awful mistake of equating violence with mental illness, than we will frankly make it harder for people to go out and seek treatment, not easier.

Adam Lanza was a deeply disturbed individual. His mother made awful mistakes, but she was certainly trying to figure out a way to get him help. The fact is that there are far too many families out there who do not have places to turn for treatment. That is the right thing to do independent of this debate today. We should absolutely be talking about the comprehensive commitment to ending gun violence, but the reality is that today there are way too many families who hit brick walls in trying to find mental health treatment for children.

If we were to go through this debate and somehow stereotype people with mental illness as prone to violence, then it would, frankly, create more barriers. There is a proposal out there from one of the gun lobby groups to

create a registry of everyone with mental illness across this country. It is an absolutely ludicrous idea, especially when this very same group opposes keeping a registry of everyone with guns in this country.

I take the Senator's concerns to heart.

This was a very serious incident in Newtown, but it should not cause us to take steps backward in terms of the support we give families who are looking for help for their loved ones.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, the last point I would like to make is that included in the bill that came before us is not only an opportunity to change some of the circumstances that might have saved lives in Newtown but also to address some underlying issues of gun violence that is not resulting in a mass killing but the killing on a day-to-day basis of innocent people.

A measure I have joined Senator LEAHY, Senator KIRK, and Senator COLLINS in introducing relates to straw purchases. These are purchases by some individual who does not have a problem in their background that would disqualify them from buying a gun. They buy a gun and then turn it over to someone who has a problem. This straw purchase or third-party purchase happens way too often.

In the city of Chicago, where we are making progress toward reducing gun violence and murder, in a recent survey of the crime guns confiscated in the last 10 years, 9 percent of them in the city of Chicago came from the State of Mississippi. The State of Mississippi is not contiguous to Illinois. It is a long way away. But clearly someone had started an industry of buying guns easily in Mississippi and moving them up the interstate system all the way to Chicago and selling them to the gang bangers and the thugs and criminal elements in this city.

Another 20 percent of the guns came from one gun shop outside the city of Chicago, in the suburbs. We know exactly where it is—it is in Riverdale, IL. That has become the venue of choice for girlfriends to go buy a gun for their boyfriends, who are going to use them to kill somebody. Well, the provision in the law we are going to try to bring to the floor in the base bill says that this will now be a stiff Federal crime—a hard-time Federal crime—to buy a gun that you knew or should have known was going to be used in the commission of a crime. So although it does not directly affect the circumstances of the tragedy in Newtown, it really does hold out promise to reduce some of the other deaths.

Yesterday the Senator gave us a chart that showed how many have died from gun violence since December 14. It was a big chart with a lot of faces on it of people who had died. I thank the Senator for what he has done in terms of what has affected Newtown, but I also thank him for supporting this underlying legislation.

I think this chart is now being shown here. I hope we keep in mind that gun safety and reducing gun violence means start with the massacres, the tragedies that have stricken us, but also go beyond that and find a way to make the streets safer for Hadiya Pendleton, a high school girl who came up from Chicago for the inauguration, could not have had a happier day, and then 10 days later was gunned down in a park next to her school in the city.

So we want to make this a comprehensive and a balanced, commonsense approach to gun safety. I thank the Senator from Connecticut for that.

Mr. MURPHY. I thank the majority whip. Just to add to his last comment, my constituents are amazed that we do not have a Federal law banning gun trafficking today. They are amazed that if you go into a store and buy guns legally and then walk outside that store and sell them to people who are prohibited, that you have not committed a Federal crime. There is an assumption that the Federal Government would disallow that. We have not. But hopefully at the end of this debate we will. I thank Senator DURBIN for all of his fantastic work on that issue.

Let me tell a few more stories. I want to get to Senator DURBIN's point and tell some stories about the victims of urban gun violence as well, but let me tell one more story from Newtown.

This is the story of our heroic principal. Dawn Hochsprung was the principal at Sandy Hook Elementary School. People have heard a lot about her because she was perhaps the first to die that day. When the bullets started flying, when she heard the gunman enter through the front door, she ran straight to him. Some of the investigators have posited, given the way the crime scene shook out, that she may have even lunged for the gunman to try to stop him before he turned the corner to the first grade classrooms. She was unsuccessful. She was killed—perhaps the first that day.

The irony surrounding this day is multifold, but part of it involves the fact that one of her most recent proudest accomplishments as principal of that school was the establishment and integration of a brandnew security system, one that made sure every visitor who entered that school after 9:30 had to buzz in, had to talk to the security people, the front desk people, before they entered the school. That does not work too well when the person trying to gain entry does not need to press the buzzer but instead can take an AR–15, which sprays six bullets a second, and just knock out all of the windows.

She was a passionate educator. She dove into her work at Sandy Hook. She was one of those folks who did not sit in their office. She was out amongst the hallways at all times trying to make that place a much more positive environment.

She grew up in Connecticut. She lived in Woodbury, CT, with her husband and her two daughters and three stepdaughters. She grew up loving the outdoors. Her friends recalled that Dawn Lafferty at the time was a tomboy who loved sports in high school. She wasn't a top-level athlete, but that didn't stop her.

One of the most amazing stories I have heard about Dawn was that when she was in school at Naugatuck High School, she wanted to run with the boys track team. She wanted to run sprints. She wasn't allowed to do that. She protested to the coach, the administration, and they still said she couldn't run sprints with the boys track team. She took her case to the school board—as a high school student—and won her case. When she came back to her high school, she didn't just run sprints with the boys, but she recruited other girls to run sprints with her. She was a born leader.

Perhaps we may take some solace in the fact that so many of these other kids here—Dylan, Chase, Benjamin, Jesse, and Ana—were leaders too. They were going to do amazing things with their lives. At least we were able to know with Dawn what her true potential was. We saw that potential in the wonderful school she built.

I just spoke about Dylan. Dylan's parents came from England all the way to Sandy Hook, CT, for this school because of the programs Dawn built there. If they ever had any doubt as to whether they had chosen the right leader, they were confident of this when she ran to the gunman to try to stop the carnage from becoming worse.

Let me speak about one more little girl, age 6, Madeleine Hsu. Madeleine was, again, one of the youngest victims that day. She was a shy and relatively quiet 6-year-old, but there were certain things that would make her light up. A lot of these kids loved animals. Madeleine loved dogs. She lit up around dogs. They were her passion. She was an avid reader, and she loved running and dancing. More than anything else, she loved to wear bright, flowery dresses which matched her personality. She shared a bed with two of her sisters. They had their own rooms, but they loved each other so much, they chose to sleep together at night. They miss her dearly.

As Senator DURBIN pointed out, 20 kids and 6 adults were killed in Newtown that day; 2 others, Adam and Nancy Lanza—28 total. This is less than the average number of people who are killed by gun violence across this country every day. We deserve to talk about them as well.

Before I leave the floor today, I would like to talk about a couple of the most recent victims of gun violence. One can't even really read this poster Senator DURBIN referred to because each one of these little dots is an individual figure representing people who have been killed in this country since December 14. The 28 people from Newtown aren't even on this chart. We are speaking about 3,800 people who have died as a result of gun violence.

Some of these people died because they were possibly doing something

wrong or in the midst of an activity they shouldn't have been a part of. However, Chuck Walker was 15 years old and walking on his way to visit his girlfriend to deliver some new shoes he purchased for her. He was bringing a gift to his girlfriend. His family said this was a kid who never, ever was in trouble. He was walking to visit his girlfriend, and he was gunned down on the streets of Hillcrest Heights, MD, in an apparent robbery.

Marckel Worman Ross, who was 18 years old, on September 11, 2012, was walking to school. He was a member of the track team, ROTC, and was thinking about a career in the military. He was found in his school uniform still holding his backpack. It was a random act of violence on the way to school.

Moses Walker was older—40 years old. He was a police officer. He had just finished his shift in August of 2012. He was four blocks from his police station, and he was gunned down—1 year away from retirement. He was very active in his community, not only a great police officer but served as deacon of his church. He was remembered as a courteous, polite, and humble police officer—gunned down four blocks from his police station.

These are the tragedies bringing us here to the floor today. As we have this debate, we should remember that every day 30 people across this country are dying from guns. We have the power to do something about it.

I am as pleased as Senator BLUMENTHAL about the compromise brought to this floor by Senators MANCHIN and TOOMEY. It is not perfect, but it is important. It is important because it will make our streets safer and ensure fewer criminals across this country have access to guns. It is a platform for more next week, but it is a very important start.

I will be back to the floor later today and next week to speak about more of these victims.

I yield the floor.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, earlier I met with families from Newtown, CT, to discuss the legislation we are currently debating. It was emotional and difficult for all of us. I thank them for sharing their stories of their loved ones and their concerns with me. I hope my colleagues will also consider meeting with these families.

At the meeting, they called for a debate on the legislation, a debate we are having. Nonetheless, we are in the unusual position of being asked to take a leap into the unknown. We are being asked to vote to proceed to an uncertain bill. That bill is not even the bill that we would likely consider if the motion to proceed were successful. The language on background checks would change. We have not seen the actual new background check language. But we are being asked to proceed to the bill anyway. What we do have is a summary of the proposed background check language. That summary raises questions. For instance, the summary states that the background check language applies to sales at gun shows and online. Is a background check required if someone sees a gun at a gun show, then proceeds to purchase the gun outside the gun show, maybe even in a parking lot? What if someone at a gun show trades but does not sell a gun? And it applies beyond gun shows. If a private person advertises a gun, then the transfer would have to go through a licensed dealer, at a price. So if someone takes out an ad to sell their gun in the local Farm Bureau newsletter or in their church bulletin, they would have to find a licensed gun dealer to conduct a background check before sale could go through.

That is quite a limitation on private sales and ownership of guns. And it takes time in many places in this country to find that gun dealer to conduct that background check. The summary is not specific: which private sales would be exempt from the bill's background check requirements? The summary states that background checks are ''required for sales at gun shows and online while securing certain aspects of 2nd Amendment rights for law abiding citizens.''

That should cause everyone concern. If the background check language secures ''certain aspects of 2nd Amendment rights,'' then what aspects of second amendment rights of law abiding citizens does it not secure?

The summary says that the new language exempts ''temporary transfers.'' What is the difference between a ''temporary'' and a permanent transfer? How would a law-abiding citizen know whether the transfer would be considered to be ''temporary''? What if the person making the transfer thought at the time it was made that the transfer would be temporary but later decides that it should be for a longer time?

And the summary claims that it will close the ''gun show and other looopholes.'' What ''other loopholes''? We should be skeptical about what rights could be infringed based on that claim. It is important to understand that there is no such thing as a ''gun show loophole.'' Under existing law, background checks are required for gun purchases from a federally licensed firearms dealer. This is true whether the purchase is made at a gun show or any other location. Also, under existing law, gun purchases made through someone who is not a federally licensed firearms dealer do not require a background check.

This is true whether the sale is made at a gun show or not. Whether a sale is made at a gun show is therefore irrelevant to whether a background check is required. There is one rule for sales from licensed dealers and another for private sales. But under the new language, not all private sales will be treated the same. Some private sales will require background checks and others will not. That distinction will create, not close, a loophole. No longer would all private sales be treated the same. Some private sales will require background checks and others will not. There will be political pressure then to say that all private sales should be covered—universal background checks, in other words. And we heard testimony in the Judiciary Committee, and the Deputy Director of the National Institute of Justice has written, that universal background checks can be enforced only if gun registration is mandated.

Now it has been said on the floor recently that background check legislation cannot lead to gun registries because Federal law prohibits that. But current Federal law can be changed. And the language currently before us requires recordkeeping, a step toward registration. Although the sponsor of that language said that the bill expressly provided that no registry could be created, the bill contains no such language at present. The sponsor was misinformed about his own bill. He admitted that the current background check language was not yet ready for consideration and needed clarifications that so far have not been forthcoming.

We should have answers to these and other questions before we should proceed to the bill.

And we should be wary of going to a bill when various senators have announced their intention to offer amendments to that bill that in my judgment raise serious constitutional questions under the second amendment.

Mr. President, how can we responsibly proceed to a bill that contains language that even its sponsor admits is not ready for consideration?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, would the Senator yield?

Mr. LEE. I yield to the Senator.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that upon the conclusion of the comments by the distinguished Senator from Utah, I be recognized.

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

Mr. LEE. I appreciate the cooperation and friendship of the senior Senator from Vermont.

Mr. President, yesterday on the floor I discussed an initiative I launched this week called Protect2A to give voice to the millions of second amendment supporters around the United States who are very concerned about Congress enacting any new gun control measures.

I am pleased to announce that we now have over 3,000 responses from citizens all across this country who are sharing their stories, their experiences, and their opinions about why they feel we should do everything in our power to protect their second amendment rights. I had only a brief time to share some of those stories yesterday and wish to use a few minutes today to share a few more.

Kathy from the State of Virginia writes:

My husband and I are senior citizens. He is a veteran of the U.S. Army. Over the past several years, we have seen our constitutional rights trampled and twisted, until we no longer trust that our government has our well-being as its primary concern. Last year, for the first time in our lives, we bought a gun, not only to ensure our safety against criminals, but to protect and defend our God-given rights as citizens. The most basic right of all mankind, the right to life itself, no longer exists in this country. Protecting our rights, the few the government has left us, is of the utmost importance to us and we will do everything necessary to hold onto those rights, regardless of the source of the threats against them. God bless America.

Emily from Pennsylvania writes:

I am 19 years old and I want to protect myself as soon as I am legal to. As a young female living in Allentown, PA, I don't like walking in the city because I'm afraid of something happening to me. I believe in the power of the Constitution and especially my second amendment rights. I am a strong conservative who believes that the Constitution is our guiding power and not the cronyism that seems to blanket DC. The founding fathers knew what they were doing. As soon as I am legal, I want to take gun safety classes and purchase a handgun of my very own. I like to think that I can protect my own life as well as another person whose life may be in danger. Gun control doesn't solve anything. Criminals will get guns no matter what. I want to be able to protect myself as well as someone else. Please don't take away my second amendment rights.

Well said, Emily.

William from Connecticut submitted the following statement:

On Tuesday, February 11, 2003, my brother was confronted by three armed thugs in a parking lot. Out of their stolen car, with a stolen shotgun, they tried to rob him. Much to their surprise, my brother had his legally owned pistol (with a legal carry permit). He thwarted this and saved his own life and held them at bay until the police arrived. Without this second amendment he would've been another victim to the growing street crime that these bills do not address.

These are the rights we are trying to protect by requiring a 60-vote threshold on any new gun control legislation. In so doing, we are trying to prevent the ability of Members to push through legislation before anyone has had time to read and evaluate the language and then tell the American people what that language means for them, what the language would mean for their rights. Unfortunately, this is exactly what we are faced with today.

Yesterday Senators TOOMEY and MANCHIN announced a new proposal that is widely expected to replace the current language on the background checks in this bill. Yet, as of this morning, this very moment, not a single Senator has been provided the legislative text of this provision. Because the background check measure is the centerpiece of this legislation, it is critical that we all know what is in the bill before we vote on it.

As I have argued on this floor, in the national media, and back home in my home State of Utah, we should not be legislating by negotiating closed-door, backroom deals away from the eyes of the American people. We should not be voting before we read and understand exactly how these proposals will affect the rights of law-abiding citizens and whether we can say with any level of certainty they will reduce crime. This is exactly why we need more debate and why I ask my colleagues to vote no on cloture—so Senators and the American people may fully understand the consequences of this legislation.

To be clear, the vote we will have this morning will be to end debate on whether the Senate should take up a bill, the very heart of which is being concealed from the Senate and concealed from the American people as of this very moment. Proponents say the people deserve a vote. Don't they deserve to know what they are voting on? I think they do.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am about to suggest the absence of a quorum for about 1 minute and ask unanimous consent that upon coming out of the quorum, I be recognized.

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

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

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 10 minutes.

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

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, earlier this week I spoke about the need for the Senate to consider legislation to help increase Americans' safety by reducing gun violence. I came to the floor of the Senate and I urged my fellow Senators to abandon efforts to filibuster proceeding to this bill. The Senate should not have to overcome a filibuster to respond to the call for action in response to the violence they are experiencing.

I have the privilege of being the longest serving Member of this body. I have watched debate on so many issues. If there were ever an issue where all 100 of us should vote yes or no it is here.

I was encouraged by the comments of a number of Senate Republicans that they are prepared to debate this matter and will not support this wrongheaded filibuster. Even the Wall Street Journal editorialized against this filibuster yesterday in a lead editorial entitled ''The GOP's Gun Control Misfire.'' I do not agree with much of that editorial, but I would quote this:

If conservatives want to prove their gun-control bona fides, the way to do it is to debate the merits and vote on the floor.

Senators should understand what is in this bill that a small minority of Republicans are seeking to prevent the Senate from even considering. The bill has three parts. None of them threaten the second amendment rights, none of them call for gun confiscation or a government registry. In fact, two of the three parts have always had bipartisan support. With regard to the third component—the provisions closing loopholes in our current background check system—Senators MANCHIN and TOOMEY yesterday announced they are going to have a bipartisan amendment for this component as well.

Since the beginning of the 113th Congress, in the months since the tragedy in Newtown, the Judiciary Committee held three hearings and four mark ups focused on the issue of gun violence. The Committee voted in favor of the Leahy-Collins gun trafficking proposal that is now part of the legislative package the Majority Leader created to allow for Senate consideration. I described our legislation in some detail on Monday. I thanked our Ranking Republican on the Judiciary Committee, Senator GRASSLEY, for working with us and supporting our gun trafficking bill. I commended Senator COLLINS, who has been my partner as we have moved forward with legislation to combat illegal gun trafficking and straw purchasers who obtain firearms to provide them to criminals and gangs. We have been joined in that bipartisan effort by Senators DURBIN, GILLIBRAND, KIRK, KLOBUCHAR, FRANKEN, BLUMENTHAL, SHAHEEN and KING. A bipartisan majority of the Judiciary Committee voted for the Stop Illegal Trafficking in Firearms Act.

Our bill is intended to give law enforcement better and more effective tools. It was an ATF whistleblower who testified last Congress that the existing firearms laws are ''toothless.'' We can create better law enforcement tools and that is what we are doing with the Stop Illegal Trafficking in Firearms Act. We need to close this dangerous loophole in the law that Mexican drug cartels, gangs and other criminals have exploited for too long.

Straw purchasers circumvent the purposes of the background check system. Straw purchasing firearms is undertaken for one reason to get a gun into the hands of someone who is legally prohibited from having one. We know that many guns used in criminal activities are acquired through straw purchases.

It was a straw purchaser who enabled the brutal murders of two brave firefighters in Webster, New York this past Christmas Eve, and it was a straw purchaser who provided firearms to an individual who murdered a police officer in Plymouth Township, Pennsylvania, last September.

We need a meaningful solution to this serious problem. We also include suggestions from Senator GILLIBRAND to go after those who traffic in firearms by wrongfully obtaining two or more firearms. We worked hard to develop effective, targeted legislation that will help combat a serious problem and that will do no harm to the

Second Amendment rights of law-abiding Americans.

Yesterday, Senator COLLINS, the senior Senator from Maine, and I were able to announce another step toward consensus. We had previously been engaged in discussions with law enforcement and victims groups. More recently we have been engaged in discussions with the National Rifle Association. We have agreed on modifications to the Stop Illegal Trafficking in Firearms Act. They address all of its substantive concerns while doing as we have always wanted to do—providing law enforcement officials with the tools they need to investigate and prosecute illegal gun trafficking and straw purchasing.

Senator COLLINS and I are both strong supporters and advocates of second amendment rights for law-abiding Americans. We also agree that our law enforcement officials deserve our support in their efforts to keep guns out of the wrong hands. We worked with the NRA and are confident that nothing in our bill infringes on the Second Amendment rights of lawful gun owners and purchasers, while still providing a strong new set of tools for law enforcement officials.

We protect legitimate sales and do not place unnecessary burdens on lawful transactions. We are pleased that the NRA agrees with us that this legislation is a focused approach to combat the destructive practices of straw purchasing and firearms trafficking while protecting the Second Amendment rights of Americans. Having now worked out differences with the NRA on our bipartisan legislation that would help keep guns out of the hands of dangerous criminals and individuals with severe mental illnesses, and give law enforcement the tools they need to investigate and prosecute these crimes more effectively, it seems absurd that some Senators nonetheless persist in filibustering consideration of our bill.

The American people expect us to stand and face our responsibilities. Whether we like having to vote or not, we have taken an oath of office to uphold the Constitution, to uphold our laws. Congress has to confront the serious role that straw purchasing and gun trafficking play in supplying criminals with firearms for illegal purposes. It is not enough to stand on the floor of the Senate and say you are pro law enforcement. Let's take as a given everybody is pro law enforcement, but then give law enforcement the tools they need. The bipartisan Stop Illegal Trafficking in Firearms Act will create specific Federal criminal statutes prohibiting the trafficking and straw purchasing of firearms, and also strengthens other law enforcement tools to assist those investigating these crimes. This is a common sense response to help in the fight against gun violence.

This is a commonsense response to help in the fight against gun violence, and it will help law enforcement. That is why law enforcement strongly supports our bill. Yet some are seeking to filibuster it. Let them go to law enforcement groups and say they are trying to block them and take away the tools they need to keep every one of us safe.

Our bill protects Second Amendment rights of lawful gun owners, while cracking down on criminals and those who would assist them. The bill does not create a national firearms registry, nor does it place any additional burdens on law-abiding gun owners or purchasers. It sends a clear message that those who would buy a gun on behalf of a criminal, a member of a drug cartel, or a domestic abuser will be held accountable. That is why our bill is strongly supported by law enforcement. Yet that is what some are seeking to filibuster. Congress should be confronting the serious role that straw purchasing and gun trafficking play in supplying criminals with firearms for illegal purposes, not ducking the issue.

Senators are filibustering a bipartisan proposal that received bipartisan backing of the Senate Judiciary Committee to provide some Federal assistance to schools to create safer environments for children and young people. There is nothing unconstitutional about that. We should proceed to consider it and I would hope pass it so that more school resource officers can be hired and more can be done to help and protect our young people who are in schools around the country, where there are supposed to be.

Finally, it is hard to understand how improving our background check system and plugging some of the loopholes in it that allow those who are by law prohibited from purchasing guns because they are dangerous criminals or dangerous to themselves and others because of mental illness justifies a filibuster. We have had background requirements for gun purchases for decades. We have had a background check system for decades. We have improved it repeatedly over time.

I know gun store owners in Vermont. They follow the law and conduct background checks to block the conveyance of guns to those who should not have them. They wonder why others who sell guns do not have to follow these same protective rules. I agree with these responsible business owners.

As I said, Congress should be confronting the serious role straw purchasing and gun trafficking play in supplying criminals with firearms for illegal purposes, not ducking the issue. Stand up and be counted. Stand up and be counted. Don't give speeches saying you are in favor of law enforcement but we are going to take away tools law enforcement needs. Stand up and be counted. Stand up and be counted. If we can all agree that criminals and those adjudicated as mentally ill should not buy firearms, why should we not try to plug the loopholes in the law that allow them to buy guns without background checks?

If we agree the background check system is worthwhile, should we not try to reform its content so it can be more effective? What responsible gun owner objects to improving the background check system? Stand up and be counted.

At our January hearing I pointed out that Wayne LaPierre of the NRA testified in 1999 in favor of mandatory criminal background checks for, as he put it, ''every sale at every gun show.'' He went on to emphasize the NRA's support for closing the loophole in the background check system by saying—in what has become an oft-quoted remark—''no loopholes anywhere for anyone.''

Well, of course, it is common sense to close the gun show loophole. The Senate voted to do so in 1999. We should vote to do so again. This time we should get it enacted. One of the ways to do so is with the bipartisan proposal from Senators MANCHIN and TOOMEY to improve the law, if we are able to stop this ill-conceived filibuster and get to the bill.

Americans across this great country are looking to us for solutions and for action, not filibustering or sloganeering. Americans are saying: Stand up and be counted. I opened our first hearing on these issues in January, asking Senators on both sides of the aisle to join in the discussion as part of a collective effort to find solutions to help assure that no family, no school, no community ever has to endure the kind of tragedy the families at Newtown and Aurora and Oak Creek, Tucson, Blacksburg or Columbine had to suffer.

As I emphasized throughout the committee process, the second amendment is secure. It is going to remain secure and protected as part of my oath of office as a Senator. In two recent cases, the Supreme Court has confirmed that the second amendment, as the other aspects of our Bill of Rights, secures that fundamental individual right. Americans have the right to self-defense. They have the right to have guns in their homes to protect their families. No one is going to take away these rights or these guns. That second amendment right is the foundation on which our discussion rests. They are not at risk. But we cannot close our eyes to what is at risk: lives are at risk when responsible people fail to set up the laws to keep the guns out of the hands of those who will use them to commit mass murder.

So I ask my fellow Senators to focus our discussion and debate on these proposed statutory measures intended to better protect our children and all Americans. Ours is a free society, an open society, a wonderful society. We should be coming together as elected representatives of all of the American people to consider how to become a safer and more secure society. I would have hoped all Senators from both parties would join together in good faith to strengthen our law enforcement efforts against gun violence and to protect public safety. Let's focus on our

responsibilities to the American people.

We are the 100 Senators elected to represent more than 314 million Americans. That is an awesome responsibility. Let's stand up to that responsibility. We are accountable to those people. We are not accountable to special interest groups on either the right or the left. We are accountable to the more than 300 million Americans. Special interest lobbies on either the left or right should not dictate what we do. We do not need a lobby's permission to pass laws to improve public safety. That is our responsibility.

I urge Senators to be less concerned with special interest scorecards and more focused on fulfilling our oath to faithfully discharge the duties of our office as Senators.

I consider myself a responsible gun owner, but I am also someone who cherishes all of our constitutional rights. As a Senator who has sworn an oath to uphold those rights, as a father and a grandfather, and as a former prosecutor who has seen the results of gun violence firsthand, I have been working to build consensus around commonsense solutions. I am prepared to debate and vote on the measures before us. I challenge other Senators to do the same. Do the same. Stand up and be counted. Stand up and be counted.

A filibuster says you are not willing to take a stand; that you vote maybe. Stand up and be counted. Have the courage. Stand up and be counted. Then let us work together to make all Americans safer.

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

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

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, yesterday I had the solemn privilege of meeting with some of the families who lost loved ones in the Sandy Hook shooting. As a father, I can hardly begin to comprehend the enormous grief these individuals have suffered, losing such a young child or a spouse or a mother in an act of what would appear to be just senseless violence. Burying your child is something no parent should have to do.

The families and friends of the victims at Sandy Hook are owed the dignity and respect of a transparent, good-faith effort to address gun violence. I do believe there is common ground upon which Republicans and Democrats can come together. The issue of mental health of the gun owner is that common ground for me, along with enforcing current laws that are on the books.

If there is one thread that connects the horrific series of gun violence episodes in our country, particularly in recent times, it is the mental illness of the shooter. In every case, the perpetrator's mental illness should have been detected. In some instances it was detected but not reported. These individuals should never be allowed access to a gun. This is actually something we can and should do something about. We need to make sure the mentally ill are getting the help they need, not guns. As I said, this is something I believe all of us can agree on.

In response to the tragedy at Virginia Tech in 2007, the Senate and the Congress unanimously passed a measure to bolster mental health reporting requirements on background checks.

Some States, such as mine, Texas, have received high marks for their compliance. But many States have essentially been noncompliant, and the Department of Justice has failed to adequately back implementation of the law. So essentially the law that we passed in the wake of the Virginia Tech shooting to require reporting of people who are actually adjudicated mentally ill in their respective States is not working the way it should. Rather than string along an ineffective program, I think this is a wonderful opportunity for us to fix it. And we should fix it.

I want to say a word, though, about symbolism versus solutions. I am not interested in Congress voting on a measure that would have no impact on the horrific violence we have seen in recent months. I am not interested in a symbolic gesture which would offer the families of the Sandy Hook shooting no real solutions. They told me they are not political. They don't come with an agenda. They are not asking us to pass a specific piece of legislation. They just want to know that their loved one did not die in vain, and that something good can come out of this terrible tragedy.

So I think dealing with this mental health reporting issue is a common ground we could come together on. But we also need to make sure we are not just going to pass additional laws that will not be enforced. What possible solace could that be to these families, for Congress to pass additional laws that will never be enforced?

Take, for example, the National Instant Criminal Background Check System—the NIC system, as it is called—which flags people who lie on their background check. The annual number of cases referred for prosecution fell sharply during the first 2 years of the current President's term of office. Indeed, there was a 58-percent drop in referrals and a 70-percent drop in prosecutions for people who lie on the background check. We can fix this.

Let's make sure that guns aren't getting into the hands of people who we all agree should not have them. We could be doing this right now with broad bipartisan support.

Let me conclude with a couple of observations about where we find ourselves with an 11 o'clock vote on an underlying bill which remains controversial and which I think the majority leader and all of us know has very little chance, if any, of going anywhere.

We heard yesterday that our colleagues from West Virginia and Ohio have come together on a bipartisan background check bill. I asked my staff as recently as on my way over here whether the language had been released so we could actually read it and find out what is in it, and it has not. We have no commitment in front of the Senate by the majority leader that there will be a robust debate and amendment process, because there are a lot of amendments that need to be offered to whatever that so-far-unwritten bill says, I am sure. And we need to have a full, robust, transparent discussion of this issue in front of the American people.

So I am not going to vote to proceed to a bill that has not yet been written, no matter how well intentioned it may be. We need to make sure that what we do is address the cause of this violence, and to come up not with symbolic gestures that will have no impact or to pass other laws that will not be enforced but to come together with real solutions. Rather than put on a show and pat ourselves on the back and call it a day, let's do something good to make sure we have done everything in our human capacity to prevent another Sandy Hook. This is what these families want. This is what they deserve. And this is what the American people deserve.

This calls on the Senate to exercise its historic and its central role in bringing all sides together to try to come up with solutions. But if we can't do that here, if we can't do that now, when will we ever address this tragedy?

The President has told some of these victims' families that this side of the aisle doesn't care about their loss. That is not true. That is false. The President is wrong. All of us care about these families. All of us should care about violence in our communities, and we should try to work together to find ways to address this—not in a symbolic sort of way but in a real way that offers a solution and maybe a little bit of progress on this issue that would allow these families to say, no, my loved one did not die in vain; something good came out of this. We want to work together to find real solutions to this type of senseless, incomprehensible violence that has taken too many lives. I hope we will.

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

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

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

CLOTURE MOTION

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending motion to invoke cloture.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to 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 for every firearm sale, and for other purposes.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Robert Menendez, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jeff Merkley, Christopher A. Coons, Benjamin L. Cardin, Barbara Boxer, Debbie Stabenow, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Richard J. Durbin, Patty Murray, Jack Reed, Dianne Feinstein, Richard Blumenthal, Christopher Murphy, Elizabeth Warren

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to 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 shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) is necessarily absent.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 68, nays 31, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 95 Leg.]

YEAS—68

Alexander	Franken	Merkley
Ayotte	Gillibrand	Mikulski
Baldwin	Graham	Murphy
Baucus	Hagan	Murray
Bennet	Harkin	Nelson
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Reed
Boxer	Heitkamp	Reid
Brown	Heller	Rockefeller
Burr	Hirono	Sanders
Cantwell	Hoeven	Schatz
Cardin	Isakson	Schumer
Carper	Johnson (SD)	Shaheen
Casey	Kaine	Stabenow
Chambliss	King	Tester
Coburn	Kirk	Toomey
Collins	Klobuchar	Udall (CO)
Coons	Landrieu	Udall (NM)
Corker	Leahy	Warner
Cowan	Levin	Warren
Donnelly	Manchin	Whitehouse
Durbin	McCain	Wicker
Feinstein	McCaskill	Wyden
Flake	Menendez	

NAYS—31

Barrasso	Boozman	Cornyn
Begich	Coats	Crapo
Blunt	Cochran	Cruz
Enzi	McConnell	Rubio
Fischer	Moran	Scott
Grassley	Murkowski	Sessions
Hatch	Paul	Shelby
Inhofe	Portman	Thune
Johanns	Pryor	Vitter
Johnson (WI)	Risch	
Lee	Roberts	

NOT VOTING—1

Lautenberg

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore.

On this vote, the yeas are 68, the nays are 31. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I appreciate everyone's cooperation. I am glad we were able to get cloture on this legislation. This legislation and this vote that just took place are, of course, important for our country, especially for the people from Connecticut who have lived through their tragedy. But it is also important for this body, this Senate. There have been many things written in the last several months about how the Senate cannot operate. And I so appreciate the Members on the other side of the aisle—especially JOHN MCCAIN on a Sunday show who said: I don't think there should be a filibuster on this. JOHN MCCAIN is a leader and has been a leader in this country for 31 years and people respect his opinion. I am grateful to all Republicans who joined with us to allow this debate to go forward.

The hard work starts now. As everyone knows, because we have all heard this on a number of occasions, the first amendment is going to be one that has been worked on for weeks by Senator MANCHIN, Senator TOOMEY, and Senator KIRK. That will be the first amendment. We expect to lay that down later today. I hope there will be no efforts to continue this filibuster with the 30 hours. There is no reason we shouldn't get to legislating.

We have an important lunch, as everyone knows. We are going to finish that lunch, and I hope we can come back and lay down this amendment and start some debate on it. I have indicated to Senators TOOMEY and MANCHIN—they want to spend a lot of time because they have to get prepared for what they are going to do beginning Tuesday morning—and I said that is fine. In the meantime, there are other things we can do on this legislation.

We know there are other amendments, and I hope no one is going to say, Well, I am going to filibuster every amendment that is offered. That defeats the whole purpose of why we are here. We can't allow that to happen. It would be such a shame if that, in fact, did happen.

We are going to have an open amendment process, meaning Senators are going to be able to offer amendments. One thing we can't do is have pending scores of amendments and we are not going to do that. We need to make this debate so people understand what is going on.

There are certain things we are going to have to vote on here. We are going to have to vote on the Manchin-Toomey amendment. We are going to have to have a vote on assault weapons. Some people love it, some people hate it, but we are going to have to have a vote on it. We are also going to have to have a vote on the size of clips or magazines. Those are the only votes I am going to make sure we have. Other than that, we should have amendments. If people think the present law is too weak, they can change that or if people think it is too strong, have some amendments to change that. We cannot have just a few Senators spoiling everything for everyone here. This is the time we should lay down amendments and see if we can pass them. We can set up procedures here, as we have done, to make sure everyone is heard.

I can remember when I had to meet with the families from Newtown. To be very honest, I didn't want to, but I did. I met them over here in room 219. That was a hard meeting, because everyone knows how I have approached things in the past with regard to these matters now before us. I am like virtually everyone in America: The events of the last few months have been very tragic—people going to a movie theater to watch a movie and they are gunned down, and more would have been gunned down but for the fact that the man's 100-clip magazine jammed. Newtown, we have all seen the pictures that are not here today of those babies who were shot, more than once. So America has a different view of this violence than they did just a little while ago.

We all believe in the Constitution. We all know what all of these amendments are about and what they are supposed to do and we are going to make sure that during this debate we keep the Constitution in mind.

The families of the most recent tragedy in Newtown deserve a debate, because these people from Newtown who are the survivors of this tragedy are representing everybody in America. That is why we need this debate. The Senate is going to give these family members, friends, and people who live in Newtown, no matter how long it takes, the ability to see how people stand on these issues. So the Senate is going to give them votes. We hope it will be sooner rather than later, but we are going to work through this.

Senators on both sides have amendments they want to offer. We have our most experienced Senator, who has been here longer than anyone else, managing this bill, Senator LEAHY of Vermont. He has always been a fair man and he will continue to be. He knows there are a few amendments that have to go forward, but after that we are going to be as deliberative as we can to make sure people have the opportunity to offer amendments.

I repeat, after we get through the Manchin-Toomey amendment, the assault weapons, and the high-capacity

magazines, we are going to make sure everyone has the opportunity, and the Republicans can catch up. We can have the first amendment, the Toomey-Manchin amendment—I don't know if it is a Democratic amendment or a Republican amendment, but that is the first one we are going to do. After we get through these two things, we will have the Republicans. If they are two or three behind, they can catch up with us and then we can alternate back and forth. Even though there is no rule requiring it, that is the best way to move forward.

I am grateful to everyone we are here and able to start legislating on this issue that has caught the attention of the American people and, frankly, the world.

ORDER FOR RECESS

Mr. President, we are having a joint meeting. I ask unanimous consent the Senate recess from 12:30 until 2:30 today to allow for a joint caucus meeting, and that all time during recess and morning business count postcloture on the motion to proceed to S. 649.

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

Mr. REID. I note the absence of a quorum.

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

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, before I make a statement relative to an unrelated issue, I just want to say a very quick word about the historic vote that took place a few minutes ago on the floor of the Senate. I believe we had 16 Republicans who joined us in an effort to proceed to a bill that will initiate a debate—one of the first in years—on the floor of the Senate about gun safety in America.

I salute those Members of the Senate from both sides of the aisle who supported that motion to proceed, but especially from the other side. I know it took a great deal of courage, political courage, for them to step up and to at least initiate this debate. I will tell you, there were those among them—some 13—who signed a letter saying: We are going to filibuster this matter to stop it. They did not succeed today in that effort because 16 on the Republican side joined us. I do not presume they are going to vote for all or any of the amendments to be offered. But at least they allowed the Senate to be the Senate instead of having us bogged down—as we have over 400 times in the last 6 years—in a filibuster.

I hope during the course of this debate on the floor we are able to have amendments debated and voted on. The majority leader made that request earlier, and I believe, for the good of this Senate—and certainly for the debt we owe to America to address the issues of the day—we should address them in a bipartisan fashion in courteous but thorough debate. That is what the Senate has stood for as an institution, and I hope it does, and continues to.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The remarks of Mr. DURBIN and Mr. COONS pertaining to the introduction of S. 718 are printed in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

Mr. COONS. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:30 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:29 p.m., recessed until 2:30 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. HEITKAMP).

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

Mr. MURPHY. I come down to the floor for the second time today and maybe the fifth time over the last 2 days to talk again about the real reason we are here on the floor of the Senate this week and next week—to talk about the scourge of gun violence across the country and its victims.

We have had a good week this week on the floor of the Senate—a breakthrough on the matter of background checks, an agreement that we hope can forge the basis of a bill next week, an agreement that maybe doesn't move us as far as some of us would like in terms of making sure criminals in this country don't have guns but that moves us very far down the line toward a day when no criminals can go onto the streets of this country with guns, and then a very positive vote today in which Democrats and Republicans joined to break a threatened filibuster.

But these are the kids we are really here to talk about, and I wanted to come down before the week was over to talk about a few more victims just to make sure we are really clear about whom and what we are talking about.

Let me tell you about Chase Kowalski, one of the 7-year-olds killed by the gunman's bullets in Sandy Hook Elementary School. He was an amazing little kid. He was an athlete. Much like Jack Pinto, whom I talked about yesterday, Chase was a young jock. He was 6 years old when he actually completed and won a kids triathlon in Mansfield, CT. He was so inspired from watching the Olympics last summer, seeing his heroes Michael Phelps and Ryan Lochte do so well, that he went out and decided to learn how to swim and do it competitively. So with a little bit of help, he became a swimmer as well. His parents and surviving two older sisters, with a lot of his friends and family, ran together in honor of Chase's love for sports in a Sandy Hook 5K run that attracted thousands of people to the streets of Hartford.

Chase Kowalski could have done a lot of things. He clearly had this drive and initiative you don't find in a lot of kids who are only 7 years old. We will never really know who Chase was going to grow up to be, but he was a pretty remarkable young boy.

Jesse Lewis is here on this poster. His father, Neil Heslin, is here this week arguing and pleading for us to do something.

Jesse was a pretty amazing kid in his own right. He was 6 years old. The evening before the tragedy, he and his father had been out shopping for Christmas presents for his friends and family. One of the gifts they were going out to get was for his teacher Vicki Soto, who was killed the next morning along with him. Jesse was spending his own money on all these presents. He had $37 to spend, which he had earned by helping his father with a variety of odd jobs.

That was Jesse. He wanted to do nice things for people, but he wanted to earn the right to do it, so it wasn't the first time he had gone out and basically earned the money at 6 years old in order to buy things. But he was still a kid. He grew up on a farm, so he loved horses and dogs and chicks, and he liked to go out and fish and play soccer. His dad was always outside working on projects, and he always wanted to be with his dad Neil.

He was a pretty amazing kid with a lot of initiative and drive for a 6-year-old. We will never really know who he was going to grow up to be either.

As I have talked about on this floor over the last 2 days, although so much of the attention is on those 20 kids, the reality is that 3,300 people have died since Newtown. That is where our focus should be as well, on people such as Brian Herrera, 16 years old, a straight-A student at Miami Jackson Senior High School. Three days before Christmas of last year, only about a week after the Newtown shootings, Brian was riding his bike to his best friend's house. He was doing exactly what he should have done—going to a friend's house to work on a school project—and he was gunned down in broad daylight in the middle of the pavement. He was still carrying his red backpack—a story we heard earlier today about someone else. This was a totally random shooting. I am not sure if this has

been solved at this point, but at the time the police had absolutely no idea why this happened. But there are so many guns out on the streets today—many of them illegal guns because we don't have a gun trafficking law and we don't have a good background checks law—that these things happen.

Jeremy Lee Khaoone, 25 years old, was shot in California about 1 month ago. He was one of five brothers. His father had just lost his wife. He was a native of Stockton, CA, an ironworker. He was always cheerful and smiling. Jeremy was killed by gun violence, and he left behind a 3-year-old son in February of this year.

Every single day 30 people in this country die from gun violence. You can't even see the differentiation between the little figurines on this chart because it happens so often. So I have been coming down to the floor not to hold time but just to remind my colleagues of whom we are really talking and the fact that what we are proposing to do next week really will make a difference.

If we want to get all these illegal guns off the street, then we can't just accept the status quo. We have to do something about it. It is ridiculous that we don't have a Federal law that bans gun trafficking. It is not OK that perhaps 4 out of every 10 guns in this country are sold without background checks. A person shouldn't be able to walk into a school or a movie theater or a church with a 100-round drum of ammunition. There is no reason for it.

We are not going to wipe gun violence off the face of this Earth, but we have to remember these victims. We have to remember the Jeremies, we have to remember the Jesses, we have to remember the Brians and the Charlottes and the Madeleines and all of these people who have lost their lives. We can't bring them back, but we can certainly make sure that 3 or 4 months from now this chart is a little bit smaller. We have the ability to do that.

I will be back next week with other stories of victims—from Connecticut, to Colorado, to Tucson, to New York City, to Chicago, to Miami—so that as we move into maybe the most critical week on the floor of this body with respect to the debate on gun violence in decades, we are really sure about whom we are talking about and the difference we can make.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. WARREN). The Senator from Nebraska.

THE BUDGET

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I rise today to speak on the budget proposal released at long last yesterday by President Obama. Tardy though this budget may be, and despite our differences in opinion, I welcome the President's ideas to begin addressing our Nation's fiscal crisis and runaway spending. Unfortunately, though, I am disappointed that this budget amounts to more taxes, more spending, and more debt. The President's budget calls for $1.1 trillion more in taxes, on top of the $660 billion in tax hikes the President already demanded and won as part of the fiscal cliff deal enacted at the beginning of the year, before I arrived in Washington. That is a grand total of $1.8 trillion in tax hikes—before we add in another trillion dollar tax from ObamaCare. Yet, despite all of this new so-called ''revenue,'' the President's budget would never balance. No amount of taxes will ever begin to address our Nation's $17 trillion debt.

But taxes aren't the only problem with the President's budget. There is also a trillion dollars in new spending. We tried that in 2009. It didn't work then and it won't work now. To spend more, we have to borrow more. The President's budget would add $8.2 trillion in new debt over the next 10 years.

Of particular concern to farmers, ranchers, and small businesses in Nebraska is a proposed hike in the death tax. Under the fiscal cliff deal reached at the beginning of this year, the death tax was set at 40 percent, with an exemption per estate of $5 million, indexed for inflation. This is already an increase from 2011 and 2012, when the death tax rate was 35 percent. The President's budget, however, would hike the rate further, to 45 percent, while also diminishing the exemption per estate to $3.5 million.

This disregards the bipartisan will of Congress. The Senate has repeatedly supported a lower death tax rate and higher exemption. Just 3 weeks ago, 80 senators—myself included—supported an amendment seeking to repeal, or at least reduce, the death tax. Instead, the President's death tax proposal would result in a $72 billion tax hike. This would be particularly harmful to family farmers and ranchers in my State of Nebraska and across our Nation. On average, more than 80 percent of the value of a family-owned farm or ranch is derived from land, buildings, and equipment. Following the death of a loved one, families often must sell part or even all of their land and property to pay the death tax bill. Yet these are illiquid assets which rarely receive their assessed value on the open market, leaving families to take cents on the dollar in order for them to keep that farm or ranch.

Each day, farmers and ranchers across Nebraska and the United States rise well before dawn only to retire well after dark. After building a successful enterprise, family farmers and ranchers should be able to pass along the fruits of their labor to their children. Instead, the President's budget proposal would reward this lifetime of hard work with a higher tax bill.

I will proudly cosponsor legislation to be introduced soon by Senator JOHN THUNE to permanently repeal the death tax. Absent a full repeal, I will continue fighting to ensure that family farmers, ranchers, and other small businesses escape as much of the brunt of the death tax as possible. This is not to say that I disagree with every aspect of the President's budget. Medicare and Social Security are both on the path to insolvency. I appreciate that the President sees this unsustainable path and has offered concrete proposals to reform these programs.

Without action, seniors and other beneficiaries will see steep cuts in benefits from Medicare by 2024 and Social Security by 2033. While these cuts will not come overnight, neither will the solutions we need to keep the promises we have made to our seniors and those nearing retirement.

This is the first step in what will be—and quite frankly needs to be—a prolonged, well-reasoned debate. I look forward to working with the President in good faith to reform and save these critical programs. I also appreciate the President's desire for revenue-neutral corporate tax reform. The devil, of course, is in the details. I have great reservations that the President's proposal would basically redistribute tax preferences instead of doing more to bring down what is the highest corporate income tax rate in the world. And I believe that we should not merely do this on the corporate side but reform our entire tax code on a revenue-neutral basis in order to unleash the economic growth of our Nation.

There are areas where we can work together—and I am eager to do so. But higher taxes, higher spending, and higher debt are not the answer to the fiscal challenges our Nation faces.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut is recognized.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Madam President, I join my other colleagues in thanking the Senators who joined us in the vote earlier today. My profound thanks go to all who voted among the 68 to enable this debate to go forward, to provide and permit debate and votes in coming days, and to enable the families of Newtown to have a vote; to enable the victims of Tucson and Virginia Tech and Aurora and Oak Ridge to have a vote.

Voting is what we are sent here to do. The American people hold us accountable when we have votes. Votes enable us to be held accountable and those votes will take place. The vote today is exciting and encouraging and energizing, but it is only a first step. The critical test and profoundly significant steps will be next week when we vote on the bipartisan compromise that our colleagues have fashioned, that Senators MANCHIN and TOOMEY have together forged on national criminal background checks.

That is not necessarily as strong as many of us might have preferred. That is not a final or ultimate result on this issue for all time. But it is a solid foundation and a path forward to enable more bipartisan compromise, more momentum and impetus.

The brave families from Newtown who were part of this discussion this week deserve our thanks as well. They turned the tide. They faced our colleagues in meetings, visit after visit,

conversation after conversation—painful, demanding, grief-stricken in recalling those hours after that horrific, unspeakable tragedy. As one who arrived there within hours of the shooting, I saw, firsthand, their unimaginable pain and grief as they came out of the Sandy Hook firehouse after learning for the first time that their babies would not return; loved ones, teachers, educators perishing while trying to save their children in their care.

Those families came to Washington to tell their stories and advocate for change so that others would be spared that same experience, so that others would be spared the same fate as the 3,300 who have died since Newtown and the horror they and their families experienced.

Just 4 months ago the conventional wisdom was that gun violence legislation would never go anywhere in the Congress. In fact, gun violence was politically untouchable. Just days ago, 60 votes was thought to be unreachable as a goal. The fact is the political landscape is changing seismically as we speak. As we deliberate, minds are changing. Voices are piercing that conventional wisdom. The courage and compassion of the Newtown families have disproved and completely defeated the pundits, the conventional wisdom, the prognosticators who said it could not be done.

The world watched that tragedy on December 14 at Newtown. I said on that evening at the vigil at St. Rose of Lima Church: The world is watching Newtown.

Indeed, the world watched Newtown, and today the world watched the Senate as it took this historic, and for many of our colleagues a courageous, brave step.

Today we kept faith with those families and the victims of that tragedy in a first step to finally do something about gun violence. Now we must continue working, taking nothing for granted, avoiding complacency and overconfidence because every step is uphill when it comes to gun violence.

I thank particularly two of my colleagues, JOE MANCHIN and PAT TOOMEY, because they stepped forward from States that may not be as receptive to what they have done as others, but they deserve the thanks and gratitude of their States in their statesmanship in supporting and forging this compromise.

I will continue to support and work for a truly universal background check system, but this bipartisan compromise represents significant progress. It is a vast improvement over current law. It will make sure that a lot fewer criminals get their hands on guns. It will make our streets and schools safer.

On the morning of December 14, I—along with Senator MURPHY—pledged to do everything I could to make sure more parents will not have to bury their children because of preventable gun violence. Expanded background checks are part of that pledge, and we are helping to fulfill it by supporting it. This is only part of a bigger and more comprehensive solution to this problem, but this compromise is a good starting point for next week's debate on gun violence.

We have talked a lot about Newtown and the victims who have evoked our most powerful grief, breaking our hearts, and evoking memories of our own children at that age. As I said, I went to Newtown as a public official, but what I saw was through the eyes of a parent. Other victims of loved ones evoke the same memories.

Today, I wish to evoke the memory of another tragedy that many of us in Connecticut remember well. It happened at Hartford Distributors, which is just outside Hartford.

On a beautiful morning, August 2, 2010—and a lot of what I am going to summarize comes from this great newspaper account which appeared in the Hartford Courant shortly thereafter.

As the Courant reported:

> In three minutes on that bright summer morning, Thornton executed eight men, shooting them all from behind and laughing at one point as he chased down a wounded victim.
>
> Thornton went into a kitchenette near the office, saying that he wanted a drink of water. He pulled a pistol from his lunch pail and shot operations director Louis Felder. Hollander said he heard Felder yell: ''Omar, you can't!'' followed by loud bangs.
>
> Hollander was hit by one of the bullets that passed through Felder. As he crawled into his father's office—

Hartford Distributors is owned by the Hollander family.

> Hollander heard Cirigliano yell—''Omar, no! Omar, no!'' Thornton shot Cirigliano twice, once in the back of the head and once in the forehead.

He systematically executed another six people after those two, and then he killed himself.

The victims that day were men who came to work every day and had families. They came to work expecting to come home at the end of the day. Their families expected them to come home. They were men who had worked in that place for many years by dint of their sweat and backbreaking labor. They had come to a place in their lives where they could enjoy it. They had enough financial security that they expected to enjoy it for some time. That day the killer deprived them of their future and their families' future as well.

Gun violence affects all of us in different ways. I have visited the memorial that was established for the brave men who died that day at Hartford Distributors. It is a quiet, peaceful place that is exquisitely and beautifully done. It evokes the memories of men who died while they were on the job because of a deranged individual who was, in fact, about to be fired.

Connecticut's experience with this kind of death extends to its own facility. The State lottery experienced a similar horrific and brutal slaying. The scene played out in seconds, which seemed to take an eternity, on a Friday morning.

It was a routine morning for dozens of State lottery office workers, and it turned into a nightmare of blood, fear, and betrayal. The shooter was named Matthew Beck, and he summarily executed men and women there that day. Connecticut remembers those State employees who provided public service day in and day out and were killed while they were at work. Again, they were working men and women who wanted nothing more than to go home safely that night.

My colleague, CHRIS MURPHY, has recounted many stories. Many of the stories were about children. All of them had their future ahead of them. Their future ended brutally and horrifically because of gun violence.

We have taken a step today—a first step—hopefully followed by more steps next week.

I wish to end by thanking Members of this Chamber for giving us the opportunity to debate and vote and say to the American people we are willing to be held accountable.

The majority of American people want commonsense and sensible measures to end the violence on the streets, in our neighborhoods, and in our place of work, such as Hartford Distributors and the State lottery. We want to make sure the hard-working men and women who go to their jobs, play by the rules, and expect fairness have the opportunity to go home that night.

I thank this Chamber and the Members who voted today, and I hope those Members will join us in the future so we can make sure fewer victims perish as a result of this horrific epidemic in our country, gun violence.

Thank you.

I yield the floor and 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. COONS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HEITKAMP). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MODIFYING THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE STOCK ACT

Mr. COONS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. 716, introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

> A bill (S. 716) to modify the requirements under the STOCK Act regarding online access to certain financial disclosure statements and related forms.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. COONS. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and

passed and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

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

The bill (S. 716) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 716

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

SECTION 1. MODIFICATIONS OF ONLINE ACCESS TO CERTAIN FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS AND RELATED FORMS.

(a) PUBLIC, ONLINE DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FORMS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except with respect to financial disclosure forms filed by officers and employees referred to in paragraph (2), section 8(a) and section 11(a) of the STOCK Act (5 U.S.C. App. 105 note) shall not be effective.

(2) EXEMPTED OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.—The officer and employees referred to in paragraph (1) are the following:

(A) The President.

(B) The Vice President.

(C) Any Member of Congress.

(D) Any candidate for Congress.

(E) Any officer occupying a position listed in section 5312 or section 5313 of title 5, United States Code, having been nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate to that position.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1 of the Act entitled ''An Act to change the effective date for the internet publication of certain information to prevent harm to the national security or endangering the military officers and civilian employees to whom the publication requirement applies, and for other purposes'' is repealed.

(b) ELECTRONIC FILING AND ONLINE AVAILABILITY.—

(1) FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND CANDIDATES.—Section 8(b) of the STOCK Act (5 U.S.C. App. 105 note) is amended—

(A) in the heading, by striking '', OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE, AND CONGRESSIONAL STAFF'';

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking ''18 months after the date of enactment of this Act'' and inserting ''January 1, 2014'';

(ii) by amending subparagraph (B) to read as follows:

''(B) public access to—

''(i) financial disclosure reports filed by Members of Congress and candidates for Congress,

''(ii) reports filed by Members of Congress and candidates for Congress of a transaction disclosure required by section 103(l) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, and

''(iii) notices of extensions, amendments, and blind trusts, with respect to financial disclosure reports described in clauses (i) and (ii),

pursuant to title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. 101 et seq.), through databases that are maintained on the official websites of the House of Representatives and the Senate.'';

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking the first two sentences; and

(ii) in the last sentence, by striking ''under this section'' and inserting ''under paragraph (1)(B)'';

(D) in paragraph (3), by striking ''under this subsection'' and inserting ''under paragraph (1)(B)'';

(E) in paragraph (4), by inserting ''be able to'' after ''shall''; and

(F) in paragraph (5), by striking ''under this subsection'' and inserting ''under paragraph (1)(B)''.

(2) FOR EXECUTIVE BRANCH OFFICIALS.—Section 11(b) of the STOCK Act (5 U.S.C. App. 105 note) is amended—

(A) in the heading, by striking ''EMPLOYEES'' and inserting ''OFFICIALS'' ;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking ''18 months after the date of enactment of this Act'' and inserting ''January 1, 2014'';

(ii) by amending subparagraph (B) to read as follows:

''(B) public access to—

''(i) financial disclosure reports filed by the President, the Vice President, and any officer occupying a position listed in section 5312 or section 5313 of title 5, United States Code, having been nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate to that position,

''(ii) reports filed by any individual described in clause (i) of a transaction disclosure required by section 103(l) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, and

''(iii) notices of extensions, amendments, and blind trusts, with respect to financial disclosure reports described in clauses (i) and (ii),

pursuant to title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. 101 et seq.), through databases that are maintained on the official website of the Office of Government Ethics.'';

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking the first two sentences; and

(ii) in the last sentence, by striking ''under this section'' and inserting ''under paragraph (1)(B)'';

(D) in paragraph (3), by striking ''under this subsection'' and inserting ''under paragraph (1)(B)'';

(E) in paragraph (4), by inserting ''be able to'' after ''shall''; and

(F) in paragraph (5), by striking ''under this subsection'' and inserting ''under paragraph (1)(B)''.

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

Mr. COONS. 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. COONS assumed the Chair.)

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

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that all postcloture time on the motion to proceed be yielded back.

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

All time is yielded back.

The question is on agreeing to the motion to proceed.

The motion was agreed to.

SAFE COMMUNITIES, SAFE SCHOOLS ACT OF 2013

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 649) 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.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

AMENDMENT NO. 715

(Purpose: To protect Second Amendment rights, ensure that all individuals who should be prohibited from buying a firearm are listed in the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, and provide a responsible and consistent background check process)

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I have an amendment at the desk and I ask for its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from West Virginia [Mr. MANCHIN] for himself, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. KIRK, and Mr. SCHUMER, proposes an amendment numbered 715.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under ''Text of Amendments.'')

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we now proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

RECOGNIZING THE ROTARY CLUB OF CARSON CITY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise to honor the Rotary Club of Carson City. Celebrating 75 years of service to the community, the Rotary Club has shown great dedication to America's ideals of prosperity, education, and opportunity. It is my great honor to acknowledge the Rotary Club of Carson City's rich history of service, particularly in light of its recent anniversary.

Hans Jepson, president of the Minden Rotary Club, and the civic-minded Rev. John L. Harvey, began plans to create the Carson City Rotary Club in the summer of 1937. The first meeting saw five attendees who sketched plans for the organization's future. Their first plan of action was to add the Carson City Rotary Club to the Nevada roster.

After carefully selecting additional members, the Rotary Club of Carson City had its first official meeting on January 25, 1938. A month later, it was accepted as a member of Rotary International—an achievement that reflected several months of earnest effort on the part of the pioneers of the local movement.

Initially comprised of only 25 men, the Rotary Club of Carson City has since expanded to encompass almost 90 members. Ever mindful of the organization's previous motto ''He Profits Most Who Serves The Best'', the members provide ''Service Above Self'' to the Carson City community.

Since its founding, the Rotary Club of Carson City has realized many accomplishments, including its participation in the global campaign that reduced transmission of the Polio Virus

by 99 percent since 1985 and its successful efforts to place a town hall clock in front of the Legislative Building of Carson City.

The Rotary Club has a special focus on education. It awards a 4-year scholarship to a non-traditional student and recognizes exceptional educators through Teacher of the Year and Teacher of the Month awards. It also sponsors high school students' involvement both in the Rotary Youth Leadership Academy and the Rotary Youth Exchange Program, where students spend a year abroad and, host international students in Carson City.

Moreover, the club supports various programs offered by FISH, Friends in Service Helping, Capital City Circles Initiative, Western Nevada Boys and Girls Club, and Food for Thought, in addition to its various community service projects, such as Rotarians at Work Day.

I laud the Rotary Club of Carson City's dedication to the community and am pleased to congratulate its members on seventy-five much appreciated years of service.

TRIBUTE TO CRAIG WARNER

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise to honor a man who has dedicated his life to serving others, Craig Warner. Although this chapter of his career is coming to a close, his legacy in volunteerism will live on.

Craig began his career in public service by joining the Peace Corps after graduating from Iowa State University. He spent two years in Lesotho, Africa, after which he became a recruiter for the Peace Corps. He then served for 16 years as a state program specialist with the ACTION Agency in the Tennessee State Office supporting VISTA and Senior Corps programs. In 1991, he brought his expertise to Nevada. When ACTION was replaced by the Corporation for National and Community Service, CNCS, Governor Bob Miller made Craig one of the original appointees to CNCS, where he served as the state director for more than 20 years.

Bringing his great sense of humor to every project he works on, Craig has been a mentor in addition to director. Craig is a warm and compassionate man with a kind heart, intent on doing everything possible to make life better for those seeking help. He has high expectations for projects and pushes to make sure they are done right. Even so, he is always ready to lend a hand and give advice to make sure projects are successful. Craig is an honest man who treats colleagues with respect, genuine kindness, and interest.

Volunteerism is a vital component of every community, and I am proud to honor Craig for the tradition of service he has built in Nevada. Working with the Nevada Commission for National and Community Service since its inception, Craig has shaped the organization, now called Nevada Volunteers, as well as the way Nevada has served its community for the last 20 years.

Craig is to be commended for his more than 40 years of service to the citizens of our State and to our Nation. He is an exemplary model for all Nevadans. I join in recognizing Craig and look forward to his future contributions.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR ARLENE MULDER

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, Arlington Heights, IL, is known as the City of Good Neighbors—and if you ask people there who best embodies that spirit, there's a pretty good chance they'll answer: Mayor Arlene Mulder.

After 20 years as mayor and more than three decades serving her community, Mayor Mulder is retiring from public life in just a few weeks. I would like to personally acknowledge Arlene's significant contributions to the people of Arlington Heights, thank her for her good work, and wish her every success in the coming years.

Both in public service and private life, Mayor Mulder was always a good neighbor. She worked to reduce aircraft noise, improve air quality and quality of life for residents, and to redevelop Arlington Heights' downtown district.

Even outside her role as mayor, she always advocated for the people and businesses of Arlington Heights. As a member of the board of directors of Metra, Northeast Illinois' commuter rail system, Arlene worked to improve the region's transportation network because she understood that when cities and suburbs work together, everyone benefits.

Those who know her well have nothing but good things to say about her. She practices an inclusive brand of leadership to bring people together and get results, genuinely cares about her community, and she really listens to their needs.

I always knew that Arlene would aspire to the highest levels of professionalism in her work. She managed to conduct her work with a smile—which you could see often at any of the daily public appearances around town for which she is well known.

While Mayor Mulder is ending her career in public life to spend more time with her husband, children, and grandchildren, I know she'll continue to be a good neighbor to the Arlington Heights community. This is what she has always done. That is just who she is.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, for months, Members on both sides of the aisle have been working to find common ground on ways to fix our broken immigration system. This group has been meeting behind closed doors to forge a consensus on a very difficult topic. The group released a framework, or a document of principles, that would guide their negotiations. I cannot stress the importance of the first sentence in their preamble that states: ''We will ensure that this is a successful permanent reform to our immigration system that will not need to be revisited.'' In other words, the group claimed to understand that we need a long-term solution to our immigration problems. That sentence is the most important part of their document, and as we work together on this issue, we must not lose sight of that goal.

In order to achieve that goal, we need to learn from our previous mistakes so that we truly don't have to revisit the problem. There is clear evidence that the 1986 amnesty program didn't solve our immigration problem, despite the intent of the law. Even though, for the first time ever, we made it illegal to knowingly hire or employ someone here illegally, illegal immigration soared because we rewarded the undocumented population. We set penalties to deter the hiring of people here illegally. Yet, an industry of counterfeiting and identity theft flourished and made a mockery of the law.

Unfortunately, the 1986 law didn't adequately provide for securing our borders or provide the tools to enforce the laws, nor did it properly address the need to create or enhance the legal avenues for people to enter the country. The bill focused on legalizing millions of people here rather than creating a system that would work for generations to come.

So, I have made a point of trying to remind my colleagues that we must learn from the mistakes we made. As a member of the Judiciary Committee, I have been adamant about making sure all members have an opportunity to review, analyze, and debate the bill. Along with other members, we have asked for hearings. We have pressed the bipartisan group to work with us and ensure that we have a deliberative and healthy debate.

Unfortunately, this bipartisan group has failed to consult with many members of the Judiciary Committee, which has jurisdiction over immigration matters. They are working with the Chamber of Commerce and the AFL–CIO. They are sharing language with K Street and interest groups. They are leaking details of their plans to certain media outlets. Yet, Members of the Senate are forced to learn through these avenues about their negotiations. And, all along, the American people have been in the dark.

When the bill is unveiled, possibly next week, every Member of the Senate will have questions. We will comb through the details and determine if the proposal will truly fix the problems once and for all. So allow me to share some of the questions I have. In an effort to ensure that the bill does what their framework insisted that the problem be fixed once and for all I will ask these questions when the bill is finally revealed to the public.

Is this bill enforcement first or legalization first?

What is the expected cost? How will it be paid for?

Will the bill ensure that undocumented immigrants don't get public benefits?

Will the bill move us closer to a merit-based system?

Will the bill be an avenue for labor unions to push Davis Bacon?

What are the concrete metrics used to measure border security?

Who will determine that these metrics are met? Will it be Congress, a commission or a Secretary who doesn't think that the border matters?

Will the entry/exit system Congress mandated in 1996 finally be implemented? Will it be a part of the trigger?

Will the language be tight enough to prevent criminals—those with DUIs and other aggravated felonies from being eligible for legalization?

Will individuals already apprehended, or people in removal proceedings be eligible or even allowed to apply for the legalization program?

Will the bill ensure that the legalization program is covered by beneficiaries, and not taxpayers?

What will happen to individuals who do not come forward and register or get provisional status?

What will happen if the border is never secured? What will be the consequences, including for those who have already received registered provisional status?

Will the agency in charge of immigration benefits be able to handle the additional workload while also preventing fraud and abuse?

Will the bill encourage cooperation between the Federal Government and State and locals to enforce the laws?

How will the bill ensure that ICE agents are allowed to do their job?

Will E-Verify be mandatory for all businesses? Will there be exceptions to the rule?

Will the bill require all businesses to use E-Verify now or will it drag out the requirement even though it is ready to go nationwide?

Will the bill exempt or preserve State laws that require E-Verify?

What are the concessions to the unions and to the business community?

Will the new temporary worker program, which is a new model encompassing instant portability, truly work? How will employers be held responsible for the visa holders, if at all?

Is the new temporary worker program truly temporary? Will they get a special green card process?

Will the bill exempt certain industries, such as construction, from this new visa program?

Will the 11 million people here illegally get priority in this new temporary worker program? Will they be able to use it?

Will the bill require employers to first recruit and hire Americans?

We have a long road ahead of us to pass legislation to reform our immigration system. We will have many more questions and, hopefully, a transparent and deliberative process to improve the bill. I look forward to working with my colleagues on this issue and solving the problem once and for all.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, today I wish to share a startling fact with the American public. For the first time since the President has been required to submit a budget—since 1922, 91 years ago—the President failed to provide a budget proposal before the Senate passed one. This year the President's budget proposal was submitted to Congress 65 days late. And even with that extra time to find solutions that would jumpstart the economy, the budget proposed by the President continues the policies that have led to anemic economic growth and stagnant job creation—more taxes, more spending, more government.

The last time we voted on the President's budget, it received zero votes. Let me repeat that—zero votes. Not even the members of his own party supported his budget. Since the President's budget is arriving after we have already taken up a budget here in the Senate, I doubt that we will vote on this proposal. But I don't think it's a stretch to say that a vote on this budget might obtain the same result.

We have already heard cries from members of his own party that he is included proposals they don't like for example, a provision called ''chained CPI'' that changes the inflation measurement for many Federal programs, such as Social Security, and for certain provisions of the tax code. The President's budget estimates that this provision will reduce the deficit by nearly $230 billion over 10 years. And a budget such as the President's that raises taxes by nearly $1 trillion over the next 10 years—and that is in addition to the $600 billion in tax increases that went into effect earlier this year certainly will not win over any members on my side of the aisle. While there are some provisions in this budget I might support, the budget taken as a whole is a far cry from what we need to get the country on the right fiscal path.

The President and his party like to talk about a so-called ''balanced approach.'' But there is nothing balanced about a budget proposal that raises taxes by nearly $1 trillion and can't even balance. That is right the President's budget does not balance in any of the next 10 years. What we really need is a budget that gets us to balance and puts us on a path to start paying down our country's $16 trillion debt. We have to start paying down the debt.

The President's budget proposal would increase taxes as a percent of the Nation's total output, or GDP, each year over the next 10 years, resulting in revenues as a percent of GDP at 20 percent in fiscal year 2023. The average rate over the past 40 years has been approximately 18 percent of GDP. The U.S. has balanced the budget 12 times since World War II. The average revenue for those 12 years was 18 percent of GDP. These numbers tell the story—our problem is not that we tax too little but that we spend too much. I have introduced a bill called the Penny Plan that cuts spending by one percent for each of the next three years, and balances the budget in 2016. Our Nation owes over $16 trillion and no one is talking about reducing it. We have to get to balance—the sooner the better—and start paying down the debt.

I am very disappointed, but not surprised, that the President yet again has not taken the opportunity to fully address the drivers of our growing deficits and debt spending programs such as Medicare and Social Security. The President won his re-election last year. The time for campaigning is over; it is time to start governing and make the tough choices to save these programs for current and future beneficiaries.

I said this during the debate on the majority's budget resolution a few weeks ago, and it is worth repeating now we need to grow the economy, not the government. One of the ways we can grow the economy is by reforming our outdated tax code. We have to lower tax rates and broaden the tax base and make the tax code simpler and fairer for all taxpayers. I was happy to see the President's budget call for revenue-neutral business tax reform. But then I read the fine print and realized the President was calling for lowering the corporate tax rate only and by paying for it by increasing taxes on U.S. multinational companies and oil and gas companies. I agree we need to lower the corporate tax rate. We also need to fix our outdated international tax system so we don't hamper our U.S. multinational companies from competing globally. And I have an international tax reform bill that addresses those issues. But in addition to lowering the corporate tax rate, we have to ensure we address the taxes paid by so-called ''flow-through'' businesses these are the partnerships, S-corporations, and limited liability companies. Just fixing the corporate side doesn't help the millions of businesses structured as flow-through entities. I appreciate the President wanting to do revenue-neutral corporate tax reform. But that only addresses part of the problem.

I generally don't like to do things ''comprehensively.'' We should do legislation in smaller parts so people can understand what is in them and can vote for and against the things they support and don't support. But given the interaction between the individual and corporate side of the tax code, we really need to look at them together and make sure changes we make in one area don't make things worse in another area.

So now we have finally seen the President's budget proposal. And while there are a few good things in it, I am sorry to tell my constituents back in Wyoming and the American public that the President has yet again failed to

seize the opportunity to move the country's economy forward. It is more taxes, more spending, more government. That is not the recipe for growing the economy. I hope that over the coming months the President and his party will work with me and the Members on my side of the aisle to fix our tax code, both individual and corporate, and reform our spending on programs such as Medicare and Social Security. The American people deserve nothing less.

RECOGNIZING PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Pennsylvania State University as the school celebrates 150 years of history. April 1, 2013, marked this monumental anniversary when Pennsylvania designated the then-Agricultural College of Pennsylvania to be the sole land grant college in the Commonwealth. Of course the Agricultural College would eventually become Pennsylvania State College in 1874 and Pennsylvania State University in 1953.

While maintaining its agriculture base, Penn State expanded its focus shortly after opening its doors to students and began offering degrees in liberal arts and other fields. Notably, Penn State quickly became one of the Nation's largest engineering schools in the late 19th century.

Today, the Pennsylvania State University is the largest university in the Commonwealth and grants more baccalaureate degrees than any other school in Pennsylvania, and it has one of the largest graduate schools in the country. In all, Penn State offers students the opportunity to pursue studies in more than 150 different disciplines. Penn State graduates have gone on to great success in agriculture, engineering, business, law, medicine, academia, government, and sports. Enrollment at Penn State's 20 undergraduate campuses, the World Campus, the Graduate School, the Dickinson School of Law, the College of Medicine, and the College of Technology is approaching 100,000. Penn State can boast that 1 in every 117 Americans with a college degree is an alumni of Pennsylvania State University. That is quite an achievement. It has been a great success, and has served Pennsylvania, and the Nation, well.

Penn State has also created an environment that promotes the importance of public service and volunteer work. Most notably, Penn State students participate in an annual fundraiser known as THON, which benefits pediatric cancer care and research. THON culminates each year with a multiday dance marathon at the Bryce Jordan Center. Since its inception in 1977, THON has raised more than $100 million. In 2013 alone, THON raised nearly $12.5 million for pediatric cancer. These fundraising efforts are truly remarkable and Penn State students should be proud of all they have done to help children and families who are fighting pediatric cancer.

In addition to THON, Penn State University also hosts annual events such as Ag Progress Days, the Engineering Design Showcase, and the Arts Festival Weekend. All of these events bring together Penn State students, alumni, and other interested parties by providing a forum where relevant technological advances in the related fields, best business practices between interacting disciplines and creative innovation can be shared and displayed for the betterment of all involved.

Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, I should recognize the outstanding faculty who make Penn State what it is. The faculty at Penn State are leaders in their respective fields and conduct cutting edge research in numerous disciplines. The success of the university is dependent on the high quality faculty who dedicated their lives to academia, and all of the Penn State faculty should be proud of their accomplishments. They are educating the next generation of leaders, and, through their research, are bettering the lives of people throughout the Commonwealth, Nation, and the world.

Again, I want to congratulate Pennsylvania State University on reaching this milestone. You make the Commonwealth a better place, and I am confident the next 150 years of accomplishments will be even greater than the last.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S FUNERAL TRAIN

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the installation of an Ohio Historical Society marker commemorating President Lincoln's funeral train stop in Urbana, OH on April 29, 1865. Urbana was one of the Ohio communities President Lincoln's funeral train passed through on its 1,654-mile trek from Washington D.C. to Springfield, IL. Around midnight on April 29, 1865, 10,000 mourners gathered near Urbana's train station to pay their respects to President Lincoln during the train's 20-minute stop.

To commemorate this historic event, the Champaign County Bicentennial Historical Marker Committee is installing an Ohio Historical Society marker in Urbana. This marker will not only honor one of America's greatest presidents, but it will also recognize this historical event which contributes greatly to Urbana's rich heritage.

I wish to recognize Champaign County for keeping history alive for future generations through the installation of the Ohio Historical Society marker, and for other historical preservation and commemorations in an Ohio county with a rich history.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING TERRY GIBSON

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to the life and legacy of an outstanding leader and friend, Shoshone-Paiute Tribal Chairman Terry Gibson. He left a lasting mark in his far too few years of life.

Terry carried an absolute commitment to better the lives of the people he led and those of future generations. He had a deep understanding of the strengths and challenges of the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes, and he focused on making progress. Prior to serving as chairman, he served on the tribal council and worked as health director, compliance officer and natural resource director for the tribes. His experience and knowledge contributed to his exemplary leadership.

He was dedicated to encouraging tribal youth to achieve educational and career success, and he worked to address unemployment, domestic violence and poverty. Terry furthered the mission of protecting and preserving the Shoshone-Paiute tribal culture and natural resources while also assisting and encouraging the economic development of the tribes. He was mindful of ensuring future generations would also have the opportunity to benefit from our resources.

We worked together on projects to benefit tribal members, and he was always a trusted partner and strong leader with the courage and foresight to tackle the many issues facing the tribes. He is recognized as a dedicated leader who thoughtfully carried out his duties in advancing the objectives of the tribal membership. Terry was a sensible, strong and reliable voice.

The unexpected passing of Chairman Gibson brings great sadness to the tribes, the Owyhee area, Idaho and me. My prayers are with his wife, Debbie, his children, his family, the people he led, and the many lives he reached. I join his family members and many friends in mourning his loss. I am thankful I had the opportunity to know Terry and work with him. While Terry will be sorely missed, his legacy will endure. His steady and dedicated leadership will not be forgotten.•

TRIBUTE TO JESSE DAUNIS

• Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I am proud to recognize one of Nevada's veterans whose overwhelming sacrifice on behalf of those who served our great Nation is inspiring. On April 1, 2013, Jesse Daunis began his journey on foot across the State of Nevada to raise money and awareness to assist veterans dealing with depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and many other issues related to the difficult transition from soldier to civilian.

The brave men and women who served our country and fought to protect our freedom are coming back to a struggling economy. Our Nation's servicemembers have made great sacrifices

for our country, and they deserve our gratitude and support. We must welcome them home and help them transition to civilian life. Assisting our Nation's veterans and families is of the utmost importance.

I am grateful Mr. Daunis is raising awareness for an issue about which I care deeply. Having a family member who has served in the Armed Forces, I have always been an advocate for our troops. As a member of the United States Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs, I will continue to vocalize my support for our servicemembers. I applaud Mr. Daunis for undertaking this 448-mile journey over 18 days from Reno to Las Vegas, and I stand with him.

Mr. Daunis' selfless efforts to honor and acknowledge our Nation's veterans embodies the value of service over self. I commend Mr. Daunis for his steadfast determination in raising awareness for those who keep us safe. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Daunis for his service to our country and commitment to helping veterans in need.●

TRIBUTE TO LAURA HODSON

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Laura Hodson, an intern in my Aberdeen, SD, office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Laura is a graduate of Bennett County High School in Martin, SD. Currently, she is attending Northern State University, where she is majoring in political science. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Laura for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

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

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

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR ON APRIL 10, 2013

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 680. A bill to rescind amounts appropriated for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of Defense for the Medium Extended Air Defense System, and for other purposes.

S. 691. A bill to regulate large capacity ammunition feeding devices.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC–1113. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; Establishment of the Multi-State Plan Program for the Affordable Insurance Exchanges'' (RIN3206–AM47) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 28, 2013; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–1114. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Health Plan Value Methodology''; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–1115. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''OMB Final Sequestration Report to the President and Congress for Fiscal Year 2013''; to the Committees on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Appropriations; Armed Services; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; the Budget; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Energy and Natural Resources; Environment and Public Works; Finance; Foreign Relations; Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; Indian Affairs; Select Committee on Intelligence; the Judiciary; Rules and Administration; Small Business and Entrepreneurship; and Veterans' Affairs.

EC–1116. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Styrene-Ethylene-Propylene Block Copolymer; Tolerance Exemption'' (FRL No. 9380–5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 8, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–1117. A communication from the Chief Executive Officer, Corporation for National and Community Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Corporation's fiscal year 2014 Congressional Budget Justification and fiscal year 2012 Annual Performance Report; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–1118. A communication from the Chairman, Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's fiscal year 2012 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–1119. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Residential, Business, and Wind and Solar Resource Leases on Indian Land'' (RIN1076–AE73) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 1, 2013; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC–1120. A communication from the Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the notification of eligible members for per capita payments in the subject judgment funds; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC–1121. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to restoring certain funds to the Delaware Tribe of Indians; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC–1122. A communication from the Federal Liaison Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revisions to Patent Term Adjustment'' (RIN0651–AC84) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 1, 2013; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–1123. A communication from the Federal Liaison Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Changes to Representation of Others Before the United States Patent and Trademark Office'' (RIN0651–AC81) received during the adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 1, 2013; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–1124. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''The Office on Violence Against Women's Grant Funds Used to Address Stalking: 2012 Report to Congress''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–1125. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Justice's 2012 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Litigation and Compliance Report; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–1126. A communication from the Secretary, Judicial Conference of the United States, transmitting, a report of proposed legislation entitled ''Criminal Judicial Procedure, Administration, and Technical Amendments Act of 2013''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–1127. A communication from the Secretary, Judicial Conference of the United States, transmitting, a report relative to bankruptcy judgeship recommendations and corresponding draft legislation for the 113th Congress; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–1128. A communication from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report on crime victims' rights; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–1129. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Office of Government Contracting and Business Development, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''2011 Fiscal Year Report to the U.S. Congress on Minority Small Business and Capital Ownership Development''; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC–1130. A communication from the Director of the Regulation Policy and Management Office of the General Counsel, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Grants to States for Construction or Acquisition of State Homes'' (RIN2900–AO60) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 9, 2013; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. HARKIN, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 689. A bill to reauthorize and improve programs related to mental health and substance use disorders.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. LEAHY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Kenneth John Gonzales, of New Mexico, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Mr. HATCH):

S. 703. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for the eligibility of the Hong Kong Special Administration Region for designation for participation in the visa waiver program for certain visitors to the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 704. A bill to designate the Rachel Carson Nature Trail, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BURR (for himself, Mr. JOHANNS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 705. A bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to ensure that memorials commemorating the service of the United States Armed Forces may contain religious symbols, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HEITKAMP, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 706. A bill to provide the Department of Justice with additional tools to target extraterritorial drug trafficking activity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. FRANKEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 707. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to extend the reduced interest rate for Federal Direct Stafford Loans; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. REED, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 708. A bill to provide grants to States to ensure that all students in the middle grades are taught an academically rigorous curriculum with effective supports so that students complete the middle grades prepared for success in secondary school and postsecondary endeavors, to improve State and district policies and programs relating to the academic achievement of students in the middle grades, to develop and implement effective middle grades models for struggling students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions .

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BROWN, Mr. FRANKEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 709. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, leading to better care and outcomes for Americans living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. CARPER, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. JOHANNS):

S. 710. A bill to provide exemptions from municipal advisor registration requirements; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 711. A bill to designate the Federal building located at 118 South Mill Street, Fergus Falls, Minnesota, as the Edward J. Devitt United States Courthouse; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. COONS):

S. 712. A bill to allow acceleration certificates awarded under the Patents for Humanity Program to be transferrable; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 713. A bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to add Rhode Island to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. COBURN, Mr. LEE, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. PAUL):

S. 714. A bill to impose certain limitations on consent decrees and settlement agreements by agencies that require the agencies to take regulatory action in accordance with the terms thereof, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. HEITKAMP, and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 715. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to use designated funding to pay for construction of authorized rural water projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. REID:

S. 716. A bill to modify the requirements under the STOCK Act regarding online access to certain financial disclosure statements and related forms; considered and passed.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. HOEVEN):

S. 717. A bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a pilot program to award grants to nonprofit organizations for the purpose of retrofitting nonprofit buildings with energy-efficiency improvements; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. COONS, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 718. A bill to create jobs in the United States by increasing United States exports to Africa by at least 200 percent in real dollar value within 10 years, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. REED, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. FRANKEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 719. A bill to provide for the expansion of Federal efforts concerning the prevention, education, treatment, and research activities related to Lyme and other tick-borne diseases, including the establishment of a Tick-Borne Diseases Advisory Committee; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR:

S. Res. 96. A resolution recognizing the celebration of National Student Employment Week at the University of Minnesota Duluth; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 54

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 54, a bill to increase public safety by punishing and deterring firearms trafficking.

S. 84

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 84, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

S. 183

At the request of Mrs. MCCASKILL, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 183, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for fairness in hospital payments under the Medicare program.

S. 217

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 217, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require the Secretary of Education to collect information from coeducational elementary schools and secondary schools on such schools' athletic programs, and for other purposes.

S. 264

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 264, a bill to expand access to community mental health centers and improve the quality of mental health care for all Americans.

S. 307

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor

of S. 307, a bill to reduce the Federal budget deficit by closing big oil tax loopholes, and for other purposes.

S. 309

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 309, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the World War II members of the Civil Air Patrol.

S. 367

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 367, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the Medicare outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 403

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 403, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to address and take action to prevent bullying and harassment of students.

S. 411

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 411, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 500

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 500, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to apply payroll taxes to remuneration and earnings from self-employment up to the contribution and benefit base and to remuneration in excess of $250,000.

S. 535

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 535, a bill to require a study and report by the Small Business Administration regarding the costs to small business concerns of Federal regulations.

S. 536

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 536, a bill to require a study and report by the Comptroller General of the United States regarding the costs of Federal regulations.

S. 557

At the request of Mrs. HAGAN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 557, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to medication therapy management under part D of the Medicare program.

S. 576

At the request of Mr. JOHANNS, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) was added as a cosponsor of S. 576, a bill to reform laws relating to small public housing agencies, and for other purposes.

S. 646

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 646, a bill to create the National Endowment for the Oceans to promote the protection and conservation of United States ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes ecosystems, and for other purposes.

S. 675

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 675, a bill to prohibit contracting with the enemy.

S. 679

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 679, a bill to promote local and regional farm and food systems, and for other purposes.

S. 680

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 680, a bill to rescind amounts appropriated for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of Defense for the Medium Extended Air Defense System, and for other purposes.

S. 687

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) were added as cosponsors of S. 687, a bill to prohibit the closing of air traffic control towers, and for other purposes.

S. 695

At the request of Mr. BEGICH, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) were added as cosponsors of S. 695, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the authorization of appropriations for the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to pay a monthly assistance allowance to disabled veterans training or competing for the Paralympic Team and the authorization of appropriations for the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide assistance to United States Paralympics, Inc., and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 695, supra.

S. 700

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 700, a bill to ensure that the education and training provided members of the Armed Forces and veterans better assists members and veterans in obtaining civilian certifications and licenses, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Mr. HATCH):

S. 703. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for the eligibility of the Hong Kong Special Administration Region for designation for participation in the visa waiver program for certain visitors to the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce S. 703 with Senator HATCH to fix a technical problem that prevents Hong Kong from joining the Visa Waiver Program. Under current law, only ''countries'' are eligible for the program, and Hong Kong is not a sovereign country, so a special provision needs to be added to the law to make Hong Kong eligible.

On July 1, 1997, after over 150 years of British rule, Hong Kong became a Special Administrative Region of China, retaining its own currency, free market economy, political system, civil liberties, and immigration policies. This autonomy was recognized by the United States and affirmed by Congress in passing the United States-Hong Kong Policy Act.

Today we have a robust bilateral relationship with Hong Kong, a global financial and trading hub, which was our 10th largest export market last year and whose trade ties are significant for many States. The State Department considers Hong Kong an important law enforcement partner in combating money laundering and eliminating funding for terrorist networks.

Despite our visa policies treating it separate from Mainland China, because it is not a ''country,'' Hong Kong is unable to be considered for the Visa Waiver Program. The Visa Waiver Program is an essential tool for promoting travel and tourism to America while protecting national security by allowing precleared business and leisure travelers from 37 countries to visit the U.S. for up to 90 days without obtaining a nonimmigrant visitor visa.

Hong Kong has secured visa waivers for its passport holders from over 140 countries and territories, including allies such as Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, and all member states of the European Union. Hong Kong has already extended visa waivers to American citizens. Our laws shouldn't be a barrier to do the same in the future.

As our largest industry, tourism is important to Hawaii, especially from Asia. Our largest source of foreign tourists comes from Japan, a visa waiver country since 1988. In 2011, domestic and international visitors to Hawaii spent $16.9 billion which supported 160,800 jobs in the islands according to the U.S. Travel Association.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this bipartisan, commonsense legislation.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HEITKAMP, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 706. A bill to provide the Department of Justice with additional tools

to target extraterritorial drug trafficking activity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the Transnational Drug Trafficking Act of 2013 with my colleagues and friends, Senator CHARLES GRASSLEY, Senator RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, Senator HEIDI HEITKAMP, Senator AMY KLOBUCHAR, Senator TOM UDALL and Senator RON WYDEN.

This bill, which passed the Senate unanimously in the last Congress, will support the Obama administration's Strategy to Combat Transnational Organized Crime by providing the Department of Justice with crucial tools to help combat the international drug trade. As drug traffickers find new and innovative ways to avoid prosecution, we must keep up with them rather than allowing them to exploit loopholes as our laws lag behind.

This legislation has three main components. First, it puts in place penalties for extraterritorial drug trafficking activity when individuals have reasonable cause to believe that illegal drugs will be trafficked into the United States. Current law says that drug traffickers must know that illegal drugs will be trafficked into the United States and this legislation would lower the knowledge threshold to reasonable cause to believe.

The Department of Justice has informed my office that with increasing frequency, it sees drug traffickers from Colombia, Ecuador and Peru who produce cocaine in their countries but leave transit of cocaine to the United States in the hands of Mexican drug trafficking organizations such as the Zetas. Under current law, our ability to prosecute source-nation traffickers from Colombia, Ecuador and Peru is limited since there is often no direct evidence of their knowledge that illegal drugs were intended for the United States. But make no mistake, drugs produced in these countries fuel violent crime throughout the Western Hemisphere as well as addiction and death in the United States.

Second, this bill puts in place penalties for precursor chemical producers from other countries, such as those producing pseudoephedrine used for methamphetamine, who illegally ship precursor chemicals into the United States knowing that these chemicals will be used to make illegal drugs.

Third, this bill will make a technical fix to the Counterfeit Drug Penalty Enhancement Act which was signed into law last year and increases penalties for the trafficking of counterfeit drugs. The fix, requested by the Department of Justice, puts in place a ''knowing'' requirement which was unintentionally left out of the original bill. The original bill makes the mere sale of a drug that happens to be counterfeit a federal felony offense regardless of whether the seller knew the drug was counterfeit. Under the original bill, a pharmacist could be held criminally liable if he or she unwittingly sold counterfeit drugs to a customer. Adding a ''knowing'' requirement corrects this problem.

As Chairman of the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control and as a public servant who has focused on law enforcement issues for many years, I know that we cannot sit idly by as drug traffickers find new ways to circumvent our laws. We must provide the Department of Justice with all of the tools it needs to prosecute drug kingpins both here at home and abroad.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 706

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Transnational Drug Trafficking Act of 2013''.

SEC. 2. POSSESSION, MANUFACTURE OR DISTRIBUTION FOR PURPOSES OF UNLAWFUL IMPORTATIONS.

Section 1009 of the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 959) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and

(2) in subsection (a), by striking ''It shall'' and all that follows and inserting the following: ''It shall be unlawful for any person to manufacture or distribute a controlled substance in schedule I or II or flunitrazepam or a listed chemical intending, knowing, or having reasonable cause to believe that such substance or chemical will be unlawfully imported into the United States or into waters within a distance of 12 miles of the coast of the United States.

''(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to manufacture or distribute a listed chemical—

''(1) intending or knowing that the listed chemical will be used to manufacture a controlled substance; and

''(2) intending, knowing, or having reasonable cause to believe that the controlled substance will be unlawfully imported into the United States.''.

SEC. 3. TRAFFICKING IN COUNTERFEIT GOODS OR SERVICES.

Chapter 113 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 2318(b)(2), by striking ''section 2320(e)'' and insertion ''section 2320(f)''; and

(2) in section 2320—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following:

''(4) traffics in a drug and knowingly uses a counterfeit mark on or in connection with such drug,'';

(B) in subsection (b)(3), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''counterfeit drug'' and inserting ''drug that uses a counterfeit mark on or in connection with the drug''; and

(C) in subsection (f), by striking paragraph (6) and inserting the following:

''(6) the term 'drug' means a drug, as defined in section 201 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321).''.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. FRANKEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 707. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to extend the reduced interest rate for Federal Direct Stafford Loans; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, once again, on July 1, millions of college students will see the interest rate double on their student loans from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent unless Congress takes action. Borrowers will pay an estimated $1,000 more in interest on their loans each year of repayment if Congress fails to act.

Student loan debt is second only to mortgage debt for American families. Now is not the time to add to student loan debt by allowing the interest rate on need-based student loans to double. I am pleased to introduce the Student Loan Affordability Act with my colleagues Senator AL FRANKEN, Senator SHELDON WHITEHOUSE, Senator DEBBIE STABENOW, Senator SHERROD BROWN, and Senator BERNIE SANDERS to maintain the current 3.4 percent interest rate for the next 2 years, as we work towards a long-term solution in the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.

Last Congress, we narrowly averted a doubling of the interest rate on need-based student loans. It took thousands of calls, letters, and rallies from students and parents across the country and our concerted effort to negotiate a bipartisan solution. However, we were only able to get a temporary, 1-year fix.

The budget passed by the House Republicans assumes a doubling of the interest rate. In stark contrast, the budget resolution we passed last month accommodates legislation to keep rates low.

We need to come together to develop long-term solutions to the growing burden of student loan debt, the rising cost of college, and the need to improve higher education outcomes so that students complete their degrees and get the full benefit of their investment in education. Everyone agrees that college costs are too high and climbing higher. Families will be priced out of a college education, even with grants and loans, if we do not take real action on curbing cost increases.

What we can do right now is reassure students and families that we will not allow the interest rate to double this July at a time when interest rates are at historic lows.

Student loan debt affects millions of Americans. Two-thirds of the class of 2011 graduated owing student loans, with an average debt of $26,000. Student loan debt has passed the $1 trillion mark—exceeding credit card debt. Moreover, the students and families we are trying to help with the Student Loan Affordability Act have demonstrated economic need. Indeed, approximately 60 percent of the dependent students who qualify for subsidized loans come from families with incomes of less than $60,000.

The question before us is will we make the student loan debt burden worse by allowing interest rates to double or will we take action to protect low and moderate income students.

We need to act fast. July 1 is only 81 days away. I urge all our colleagues to join us in supporting the Student Loan Affordability Act.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. COONS):

S. 712. A bill to allow acceleration certificates awarded under the Patents for Humanity Program to be transferrable; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, the American intellectual property system is rightly held as the global standard for promoting innovation and driving economic growth. This is particularly true of our patent system, which was recently updated and strengthened for the 21st century by the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act. The fundamental truth that our Founders recognized more than 200 years ago—that limited exclusive rights for inventors incentivize research and development—continues to benefit consumers and the American economy at large.

These limited rights can also be applied to incentivize research and discoveries that advance humanitarian needs. In my time in the Senate, I have worked to promote policies that encourage intellectual property holders to apply their work to address global humanitarian challenges. Today, I am pleased to join with Senator COONS in reintroducing the Patents for Humanity Program Improvement Act to again advance such policies.

This legislation improves on a program created by the United States Patent and Trademark Office, PTO, last year. The PTO's Patents for Humanity Program provides rewards to selected patent holders who apply their technology to a humanitarian issue that significantly affects the public health or quality of life of an impoverished population. Those who receive the award are given a certificate to accelerate certain PTO processes.

This year, the innovations that received awards touched on critical areas that will help improve the quality of life for people throughout the world. Award winners worked to improve the treatment and diagnosis of devastating diseases, improve nutrition and the environment, and combat the spread of dangerous counterfeit drugs. These are innovations that will make a real difference in the lives of people in the developing world and elsewhere.

Following a Judiciary Committee hearing last year, I asked PTO Director Kappos whether the Patents for Humanity program would be more effective, and more attractive to innovators, if the acceleration certificates awarded were transferable to a third party. He responded that it would, and that it would be particularly beneficial to small businesses. The Patents for Humanity Program Improvement Act makes these acceleration certificates transferrable. It is a straightforward, cost-neutral bill that will strengthen this useful program.

When Congress can establish policies that provide business incentives for humanitarian endeavors, it should not hesitate to act. I urge the Senate to work swiftly to pass this legislation.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 712

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Patents for Humanity Program Improvement Act of 2013''.

SEC. 2. TRANSFERABILITY OF ACCELERATION CERTIFICATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A holder of an acceleration certificate issued pursuant to the Patents for Humanity Program (established in the notice entitled ''Humanitarian Awards Pilot Program'', published at 77 Fed. Reg. 6544 (February 8, 2012)), or any successor thereto, of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, may transfer (including by sale) the entitlement to such acceleration certificate to another person.

(b) REQUIREMENT.—An acceleration certificate transferred under subsection (a) shall be subject to any other applicable limitations under the notice entitled ''Humanitarian Awards Pilot Program'', published at 77 Fed. Reg. 6544 (February 8, 2012), or any successor thereto.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 713. A bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to add Rhode Island to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today, along with my colleague Senator WHITEHOUSE, I am introducing the Rhode Island Fishermen's Fairness Act of 2013.

For nearly a decade, I have worked to give the fishermen of my state full participation in the management of the fish stocks that they rely on for their livelihoods.

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act established eight regional fishery management councils to give fishermen and other stakeholders the leading role in developing the fishery management plans for federally-regulated species. As such, the councils have enormous significance on the lives and livelihoods of fishermen. To ensure equitable representation, the statute sets out the states from which appointees are to be drawn for each council.

Under the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the State of Rhode Island was granted voting membership on the New England Fishery Management Council, NEFMC, as NEFMC-managed stocks represent a significant percentage of landings and revenue for the state. However, while Rhode Island's participation in the New England fishery remains important, its stake in the Mid-Atlantic fishery has become more critical. Yet, it does not have voting representation on the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, MAFMC, which currently consists of representatives from New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina.

Rhode Island's stake in the Mid-Atlantic fishery is hardly incidental. According to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA, data, Rhode Island accounted for approximately 20 percent of the commercial catch from this fishery in 2012, and its landings are greater than the combined total of landings for the States of New York, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina. In fact, New Jersey is the only state currently represented on the MAFMC that lands more MAFMC-regulated species than Rhode Island.

While Rhode Island is represented on some policy-setting committees on the MAFMC, its position on those committees is not guaranteed nor does the state have a vote on matters as they come before the full council. Having that representation can be critically important to Rhode Island as decisions are made on critical stocks like squid, which comprised 40 percent of the state's annual landings in 2012 according to NOAA data, and is a major part of our commercial fishing sector.

This legislation offers Rhode Island that voice. Following current practice, the Rhode Island Fishermen's Fairness Act would create two seats on the MAFMC for Rhode Island: one seat appointed by the Secretary of Commerce based on recommendations from the Governor of Rhode Island, and a second seat filled by Rhode Island's principal State official with marine fishery management responsibility. To accommodate these new members, the MAFMC would increase in size from 21 voting members to 23.

There is precedent for this type of change. North Carolina was added to the MAFMC through an amendment to the Sustainable Fisheries Act in 1996. Like Rhode Island, a significant proportion of North Carolina's landed fish species were managed by the MAFMC, yet the state had no vote on the council.

With mounting economic, ecological, and regulatory challenges, it is more important than ever that Rhode Island's fishermen have a voice in the management of the fisheries on which they depend. I look forward to working with Senator WHITEHOUSE and my other colleagues to restore a measure of equity to the fisheries management process by passing the Rhode Island Fishermen's Fairness Act.

By Mr. REID:

S. 716. A bill to modify the requirements under the STOCK Act regarding online access to certain financial disclosure statements and related forms; considered and passed.

Mr.REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 716

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

SECTION 1. MODIFICATIONS OF ONLINE ACCESS TO CERTAIN FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS AND RELATED FORMS.

(a) PUBLIC, ONLINE DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FORMS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except with respect to financial disclosure forms filed by officers and employees referred to in paragraph (2), section 8(a) and section 11(a) of the STOCK Act (5 U.S.C. App. 105 note) shall not be effective.

(2) EXEMPTED OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.—The officer and employees referred to in paragraph (1) are the following:

(A) The President.

(B) The Vice President.

(C) Any Member of Congress.

(D) Any candidate for Congress.

(E) Any officer occupying a position listed in section 5312 or section 5313 of title 5, United States Code, having been nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate to that position.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1 of the Act entitled ''An Act to change the effective date for the internet publication of certain information to prevent harm to the national security or endangering the military officers and civilian employees to whom the publication requirement applies, and for other purposes'' is repealed.

(b) ELECTRONIC FILING AND ONLINE AVAILABILITY.—

(1) FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND CANDIDATES.—Section 8(b) of the STOCK Act (5 U.S.C. App. 105 note) is amended—

(A) in the heading, by striking '', OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE, AND CONGRESSIONAL STAFF'';

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking ''18 months after the date of enactment of this Act'' and inserting ''January 1, 2014'';

(ii) by amending subparagraph (B) to read as follows:

''(B) public access to—

''(i) financial disclosure reports filed by Members of Congress and candidates for Congress,

''(ii) reports filed by Members of Congress and candidates for Congress of a transaction disclosure required by section 103(l) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, and

''(iii) notices of extensions, amendments, and blind trusts, with respect to financial disclosure reports described in clauses (i) and (ii),

pursuant to title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. 101 et seq.), through databases that are maintained on the official websites of the House of Representatives and the Senate.'';

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking the first two sentences; and

(ii) in the last sentence, by striking ''under this section'' and inserting ''under paragraph (1)(B)'';

(D) in paragraph (3), by striking ''under this subsection'' and inserting ''under paragraph (1)(B)'';

(E) in paragraph (4), by inserting ''be able to'' after ''shall''; and

(F) in paragraph (5), by striking ''under this subsection'' and inserting ''under paragraph (1)(B)''.

(2) FOR EXECUTIVE BRANCH OFFICIALS.—Section 11(b) of the STOCK Act (5 U.S.C. App. 105 note) is amended—

(A) in the heading, by striking ''EMPLOYEES'' and inserting ''OFFICIALS'' ;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking ''18 months after the date of enactment of this Act'' and inserting ''January 1, 2014'';

(ii) by amending subparagraph (B) to read as follows:

''(B) public access to—

''(i) financial disclosure reports filed by the President, the Vice President, and any officer occupying a position listed in section 5312 or section 5313 of title 5, United States Code, having been nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate to that position,

''(ii) reports filed by any individual described in clause (i) of a transaction disclosure required by section 103(l) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, and

''(iii) notices of extensions, amendments, and blind trusts, with respect to financial disclosure reports described in clauses (i) and (ii),

pursuant to title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. 101 et seq.), through databases that are maintained on the official website of the Office of Government Ethics.'';

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking the first two sentences; and

(ii) in the last sentence, by striking ''under this section'' and inserting ''under paragraph (1)(B)'';

(D) in paragraph (3), by striking ''under this subsection'' and inserting ''under paragraph (1)(B)'';

(E) in paragraph (4), by inserting ''be able to'' after ''shall''; and

(F) in paragraph (5), by striking ''under this subsection'' and inserting ''under paragraph (1)(B)''.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. COONS, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 718. A bill to create jobs in the United States by increasing United States exports to Africa by at least 200 percent in real dollar value within 10 years, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise to discuss the Increasing American Jobs through Greater Exports to Africa Act of 2013.

I am introducing this bill along with my partners from the last Congress. Senator CHRIS COONS from the State of Delaware is in the Chamber, the chair of the African Affairs Subcommittee of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Senators JOHN BOOZMAN, BEN CARDIN, and MARY LANDRIEU have joined us in this bipartisan effort. We expect Representatives CHRIS SMITH and KAREN BASS will soon introduce companion legislation in the House.

This is a very straightforward, commonsense piece of legislation.

It is about creating jobs, American jobs. Every $1 billion in exports from America supports over 5,000 jobs. This bill seeks to expand U.S. exports specifically to Africa by 200 percent in real dollar value over the next 10 years. The African market is ripe for greater American commercial engagement. In the past 10 years, people do not believe this, but they should take a look at the facts. In the past 10 years, six of the worlds fastest growing economies were located in Sub-Saharan Africa.

In the next decade, 7 of the top 10 will be in Sub-Saharan Africa. The mental image which most Americans have of Africa is completely out of date. Africa is growing, not only in population but in economic activity. The middle class of Africa is growing as well. Their appetite for goods and service puts an opportunity before us to export from America and to create good jobs in our country with exports to Africa.

In the last decade, the number of Africans with access to the Internet has doubled. From 1998 to today, the number of mobile phones on the continent has grown from 4 million to 500 million. Seventy-eight percent of Africa's rural population now has access to clean water. Over the last 10 years, real income per person in Africa has increased by more than 30 percent. Positive health outcomes are increasing. Enrollment in school is growing.

These are signs of a growing middle class and what the World Bank has called the brink of an economic takeoff in Africa. As my colleague and friend Senator COONS has noted, in a report he recently released on the topic, economic growth in Africa has risen dramatically in recent years. But the continent's vast economic potential has not yet been fully realized by the U.S. Government or the American people.

That report from Senator COONS could not have been more timely and accurate as far as I am concerned. I can tell you, American companies are eager to get into the African market. They should be. But they often face a private finance system that is stuck, thinking about Africa through the prism of the past: wars, famine, strongmen dictators.

I have met with these company leaders, large and small companies alike. They tell me the same thing: The U.S. does not have a coordinated strategy for Africa. Others do. China and others are gaining a foothold in Africa at the expense of our workers. Yesterday, the Ambassador from Algeria came to see me. It is a country that has a fascinating background, colonized like most of the countries in Africa. It went through a storied period of independence in the 1960s and has French roots. The Ambassador said: We pride ourselves, we believe we speak better French than the people living in France. That is their past.

I asked them about their future. I said: What is the presence of China in Algeria today? He said: It is a growing presence. When it comes to the infrastructure of Algeria, it is China that is playing a major role. It is China that is loaning the money to Algeria to build the roads and the bridges and the airports. But there is a catch. You want

to borrow the money from China? There will be Chinese architects, Chinese engineers, Chinese contractors, and half the workforce will be Chinese.

Pretty soon they will have become part of Algeria. The next time there is a decision, whether it is for a telecommunications system, whatever it might be, you can bet the Chinese, with a history of working with the Algerian Government, will be first in line.

They know what is happening there. Africa is developing its economy and they are part of it. They see Africa from two or three different perspectives. First, obviously, it is an opportunity to sell things. It is a market. Second, it can provide basic resources and energy needed by the Chinese. Third, as the middle class grows in each of these countries, the appetite for more and more economic activity will grow.

There was a time when America knew that too. There was a time when we visited the four corners of the world looking for those same opportunities. We are sitting back now and watching. As we watch, China is moving. As I have said many times, the U.S. system of export, promotion, and finance is so poorly coordinated that it is a shame we are losing so many opportunities.

We have dozens of government agencies that are supposed to be working on this problem. I called many of them in my office. It was the first time some of them had met one another. They are supposed to be working together. This bill we are introducing will fix it. It would require a coordinated government strategy to help increase U.S. exports to Africa.

Responsibility for overseeing the implementation of this strategy would be vested in a single position, one coordinator. No more agencies tripping over one another. No more competing priorities. Every day we delay, China and, I might add, India and others will fill the void if America does not step forward.

Since 2009, China has been Africa's largest trading partner. It has flooded the continent with billions of dollars building high-profile construction projects. Often the assistance comes in the form of concessional loans, loans that, frankly, suggest you can borrow $100 million, you only have to pay back $70 million. That practice distorts markets, puts our companies in America at a disadvantage.

Between 2008 and 2010, China provided more to the developing world than the World Bank, to the tune of $110 billion. Currently, China's exports to Africa outnumber America's three to one. The Chinese get it. Should America not get it? Through this engagement, the Chinese are becoming major players all over Africa. I defy you to find a country in Africa where the Chinese are not already a part of the economy and part of the economic conversation.

Recently, Senegal's President Macky Sall told President Obama exactly that in a meeting at the White House, arguing the West should pay as much attention to Africa as China does. I have heard the same thing firsthand, not just from the Algerian Ambassador but from the former President of Ethiopia. Across the continent, it is the same question: Where is the United States?

This bill answers the question. No longer would Africans wonder why American companies were not doing business there. The bill bolsters U.S. Government ability to support these companies, maintains a solid presence of U.S. commercial Foreign Service officers. It is going to help small and medium businesses in the United States compete in Africa. It will increase the focus of the Export-Import Bank, giving it greater incentive to aggressively counter those concessional loans. It will help the Export-Import Bank and the Overseas Private Investment Corporation more quickly process applications so we can be competitive.

Last Congress we almost passed this bill. One would almost think that it is a no-brainer. But, unfortunately, we did not. One Senator objected. He had the courage to come to the floor and voice his objections. I appreciate that very much. But at the same time, on the other side of the aisle, Senators JOHNSON, COBURN, and CORKER were working with me to pass the bill. So we have not given up on making this a successful bipartisan effort.

I think the United States cannot stand by the sidelines just to say we believe in a market economy, get the government out of the picture is to overlook the obvious. The Chinese Government is in the picture, and they are running circles around American companies because of it. In thinking about the issue, we must also not ignore the interests of the Africans themselves—something sometimes our competitors do not focus on.

Chinese engagement comes with a price. China gobbles up natural resources that are needed many times for that growing domestic economy. The infrastructure projects, as I mentioned, often come with Chinese professionals: architects and engineers and workers. When local labor is used, African workers often suffer poor labor standards, if the Chinese are in charge. Environmental standards are ignored. They should be a priority all over the world. We also have to factor in the cost of having to replace products and goods much sooner because, sadly, the Chinese workmanship as well as the quality of their goods does not match what the United States can bring.

I also wish to mention a growing problem that stems from China's presence in Africa; that is, the resurgence of elephant poaching and ivory trafficking. Several recent New York Times articles have highlighted tens of thousands of elephants have been slaughtered.

One may say: I thought we solved this a few years ago with a worldwide ivory ban. It turns out ivory is so popular in the Chinese culture in part of its burgeoning population, one item is sought as an ultimate status symbol in China: Ivory. Reports are that as much as 70 percent of the ivory harvested from slaughtered elephants is smuggled to China. In fact, there is growing evidence that ivory poaching actually increases in elephant-rich areas where the Chinese construction workers are building roads.

Even more troubling, the Chinese demand for ivory funds some of the most despicable actors in Africa. Much of the proceeds from the illegal ivory trade ended up in the hands of Joseph Kony and his murderous group the Lord's Resistance Army. I recently went to Uganda and met two of the victims of Joseph Kony. He is a madman. He has used his beatific visions to generate an Army of slaves, literally soldier slaves. I met one of them, a young man who was dragged out of his African village in Uganda.

Everybody was lined up at the village as Kony and his soldiers stood around with their automatic weapons. They said to this young man: You are going to join our army here or we are going to kill you. Before you join the army, though, there is one thing we have to ask you: Who would you spare among the members of your family here? We are going to kill the rest of them. Which one would you spare?

The young man said, after some hesitation: My father. They walked over and killed his father first. That is the kind of ruthless madman we are dealing with in Joseph Kony. Believe me, President Obama has recently put a target on his back. We are going after this man. We have driven him out of Uganda. We believe he is in the Central African Republic. I saw firsthand while visiting there what we are doing to make sure his reign of terror comes to an end very quickly.

It turns out Kony's reign of terror has been fed and financed by the Chinese demand for ivory. He is poaching ivory from the elephants, slaughtering them in the area and using this ivory to keep his men in arms and for their reign of terror to continue.

The Increasing American Jobs Through Greater Exports to Africa Act has something for everyone to support. It is good for the American economy, helps U.S. businesses create jobs, it is good for U.S. foreign policy, keeps America in a position of global leadership. It is good for the people of Africa by making superior American products and services the standard in their future.

I urge my colleagues to sign on to support this important effort. While we wait and do nothing, the Chinese are acting every single day and America is falling further and further behind.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 718

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Increasing American Jobs Through Greater Exports to Africa Act of 2013''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Export growth helps United States businesses grow and create American jobs. In 2011, United States exports supported 9,700,000 jobs and 97.8 percent of United States exports came from small- and medium-sized businesses in 2010.

(2) The more than 20 Federal agencies that are involved in export promotion and financing are not sufficiently coordinated to adequately expand United States commercial exports to Africa.

(3) The President has taken steps to improve how the United States Government supports American businesses by mandating an executive review across agencies and a new Doing Business in Africa initiative, but a substantially greater high-level focus on Africa is needed.

(4) Many other countries have trade promotion programs that aggressively compete against United States exports in Africa and around the world. For example, in 2010, medium- and long-term official export credit general volumes from the Group of 7 countries (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States) totaled $65,400,000,000. Germany provided the largest level of support at $22,500,000,000, followed by France at $17,400,000,000 and the United States at $13,000,000,000. Official export credit support by emerging market economies such as Brazil, China, and India are significant as well.

(5) Between 2008 and 2010, China alone provided more than $110,000,000,000 in loans to the developing world, and, in 2009, China surpassed the United States as the leading trade partner of African countries. In the last 10 years, African trade with China has increased from $11,000,000,000 to $166,000,000,000.

(6) The Export-Import Bank of the United States substantially increased lending to United States businesses focused on Africa from $400,000,000 in 2009 to $1,400,000,000 in 2011, but the Export-Import Bank of China dwarfed this effort with an estimated $12,000,000,000 worth of financing. Overall, China is outpacing the United States in selling goods to Africa at a rate of 3 to 1.

(7) Other countries such as India, Turkey, Russia, and Brazil are also aggressively seeking markets in Africa using their national export banks to provide concessional assistance.

(8) The Chinese practice of concessional financing runs contrary to the principles of the Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development related to open market rates, undermines naturally competitive rates, and can allow governments in Africa to overlook the troubling record on labor practices, human rights, and environmental impact.

(9) As stated in a recent report entitled ''Embracing Africa's Economic Potential'' by Senator Chris Coons, ''Economic growth in Africa has risen dramatically, but the continent's vast economic potential has not yet been fully realized by the U.S. Government or the American private sector.''

(10) The African continent is undergoing a period of rapid growth and middle class development, as seen from major indicators such as Internet use, clean water access, and real income growth. In the last decade alone, the percentage of the population with access to the Internet has doubled. Seventy-eight percent of Africa's rural population now has access to clean water. Over the past 10 years, real income per person in Africa has grown by more than 30 percent.

(11) Economists have designated Africa as the ''next frontier market'', with profitability of many African firms and growth rates of African countries exceeding global averages in recent years. Countries in Africa have a collective spending power of almost $9,000,000,000 and a gross domestic product of $1,600,000,000,000, which are projected to double in the next 10 years.

(12) In the past 10 years, Africa has been home to 6 of the 10 fastest growing economies in the world. Sub-Saharan Africa is projected to have the fastest growing economies in the world over the next 10 years, with 7 of the 10 fastest growing economies located in sub-Saharan Africa.

(13) When countries such as China assist with large-scale government projects, they also gain an upper hand in relations with African leaders and access to valuable commodities such as oil and copper, typically without regard to environmental, human rights, labor, or governance standards.

(14) Unless the United States can offer competitive financing for its firms in Africa, it will be deprived of opportunities to participate in African efforts to close the continent's significant infrastructure gap that amounts to an estimated $100,000,000,000.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to create jobs in the United States by expanding programs that will result in increasing United States exports to Africa by 200 percent in real dollar value within 10 years.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) AFRICA.—The term ''Africa'' refers to the entire continent of Africa and its 54 countries, including the Republic of South Sudan.

(2) AFRICAN DIASPORA.—The term ''African diaspora'' means the people of African origin living in the United States, irrespective of their citizenship and nationality, who are willing to contribute to the development of Africa.

(3) AGOA.—The term ''AGOA'' means the African Growth and Opportunity Act (19 U.S.C. 3701 et seq.).

(4) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Finance of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the Committee on Financial Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.

(5) DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES.—The term ''development agencies'' includes the Department of State, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC), the United States Trade and Development Agency (USTDA), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and relevant multilateral development banks.

(6) TRADE POLICY STAFF COMMITTEE.—The term ''Trade Policy Staff Committee'' means the Trade Policy Staff Committee established pursuant to section 2002.2 of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations, and is composed of representatives of Federal agencies in charge of developing and coordinating United States positions on international trade and trade-related investment issues.

(7) MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS.—The term ''multilateral development banks'' has the meaning given that term in section 1701(c)(4) of the International Financial Institutions Act (22 U.S.C. 262r(c)(4)) and includes the African Development Foundation.

(8) SUB-SAHARAN REGION.—The term ''sub-Saharan region'' refers to the 49 countries listed in section 107 of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (19 U.S.C. 3706) and includes the Republic of South Sudan.

(9) TRADE PROMOTION COORDINATING COMMITTEE.—The term ''Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee'' means the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee established by Executive Order 12870 (58 Fed. Reg. 51753).

(10) UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN COMMERCIAL SERVICE.—The term ''United States and Foreign Commercial Service'' means the United States and Foreign Commercial Service established by section 2301 of the Export Enhancement Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 4721).

SEC. 4. STRATEGY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall establish a comprehensive United States strategy for public and private investment, trade, and development in Africa.

(b) FOCUS OF STRATEGY.—The strategy required by subsection (a) shall focus on—

(1) increasing exports of United States goods and services to Africa by 200 percent in real dollar value within 10 years from the date of the enactment of this Act;

(2) promoting the alignment of United States commercial interests with development priorities in Africa;

(3) developing relationships between the governments of countries in Africa and United States businesses that have an expertise in such issues as infrastructure development, technology, telecommunications, energy, and agriculture;

(4) improving the competitiveness of United States businesses in Africa, including the role the African diaspora can play in enhancing such competitiveness;

(5) exploring ways that African diaspora remittances can help communities in Africa tackle economic, development, and infrastructure financing needs;

(6) promoting economic integration in Africa through working with the subregional economic communities, supporting efforts for deeper integration through the development of customs unions within western and central Africa and within eastern and southern Africa, eliminating time-consuming border formalities into and within these areas, and supporting regionally based infrastructure projects;

(7) encouraging a greater understanding among United States business and financial communities of the opportunities Africa holds for United States exports;

(8) fostering partnership opportunities between United States and African small- and medium-sized enterprises; and

(9) monitoring—

(A) market loan rates and the availability of capital for United States business investment in Africa;

(B) loan rates offered by the governments of other countries for investment in Africa; and

(C) the policies of other countries with respect to export financing for investment in Africa that are predatory or distort markets.

(c) CONSULTATIONS.—In developing the strategy required by subsection (a), the President shall consult with—

(1) Congress;

(2) each agency that is a member of the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee;

(3) the relevant multilateral development banks, in coordination with the Secretary of the Treasury and the respective United States Executive Directors of such banks;

(4) each agency that participates in the Trade Policy Staff Committee;

(5) the President's National Export Council;

(6) each of the development agencies;

(7) any other Federal agencies with responsibility for export promotion or financing and development; and

(8) the private sector, including businesses, nongovernmental organizations, and African diaspora groups.

(d) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—

(1) STRATEGY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to Congress the strategy required by subsection (a).

(2) PROGRESS REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to Congress a report on the implementation of the strategy required by subsection (a).

(3) CONTENT OF REPORT.—The report required by paragraph (2) shall include an assessment of the extent to which the strategy required by subsection (a)—

(A) has been successful in developing critical analyses of policies to increase exports to Africa;

(B) has been successful in increasing the competitiveness of United States businesses in Africa;

(C) has been successful in creating jobs in the United States, including the nature and sustainability of such jobs;

(D) has provided sufficient United States Government support to meet third country competition in the region;

(E) has been successful in helping the African diaspora in the United States participate in economic growth in Africa;

(F) has been successful in promoting economic integration in Africa; and

(G) has made a meaningful contribution to the transformation of Africa and its full integration into the 21st century world economy, not only as a supplier of primary products but also as full participant in international supply and distribution chains and as a consumer of international goods and services.

SEC. 5. SPECIAL AFRICA STRATEGY COORDINATOR.

The President shall designate an individual to serve as Special Africa Export Strategy Coordinator—

(1) to oversee the development and implementation of the strategy required by section 4; and

(2) to coordinate with the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee, (the interagency AGOA committees), and development agencies with respect to developing and implementing the strategy.

SEC. 6. TRADE MISSION TO AFRICA.

It is the sense of Congress that, not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce and other high-level officials of the United States Government with responsibility for export promotion, financing, and development should conduct a joint trade mission to Africa.

SEC. 7. PERSONNEL.

(a) UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN COMMERCIAL SERVICE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce shall ensure that not less than 10 total United States and Foreign Commercial Service officers are assigned to Africa for each of the first 5 fiscal years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) ASSIGNMENT.—The Secretary shall, in consultation with the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee and the Special Africa Export Strategy Coordinator, assign the United States and Foreign Commercial Service officers described in paragraph (1) to United States embassies in Africa after conducting a timely resource allocation analysis that represents a forward-looking assessment of future United States trade opportunities in Africa.

(3) MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce shall, using existing staff, assign not less than 1 full-time United States and Foreign Commercial Service officer to the office of the United States Executive Director at the World Bank and the African Development Bank.

(B) RESPONSIBILITIES.—Each United States and Foreign Commercial Service officer assigned under subparagraph (A) shall be responsible for—

(i) increasing the access of United States businesses to procurement contracts with the multilateral development bank to which the officer is assigned; and

(ii) facilitating the access of United States businesses to risk insurance, equity investments, consulting services, and lending provided by that bank.

(b) EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES.—Of the amounts collected by the Export-Import Bank that remain after paying the expenses the Bank is authorized to pay from such amounts for administrative expenses, the Bank shall use sufficient funds to do the following:

(1) Increase the number of staff dedicated to expanding business development for Africa, including increasing the number of business development trips the Bank conducts to Africa and the amount of time staff spends in Africa to meet the goals set forth in section 9 and paragraph (4) of section 6(a) of the Export-Import Bank of 1945, as added by section 9(a)(2).

(2) Maintain an appropriate number of employees of the Bank assigned to United States field offices of the Bank to be distributed as geographically appropriate through the United States. Such offices shall coordinate with the related export efforts undertaken by the Small Business Administration regional field offices.

(3) Upgrade the Bank's equipment and software to more expeditiously, effectively, and efficiently process and track applications for financing received by the Bank.

(c) OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION.—

(1) STAFFING.—Of the net offsetting collections collected by the Overseas Private Investment Corporation used for administrative expenses, the Corporation shall use sufficient funds to increase by not more than 5 the staff needed to promote stable and sustainable economic growth and development in Africa, to strengthen and expand the private sector in Africa, and to facilitate the general economic development of Africa, with a particular focus on helping United States businesses expand into African markets.

(2) REPORT.—The Corporation shall report to the appropriate congressional committees on whether recent technology upgrades have resulted in more effective and efficient processing and tracking of applications for financing received by the Corporation.

(3) CERTAIN COSTS NOT CONSIDERED ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—For purposes of this subsection, systems infrastructure costs associated with activities authorized by title IV of chapter 2 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 231 et seq.) shall not be considered administrative expenses.

(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as permitting the reduction of Department of Commerce, Department of State, Export Import Bank, or Overseas Private Investment Corporation personnel or the alteration of planned personnel increases in other regions, except where a personnel decrease was previously anticipated or where decreased export opportunities justify personnel reductions.

SEC. 8. TRAINING.

The President shall develop a plan—

(1) to standardize the training received by United States and Foreign Commercial Service officers, economic officers of the Department of State, and economic officers of the United States Agency for International Development with respect to the programs and procedures of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, the Small Business Administration, and the United States Trade and Development Agency; and

(2) to ensure that, not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act—

(A) all United States and Foreign Commercial Service officers that are stationed overseas receive the training described in paragraph (1); and

(B) in the case of a country to which no United States and Foreign Commercial Service officer is assigned, any economic officer of the Department of State stationed in that country shall receive that training.

SEC. 9. EXPORT-IMPORT BANK FINANCING.

(a) FINANCING FOR PROJECTS IN AFRICA.—

(1) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that foreign export credit agencies are providing non-OECD arrangement compliant financing in Africa, which is trade distorting and threatens United States jobs.

(2) IN GENERAL.—Section 6(a) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635e(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(4) PERCENT OF FINANCING TO BE USED FOR PROJECTS IN AFRICA.—The Bank shall, to the extent that there are acceptable final applications, increase the amount it finances to Africa over the prior year's financing for each of the first five fiscal years beginning after the date of the enactment of the Increasing American Jobs Through Greater Exports to Africa Act of 2013.''.

(3) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the Export-Import Bank shall report to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives if the Bank has not used at least 10 percent of its lending capabilities for projects in Africa as described in paragraph (4) of section 6(a) of the Export-Import Bank of 1945, as added by paragraph (2). The report shall include the reasons why the Bank failed to reach this goal and a description of all final applications for projects in Africa that were deemed unworthy of Bank support.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF PORTION OF CAPITALIZATION TO COMPETE AGAINST FOREIGN CONCESSIONAL LOANS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Bank shall make available annually such amounts as are necessary for loans that counter trade distorting non-OECD arrangement compliant financing or preferential, tied aid, or other related non-market loans offered by other nations for which United States companies are also competing or interested in competing.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the Export-Import Bank shall submit to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the

Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report on all loans made or rejected that were considered to counter non-OECD arrangement compliant financing offered by other nations to its firms. The report shall not disclose any information that is confidential or business proprietary, or that would violate section 1905 of title 18, United States Code (commonly referred to as the ''Trade Secrets Act''). The report shall include a description of trade distorting non-OECD arrangement compliant financing loans made by other countries during that fiscal year to firms that competed against the United States firms.

SEC. 10. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.

Section 22(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 649(b)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting ''the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee,'' after ''Director of the United States Trade and Development Agency,''; and

(2) in paragraph (3), by inserting ''regional offices of the Export-Import Bank,'' after ''Retired Executives,''.

SEC. 11. BILATERAL, SUBREGIONAL AND REGIONAL, AND MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS.

Where applicable, the President shall explore opportunities to negotiate bilateral, subregional, and regional agreements that encourage trade and eliminate nontariff barriers to trade between countries, such as negotiating investor friendly double-taxation treaties and investment promotion agreements. United States negotiators in multilateral forum should take into account the objectives of this Act. To the extent any such agreements exist between the United States and an African country, the President shall ensure that the agreement is being implemented in a manner that maximizes the positive effects for United States trade, export, and labor interests as well as the economic development of the countries in Africa.

Mr. COONS. I rise to thank Senator DURBIN of Illinois for his leadership on these vital issues. You just heard in the comments he made the reach and scope of his vision. I am so impressed with the breadth and depth of his engagement first on behalf of American workers.

The Senator recognizes so clearly that 95 percent of the world's consumers live outside our country, and we have to have a coordinated, capable, competent export strategy in order to continue to access the most promising, most rapidly growing markets in Africa. The 54 countries of the continent of Africa provide enormous opportunity as their growing middle class, increasing access to their human and mineral and natural resources create opportunities for us to grow jobs in the United States.

Nearly 10 million new jobs are supported in the United States by exports to the rest the world. But as Senator DURBIN has wisely seen and pointed out, our competitors are beating us in the race to access these great opportunities. The Chinese, the Brazilians, the Russians, the Indians, in every country on the continent they are present, they are investing, and they are growing.

Senator DURBIN rightly recognized that China has eclipsed the United States as the leading trading partner for Africa. There are real consequences for Africans and for African countries because, sadly, often Chinese investments bring with them Chinese contractors, workers, and a different approach to values: priority in terms of development, a lack of focus on transparency, on human rights, on the environment. As Senator DURBIN detailed in his comments, the consequences can even be so far-reaching as conservation and the impact on wildlife and the ultimate consequences of supporting the worst actors on the continent, folks such as Joseph Kony.

But let me turn, if I might briefly, to the bill which I am proud to cosponsor with Senator DURBIN, which focuses on trying to ensure that more than 10 U.S. Government agencies responsible for export promotion have a coordinated strategy. One of the principal points of Senator DURBIN's bill, which I am proud to cosponsor, challenges the executive branch to sustain and increase our investment in the Foreign Commercial Service, to sustain and increase our resources through entities such as OPIC and Ex-Im and ask the executive branch to create a coordinator to ensure that all of this is done responsibly and in a cost-effective way.

Other things I mentioned in the trade report, which Senator DURBIN was kind enough to quote and to reference, are that in the United States we have an enormous African community which can be strategically vital as American businesses seek to access these growing opportunities across the continent of Africa.

We also look to bolster support for agencies that finance U.S. commercial engagement overseas. Our competitors—in particular, the Chinese—have a very different approach to financing exports. The United States needs to better coordinate and align to act as one Nation.

The goal that is set in this legislation—a 200-percent increase—is an ambitious goal. The goal is to increase U.S. exports to Africa in the next 10 years. If we were to accomplish this goal in a cost-effective way—through more responsibly coordinating the investments we are already making in these Federal agencies to better coordinate the private sector efforts of the United States—think of how many jobs we might create, how many countries we might better connect to the United States. Think of how many towns and workplaces across this country would benefit.

I thank Senator DURBIN today for his leadership, the clarity of his vision, and the breadth of his engagement and investment of time. Someone in his position has so many other issues on which he could be investing his time. Over his entire service here in the Senate of the United States, he has been passionate about clean water for the continent of Africa and passionate about high-quality jobs for the workers of the United States. In this bill he finds a way to make good on both of those passions, improving the lives of Africans across a growing continent and improving the lives of workers across our Nation.

I thank the Senator for his leadership, and I am proud to join him today in cosponsoring this reintroduced bipartisan, soon-to-be bicameral, commonsense bill. Let's hope all of our colleagues will help to take it up and pass it in this Congress.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I would like to thank the Senator from Illinois not only for the chance to help with this effort, but more importantly for his steadfast work to strengthen our bond with the countries of Africa.

We were on the floor last year talking about the importance of this bill—the importance of creating a comprehensive trade strategy with Africa. I know the Senator from Illinois made a valiant effort to get our bill through at the end of the last Congress, but he ran into some resistance. It is my hope that as we re-introduce this bill, we can assuage any outstanding concerns and get this bill passed early in this session.

As the Senator from Illinois stated, Africa is home to many of the few emerging bright spots in a tough global economy. In fact, an article from The Economist this week called it the ''hottest frontier.'' They are right. Within the next decade, Africa will be home to 7 of the 10 fastest growing economies in the world—Nigeria, Ethiopia, Chad, Rwanda, Mozambique and Angola. The Economist article pointed out that by 2020, more than half of African households will have enough income to spend some on non-essentials and that within three decades, the continent will have a larger working age population than China.

When I served in the House, I was on the Africa Subcommittee and traveled often to the continent. I still make trips there to visit with their leaders and the top issue on every meeting agenda continues to be trade. Many African leaders are very concerned about China's increasing footprint in Africa and want the U.S. to be more engaged and involved in their economies.

So, the eagerness and willingness to be good trade partners on the part of African nations is there. They want our goods and services because Africans know they are high quality. The desire for American products, along with our ideals, is strong. The only thing missing is a cohesive strategy on our end. That is what we are aiming to create with this legislation.

This bill will develop a comprehensive strategy to create American jobs by increasing exports of U.S. goods and services to Africa by at least 200 percent in real dollar value over the next 10 years. It increases our ability to help U.S. companies expand into African markets without adding to our debt. So it is a win-win for our economy. It will create jobs here at home

and bring in additional income instead of increasing our debt.

When we talk about job creation, free and fair trade is a vital component to a successful plan. Sixty percent of American exports came from small and medium size businesses. That is huge. Small business is the backbone of our economy. The bottom line is that trade equals jobs.

As I already mentioned, China is bullish on Africa. We need to be too. China is outpacing us in exports to Africa by an alarming 3 to 1 pace. By 2009, China had surpassed us as the African continent's largest trading partner. This bill lets us establish a plan that will allow us to compete with nations like China that are already extremely active in the African market. And that will help our small companies create jobs.

My home State, Arkansas, stands to benefit greatly through the creation of a comprehensive trade plan with Africa. Free and fair trade is an important component to our State's economy. Arkansas exported $5.6 billion in merchandise overseas in 2011, up 7 percent from the previous year. In 2008, over 1,500 companies exported goods from Arkansas. Over ⅓ of exports were from small and medium-sized businesses with fewer than 500 employees. An effective trade strategy with African nations will help us build on that significantly.

So again, increased trade equals increased jobs at home. America needs jobs. That is what this bill is about. That is why we need to move it quickly in this session.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 96—RECOGNIZING THE CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL STUDENT EMPLOYMENT WEEK AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA DULUTH

Ms. KLOBUCHAR submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 96

Whereas National Student Employment Week offers the University of Minnesota Duluth the opportunity to recognize students who work while attending college;

Whereas the University of Minnesota Duluth is committed to increasing awareness of student employment as an educational experience for students and as an alternative to financial aid;

Whereas there are nearly 1,500 student employees at the University of Minnesota Duluth;

Whereas the University of Minnesota Duluth recognizes the importance of student employees to their employers; and

Whereas National Student Employment Week is celebrated the week of April 8 through 12, 2013: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes the celebration of National Student Employment Week at the University of Minnesota Duluth.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 711. Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. REED, Mr. CARPER, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. COWAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 649, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 712. Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 649, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 713. Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. KING) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 649, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 714. Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. COWAN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. CARPER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. HARKIN)) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. BLUMENTHAL to the bill S. 649, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 715. Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. KIRK, and Mr. SCHUMER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 649, supra.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 711. Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. REED, Mr. CARPER, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. COWAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 649, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE IV—ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN

SEC. 401. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Assault Weapons Ban of 2013''.

SEC. 402. DEFINITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 921(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting after paragraph (29) the following:

''(30) The term 'semiautomatic pistol' means any repeating pistol that—

''(A) utilizes a portion of the energy of a firing cartridge to extract the fired cartridge case and chamber the next round; and

''(B) requires a separate pull of the trigger to fire each cartridge.

''(31) The term 'semiautomatic shotgun' means any repeating shotgun that—

''(A) utilizes a portion of the energy of a firing cartridge to extract the fired cartridge case and chamber the next round; and

''(B) requires a separate pull of the trigger to fire each cartridge.''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(36) The term 'semiautomatic assault weapon' means any of the following, regardless of country of manufacture or caliber of ammunition accepted:

''(A) A semiautomatic rifle that has the capacity to accept a detachable magazine and any 1 of the following:

''(i) A pistol grip.

''(ii) A forward grip.

''(iii) A folding, telescoping, or detachable stock.

''(iv) A grenade launcher or rocket launcher.

''(v) A barrel shroud.

''(vi) A threaded barrel.

''(B) A semiautomatic rifle that has a fixed magazine with the capacity to accept more than 10 rounds, except for an attached tubular device designed to accept, and capable of operating only with, .22 caliber rimfire ammunition.

''(C) Any part, combination of parts, component, device, attachment, or accessory that is designed or functions to accelerate the rate of fire of a semiautomatic rifle but not convert the semiautomatic rifle into a machinegun.

''(D) A semiautomatic pistol that has the capacity to accept a detachable magazine and any 1 of the following:

''(i) A threaded barrel.

''(ii) A second pistol grip.

''(iii) A barrel shroud.

''(iv) The capacity to accept a detachable magazine at some location outside of the pistol grip.

''(v) A semiautomatic version of an automatic firearm.

''(E) A semiautomatic pistol with a fixed magazine that has the capacity to accept more than 10 rounds.

''(F) A semiautomatic shotgun that has any 1 of the following:

''(i) A folding, telescoping, or detachable stock.

''(ii) A pistol grip.

''(iii) A fixed magazine with the capacity to accept more than 5 rounds.

''(iv) The ability to accept a detachable magazine.

''(v) A forward grip.

''(vi) A grenade launcher or rocket launcher.

''(G) Any shotgun with a revolving cylinder.

''(H) All of the following rifles, copies, duplicates, variants, or altered facsimiles with the capability of any such weapon thereof:

''(i) All AK types, including the following:

''(I) AK, AK47, AK47S, AK–74, AKM, AKS, ARM, MAK90, MISR, NHM90, NHM91, Rock River Arms LAR–47, SA85, SA93, Vector Arms AK–47, VEPR, WASR–10, and WUM.

''(II) IZHMASH Saiga AK.

''(III) MAADI AK47 and ARM.

''(IV) Norinco 56S, 56S2, 84S, and 86S.

''(V) Poly Technologies AK47 and AKS.

''(ii) All AR types, including the following:

''(I) AR–10.

''(II) AR–15.

''(III) Armalite M15 22LR Carbine.

''(IV) Armalite M15–T.

''(V) Barrett REC7.

''(VI) Beretta AR–70.

''(VII) Bushmaster ACR.

''(VIII) Bushmaster Carbon 15.

''(IX) Bushmaster MOE series.

''(X) Bushmaster XM15.

''(XI) Colt Match Target Rifles.

''(XII) DoubleStar AR rifles.

''(XIII) DPMS Tactical Rifles.
''(XIV) Heckler & Koch MR556.
''(XV) Olympic Arms.
''(XVI) Remington R–15 rifles.
''(XVII) Rock River Arms LAR–15.
''(XVIII) Sig Sauer SIG516 rifles.
''(XIX) Smith & Wesson M&P15 Rifles.
''(XX) Stag Arms AR rifles.
''(XXI) Sturm, Ruger & Co. SR556 rifles.
''(iii) Barrett M107A1.
''(iv) Barrett M82A1.
''(v) Beretta CX4 Storm.
''(vi) Calico Liberty Series.
''(vii) CETME Sporter.
''(viii) Daewoo K–1, K–2, Max 1, Max 2, AR 100, and AR 110C.
''(ix) Fabrique Nationale/FN Herstal FAL, LAR, 22 FNC, 308 Match, L1A1 Sporter, PS90, SCAR, and FS2000.
''(x) Feather Industries AT–9.
''(xi) Galil Model AR and Model ARM.
''(xii) Hi-Point Carbine.
''(xiii) HK–91, HK–93, HK–94, HK–PSG–1, and HK USC.
''(xiv) Kel-Tec Sub–2000, SU–16, and RFB.
''(xv) SIG AMT, SIG PE–57, Sig Sauer SG 550, and Sig Sauer SG 551.
''(xvi) Springfield Armory SAR–48.
''(xvii) Steyr AUG.
''(xviii) Sturm, Ruger Mini-14 Tactical Rife M–14/20CF.
''(xix) All Thompson rifles, including the following:
''(I) Thompson M1SB.
''(II) Thompson T1100D.
''(III) Thompson T150D.
''(IV) Thompson T1B.
''(V) Thompson T1B100D.
''(VI) Thompson T1B50D.
''(VII) Thompson T1BSB.
''(VIII) Thompson T1–C.
''(IX) Thompson T1D.
''(X) Thompson T1SB.
''(XI) Thompson T5.
''(XII) Thompson T5100D.
''(XIII) Thompson TM1.
''(XIV) Thompson TM1C.
''(xx) UMAREX UZI Rifle.
''(xxi) UZI Mini Carbine, UZI Model A Carbine, and UZI Model B Carbine.
''(xxii) Valmet M62S, M71S, and M78.
''(xxiii) Vector Arms UZI Type.
''(xxiv) Weaver Arms Nighthawk.
''(xxv) Wilkinson Arms Linda Carbine.
''(I) All of the following pistols, copies, duplicates, variants, or altered facsimiles with the capability of any such weapon thereof:
''(i) All AK–47 types, including the following:
''(I) Centurion 39 AK pistol.
''(II) Draco AK–47 pistol.
''(III) HCR AK–47 pistol.
''(IV) IO Inc. Hellpup AK–47 pistol.
''(V) Krinkov pistol.
''(VI) Mini Draco AK–47 pistol.
''(VII) Yugo Krebs Krink pistol.
''(ii) All AR–15 types, including the following:
''(I) American Spirit AR–15 pistol.
''(II) Bushmaster Carbon 15 pistol.
''(III) DoubleStar Corporation AR pistol.
''(IV) DPMS AR–15 pistol.
''(V) Olympic Arms AR–15 pistol.
''(VI) Rock River Arms LAR 15 pistol.
''(iii) Calico Liberty pistols.
''(iv) DSA SA58 PKP FAL pistol.
''(v) Encom MP–9 and MP–45.
''(vi) Heckler & Koch model SP–89 pistol.
''(vii) Intratec AB–10, TEC–22 Scorpion, TEC–9, and TEC–DC9.
''(viii) Kel-Tec PLR 16 pistol.
''(ix) The following MAC types:
''(I) MAC–10.
''(II) MAC–11.
''(III) Masterpiece Arms MPA A930 Mini Pistol, MPA460 Pistol, MPA Tactical Pistol, and MPA Mini Tactical Pistol.
''(IV) Military Armament Corp. Ingram M–11.
''(V) Velocity Arms VMAC.
''(x) Sig Sauer P556 pistol.
''(xi) Sites Spectre.
''(xii) All Thompson types, including the following:
''(I) Thompson TA510D.
''(II) Thompson TA5.
''(xiii) All UZI types, including Micro-UZI.
''(J) All of the following shotguns, copies, duplicates, variants, or altered facsimiles with the capability of any such weapon thereof:
''(i) Franchi LAW–12 and SPAS 12.
''(ii) All IZHMASH Saiga 12 types, including the following:
''(I) IZHMASH Saiga 12.
''(II) IZHMASH Saiga 12S.
''(III) IZHMASH Saiga 12S EXP–01.
''(IV) IZHMASH Saiga 12K.
''(V) IZHMASH Saiga 12K–030.
''(VI) IZHMASH Saiga 12K–040 Taktika.
''(iii) Streetsweeper.
''(iv) Striker 12.
''(K) All belt-fed semiautomatic firearms, including TNW M2HB.
''(L) Any combination of parts from which a firearm described in subparagraphs (A) through (K) can be assembled.
''(M) The frame or receiver of a rifle or shotgun described in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), (F), (G), (H), (J), or (K).
''(37) The term 'large capacity ammunition feeding device'—
''(A) means a magazine, belt, drum, feed strip, or similar device, including any such device joined or coupled with another in any manner, that has an overall capacity of, or that can be readily restored, changed, or converted to accept, more than 10 rounds of ammunition; and
''(B) does not include an attached tubular device designed to accept, and capable of operating only with, .22 caliber rimfire ammunition.''.
(b) RELATED DEFINITIONS.—Section 921(a) of title 18, United States Code, as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following:
''(38) The term 'barrel shroud'—
''(A) means a shroud that is attached to, or partially or completely encircles, the barrel of a firearm so that the shroud protects the user of the firearm from heat generated by the barrel; and
''(B) does not include—
''(i) a slide that partially or completely encloses the barrel; or
''(ii) an extension of the stock along the bottom of the barrel which does not encircle or substantially encircle the barrel.
''(39) The term 'detachable magazine' means an ammunition feeding device that can be removed from a firearm without disassembly of the firearm action.
''(40) The term 'fixed magazine' means an ammunition feeding device that is permanently fixed to the firearm in such a manner that it cannot be removed without disassembly of the firearm.
''(41) The term 'folding, telescoping, or detachable stock' means a stock that folds, telescopes, detaches or otherwise operates to reduce the length, size, or any other dimension, or otherwise enhances the concealability, of a firearm.
''(42) The term 'forward grip' means a grip located forward of the trigger that functions as a pistol grip.
''(43) The term 'rocket' means any simple or complex tubelike device containing combustibles that on being ignited liberate gases whose action propels the tube through the air and has a propellant charge of not more than 4 ounces.
''(44) The term 'grenade launcher or rocket launcher' means an attachment for use on a firearm that is designed to propel a grenade, rocket, or other similar destructive device.
''(45) The term 'permanently inoperable' means a firearm which is incapable of discharging a shot by means of an explosive and incapable of being readily restored to a firing condition.
''(46) The term 'pistol grip' means a grip, a thumbhole stock, or any other characteristic that can function as a grip.
''(47) The term 'threaded barrel' means a feature or characteristic that is designed in such a manner to allow for the attachment of a device such as a firearm silencer or a flash suppressor.
''(48) The term 'qualified law enforcement officer' has the meaning given the term in section 926B of title 18, United States Code.
''(49) The term 'grandfathered semiautomatic assault weapon' means any semiautomatic assault weapon the importation, possession, sale, or transfer of which would be unlawful under section 922(v) but for the exception under paragraph (2) of such section.
''(50) The term 'belt-fed semiautomatic firearm' means any repeating firearm that—
''(A) utilizes a portion of the energy of a firing cartridge to extract the fired cartridge case and chamber the next round;
''(B) requires a separate pull of the trigger to fire each cartridge; and
''(C) has the capacity to accept a belt ammunition feeding device.''.

SEC. 403. RESTRICTIONS ON ASSAULT WEAPONS AND LARGE CAPACITY AMMUNITION FEEDING DEVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 922 of title 18, United States Code, as amended by section 123(a) of this Act, is amended—
(1) by inserting after subsection (u) the following:
''(v)(1) It shall be unlawful for a person to import, sell, manufacture, transfer, or possess, in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce, a semiautomatic assault weapon.
''(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to the possession, sale, or transfer of any semiautomatic assault weapon otherwise lawfully possessed under Federal law on the date of enactment of the Assault Weapons Ban of 2013.
''(3) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any firearm that—
''(A) is manually operated by bolt, pump, lever, or slide action;
''(B) has been rendered permanently inoperable; or
''(C) is an antique firearm, as defined in section 921 of this title.
''(4) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to—
''(A) the importation for, manufacture for, sale to, transfer to, or possession by the United States or a department or agency of the United States or a State or a department, agency, or political subdivision of a State, or a sale or transfer to or possession by a qualified law enforcement officer employed by the United States or a department or agency of the United States or a State or a department, agency, or political subdivision of a State, for purposes of law enforcement (whether on or off duty), or a sale or transfer to or possession by a campus law enforcement officer for purposes of law enforcement (whether on or off duty);
''(B) the importation for, or sale or transfer to a licensee under title I of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 for purposes of establishing and maintaining an on-site physical protection system and security organization required by Federal law, or possession by an employee or contractor of such licensee on-site for such purposes or off-site for purposes of licensee-authorized training or transportation of nuclear materials;
''(C) the possession, by an individual who is retired in good standing from service with a law enforcement agency and is not otherwise

prohibited from receiving a firearm, of a semiautomatic assault weapon—

''(i) sold or transferred to the individual by the agency upon such retirement; or

''(ii) that the individual purchased, or otherwise obtained, for official use before such retirement;

''(D) the importation, sale, manufacture, transfer, or possession of a semiautomatic assault weapon by a licensed manufacturer or licensed importer for the purposes of testing or experimentation authorized by the Attorney General; or

''(E) the importation, sale, manufacture, transfer, or possession of a firearm specified in Appendix A to this section, as such firearm was manufactured on the date of introduction of the Assault Weapons Ban of 2013.

''(5) For purposes of paragraph (4)(A), the term 'campus law enforcement officer' means an individual who is—

''(A) employed by a private institution of higher education that is eligible for funding under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.);

''(B) responsible for the prevention or investigation of crime involving injury to persons or property, including apprehension or detention of persons for such crimes;

''(C) authorized by Federal, State, or local law to carry a firearm, execute search warrants, and make arrests; and

''(D) recognized, commissioned, or certified by a government entity as a law enforcement officer.

''(6) The Attorney General shall establish and maintain, in a timely manner, a record of the make, model, and, if available, date of manufacture of any semiautomatic assault weapon which the Attorney General is made aware has been used in relation to a crime under Federal or State law, and the nature and circumstances of the crime involved, including the outcome of relevant criminal investigations and proceedings. The Attorney General shall annually submit a copy of the record established under this paragraph to the Congress and make the record available to the general public.

''(w)(1) It shall be unlawful for a person to import, sell, manufacture, transfer, or possess, in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce, a large capacity ammunition feeding device.

''(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to the possession of any large capacity ammunition feeding device otherwise lawfully possessed on or before the date of enactment of the Assault Weapons Ban of 2013.

''(3) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to—

''(A) the importation for, manufacture for, sale to, transfer to, or possession by the United States or a department or agency of the United States or a State or a department, agency, or political subdivision of a State, or a sale or transfer to or possession by a qualified law enforcement officer employed by the United States or a department or agency of the United States or a State or a department, agency, or political subdivision of a State for purposes of law enforcement (whether on or off duty), or a sale or transfer to or possession by a campus law enforcement officer for purposes of law enforcement (whether on or off duty);

''(B) the importation for, or sale or transfer to a licensee under title I of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 for purposes of establishing and maintaining an on-site physical protection system and security organization required by Federal law, or possession by an employee or contractor of such licensee on-site for such purposes or off-site for purposes of licensee-authorized training or transportation of nuclear materials;

''(C) the possession, by an individual who is retired in good standing from service with a law enforcement agency and is not otherwise prohibited from receiving ammunition, of a large capacity ammunition feeding device—

''(i) sold or transferred to the individual by the agency upon such retirement; or

''(ii) that the individual purchased, or otherwise obtained, for official use before such retirement; or

''(D) the importation, sale, manufacture, transfer, or possession of any large capacity ammunition feeding device by a licensed manufacturer or licensed importer for the purposes of testing or experimentation authorized by the Attorney General.

''(4) For purposes of paragraph (3)(A), the term 'campus law enforcement officer' means an individual who is—

''(A) employed by a private institution of higher education that is eligible for funding under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.);

''(B) responsible for the prevention or investigation of crime involving injury to persons or property, including apprehension or detention of persons for such crimes;

''(C) authorized by Federal, State, or local law to carry a firearm, execute search warrants, and make arrests; and

''(D) recognized, commissioned, or certified by a government entity as a law enforcement officer.''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(bb) SECURE STORAGE OR SAFETY DEVICE REQUIREMENT FOR GRANDFATHERED SEMIAUTOMATIC ASSAULT WEAPONS.—It shall be unlawful for any person, other than a licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, or licensed dealer, to store or keep under the dominion or control of that person any grandfathered semiautomatic assault weapon that the person knows, or has reasonable cause to believe, will be accessible to an individual prohibited from receiving or possessing a firearm under subsection (g), (n), or (x), or any provision of State law, unless the grandfathered semiautomatic assault weapon is—

''(1) carried on the person, or within such close proximity that the person can readily retrieve and use the grandfathered semiautomatic assault weapon as if the grandfathered semiautomatic assault weapon were carried on the person; or

''(2) locked by a secure gun storage or safety device that the prohibited individual has no ability to access.''.

(b) IDENTIFICATION MARKINGS FOR SEMIAUTOMATIC ASSAULT WEAPONS.—Section 923(i) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following: ''The serial number of any semiautomatic assault weapon manufactured after the date of enactment of the Assault Weapons Ban of 2013 shall clearly show the date on which the weapon was manufactured or made, legibly and conspicuously engraved or cast on the weapon, and such other identification as the Attorney General shall by regulations prescribe.''.

(c) IDENTIFICATION MARKINGS FOR LARGE CAPACITY AMMUNITION FEEDING DEVICES.—Section 923(i) of title 18, United States Code, as amended by subsection (b) of this section, is amended by adding at the end the following: ''A large capacity ammunition feeding device manufactured after the date of enactment of the Assault Weapons Ban of 2013 shall be identified by a serial number and the date on which the device was manufactured or made, legibly and conspicuously engraved or cast on the device, and such other identification as the Attorney General shall by regulations prescribe.''.

(d) SEIZURE AND FORFEITURE OF LARGE CAPACITY AMMUNITION FEEDING DEVICES.—Section 924(d) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by inserting ''or large capacity ammunition feeding device'' after ''firearm or ammunition'' each time it appears;

(B) by inserting ''or large capacity ammunition feeding device'' after ''firearms or ammunition'' each time it appears; and

(C) by striking ''or (k)'' and inserting ''(k), (r), (v), or (w)'';

(2) in paragraph (2)(C), by inserting ''or large capacity ammunition feeding devices'' after ''firearms or quantities of ammunition''; and

(3) in paragraph (3)(E), by inserting ''922(r), 922(v), 922(w),'' after ''922(n),''.

(e) APPENDIX A.—Section 922 of title 18, United States Code, as amended by subsection (a) of this section, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''APPENDIX A—FIREARMS EXEMPTED BY THE ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN OF 2013

''CENTERFIRE RIFLES—AUTOLOADERS

''Benelli R1 Rifle
''Browning BAR Mark II Safari Magnum Rifle
''Browning BAR Mark II Safari Semi-Auto Rifle
''Browning BAR Stalker Rifles
''Browning High-Power Rifle
''Browning Longtrac Rifle
''Browning Shorttrac Rifle
''Heckler & Koch HK630
''Heckler & Koch HK770
''Heckler & Koch HK940
''Heckler & Koch Model 300 Rifle
''Heckler & Koch SL7 Rifle
''Iver Johnson 50th Anniversary M–1 Carbine (w/o folding stock)
''Iver Johnson M–1 Carbine (w/o folding stock)
''M–1 Carbines with standard fixed stock
''M–1 Garand with fixed 8 round capacity and standard stock
''Marlin Model 9 Camp Carbine
''Marlin Model 45 Carbine
''Remington Model 74
''Remington Model 81
''Remington Model 740
''Remington Model 742
''Remington Model 750 Synthetic
''Remington Model 750 Woodmaster
''Remington Model 7400 Rifle
''Remington Model 7400 Special Purpose Auto Rifle
''Remington Nylon 66 Auto-Loading Rifle
''Ruger Mini 30
''Ruger Mini-14 (w/o folding stock)
''Ruger PC4
''Ruger PC9
''SKS type rifles with fixed 10 round magazine and standard fixed stock
''Winchester Model SXR

''CENTERFIRE RIFLES—LEVER & SLIDE

''Action Arms Timber Wolf Pump Action
''Beretta 1873 Renegade Lever Action
''Beretta Gold Rush Slide Action
''Big Horn Armory Model 89
''Browning BLR Model 181 Lever Action, All Models
''Browning BPR Pump Rifle
''Browning Model 53 Lever Action
''Browning Model 65 Grade 1 Lever Action Rifle
''Browning Model 71 Rifle and Carbine
''Browning Model 81 BLR
''Browning Model 81 BLR Lever-Action Rifle
''Browning Model 81 Long Action BLR
''Browning Model 1886 High Grade Carbine
''Browning Model 1886 Lever-Action Carbine
''Browning Model B–92 Carbine
''Charles Daly Model 1892 Lever Action, All Models
''Chiappa 1886 Lever Action Rifles
''Cimarron 1860 Henry Replica
''Cimarron 1866 Winchester Replicas

''Cimarron 1873 30″ Express Rifle
''Cimarron 1873 Short Rifle
''Cimarron 1873 Sporting Rifle
''Cimarron 1873 Winchester Replicas
''Dixie Engraved 1873 Rifle
''Dixie Lightning Rifle and Carbines
''E.M.F. 1860 Henry Rifle
''E.M.F. 1866 Yellowboy Lever Actions
''E.M.F. Model 73 Lever-Action Rifle
''E.M.F. Model 1873 Lever Actions
''Henry .30/30 Lever Action Carbine
''Henry Big Boy .357 Magnum
''Henry Big Boy .44 Magnum
''Henry Big Boy .45 Colt
''Henry Big Boy Deluxe Engraved .44 Magnum
''Henry Big Boy Deluxe Engraved .45 Colt
''Marlin Model 30AS Lever-Action Carbine
''Marlin Model 62 Lever Action
''Marlin Model 93 Lever Action
''Marlin Model 308MX
''Marlin Model 308MXLR
''Marlin Model 336 Deluxe
''Marlin Model 336C
''Marlin Model 336CS Lever-Action Carbine
''Marlin Model 336DL Lever Action
''Marlin Model 336SS
''Marlin Model 336W
''Marlin Model 336XLR
''Marlin Model 338MX
''Marlin Model 338MXLR
''Marlin Model 444
''Marlin Model 444 Lever-Action
''Marlin Model 444XLR
''Marlin Model 1894 Marlin Model 1894 Cowboy
''Marlin Model 1894 Lever Action, All Models
''Marlin Model 1894C
''Marlin Model 1894CL Classic
''Marlin Model 1894CS Carbine
''Marlin Model 1894S Lever-Action Carbine
''Marlin Model 1894SS
''Marlin Model 1895
''Marlin Model 1895 Cowboy
''Marlin Model 1895 Lever Action, All Models
''Marlin Model 1895G
''Marlin Model 1895GS
''Marlin Model 1895M
''Marlin Model 1895MXLR
''Marlin Model 1895SBL
''Marlin Model 1895SS Lever-Action Rifle
''Marlin Model 1895XLR
''Marlin XLR Lever Action Rifles
''Mitchell 1858 Henry Replica
''Mitchell 1866 Winchester Replica
''Mitchell 1873 Winchester Replica
''Mossberg 464 Lever Action Rifle
''Mossberg Model 472 Lever Action
''Mossberg Model 479 Lever Action
''Navy Arms 1866 Yellowboy Rifle
''Navy Arms 1873 Sporting Rifle
''Navy Arms 1873 Winchester-Style Rifle
''Navy Arms 1892 Short Rifle
''Navy Arms Henry Carbine
''Navy Arms Henry Trapper
''Navy Arms Iron Frame Henry
''Navy Arms Military Henry Rifle
''Puma Bounty Hunter Rifle
''Puma Model 92 Rifles & Carbines
''Remington 7600 Slide Action
''Remington Model 6 Pump Action
''Remington Model 14, 14 ½ Pump Actions
''Remington Model 141 Pump Action
''Remington Model 760 Slide Actions
''Remington Model 7600 Special Purpose Slide Action
''Remington Model 7600 Synthetic
''Remington Model 7615 Camo Hunter
''Remington Model 7615 Ranch Carbine
''Remington Model 7615 SPS
''Rossi M92 SRC Saddle-Ring Carbine
''Rossi M92 SRS Short Carbine
''Rossi R92 Lever Action Carbines
''Ruger Model 96/44 Lever Action
''Savage 99C Lever-Action Rifle
''Savage Model 170 Pump Action
''Taurus Thunderbolt Pump Action
''Taylor's & CO., Inc. 1865 Spencer Carbine/Rifle
''Taylor's & CO., Inc. 1892 Carbine/Rifle
''U.S. Fire Arms Standard Lightning Magazine Rifle
''Uberti 1866 Sporting Rifle Uberti 1873 Sporting Rifle
''Uberti 1876 Rifle
''Uberti 1883 Burgess Lever Action Rifle/Carbine
''Uberti Henry Rifle
''Uberti Lightning Rifle/Carbine
''Winchester Lever Actions, All Other Center Fire Models
''Winchester Model 94 Big Bore Side Eject
''Winchester Model 94 Ranger Side Eject Lever-Action Rifle
''Winchester Model 94 Side Eject Lever-Action Rifle
''Winchester Model 94 Trapper Side Eject
''Winchester Model 94 Wrangler Side Eject
''Winchester Model 1895 Safari Centennial

''CENTERFIRE RIFLES—BOLT ACTION

''Accurate Arms Raptor & Backpack Bolt Action Rifles
''Alpine Bolt-Action Rifle
''Anschutz 1700D Bavarian Bolt-Action Rifle
''Anschutz 1700D Classic Rifles
''Anschutz 1700D Custom Rifles
''Anschutz 1733D Mannlicher Rifle
''Arnold Arms African Safari & Alaskan Trophy Rifles
''A-Square Caesar Bolt-Action Rifle
''A-Square Genghis Khan Bolt Action Rifle
''A-Square Hamilcar Bolt Action Rifle
''A-Square Hannibal Bolt-Action Rifle
''Auguste Francotte Bolt-Action Rifles
''Bansners Ultimate Bolt Action Rifles
''Beeman/HW 60J Bolt-Action Rifle
''Benton & Brown Firearms, Inc. Model 93 Bolt Action Rifle
''Blackheart International BBG Hunter Bolt Action
''Blackheart International LLC BBG Light Sniper Bolt Action
''Blaser R8 Professional
''Blaser R84 Bolt-Action Rifle
''Blaser R93 Bolt Action Rifle
''BRNO 537 Sporter Bolt-Action Rifle
''BRNO ZKB 527 Fox Bolt-Action Rifle
''BRNO ZKK 600, 601, 602 Bolt-Action Rifles
''Brown Precision Company Bolt Action Sporter
''Browning A-Bolt Gold Medallion
''Browning A-Bolt Left Hand
''Browning A-Bolt Micro Medallion
''Browning A-Bolt Rifle
''Browning A-Bolt Short Action
''Browning A-Bolt Stainless Stalker
''Browning Euro-Bolt Rifle
''Browning High-Power Bolt Action Rifle
''Browning X-Bolt Bolt Action Rifle
''Carbon One Bolt Action Rifle
''Carl Gustaf 2000 Bolt-Action Rifle Century
''Centurion 14 Sporter
''Century Enfield Sporter #4
''Century M70 Sporter
''Century Mauser 98 Sporter
''Century Swedish Sporter #38
''Cheytac M–200
''Cheytac M70 Sporter
''Cooper Model 21 Bolt Action Rifle
''Cooper Model 22 Bolt Action Rifle
''Cooper Model 38 Centerfire Sporter
''Cooper Model 56 Bolt Action Rifle
''CZ 527 Bolt Action Rifles
''CZ 550 Bolt Action Rifles
''CZ 750 Sniper Rifle
''Dakota 22 Sporter Bolt-Action Rifle
''Dakota 76 Classic Bolt-Action Rifle
''Dakota 76 Safari Bolt-Action Rifle
''Dakota 76 Short Action Rifles
''Dakota 97 Bolt Action Rifle
''Dakota 416 Rigby African
''Dakota Predator Rifle
''DSA DS–MP1 Bolt Action Rifle
''E.A.A./Sabatti Rover 870 Bolt-Action Rifle
''EAA/Zastava M–93 Black Arrow Rifle
''Ed Brown Hunting and Model 704 Bolt Action Rifles
''Heym Bolt Action Rifles
''Heym Magnum Express Series Rifle
''Howa Bolt Action Rifles
''Howa Lightning Bolt-Action Rifle
''Howa Realtree Camo Rifle
''H–S Precision Bolt Action Rifles
''Interarms Mark X Bolt Action Rifles
''Interarms Mark X Viscount Bolt-Action Rifle
''Interarms Mark X Whitworth Bolt-Action Rifle
''Interarms Mini-Mark X Rifle
''Interarms Whitworth Express Rifle
''Iver Johnson Model 5100A1 Long-Range Rifle
''KDF K15 American Bolt-Action Rifle
''Kenny Jarrett Bolt Action Rifle
''Kimber Bolt Action Rifles
''Krico Model 600 Bolt-Action Rifle
''Krico Model 700 Bolt-Action Rifles
''Magnum Research Mount Eagle Rifles
''Marlin Model XL7
''Marlin Model XL7C
''Marlin Model XL7L
''Marlin Model XL7W
''Marlin Model XS7
''Marlin Model XS7C
''Marlin Model XS7Y
''Marlin XL–7/XS7 Bolt Action Rifles
''Mauser Model 66 Bolt-Action Rifle
''Mauser Model 99 Bolt-Action Rifle
''McMillan Classic Stainless Sporter
''McMillan Signature Alaskan
''McMillan Signature Classic Sporter
''McMillan Signature Super Varminter
''McMillan Signature Titanium Mountain Rifle
''McMillan Talon Safari Rifle
''McMillan Talon Sporter Rifle
''Merkel KR1 Bolt Action Rifle
''Midland 1500S Survivor Rifle
''Mossberg Model 100 ATR (All-Terrain Rifle)
''Navy Arms TU–33/40 Carbine
''Nosler Model 48 Varmint Rifle
''Parker Hale Bolt Action Rifles
''Parker-Hale Model 81 Classic African Rifle
''Parker-Hale Model 81 Classic Rifle
''Parker-Hale Model 1000 Rifle
''Parker-Hale Model 1100 Lightweight Rifle
''Parker-Hale Model 1100M African Magnum
''Parker-Hale Model 1200 Super Clip Rifle
''Parker-Hale Model 1200 Super Rifle
''Parker-Hale Model 1300C Scout Rifle
''Parker-Hale Model 2100 Midland Rifle
''Parker-Hale Model 2700 Lightweight Rifle
''Parker-Hale Model 2800 Midland Rifle
''Remington 700 ADL Bolt-Action Rifle
''Remington 700 BDL Bolt-Action Rifle
''Remington 700 BDL European Bolt-Action Rifle
''Remington 700 BDL Left Hand
''Remington 700 BDL SS Rifle
''Remington 700 BDL Varmint Special
''Remington 700 Camo Synthetic Rifle
''Remington 700 Classic Rifle
''Remington 700 Custom KS Mountain Rifle
''Remington 700 Mountain Rifle
''Remington 700 MTRSS Rifle
''Remington 700 Safari
''Remington 700 Stainless Synthetic Rifle
''Remington 700 Varmint Synthetic Rifle
''Remington Model 40–X Bolt Action Rifles
''Remington Model 700 Alaskan Ti
''Remington Model 700 Bolt Action Rifles
''Remington Model 700 CDL
''Remington Model 700 CDL 'Boone and Crockett'
''Remington Model 700 CDL Left-Hand

''Remington Model 700 CDL SF Limited Edition
''Remington Model 700 LSS
''Remington Model 700 Mountain LSS
''Remington Model 700 Sendero SF II
''Remington Model 700 SPS
''Remington Model 700 SPS Buckmasters Edition
''Remington Model 700 SPS Buckmasters Edition 'Young Bucks' Youth
''Remington Model 700 SPS Stainless
''Remington Model 700 SPS Tactical Rifle
''Remington Model 700 SPS Varmint
''Remington Model 700 SPS Varmint (Left-Hand)
''Remington Model 700 SPS Youth Synthetic Left-Hand
''Remington Model 700 VL SS Thumbhole
''Remington Model 700 VLS
''Remington Model 700 VS SF II
''Remington Model 700 VTR
''Remington Model 700 XCR
''Remington Model 700 XCR Camo
''Remington Model 700 XCR Compact Tactical Rifle
''Remington Model 700 XCR Left-Hand
''Remington Model 700 XCR Tactical Long Range Rifle
''Remington Model 715
''Remington Model 770
''Remington Model 770 Bolt Action Rifles
''Remington Model 770 Stainless Camo
''Remington Model 770 Youth
''Remington Model 798
''Remington Model 798 Safari
''Remington Model 798 SPS
''Remington Model 799
''Remington Model Seven 25th Anniversary
''Remington Model Seven Bolt Action Rifles
''Remington Model Seven CDL
''Remington Model Seven Custom KS
''Remington Model Seven Custom MS Rifle
''Remington Model Seven Predator
''Remington Model Seven Youth Rifle
''Ruger M77 Hawkeye African
''Ruger M77 Hawkeye Alaskan
''Ruger M77 Hawkeye All-Weather
''Ruger M77 Hawkeye All-Weather Ultra Light
''Ruger M77 Hawkeye Compact
''Ruger M77 Hawkeye International
''Ruger M77 Hawkeye Laminate Compact
''Ruger M77 Hawkeye Laminate Left-Handed
''Ruger M77 Hawkeye Predator
''Ruger M77 Hawkeye Sporter
''Ruger M77 Hawkeye Standard
''Ruger M77 Hawkeye Standard Left-Handed
''Ruger M77 Hawkeye Tactical
''Ruger M77 Hawkeye Ultra Light
''Ruger M77 Mark II All-Weather Stainless Rifle
''Ruger M77 Mark II Express Rifle
''Ruger M77 Mark II Magnum Rifle
''Ruger M77 Mark II Rifle
''Ruger M77 Mark II Target Rifle
''Ruger M77 RSI International Carbine
''Ruger M77
''Ruger Compact Magnum
''Ruger M77RL Ultra Light
''Ruger M77VT Target Rifle
''Ruger Model 77 Bolt Action Rifles
''Sako Bolt Action Rifles
''Sako Classic Bolt Action
''Sako Deluxe Lightweight
''Sako FiberClass Sporter
''Sako Hunter Left-Hand Rifle
''Sako Hunter LS Rifle Sako Hunter Rifle
''Sako Mannlicher-Style Carbine
''Sako Safari Grade Bolt Action
''Sako Super Deluxe Sporter
''Sako TRG–S Bolt-Action Rifle
''Sako Varmint Heavy Barrel
''Sauer 90 Bolt-Action Rifle
''Savage 16/116 Rifles
''Savage 110 Bolt Action Rifles
''Savage 110CY Youth/Ladies Rifle
''Savage 110F Bolt-Action Rifle
''Savage 110FP Police Rifle
''Savage 110FXP3 Bolt-Action Rifle
''Savage 110G Bolt-Action Rifle
''Savage 110GV Varmint Rifle
''Savage 110GXP3 Bolt-Action Rifle
''Savage 110WLE One of One Thousand Limited Edition Rifle
''Savage 112 Bolt Action Rifles
''Savage 112FV Varmint Rifle
''Savage 116 Bolt Action Rifles
''Savage 116FSS Bolt-Action Rifle
''Savage Axis Series Bolt Action Rifles
''Savage Model 10 Bolt Action Rifles
''Savage Model 10GXP Package Guns
''Savage Model 11/111 Series Bolt Action Rifles
''Savage Model 12 Series Rifles
''Savage Model 14/114 Rifles
''Savage Model 25 Bolt Action Rifles
''Savage Model 110GXP3 Package Guns
''Savage Model 112BV Heavy Barrel Varmint Rifle
''Savage Model 112FVS Varmint Rifle
''Savage Model 116FSK Kodiak Rifle
''Shilen Rifles Inc. DGA Bolt Action Rifles
''Smith & Wesson i-Bolt Rifle
''Steyr Scout Bolt Action Rifle
''Steyr SSG 69 PII Bolt Action Rifle
''Steyr SSG08 Bolt Action Rifle
''Steyr-Mannlicher Luxus Model L, M, S
''Steyr-Mannlicher Model M Professional Rifle
''Steyr-Mannlicher Sporter Models SL, L, M, S, S/T
''Thompson/Center ICON Bolt Action Rifles
''Thompson/Center Icon Classic Long Action Rifle
''Thompson/Center Icon Medium Action Rifle
''Thompson/Center Icon Precision Hunter
''Thompson/Center Icon Weather Shield Long Action Rifle
''Thompson/Center Icon Weather Shield Medium Action Rifle
''Thompson/Center Venture
''Tikka Bolt-Action Rifle
''Tikka Premium Grade Rifles
''Tikka T3 Bolt Action Rifles
''Tikka Varmint/Continental Rifle
''Tikka Whitetail/Battue Rifle
''Ultra Light Arms Model 20 Rifle
''Ultra Light Arms Model 24
''Ultra Light Arms Model 28, Model 40 Rifles
''Voere Model 2155, 2150 Bolt-Action Rifles
''Voere Model 2165 Bolt-Action Rifle
''Voere VEC 91 Lightning Bolt-Action Rifle
''Weatherby Classicmark No. 1 Rifle
''Weatherby Lasermark V Rifle
''Weatherby Mark V Crown Custom Rifles
''Weatherby Mark V Deluxe Bolt-Action Rifle
''Weatherby Mark V Rifles
''Weatherby Mark V Safari Grade Custom Rifles
''Weatherby Mark V Sporter Rifle
''Weatherby Vanguard Bolt Action Rifles
''Weatherby Vanguard Classic No. 1 Rifle
''Weatherby Vanguard Classic Rifle
''Weatherby Vanguard VGX Deluxe Rifle
''Weatherby Vanguard Weatherguard Rifle
''Weatherby Weatherguard Alaskan Rifle
''Weatherby Weathermark Alaskan Rifle
''Weatherby Weathermark Rifle
''Weatherby Weathermark Rifles
''Wichita Classic Rifle
''Wichita Varmint Rifle
''Winchester Model 70 Bolt Action Rifles
''Winchester Model 70 Custom Sharpshooter
''Winchester Model 70 Custom Sporting Sharpshooter Rifle
''Winchester Model 70 DBM Rifle
''Winchester Model 70 DBM–S Rifle
''Winchester Model 70 Featherweight
''Winchester Model 70 Featherweight Classic
''Winchester Model 70 Featherweight WinTuff
''Winchester Model 70 Lightweight Rifle
''Winchester Model 70 SM Sporter
''Winchester Model 70 Sporter
''Winchester Model 70 Sporter WinTuff
''Winchester Model 70 Stainless Rifle
''Winchester Model 70 Super Express Magnum
''Winchester Model 70 Super Grade
''Winchester Model 70 Synthetic Heavy Varmint Rifle
''Winchester Model 70 Varmint
''Winchester Ranger Rifle

''CENTERFIRE RIFLES—SINGLE SHOT

''Armsport 1866 Sharps Rifle, Carbine
''Ballard Arms Inc. 1875 #3 Gallery Single Shot Rifle
''Ballard Arms Inc. 1875 #4 Perfection Rifle
''Ballard Arms Inc. 1875 #7 Long Range Rifle
''Ballard Arms Inc. 1875 #8 Union Hill rifle
''Ballard Arms Inc. 1875 1 ½ Hunter Rifle
''Ballard Arms Inc. 1885 High Wall Sporting Rifle
''Ballard Arms Inc. 1885 Low Wall Single Shot
''Brown Model 97D Single Shot Rifle
''Brown Model One Single Shot Rifle
''Browning Model 1885 Single Shot Rifle
''C. Sharps Arms 1875 Target & Sporting Rifle
''C. Sharps Arms Custom New Model 1877
''C. Sharps Arms New Model 1885 High Wall Rifle
''C.Sharps Arms 1874 Bridgeport Sporting Rifle
''C.Sharps Arms 1875 Classic Sharps
''C.Sharps Arms New Model 1874 Old Reliable
''C.Sharps Arms New Model 1875 Rifle
''C.Sharps Arms New Model 1875 Target & Long Range
''Cabela's 1874 Sharps Sporting
''Cimarron Billy Dixon 1874 Sharps
''Cimarron Model 1885 High Wall
''Cimarron Quigley Model 1874 Sharps
''Cimarron Silhouette Model 1874 Sharps
''Dakota Model 10 Single Shot Rifle
''Dakota Single Shot Rifle
''Desert Industries G–90 Single Shot Rifle
''Dixie Gun Works 1873 Trapdoor Rifle/Carbine
''Dixie Gun Works 1874 Sharps Rifles
''Dixie Gun Works Remington Rolling Block Rifles
''EMF Premier 1874 Sharps
''Harrington & Richardson Buffalo Classic Rifle (CR–1871)
''Harrington & Richardson CR 45–LC
''Harrington & Richardson Handi-Mag Rifle
''Harrington & Richardson Handi-Rifle
''Harrington & Richardson Handi-Rifle Compact
''Harrington & Richardson New England Hand-Rifle/Slug Gun Combos
''Harrington & Richardson Stainless Handi-Rifle
''Harrington & Richardson Stainless Ultra Hunter Thumbhole Stock
''Harrington & Richardson Superlight Handi-Rifle Compact
''Harrington & Richardson Survivor Rifle
''Harrington & Richardson Synthetic Handi-Rifle
''Harrington & Richardson Ultra Hunter Rifle
''Harrington & Richardson Ultra Varmint Fluted
''Harrington & Richardson Ultra Varmint Rifle
''Harrington & Richardson Ultra Varmint Thumbhole Stock
''Krieghoff Hubertus Single Shot

''Meacham High Wall
''Merkel K1 Lightweight Stalking Rifle
''Merkel K2 Custom Stalking Rifle
''Model 1885 High Wall Rifle
''Navy Arms #2 Creedmoor Rifle
''Navy Arms 1873 John Bodine Rolling Black Rifle
''Navy Arms 1873 Springfield Cavalry Carbine
''Navy Arms 1874 Sharps Rifles
''Navy Arms 1874 1885 High Wall Rifles
''Navy Arms Rolling Block Buffalo Rifle
''Navy Arms Sharps ''Quigley'' Rifle
''Navy Arms Sharps Cavalry Carbine
''Navy Arms Sharps Plains Rifle
''New England Firearms Handi-Rifle
''New England Firearms Sportster/Versa Pack Rifle
''New England Firearms Survivor Rifle
''Red Willow Armory Ballard No. 1.5 Hunting Rifle
''Red Willow Armory Ballard No. 4.5 Target Rifle
''Red Willow Armory Ballard No. 5 Pacific
''Red Willow Armory Ballard No. 8 Union Hill Rifle
''Red Willow Armory Ballard Rifles
''Remington Model Rolling Block Rifles
''Remington Model SPR18 Blued
''Remington Model SPR18 Nickel
''Remington Model SPR18 Single Shot Rifle
''Remington-Style Rolling Block Carbine
''Rossi Match Pairs Rifles
''Rossi Single Shot Rifles
''Rossi Wizard
''Ruger No. 1 RSI International
''Ruger No. 1 Stainless Sporter
''Ruger No. 1 Stainless Standard
''Ruger No. 1A Light Sporter
''Ruger No. 1B Single Shot
''Ruger No. 1H Tropical Rifle
''Ruger No. 1S Medium Sporter
''Ruger No. 1V Special Varminter
''Sharps 1874 Old Reliable
''Shiloh 1875 Rifles
''Shiloh Sharps 1874 Business Rifle
''Shiloh Sharps 1874 Long Range Express
''Shiloh Sharps 1874 Military Carbine
''Shiloh Sharps 1874 Military Rifle
''Shiloh Sharps 1874 Montana Roughrider
''Shiloh Sharps Creedmoor Target
''Thompson/Center Contender Carbine
''Thompson/Center Contender Carbine Survival System
''Thompson/Center Contender Carbine Youth Model
''Thompson/Center Encore
''Thompson/Center Stainless Contender Carbine
''Thompson/Center TCR '87 Single Shot Rifle
''Thompson/Encore Rifles
''Traditions 1874 Sharps Deluxe Rifle
''Traditions 1874 Sharps Standard Rifle
''Traditions Rolling Block Sporting Rifle
''Uberti (Stoeger Industries) Sharps Rifles
''Uberti 1871 Rolling Block Rifle/Carbine
''Uberti 1874 Sharps Sporting Rifle
''Uberti 1885 High Wall Rifles
''Uberti Rolling Block Baby Carbine
''Uberti Springfield Trapdoor Carbine/Rifle

''DRILLINGS, COMBINATION GUNS, DOUBLE RIFLES

''A. Zoli Rifle-Shotgun O/U Combo
''Auguste Francotte Boxlock Double Rifle
''Auguste Francotte Sidelock Double Rifles
''Baikal IZH–94 Express
''Baikal MP94– (IZH–94) O/U
''Beretta Express SSO O/U Double Rifles
''Beretta Model 455 SxS Express Rifle
''Chapuis RGExpress Double Rifle
''CZ 584 SOLO Combination Gun
''CZ 589 Stopper O/U Gun
''Dakota Double Rifle
''Garbi Express Double Rifle
''Harrington & Richardson Survivor
''Harrington & Richardson Synthetic Handi-Rifle/Slug Gun Combo
''Heym Model 55B O/U Double Rifle
''Heym Model 55FW O/U Combo Gun
''Heym Model 88b Side-by-Side Double Rifle
''Hoenig Rotary Round Action Combination Rifle
''Hoenig Rotary Round Action Double Rifle
''Kodiak Mk. IV Double Rifle
''Kreighoff Teck O/U Combination Gun
''Kreighoff Trumpf Drilling
''Krieghoff Drillings
''Lebeau-Courally Express Rifle 5X5
''Merkel Boxlock Double Rifles
''Merkel Drillings
''Merkel Model 160 Side-by-Side Double Rifles
''Merkel Over/Under Combination Guns
''Merkel Over/Under Double Rifles
''Remington Model SPR94 .410/Rimfire
''Remington Model SPR94 12 Gauge/Centerfire
''Rizzini Express 90L Double Rifle
''Savage 24F O/U Combination Gun
''Savage 24F–12T Turkey Gun
''Springfield Inc. M6 Scout Rifle/Shotgun
''Tikka Model 412s Combination Gun
''Tikka Model 412S Double Fire

''RIMFIRE RIFLES—AUTOLOADERS

''AMT Lightning 25/22 Rifle
''AMT Lightning Small-Game Hunting Rifle II
''AMT Magnum Hunter Auto Rifle
''Anschutz 525 Deluxe Auto
''Armscor Model 20P Auto Rifle
''Browning Auto .22 Rifles
''Browning Auto–22 Rifle
''Browning Auto–22 Grade VI
''Browning BAR .22 Auto Rifle
''Browning SA–22 Semi-Auto 22 Rifle
''Henry U.S. Survival .22
''Henry U.S. Survival Rifle AR–7
''Krico Model 260 Auto Rifle
''Lakefield Arms Model 64B Auto Rifle
''Marlin Model 60 Self Loading Rifles
''Marlin Model 60C
''Marlin Model 60SB
''Marlin Model 60S–CF
''Marlin Model 60SN
''Marlin Model 60ss Self-Loading Rifle
''Marlin Model 70 Auto-loading Rifles
''Marlin Model 70 HC Auto
''Marlin Model 70P Papoose
''Marlin Model 70PSS
''Marlin Model 795
''Marlin Model 795SS
''Marlin Model 922 Magnum Self-Loading Rifle
''Marlin Model 9901 Self-Loading Rifle
''Marlin Model 995 Self-Loading Rifle
''Mossberg 702 Plinkster
''Norinco Model 22 ATD Rifle
''Remington 552BDL Speedmaster Rifle
''Remington Model 522 Viper Autoloading Rifle
''Remington Model 597 Blaze Camo
''Remington Model 597 Pink Camo
''Remington Model 597 Synthetic Scope Combo
''Ruger 10/22 Autoloading Carbine (w/o folding stock)
''Ruger 10/22 Compact
''Ruger 10/22 Sporter
''Ruger 10/22 Target
''Survival Arms AR–7 Explorer Rifle
''Texas Remington Revolving Carbine
''Thompson/Center R–55 All-Weather
''Thompson/Center R–55 Benchmark
''Thompson/Center R–55 Classic
''Thompson/Center R–55 Rifles
''Thompson/Center R–55 Sporter
''Voere Model 2115 Auto Rifle

''RIMFIRE RIFLES—LEVER & SLIDE ACTION

''Browning BL–22 Lever-Action Rifle
''Henry .22 Lever Action Rifles, All Models
''Henry Golden Boy .17 HMR
''Henry Golden Boy .22
''Henry Golden Boy .22 Magnum
''Henry Golden Boy Deluxe
''Henry Lever .22 Magnum
''Henry Lever Action .22
''Henry Lever Carbine .22
''Henry Lever Octagon .22
''Henry Lever Octagon .22 Magnum
''Henry Lever Youth Model .22
''Henry Pump Action Octagon .22
''Henry Pump Action Octagon .22 Magnum
''Henry Varmint Express .17 HMR
''Marlin 39TDS Carbine
''Marlin Model 39A Golden Lever Action
''Marlin Model 39AS Golden Lever-Action Rifle
''Mossberg Model 464 Rimfire Lever Action Rifle
''Norinco EM–321 Pump Rifle
''Remington 572BDL Fieldmaster Pump Rifle
''Rossi Model 62 SA Pump Rifle
''Rossi Model 62 SAC Carbine
''Rossi Model G2 Gallery Rifle
''Ruger Model 96 Lever-Action Rifle
''Taurus Model 62- Pump
''Taurus Model 72 Pump Rifle
''Winchester Model 9422 Lever-Action Rifle
''Winchester Model 9422 Magnum Lever-Action Rifle

''RIMFIRE RIFLES—BOLT ACTIONS & SINGLE SHOTS

''Anschutz 1416D/1516D Classic Rifles
''Anschutz 1418D/1518D Mannlicher Rifles
''Anschutz 1700 FWT Bolt-Action Rifle
''Anschutz 1700D Bavarian Bolt-Action Rifle
''Anschutz 1700D Classic Rifles
''Anschutz 1700D Custom Rifles
''Anschutz 1700D Graphite Custom Rifle
''Anschutz 1702 D H B Classic
''Anschutz 1713 Silhouette
''Anschutz Achiever
''Anschutz Achiever Bolt-Action Rifle
''Anschutz All other Bolt Action Rimfire Models
''Anschutz Kadett
''Anschutz Model 1502 D Classic
''Anschutz Model 1517 D Classic
''Anschutz Model 1517 MPR Multi Purpose
''Anschutz Model 1517 S–BR
''Anschutz Model 1710 D KL
''Anschutz Model 1717 Classic
''Anschutz Model 1717 Silhouette Sporter
''Anschutz Model G4 MPB
''Anschutz Model Woodchucker
''Armscor Model 14P Bolt-Action Rifle
''Armscor Model 1500 Rifle
''Beeman/HW 60–J–ST Bolt-Action Rifle
''BRNO ZKM 452 Deluxe
''BRNO ZKM–456 Lux Sporter
''BRNO ZKM–452 Deluxe Bolt-Action Rifle
''Browning A-Bolt 22 Bolt-Action Rifle
''Browning A-Bolt Gold Medallion
''Browning T-Bolt Rimfire Rifles
''Cabanas Espronceda IV Bolt-Action Rifle
''Cabanas Leyre Bolt-Action Rifle
''Cabanas Master Bolt-Action Rifle
''Cabanas Phaser Rifle
''Chipmunk Single Shot Rifle
''Cooper Arms Model 36S Sporter Rifle
''Cooper Model 57–M Bolt Action Rifle
''CZ 452 Bolt Action Rifles
''Dakota 22 Sporter Bolt-Action Rifle
''Davey Crickett Single Shot Rifle
''Harrington & Richardson Sportster
''Harrington & Richardson Sportster 17 Hornady Magnum Rimfire
''Harrington & Richardson Sportster Compact
''Henry 'Mini' Bolt Action Rifle
''Henry Acu-Bolt .22
''Henry Mini Bolt Youth .22
''Kimber Bolt Action .22 Rifles
''Krico Model 300 Bolt-Action Rifles
''Lakefield Arms Mark I Bolt-Action Rifle

''Lakefield Arms Mark II Bolt-Action Rifle
''Magtech Model MT Bolt Action Rifle
''Magtech Model MT–22C Bolt-Action Rifle
''Marlin Model 15YN 'Little Buckaroo'
''Marlin Model 25MN Bolt-Action Rifle
''Marlin Model 25N Bolt-Action Repeater
''Marlin Model 880 Bolt-Action Rifle
''Marlin Model 881 Bolt-Action Rifle
''Marlin Model 882 Bolt-Action Rifle
''Marlin Model 883 Bolt-Action Rifle
''Marlin Model 883SS Bolt-Action Rifle
''Marlin Model 915 YN 'Little Buckaroo'
''Marlin Model 915Y (Compact)
''Marlin Model 915YS (Compact)
''Marlin Model 917
''Marlin Model 917S
''Marlin Model 917V
''Marlin Model 917VR
''Marlin Model 917VS
''Marlin Model 917VS–CF
''Marlin Model 917VSF
''Marlin Model 917VST
''Marlin Model 917VT
''Marlin Model 925
''Marlin Model 925C
''Marlin Model 925M
''Marlin Model 925R
''Marlin Model 925RM
''Marlin Model 980S
''Marlin Model 980S–CF
''Marlin Model 981T
''Marlin Model 982 Bolt Action Rifle
''Marlin Model 982VS
''Marlin Model 982VS–CF
''Marlin Model 983
''Marlin Model 983S
''Marlin Model 983T
''Marlin Model XT–17 Series Bolt Action Rifles
''Marlin Model XT–22 Series Bolt Action Rifles
''Mauser Model 107 Bolt-Action Rifle
''Mauser Model 201 Bolt-Action Rifle
''Meacham Low-Wall Rifle
''Mossberg Model 801/802 Bolt Rifles
''Mossberg Model 817 Varmint Bolt Action Rifle
''Navy Arms TU–33/40 Carbine
''Navy Arms TU–KKW Sniper Trainer
''Navy Arms TU–KKW Training Rifle
''New England Firearms Sportster Single Shot Rifles
''Norinco JW–15 Bolt-Action Rifle
''Norinco JW–27 Bolt-Action Rifle
''Remington 40–XR Rimfire Custom Sporter
''Remington 541–T
''Remington 541–T HB Bolt-Action
''Rifle Remington 581–S Sportsman Rifle
''Remington Model Five
''Remington Model Five Youth
''Rossi Matched Pair Single Shot Rifle
''Ruger 77/17
''Ruger 77/22
''Ruger 77/22 Rimfire Bolt-Action Rifle
''Ruger 77/44
''Ruger K77/22 Varmint Rifle
''Savage CUB T Mini Youth
''Savage Mark I–G Bolt Action
''Savage Mark II Bolt Action Rifles
''Savage Model 30 G Stevens Favorite
''Savage Model 93 Rifles
''Thompson/Center Hotshot Youth Rifle
''Ultra Light Arms Model 20 RF Bolt-Action Rifle
''Winchester Model 52B Sporting Rifle
''Winchester Wildcat Bolt Action Rifle 22

''COMPETITION RIFLES—CENTERFIRE & RIMFIRE

''Anschutz 1803D Intermediate Match
''Anschutz 1808D RT Super Match 54 Target
''Anschutz 1827B Biathlon Rifle
''Anschutz 1827BT Fortner Biathlon Rifle
''Anschutz 1903 Rifles
''Anschutz 1903D Match Rifle
''Anschutz 1907 Match Rifle
''Anschutz 1910 Super Match II
''Anschutz 1911 Match Rifle
''Anschutz 1912 Rifles
''Anschutz 1913 Super Match Rifle
''Anschutz 54.18MS REP Deluxe Silhouette Rifle
''Anschutz 54.18MS Silhouette Rifle
''Anschutz 64 MP R Silhouette Rifle
''Anschutz 64–MS Left Silhouette
''Anschutz Super Match 54 Target Model 2007
''Anschutz Super Match 54 Target Model 2013
''Beeman/Feinwerkbau 2600 Target Rifle
''Cooper Arms Model TRP–1 ISU Standard Rifle
''E.A.A./HW 60 Target Rifle
''E.A.A./HW 660 Match Rifle
''E.A.A./Weihrauch HW 60 Target Rifle
''Ed Brown Model 704, M40A2 Marine Sniper
''Finnish Lion Standard Target Rifle
''Krico Model 360 S2 Biathlon Rifle
''Krico Model 360S Biathlon Rifle
''Krico Model 400 Match Rifle
''Krico Model 500 Kricotronic Match Rifle
''Krico Model 600 Match Rifle
''Krico Model 600 Sniper Rifle
''Lakefield Arms Model 90B Target Rifle
''Lakefield Arms Model 91T Target Rifle
''Lakefield Arms Model 92S Silhouette Rifle
''Marlin Model 2000 Target Rifle
''Mauser Model 86–SR Specialty Rifle
''McMillan 300 Phoenix Long Range Rifle
''McMillan Long Range Rifle
''McMillan M–86 Sniper Rifle
''McMillan M–89 Sniper Rifle
''McMillan National Match Rifle
''Parker-Hale M–85 Sniper Rifle
''Parker-Hale M–87 Target Rifle
''Remington 40–X Bolt Action Rifles
''Remington 40–XB Rangemaster Target Centerfire
''Remington 40–XBBR KS
''Remington 40–XC KS National Match Course Rifle
''Remington 40–XR KS Rimfire Position Rifle
''Sako TRG–21 Bolt-Action Rifle
''Sako TRG–22 Bolt Action Rifle
''Springfield Armory M–1 Garand
''Steyr-Mannlicher SSG Rifles
''Steyr-Mannlicher Match SPG–UIT Rifle
''Steyr-Mannlicher SSG P–I Rifle
''Steyr-Mannlicher SSG P–II Rifle
''Steyr-Mannlicher SSG P–III Rifle
''Steyr-Mannlicher SSG P–IV Rifle
''Tanner 300 Meter Free Rifle
''Tanner 50 Meter Free Rifle
''Tanner Standard UIT Rifle
''Time Precision 22RF Bench Rifle
''Wichita Silhouette Rifle

''SHOTGUNS—AUTOLOADERS

''American Arms
''American Arms/Franchi Black Magic 48/AL
''Benelli Bimillionaire
''Benelli Black Eagle Competition Auto Shotgun
''Benelli Cordoba
''Benelli Executive Series
''Benelli Legacy Model
''Benelli M1
''Benelli M1 Defense
''Benelli M1 Tactical
''Benelli M1014 Limited Edition
''Benelli M2
''Benelli M2 Field Steady Grip
''Benelli M2 Practical
''Benelli M2 Tactical
''Benelli M2 American Series
''Benelli M3 Convertible
''Benelli M4 Models Vinci Steady Grip
''Benelli Montefeltro Super 90 20–Gauge Shotgun
''Benelli Montefeltro Super 90 Shotgun
''Benelli Raffaello Series Shotguns
''Benelli Sport Model
''Benelli Super 90 M1 Field Model
''Benelli Super Black Eagle II Models
''Benelli Super Black Eagle II Steady Grip
''Benelli Super Black Eagle Models
''Benelli Super Black Eagle Shotgun
''Benelli Super Black Eagle Slug Gun
''Benelli Super Vinci
''Benelli Supersport
''Benelli Two-Gun Sets
''Benelli Ultralight
''Benelli Vinci
''Beretta 390 Field Auto Shotgun
''Beretta 390 Super Trap, Super Skeet Shotguns
''Beretta 3901 Citizen
''Beretta 3901 Rifled Slug Gun
''Beretta 3901 Statesman
''Beretta A–303 Auto Shotgun
''Beretta A400 Series
''Beretta AL–2 Models
''Beretta AL–3 Deluxe Trap
''Beretta AL390 Series
''Beretta AL391 Teknys Gold
''Beretta AL391 Teknys Gold Sporting
''Beretta AL391 Teknys Gold Target
''Beretta AL391 Urika 2 Camo AP
''Beretta AL391 Urika 2 Camo Max–4
''Beretta AL391 Urika 2 Classic
''Beretta AL391 Urika 2 Gold
''Beretta AL391 Urika 2 Gold Sporting
''Beretta AL391 Urika 2 Parallel Target SL
''Beretta AL391 Urika 2 Sporting
''Beretta AL391 Urika 2 Synthetic
''Beretta ES100 Pintail Series
''Beretta Model 1200 Field
''Beretta Model 1201F Auto Shotgun
''Beretta Model 300
''Beretta Model 301 Series
''Beretta Model 302 Series
''Beretta Model 60
''Beretta Model 61
''Beretta Model A304 Lark
''Beretta Model AL391 Series
''Beretta Model TX4 Storm
''Beretta Silver Lark
''Beretta UGB25 Xcel
''Beretta Vittoria Auto Shotgun
''Beretta Xtrema2
''Breda Altair
''Breda Altair Special
''Breda Aries 2
''Breda Astro
''Breda Astrolux
''Breda Echo
''Breda Ermes Series
''Breda Gold Series
''Breda Grizzly
''Breda Mira
''Breda Standard Series
''Breda Xanthos
''Brolin BL–12
''Brolin SAS–12
''Browning A–500G Auto Shotgun
''Browning A–500G Sporting Clays
''Browning A–500R Auto Shotgun
''Browning Auto–5 Light 12 and 20
''Browning Auto–5 Magnum 12
''Browning Auto–5 Magnum 20
''Browning Auto–5 Stalker
''Browning B2000 Series
''Browning BSA 10 Auto Shotgun
''Browning BSA 10 Stalker Auto Shotgun
''Browning Gold Series
''Browning Maxus Series
''Charles Daly Field Grade Series
''Charles Daly Novamatic Series
''Charles Daly Tactical
''Churchill Regent
''Churchill Standard Model
''Churchill Turkey Automatic Shotgun
''Churchill Windsor
''Cosmi Automatic Shotgun
''CZ 712
''CZ 720
''CZ 912
''Escort Escort Series

''European American Armory (EAA) Bundra Series
''Fabarms Ellegi Series
''Fabarms Lion Series
''Fabarms Tactical
''FNH USA Model SLP
''Franchi 610VS
''Franchi 612 Series
''Franchi 620
''Franchi 712
''Franchi 720
''Franchi 912
''Franchi AL 48
''Franchi AL 48 Series
''Franchi Elite
''Franchi I–12 Inertia Series
''Franchi Prestige
''H&K Model 512
''H&R Manufrance
''H&R Model 403
''Hi-Standard 10A
''Hi-Standard 10B
''Hi-Standard Semi Automatic Model
''Hi-Standard Supermatic Series
''Ithaca Mag–10
''Ithaca Model 51 Series
''LaSalle Semi-automatic
''Ljutic Bi-matic Autoloader
''Luger Ultra-light Model
''Marlin SI 12 Series
''Maverick Model 60 Auto Shotgun
''Model AL–1
''Mossberg 1000
''Mossberg Model 600 Auto Shotgun
''Mossberg Model 930 All-Purpose Field
''Mossberg Model 930 Slugster
''Mossberg Model 930 Turkey
''Mossberg Model 930 Waterfowl
''Mossberg Model 935 Magnum Combos
''Mossberg Model 935 Magnum Flyway Series Waterfowl
''Mossberg Model 935 Magnum Grand Slam Series Turkey
''Mossberg Model 935 Magnum Turkey
''Mossberg Model 935 Magnum Waterfowl
''New England Firearms Excell Auto Combo
''New England Firearms Excell Auto Synthetic
''New England Firearms Excell Auto Turkey
''New England Firearms Excell Auto Walnut
''New England Firearms Excell Auto Waterfowl
''Nighthawk Tactical Semi-auto
''Ottomanguns Sultan Series
''Remington 105Ti Series
''Remington 1100 20–Gauge Deer Gun
''Remington 1100 LT–20 Auto
''Remington 1100 LT–20 Tournament Skeet
''Remington 1100 Special Field
''Remington 11–48 Series
''Remington 11–96 Series
''Remington Model 105 Cti
''Remington Model 11 Series
''Remington Model 1100 Classic Trap
''Remington Model 1100 Competition
''Remington Model 1100 G3
''Remington Model 1100 G3
''Remington Model 1100 Series
''Remington Model 1100 Shotgun
''Remington Model 1100 Sporting Series
''Remington Model 11–87 Sportsman Camo
''Remington Model 11–87 Sportsman Super Mag Synthetic
''Remington Model 11–87 Sportsman Super Mag Waterfowl
''Remington Model 11–87 Sportsman Synthetic
''Remington Model 11–87 Sportsman Youth
''Remington Model 11–87 Sportsman Youth Synthetic
''Remington Model 48 Series
''Remington Model 58 Series
''Remington Model 870 Classic Trap
''Remington Model 878A Automaster
''Remington Model SP–10 Magnum Satin
''Remington Model SP–10 Waterfowl
''Remington Model SPR453
''Remington Versa-Max Series
''Savage Model 720
''Savage Model 726
''Savage Model 740C Skeet Gun
''Savage Model 745
''Savage Model 755 Series
''Savage Model 775 Series
''Scattergun Technologies K–9
''Scattergun Technologies SWAT
''Scattergun Technologies Urban Sniper Model
''SKB 1300 Upland
''SKB 1900
''SKB 300 Series
''SKB 900 Series
''SKS 3000
''Smith & Wesson Model 1000
''Smith & Wesson Model 1012 Series
''Spartan Gun Works SPR453
''TOZ Model H–170
''Tri-Star Diana Series
''Tri-Star Phantom Series
''Tri-Star Viper Series
''Tula Arms Plant TOZ 87
''Verona 401 Series
''Verona 405 Series
''Verona 406 Series
''Verona SX801 Series
''Weatherby Centurion Series
''Weatherby Field Grade
''Weatherby Model 82
''Weatherby SA–08 Series
''Weatherby SA–459 TR
''Weatherby SAS Series
''Winchester 1500
''Winchester Model 50
''Winchester Model 59
''Winchester Super X1 Series
''Winchester Super X2 Series
''Winchester Super X3 Series

''SHOTGUNS—SLIDE ACTIONS

''ADCO Diamond Grade
''ADCO Diamond Series Shotguns
''ADCO Mariner Model
''ADCO Sales Inc. Gold Elite Series
''Armscor M–30 Series
''Armscor M–5
''Baikal IZH–81
''Baikal MP133
''Benelli Nova Series
''Benelli Supernova Series
''Beretta Ariete Standard
''Beretta Gold Pigeon Pump
''Beretta Model SL–12
''Beretta Ruby Pigeon Pump
''Beretta Silver Pigeon Pump
''Brolin Field Series
''Brolin Lawman Model
''Brolin Slug Special
''Brolin Slugmaster
''Brolin Turkey Master
''Browning BPS Game Gun Deer Special
''Browning BPS Game Gun Turkey Special
''Browning BPS Pigeon Grade Pump Shotgun
''Browning BPS Pump Shotgun
''Browning BPS Pump Shotgun (Ladies and Youth Model)
''Browning BPS Series Pump Shotgun
''Browning BPS Stalker Pump Shotgun
''Browning Model 12 Limited Edition Series
''Browning Model 42 Pump Shotgun
''Century IJ12 Slide Action
''Century Ultra 87 Slide Action
''Charles Daly Field Hunter
''Ducks Unlimited Dinner Guns
''EAA Model PM2
''Escort Field Series
''Fort Worth Firearms GL18
''H&R Pardner Pump
''Hi-Standard Flite-King Series
''Hi-Standard Model 200
''Interstate Arms Model 981
''Interstate Arms Model 982T
''Ithaca Deerslayer II Rifled Shotgun
''Ithaca Model 87 Deerslayer Shotgun
''Ithaca Model 87 Deluxe Pump Shotgun
''Ithaca Model 87 Series Shotguns
''Ithaca Model 87 Supreme Pump Shotgun
''Ithaca Model 87 Turkey Gun
''Magtech Model 586–VR Pump Shotgun
''Maverick Models 88, 91 Pump Shotguns
''Mossberg 200 Series Shotgun
''Mossberg 3000 Pump shotgun
''Mossberg 535 ATS Series Pump Shotguns
''Mossberg Field Grade Model 835 Pump Shotgun
''Mossberg Model 500 All Purpose Field
''Mossberg Model 500 Bantam
''Mossberg Model 500 Bantam Combo
''Mossberg Model 500 Bantam Pump
''Mossberg Model 500 Camo Pump
''Mossberg Model 500 Combos
''Mossberg Model 500 Flyway Series Waterfowl
''Mossberg Model 500 Grand Slam Series Turkey
''Mossberg Model 500 Muzzleloader
''Mossberg Model 500 Muzzleloader Combo
''Mossberg Model 500 Series Pump Shotguns
''Mossberg Model 500 Slugster
''Mossberg Model 500 Sporting Pump
''Mossberg Model 500 Super Bantam All Purpose Field
''Mossberg Model 500 Super Bantam Combo
''Mossberg Model 500 Super Bantam Slug
''Mossberg Model 500 Super Bantam Turkey
''Mossberg Model 500 Trophy Slugster
''Mossberg Model 500 Turkey
''Mossberg Model 500 Waterfowl
''Mossberg Model 505 Series Pump Shotguns
''Mossberg Model 505 Youth All Purpose Field
''Mossberg Model 535 ATS All Purpose Field
''Mossberg Model 535 ATS Combos
''Mossberg Model 535 ATS Slugster
''Mossberg Model 535 ATS Turkey
''Mossberg Model 535 ATS Waterfowl
''Mossberg Model 835 Regal Ulti-Mag Pump
''Mossberg Model 835 Series Pump Shotguns
''Mossberg Model 835 Ulti-Mag
''Mossberg Turkey Model 500 Pump
''National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) Banquet/Guns of the Year
''New England Firearms Pardner Pump Combo
''New England Firearms Pardner Pump Field
''New England Firearms Pardner Pump Slug Gun
''New England Firearms Pardner Pump Synthetic
''New England Firearms Pardner Pump Turkey Gun
''New England Firearms Pardner Pump Walnut
''New England Firearms Pardner Pump-Compact Field
''New England Firearms Pardner Pump-Compact Synthetic
''New England Firearms Pardner Pump-Compact Walnut
''Norinco Model 98 Field Series
''Norinco Model 983
''Norinco Model 984
''Norinco Model 985
''Norinco Model 987
''Orvis Grand Vazir Series
''Quail Unlimited Limited Edition Pump Shotguns
''Remington 870 Express
''Remington 870 Express Rifle Sighted Deer Gun
''Remington 870 Express Series Pump Shotguns
''Remington 870 Express Turkey
''Remington 870 High Grade Series

''Remington 870 High Grades
''Remington 870 Marine Magnum
''Remington 870 Special Field
''Remington 870 Special Purpose Deer Gun
''Remington 870 Special Purpose Synthetic Camo
''Remington 870 SPS Special Purpose Magnum
''Remington 870 SPS–BG–Camo Deer/Turkey Shotgun
''Remington 870 SPS–Deer Shotgun
''Remington 870 SPS–T Camo Pump Shotgun
''Remington 870 TC Trap
''Remington 870 Wingmaster
''Remington 870 Wingmaster Series
''Remington 870 Wingmaster Small Gauges
''Remington Model 11–87 XCS Super Magnum Waterfowl
''Remington Model 870 Ducks Unlimited Series Dinner Pump Shotguns
''Remington Model 870 Express
''Remington Model 870 Express JR.
''Remington Model 870 Express Shurshot Synthetic Cantilever
''Remington Model 870 Express Super Magnum
''Remington Model 870 Express Synthetic
''Remington Model 870 Express Youth Gun
''Remington Model 870 Express Youth Synthetic
''Remington Model 870 SPS Shurshot Synthetic Cantilever
''Remington Model 870 SPS Shurshot Synthetic Turkey
''Remington Model 870 SPS Special Purpose Magnum Series Pump Shotguns
''Remington Model 870 SPS Super Mag Max Gobbler
''Remington Model 870 XCS Marine Magnum
''Remington Model 870 XCS Super Magnum
''Winchester 12 Commercial Riot Gun
''Winchester 97 Commercial Riot Gun
''Winchester Model 12 Pump Shotgun
''Winchester Model 120 Ranger
''Winchester Model 1200 Series Shotgun
''Winchester Model 1300 Ranger Pump Gun
''Winchester Model 1300 Ranger Pump Gun Combo & Deer Gun
''Winchester Model 1300 Series Shotgun
''Winchester Model 1300 Slug Hunter Deer Gun
''Winchester Model 1300 Turkey Gun
''Winchester Model 1300 Walnut Pump
''Winchester Model 42 High Grade Shotgun
''Winchester Speed Pump Defender
''Winchester SXP Series Pump Shotgun
''Zoli Pump Action Shotgun

''SHOTGUNS—OVER/UNDERS

''ADCO Sales Diamond Series Shotguns
''American Arms/Franchi Falconet 2000 O/U
''American Arms Lince
''American Arms Silver I O/U
''American Arms Silver II Shotgun
''American Arms Silver Skeet O/U
''American Arms Silver Sporting O/U
''American Arms Silver Trap O/U
''American Arms WS/OU 12, TS/OU 12 Shotguns
''American Arms WT/OU 10 Shotgun
''American Arms/Franchi Sporting 2000 O/U
''Armsport 2700 O/U Goose Gun
''Armsport 2700 Series O/U
''Armsport 2900 Tri-Barrel Shotgun
''AYA Augusta
''AYA Coral A
''AYA Coral B
''AYA Excelsior
''AYA Model 37 Super
''AYA Model 77
''AYA Model 79 Series
''Baby Bretton Over/Under Shotgun
''Baikal IZH27
''Baikal MP310
''Baikal MP333
''Baikal MP94
''Beretta 90 DE LUXE
''Beretta 682 Gold E Skeet
''Beretta 682 Gold E Trap
''Beretta 682 Gold E Trap Bottom Single
''Beretta 682 Series
''Beretta 682 Super Sporting O/U
''Beretta 685 Series
''Beretta 686 Series
''Beretta 686 White Onyx
''Beretta 686 White Onyx Sporting
''Beretta 687 EELL Classic
''Beretta 687 EELL Diamond Pigeon
''Beretta 687 EELL Diamond Pigeon Sporting
''Beretta 687 series
''Beretta 687EL Sporting O/U
''Beretta Alpha Series
''Beretta America Standard
''Beretta AS
''Beretta ASE 90 Competition O/U Shotgun
''Beretta ASE 90 Gold Skeet
''Beretta ASE Gold
''Beretta ASE Series
''Beretta ASEL
''Beretta BL Sereis
''Beretta DT10 Series
''Beretta DT10 Trident EELL
''Beretta DT10 Trident L Sporting
''Beretta DT10 Trident Skeet
''Beretta DT10 Trident Sporting
''Beretta DT10 Trident Trap Combo
''Beretta Europa
''Beretta Field Shotguns
''Beretta Gamma Series
''Beretta Giubileo
''Beretta Grade Four
''Beretta Grade One
''Beretta Grade Three
''Beretta Grade Two
''Beretta Milano
''Beretta Model 686 Ultralight O/U
''Beretta Model SO5, SO6, SO9 Shotguns
''Beretta Onyx Hunter Sport O/U Shotgun
''Beretta Over/Under Field Shotguns
''Beretta Royal Pigeon
''Beretta S56 Series
''Beretta S58 Series
''Beretta Series 682 Competition Over/Unders
''Beretta Silver Pigeon II
''Beretta Silver Pigeon II Sporting
''Beretta Silver Pigeon III
''Beretta Silver Pigeon III Sporting
''Beretta Silver Pigeon IV
''Beretta Silver Pigeon S
''Beretta Silver Pigeon V
''Beretta Silver Snipe
''Beretta Skeet Set
''Beretta SO–1
''Beretta SO–2
''Beretta SO–3
''Beretta SO–4
''Beretta SO5
''Beretta SO6 EELL
''Beretta SO–10
''Beretta SO10 EELL
''Beretta Sporting Clay Shotguns
''Beretta SV10 Perennia
''Beretta Ultralight
''Beretta Ultralight Deluxe
''Bertuzzi Zeus
''Bertuzzi Zeus Series
''Beschi Boxlock Model
''Big Bear Arms IJ–39
''Big Bear Arms Sterling Series
''Big Bear IJ–27
''Blaser F3 Series
''Bosis Challenger Titanium
''Bosis Laura
''Bosis Michaelangelo
''Bosis Wild Series
''Boss Custom Over/Under Shotguns
''Boss Merlin
''Boss Pendragon
''Breda Pegaso Series
''Breda Sirio Standard
''Breda Vega Series
''Bretton Baby Standard
''Bretton Sprint Deluxe
''BRNO 500/501
''BRNO 502
''BRNO 801 Series
''BRNO 802 Series
''BRNO BS–571
''BRNO BS–572
''BRNO ZH–300
''BRNO ZH–301
''BRNO ZH–302
''BRNO ZH–303
''Browning 325 Sporting Clays
''Browning 625 Series
''Browning 725 Series
''Browning B–25 Series
''Browning B–26 Series
''Browning B–27 Series
''Browning B–125 Custom Shop Series
''Browning Citori 525 Series
''Browning Citori GTI Sporting Clays
''Browning Citori Lightning Series
''Browning Citori O/U Shotgun
''Browning Citori O/U Skeet Models
''Browning Citori O/U Trap Models
''Browning Citori Plus Trap Combo
''Browning Citori Plus Trap Gun
''Browning Cynergy Series
''Browning Diana Grade
''Browning Lightning Sporting Clays
''Browning Micro Citori Lightning
''Browning Midas Grade
''Browning Special Sporting Clays
''Browning Sporter Model
''Browning ST–100
''Browning Superlight Citori Over/Under
''Browning Superlight Citori Series
''Browning Superlight Feather
''Browning Superposed Pigeon Grade
''Browning Superposed Standard
''BSA Falcon
''BSA O/U
''BSA Silver Eagle
''Cabela's Volo
''Caprinus Sweden Model
''Centurion Over/Under Shotgun
''Century Arms Arthemis
''Chapuis Over/Under Shotgun
''Charles Daly Country Squire Model
''Charles Daly Deluxe Model
''Charles Daly Diamond Series
''Charles Daly Empire Series
''Charles Daly Field Grade O/U
''Charles Daly Lux Over/Under
''Charles Daly Maxi-Mag
''Charles Daly Model 105
''Charles Daly Model 106
''Charles Daly Model 206
''Charles Daly Over/Under Shotguns, Japanese Manufactured
''Charles Daly Over/Under Shotguns, Prussian Manufactured
''Charles Daly Presentation Model
''Charles Daly Sporting Clays Model
''Charles Daly Superior Model
''Charles Daly UL
''Churchill Imperial Model
''Churchill Monarch
''Churchill Premiere Model
''Churchill Regent Trap and Skeet
''Churchill Regent V
''Churchill Sporting Clays
''Churchill Windsor III
''Churchill Windsor IV
''Classic Doubles Model 101 Series
''Cogswell & Harrison Woodward Type
''Connecticut Shotgun Company A. Galazan Model
''Connecticut Shotgun Company A–10 American
''Connecticut Valley Classics Classic Field Waterfowler
''Connecticut Valley Classics Classic Sporter O/U
''Continental Arms Centaure Series
''Cortona Over/Under Shotguns
''CZ 581 Solo
''CZ Canvasback 103D

''CZ Limited Edition
''CZ Mallard 104A
''CZ Redhead Deluxe 103FE
''CZ Sporting
''CZ Super Scroll Limited Edition
''CZ Upland Ultralight
''CZ Wingshooter
''Dakin Arms Model 170
''Darne SB1
''Darne SB2
''Darne SB3
''Depar ATAK
''Doumoulin Superposed Express
''Ducks Unlimited Dinner Guns / Guns of the Year, Over/ Under Models
''Dumoulin Boss Royal Superposed
''E.A.A, Falcon
''E.A.A. Scirocco Series
''E.A.A./Sabatti Falcon-Mon Over/Under
''E.A.A./Sabatti Sporting Clays Pro-Gold O/U
''ERA Over/Under
''Famars di Abbiatico & Salvinelli Aries
''Famars di Abbiatico & Salvinelli Castrone
''Famars di Abbiatico & Salvinelli Dove Gun
''Famars di Abbiatico & Salvinelli Excaliber Series
''Famars di Abbiatico & Salvinelli Jorema
''Famars di Abbiatico & Salvinelli Leonardo
''Famars di Abbiatico & Salvinelli Pegasus
''Famars di Abbiatico & Salvinelli Posiden
''Famars di Abbiatico & Salvinelli Quail Gun
''Famars di Abbiatico & Salvinelli Royal
''Famars di Abbiatico & Salvinelli Royale
''Fausti Boutique Series
''Fausti Caledon Series
''Fausti Class Series
''Ferlib Boss Model
''Finnclassic 512 Series
''Franchi 2004 Trap
''Franchi 2005 Combination Trap
''Franchi Alcione Series
''Franchi Aristocrat Series
''Franchi Black Majic
''Franchi Falconet Series
''Franchi Instict Series
''Franchi Model 2003 Trap
''Franchi Renaissance Series
''Franchi Sporting 2000
''Franchi Undergun Model 3000
''Franchi Veloce Series
''Galef Golden Snipe
''Galef Silver Snipe
''Golden Eagle Model 5000 Series
''Griffon & Howe Black Ram
''Griffon & Howe Broadway
''Griffon & Howe Claremont
''Griffon & Howe Madison
''Griffon & Howe Silver Ram
''Griffon & Howe Superbrite
''Guerini Apex Series
''Guerini Challenger Sporting
''Guerini Ellipse Evo
''Guerini Ellipse Evolution Sporting
''Guerini Ellipse Limited
''Guerini Essex Field
''Guerini Flyaway
''Guerini Forum Series
''Guerini Magnus Series
''Guerini Maxum Series
''Guerini Summit Series
''Guerini Tempio
''Guerini Woodlander
''H&R Harrich #1
''H&R Model 1212
''H&R Model 1212WF
''H&R Pinnacle
''Hatfields Hatfield Model 1 of 100
''Heym Model 55 F
''Heym Model 55 SS
''Heym Model 200
''Holland & Holland Royal Series
''Holland & Holland Sporting Model
''IGA 2000 Series
''IGA Hunter Series
''IGA Trap Series
''IGA Turkey Series
''IGA Waterfowl Series
''K.F.C E–2 Trap/Skeet
''K.F.C. Field Gun
''Kassnar Grade I O/U Shotgun
''KDF Condor Khan Arthemis Field/Deluxe
''Kimber Augusta Series
''Kimber Marias Series
''Krieghoff K–80 Four-Barrel Skeet Set
''Krieghoff K–80 International Skeet
''Krieghoff K–80 O/U Trap Shotgun
''Krieghoff K–80 Skeet Shotgun
''Krieghoff K–80 Sporting Clays O/U
''Krieghoff K–80/RT Shotguns
''Krieghoff Model 20 Sporting/Field
''Krieghoff Model 32 Series
''Lames Field Model
''Lames Skeet Model
''Lames Standard Model
''Lames California Model
''Laurona Model 67
''Laurona Model 82 Series
''Laurona Model 83 Series
''Laurona Model 84 Series
''Laurona Model 85 Series
''Laurona Model 300 Series
''Laurona Silhouette 300 Sporting Clays
''Laurona Silhouette 300 Trap
''Laurona Super Model Over/Unders
''Lebeau Baron Series
''Lebeau Boss Verres
''Lebeau Boxlock with sideplates
''Lebeau Sidelock
''Lebeau Versailles
''Lippard Custom Over/Under Shotguns
''Ljutic LM–6 Deluxe O/U Shotgun
''Longthorne Hesketh Game Gun
''Longthorne Sporter
''Marlin Model 90
''Marocchi Avanza O/U Shotgun
''Marocchi Conquista Over/Under Shotgun
''Marocchi Conquista Series
''Marocchi Model 100
''Marocchi Model 99
''Maverick HS–12 Tactical
''Maverick Hunter Field Model
''McMillan Over/Under Sidelock
''Merkel 201 Series
''Merkel 2016 Series
''Merkel 2116 EL Sidelock
''Merkel 303EL Luxus
''Merkel Model 100
''Merkel Model 101
''Merkel Model 101E
''Merkel Model 200E O/U Shotgun
''Merkel Model 200E Skeet, Trap Over/ Unders
''Merkel Model 200SC Sporting Clays
''Merkel Model 203E, 303E Over/Under Shotguns
''Merkel Model 204E
''Merkel Model 210
''Merkel Model 301
''Merkel Model 302
''Merkel Model 304E
''Merkel Model 310E
''Merkel Model 400
''Merkel Model 400E
''Merkel Model 2000 Series
''Mossberg Onyx Reserve Field
''Mossberg Onyx Reserve Sporting
''Mossberg Silver Reserve Field
''Mossberg Silver Reserve Series
''Mossberg Silver Reserve Sporting
''Norinco Type HL12–203
''Omega Standard Over/Under Model
''Orvis Field
''Orvis Knockabout
''Orvis Premier Grade
''Orvis SKB Green Mountain Uplander
''Orvis Sporting Clays
''Orvis Super Field
''Orvis Uplander
''Orvis Waterfowler
''Pederson Model 1000 Series
''Pederson Model 1500 Series
''Perazzi Boxlock Action Hunting
''Perazzi Competition Series
''Perazzi Electrocibles
''Perazzi Granditalia
''Perazzi Mirage Special Four-Gauge Skeet
''Perazzi Mirage Special Skeet Over/Under
''Perazzi Mirage Special Sporting O/U
''Perazzi MS80
''Perazzi MT–6
''Perazzi MX1/MX2
''Perazzi MX3
''Perazzi MX4
''Perazzi MX5
''Perazzi MX6
''Perazzi MX7 Over/Under Shotguns
''Perazzi MX8/20 Over/Under Shotgun
''Perazzi MX8/MX8 Special Trap, Skeet
''Perazzi MX9 Single Over/Under Shotguns
''Perazzi MX10
''Perazzi MX11
''Perazzi MX12 Hunting Over/Under
''Perazzi MX14
''Perazzi MX16
''Perazzi MX20 Hunting Over/Under
''Perazzi MX28, MX410 Game O/U Shotguns
''Perazzi MX2000
''Perazzi MX2005
''Perazzi MX2008
''Perazzi Sidelock Action Hunting
''Perazzi Sporting Classic O/U
''Perugini Maestro Series
''Perugini Michelangelo
''Perugini Nova Boss
''Pietro Zanoletti Model 2000 Field O/U
''Piotti Boss Over/Under Shotgun
''Pointer Italian Model
''Pointer Turkish Model
''Remington 396 Series
''Remington 3200 Series
''Remington Model 32 Series
''Remington Model 300 Ideal
''Remington Model 332 Series
''Remington Model SPR310
''Remington Model SPR310N
''Remington Model SPR310S
''Remington Peerless Over/Under Shotgun
''Remington Premier Field
''Remington Premier Ruffed Grouse
''Remington Premier Series
''Remington Premier STS Competition
''Remington Premier Upland
''Richland Arms Model 41
''Richland Arms Model 747
''Richland Arms Model 757
''Richland Arms Model 787
''Richland Arms Model 808
''Richland Arms Model 810
''Richland Arms Model 828
''Rigby 401 Sidelock
''Rota Model 650
''Rota Model 72 Series
''Royal American Model 100
''Ruger Red Label O/U Shotgun
''Ruger Sporting Clays O/U Shotgun
''Ruger Woodside Shotgun
''Rutten Model RM 100
''Rutten Model RM285
''S.I.A.C.E. Evolution
''S.I.A.C.E. Model 66C
''S.I.A.C.E.600T Lusso EL
''San Marco 10–Ga. O/U Shotgun
''San Marco 12–Ga. Wildflower Shotgun
''San Marco Field Special O/U Shotgun
''Sauer Model 66 Series
''Savage Model 242
''Savage Model 420/430
''Sig Sauer Aurora Series
''Sig Sauer SA–3
''Sig Sauer SA–5
''Silma Model 70 Series
''SKB Model 85 Series
''SKB Model 500 Series
''SKB Model 505 Deluxe Over/Under Shotgun
''SKB Model 505 Series
''SKB Model 600 Series
''SKB Model 605 Series
''SKB Model 680 Series

''SKB Model 685 Over/Under Shotgun
''SKB Model 685 Series
''SKB Model 700 Series
''SKB Model 785 Series
''SKB Model 800 Series
''SKB Model 880 Series
''SKB Model 885 Over/Under Trap, Skeet, Sporting Clays
''SKB Model 885 Series
''SKB Model 5600 Series
''SKB Model 5700 Series
''SKB Model 5800 Series
''SKB Model GC–7 Series
''Spartan SPR310/320
''Stevens Model 240
''Stevens Model 512
''Stoeger/IGA Condor I O/U Shotgun
''Stoeger/IGA ERA 2000 Over/Under Shotgun
''Techni-Mec Model 610 Over/Under
''Tikka Model 412S Field Grade Over/Under
''Traditions 350 Series Traditions Classic Field Series
''Traditions Classic Upland Series
''Traditions Gold Wing Series
''Traditions Real 16 Series
''Tri Star Model 330 Series
''Tri-Star Hunter EX
''Tri-Star Model 300
''Tri-Star Model 333 Series
''Tri-Star Setter Model
''Tri-Star Silver Series
''Tri-Star Sporting Model
''TULA 120
''TULA 200
''TULA TOZ34
''Universal 7112
''Universal 7312
''Universal 7412
''Universal 7712
''Universal 7812
''Universal 7912
''Verona 501 Series
''Verona 680 Series
''Verona 702 Series
''Verona LX692 Series
''Verona LX980 Series
''Weatherby Athena Grade IV O/U Shotguns
''Weatherby Athena Grade V Classic Field O/U
''Weatherby Athena Series
''Weatherby Classic Field Models
''Weatherby II, III Classic Field O/Us
''Weatherby Orion II Classic Sporting Clays O/U
''Weatherby Orion II series
''Weatherby Orion II Sporting Clays O/U
''Weatherby Orion III Series
''Weatherby Orion O/U Shotguns
''Winchester Model 91
''Winchester Model 96
''Winchester Model 99
''Winchester Model 101 All Models and Grades
''Winchester Model 1001 O/U Shotgun
''Winchester Model 1001 Series
''Winchester Model 1001 Sporting Clays O/U
''Winchester Model G5500
''Winchester Model G6500
''Winchester Select Series
''Zoli Condor
''Zoli Deluxe Model
''Zoli Dove
''Zoli Field Special
''Zoli Pigeon Model
''Zoli Silver Snipe
''Zoli Snipe
''Zoli Special Model
''Zoli Target Series
''Zoli Texas
''Zoli Z Series
''Zoli Z–90 Series
''Zoli Z-Sport Series

''SHOTGUNS—SIDE BY SIDES

''Armas Azor Sidelock Model
''ADCO Sales Diamond Series Shotguns
''American Arms Brittany Shotgun
''American Arms Derby Side-by-Side
''American Arms Gentry Double Shotgun
''American Arms Grulla #2 Double Shotgun
''American Arms TS/SS 10 Double Shotgun
''American Arms TS/SS 12 Side-by-Side
''American Arms WS/SS 10
''Arizaga Model 31 Double Shotgun
''Armes de Chasse Sidelock and Boxlock Shotguns
''Armsport 1050 Series Double Shotguns
''Arrieta Sidelock Double Shotguns
''Auguste Francotte Boxlock Shotgun
''Auguste Francotte Sidelock Shotgun
''AYA Boxlock Shotguns
''AYA Sidelock Double Shotguns
''Baikal IZH–43 Series Shotguns
''Baikal MP210 Series Shotguns
''Baikal MP213 Series Shotguns
''Baikal MP220 Series Shotguns
''Baker Gun Sidelock Models
''Baltimore Arms Co. Style 1
''Baltimore Arms Co. Style 2
''Bayard Boxlock and Sidelock Model Shotguns
''Beretta 450 series Shotguns
''Beretta 451 Series Shotguns
''Beretta 452 Series Shotguns
''Beretta 470 Series Shotguns
''Beretta Custom Grade Shotguns
''Beretta Francia Standard
''Beretta Imperiale Montecarlo
''Beretta Model 452 Sidelock Shotgun
''Beretta Omega Standard
''Beretta Side-by-Side Field Shotguns
''Beretta Verona/Bergamo
''Bertuzzi Ariete Hammer Gun
''Bertuzzi Model Orione
''Bertuzzi Venere Series Shotguns
''Beschi Sidelock and Boxlock Models
''Bill Hanus Birdgun Doubles
''Bosis Country SxS
''Bosis Hammer Gun
''Bosis Queen Sidelock
''Boss Robertson SxS
''Boss SxS
''Boswell Boxlock Model
''Boswell Feartherweight Monarch Grade
''Boswell Merlin Sidelock
''Boswell Sidelock Model
''Breda Andromeda Special
''BRNO ZP Series Shotguns
''Brown SxS Shotgun
''Browning B–SS
''Browning B–SS Belgian/ Japanese Prototype
''Browning B–SS Sidelock
''Browning B–SS Sporter
''Bruchet Model A
''Bruchet Model B
''BSA Classic
''BSA Royal
''Cabela's ATA Grade II Custom
''Cabela's Hemingway Model
''Casartelli Sidelock Model
''Century Coach SxS
''Chapuis RGP Series Shotguns
''Chapuis RP Series Shotguns
''Chapuis Side-by-Side Shotgun
''Chapuis UGP Round Design SxS
''Charles Daly 1974 Wildlife Commemorative
''Charles Daly Classic Coach Gun
''Charles Daly Diamond SxS
''Charles Daly Empire SxS
''Charles Daly Model 306
''Charles Daly Model 500
''Charles Daly Model Dss Double
''Charles Daly Superior SxS
''Churchill Continental Series Shotguns
''Churchill Crown Model
''Churchill Field Model
''Churchill Hercules Model
''Churchill Imperial Model
''Churchill Premiere Series Shotguns
''Churchill Regal Model
''Churchill Royal Model
''Churchill Windsor Series Shotguns
''Cimarron Coach Guns
''Classic Doubles Model 201
''Classic Clot 1878 Hammer Shotgun
''Cogswell & Harrison Sidelock and Boxlock Shotguns
''Colt 1883 Hammerless
''Colt SxS Shotgun
''Connecticut Shotgun Co. Model 21
''Connecticut Shotgun Co. RBL Series
''Continental Arms Centaure
''Crescent SxS Model
''Crucelegui Hermanos Model 150 Double
''CZ Amarillo
''CZ Bobwhite
''CZ Competition
''CZ Deluxe
''CZ Durango
''CZ Grouse
''CZ Hammer Models
''CZ Partridge
''CZ Ringneck
''CZ Ringneck Target
''Dakin Model 100
''Dakin Model 147
''Dakin Model 160
''Dakin Model 215
''Dakota American Legend
''Dakota Classic Grade
''Dakota Classic Grade II
''Dakota Classic Grade III
''Dakota Premier Grade
''Dan Arms Deluxe Field Model
''Dan Arms Field Model
''Darne Sliding Breech Series Shotguns
''Davidson Arms Model 63B
''Davidson Arms Model 69SL
''Davidson Arms Model 73 Stagecoach
''Dumoulin Continental Model
''Dumoulin Etendard Model
''Dumoulin Europa Model
''Dumoulin Liege Model
''E.A.A. SABA
''E.A.A./Sabatti Saba-Mon Double Shotgun
''E.M.F. Model 1878 SxS
''E.M.F. Stagecoach SxS Model
''ERA Quail SxS
''ERA Riot SxS
''ERA SxS
''Famars Boxlock Models
''Famars Castore
''Famars Sidelock Models
''Fausti Caledon
''Fausti Class
''Fausti Class Round Body
''Fausti DEA Series Shotguns
''Ferlib Mignon Hammer Model
''Ferlib Model F VII Double Shotgun
''FN Anson SxS Standard Grade
''FN New Anson SxS Standard Grade
''FN Sidelock Standard Grade
''Fox Higher Grade Models (A–F)
''Fox Sterlingworth Series
''Franchi Airone
''Franchi Astore Series
''Franchi Destino
''Franchi Highlander
''Franchi Sidelock Double Barrel
''Francotte Boxlock Shotgun
''Francotte Jubilee Model
''Francotte Sidelock Shotgun
''Galef Silver Hawk SxS
''Galef Zabala SxS
''Garbi Model 100
''Garbi Model 101 Side-by-Side
''Garbi Model 103A, B Side-by-Side
''Garbi Model 200 Side-by-Side
''Gastinne Model 105
''Gastinne Model 202
''Gastinne Model 353
''Gastinne Model 98
''Gib 10 Gauge Magnum
''Gil Alhambra
''Gil Diamond
''Gil Laga
''Gil Olimpia
''Greener Sidelock SxS Shotguns
''Griffin & Howe Britte

''Griffin & Howe Continental Sidelock
''Griffin & Howe Round Body Game Gun
''Griffin & Howe Traditional Game Gun
''Grulla 217 Series
''Grulla 219 Series
''Grulla Consort
''Grulla Model 209 Holland
''Grulla Model 215
''Grulla Model 216 Series
''Grulla Number 1
''Grulla Royal
''Grulla Super MH
''Grulla Supreme
''Grulla Windsor
''H&R Anson & Deeley SxS
''H&R Model 404
''H&R Small Bore SxS hammer Gun
''Hatfield Uplander Shotgun
''Henry Atkin Boxlock Model
''Henry Atkin Sidelock Model
''Holland & Holland Cavalier Boxlock
''Holland & Holland Dominion Game Gun
''Holland & Holland Northwood Boxlock
''Holland & Holland Round Action Sidelock
''Holland & Holland Round Action Sidelock Paradox
''Holland & Holland Royal Hammerless Ejector Sidelock
''Holland & Holland Sidelock Shotguns
''Holloway premier Sidelock SxS Model
''Hopkins & Allen Boxlock and Sidelock Models
''Huglu SxS Shotguns
''Husqvarna SxS Shotguns
''IGA Deluxe Model
''IGA Turkey Series Model
''Interstate Arms Model 99 Coach Gun
''Ithaca Classic Doubles Series Shotguns
''Ithaca Hammerless Series
''Iver Johnson Hammerless Model Shotguns
''Jeffery Boxlock Shotguns
''Jeffery Sidelock Shotguns
''K.B.I Grade II SxS
''Khan Coach Gun
''Kimber Valier Series
''Krieghoff Essencia Boxlock
''Krieghoff Essencia Sidelock
''Lanber Imperial Sidelock
''Laurona Boxlock Models
''Laurona Sidelock Models
''Lefever Grade A Field Model
''Lefever Grade A Skeet Model
''Lefever New
''Lefever Model
''Lefever Nitro Special
''Lefever Sideplate Models
''Leforgeron Boxlock Ejector
''Leforgeron Sidelock Ejector
''Liberty Coach Gun Series
''MacNaughton Sidelock Model
''Malin Boxlock Model
''Malin Sidelock Model
''Masquelier Boxlock Model
''Masquelier Sidelock Model
''Medwell SxS Sidelock
''Merkel Model 8, 47E Side-by-Side Shotguns
''Merkel Model 47LSC Sporting Clays Double
''Merkel Model 47S, 147S Side-by-Sides
''Merkel Model 76E
''Merkel Model 122E
''Merkel Model 126E
''Merkel Model 280 Series
''Merkel Model 360 Series
''Merkel Model 447SL
''Merkel Model 1620 Series
''Merkel Model 1622 Series
''Mossberg Onyx Reserve Sporting
''Mossberg Silver Reserve Field
''Navy Arms Model 100
''Navy Arms Model 150
''Orvis Custom Uplander
''Orvis Field Grade
''Orvis Fine Grade
''Orvis Rounded Action
''Orvis Waterfowler
''Parker Fluid Steel Barrel Models (All Grades)
''Parker Reproductions Side-by-Side
''Pederson Model 200
''Pederson Model 2500
''Perazzi DHO Models
''Perugini Ausonia
''Perugini Classic Model
''Perugini Liberty
''Perugini Regina Model
''Perugini Romagna Gun
''Piotti Hammer Gun
''Piotti King Extra Side-by-Side
''Piotti King No. 1 Side-by-Side Piotti Lunik Side-by-Side
''Piotti Monaco Series
''Piotti Monte Carlo
''Piotti Piuma Side-by-Side
''Piotti Westlake
''Precision Sports Model 600 Series Doubles
''Premier Italian made SxS Shotguns
''Premier Spanish made SxS Shotguns
''Purdy Best Quality Game Gun
''Remington Model 1900 Hammerless
''Remington Model SPR210
''Remington Model SPR220
''Remington Model SPR220 Cowboy
''Remington Premier SxS
''Richland Arms Co. Italian made SxS Models
''Richland Arms Co. Spanish made SxS Models
''Rigby Boxlock Shotgun
''Rigby Hammer Shotgun
''Rizzini Boxlock Side-by-Side
''Rizzini Sidelock Side-by-Side
''Rossi Overlund
''Rossi Squire
''Rota Model 105
''Rota Model 106
''Rota Model 411 Series
''Royal American Model 600 Boxlock
''Royal American Model 800 Sidelock
''Ruger Gold Label
''SAE Model 209E
''SAE Model 210S
''SAE Model 340X
''Sarasqueta Mammerless Sidelock
''Sarasqueta Model 3 Boxlock
''Sauer Boxlock Model Shotguns
''Sauer Sidelock Model Shotguns
''Savage Fox Model FA–1
''Savage Model 550
''Scott Blenheim
''Scott Bowood
''Scott Chatsworth
''Scott Kinmount
''SIACE Italian made SxS Shotguns
''SKB Model 100
''SKB Model 150
''SKB Model 200
''SKB Model 280
''SKB Model 300
''SKB Model 385
''SKB Model 400
''SKB Model 480
''SKB Model 485
''Smith & Wesson Elite Gold Series Grade I
''Smith & Wesson Elite Silver Grade I
''Smith, L.C. Boxlock Hammerless Shotguns
''Smith, L.C. Sidelock Hammerless Shotguns
''Spartan SPR Series Shotguns
''Stevens Model 311/315 Series
''Stoeger/IGA Uplander Side-by-Side Shotgun
''Taylor's SxS Model
''Tri-Star Model 311
''Tri-Star Model 411 Series
''Ugartechea 10–Ga. Magnum Shotgun
''Universal Double Wing SxS
''Vouzelaud Model 315 Series
''Walther Model WSF
''Walther Model WSFD
''Weatherby Atheana
''Weatherby D'Italia Series
''Weatherby Orion
''Westley Richards Best Quality Sidelock
''Westley Richards Boxlock Shotguns
''Westley Richards Connaught Model
''Westley Richards Hand Detachable Lock Model
''William Douglas Boxlock
''Winchester Model 21
''Winchester Model 24
''Zoli Alley Cleaner
''Zoli Classic
''Zoli Falcon II
''Zoli Model Quail Special
''Zoli Pheasant
''Zoli Silver Hawk
''Zoli Silver Snipe

''SHOTGUNS—BOLT ACTIONS & SINGLE SHOTS
''ADCC Diamond Folding Model
''American Arms Single-Shot
''ARMSCOR 301A
''Armsport Single Barrel Shotgun
''Baikal MP18
''Beretta 471 EL Silver Hawk
''Beretta 471 Silver Hawk
''Beretta Beta Single Barrel
''Beretta MKII Trap
''Beretta Model 412
''Beretta Model FS
''Beretta TR–1
''Beretta TR–1 Trap
''Beretta Vandalia Special Trap
''Browning BT–99 Competition Trap Special
''Browning BT–99 Plus Micro
''Browning BT–99 Plus Trap Gun
''Browning Micro Recoilless Trap Shotgun
''Browning Recoilless Trap Shotgun
''Crescent Single Shot Models
''CZ Cottontail
''Desert Industries Big Twenty Shotgun
''Fefever Long Range Field
''Frigon FS–4
''Frigon FT–1
''Frigon FT–C
''Gibbs Midland Stalker
''Greener General Purpose GP MKI/MKII
''H&R Survivor
''H&R Tracker Slug Model
''Harrington & Richardson N.W.T.F. Turkey Mag
''Harrington & Richardson Pardner
''Harrington & Richardson Pardner Compact
''Harrington & Richardson Pardner Compact Turkey Gun
''Harrington & Richardson Pardner Screw-In Choke
''Harrington & Richardson Pardner Turkey Gun
''Harrington & Richardson Pardner Turkey Gun Camo
''Harrington & Richardson Pardner Waterfowl
''Harrington & Richardson Tamer
''Harrington & Richardson Tamer 20
''Harrington & Richardson Topper Classic Youth Shotgun
''Harrington & Richardson Topper Deluxe Classic
''Harrington & Richardson Topper Deluxe Model 098
''Harrington & Richardson Topper Junior
''Harrington & Richardson Topper Model 098
''Harrington & Richardson Topper Trap Gun
''Harrington & Richardson Tracker II Slug Gun
''Harrington & Richardson Ultra Slug Hunter
''Harrington & Richardson Ultra Slug Hunter Compact
''Harrington & Richardson Ultra Slug Hunter Deluxe
''Harrington & Richardson Ultra Slug Hunter Thumbhole Stock

''Harrington & Richardson Ultra-Lite Slug Hunter
''Hi-Standard 514 Model
''Holland & Holland Single Barrel Trap
''IGA Reuna Model
''IGA Single Barrel Classic
''Ithaca Model 66
''Ithaca Single Barrel Trap
''Iver Johnson Champion Series
''Iver Johnson Commemorative Series Single Shot Shotgun
''Iver Johnson Excel
''Krieghoff K–80 Single Barrel Trap Gun
''Krieghoff KS–5 Special
''Krieghoff KS–5 Trap Gun
''Lefever Trap Gun
''Ljutic LTX Super Deluxe Mono Gun
''Ljutic Mono Gun Single Barrel
''Ljutic Recoilless Space Gun Shotgun
''Marlin Model 55 Goose Gun Bolt Action
''Marlin Model 60 Single Shot
''Marocchi Model 2000
''Mossberg Models G–4, 70, 73, 73B
''Mossberg Models 75 Series
''Mossberg Models 80, 83, 83B, 83D
''Mossberg 173 Series
''Mossberg Model 183 Series
''Mossberg Model 185 Series
''Mossberg Model 190 Series
''Mossberg Model 195 Series
''Mossberg Model 385 Series
''Mossberg Model 390 Series
''Mossberg Model 395 Series
''Mossberg Model 595 Series
''Mossberg Model 695 Series
''New England Firearms N.W.T.F. Shotgun
''New England Firearms Standard Pardner
''New England Firearms Survival Gun
''New England Firearms Tracker Slug Gun
''New England Firearms Turkey and Goose Gun
''Parker Single Barrel Trap Models
''Perazzi TM1 Special Single Trap
''Remington 90–T Super Single Shotgun
''Remington Model No. 9
''Remington Model 310 Skeet
''Remington Model No. 3
''Rossi Circuit Judge Lever Action Shotgun
''Rossi Circuit Judge Shotgun
''Ruger Single Barrel Trap
''S.W.D. Terminator
''Savage Kimel Kamper Single Shot
''Savage Model 210F Slug Warrior
''Savage Model 212 Slug Gun
''Savage Model 220 Series
''Savage Model 220 Slug Gun
''SEITZ Single Barrel Trap
''SKB Century II Trap
''SKB Century Trap
''SKB Model 505 Trap
''SKB Model 605 Trap
''Smith, L.C. Single Barrel Trap Models
''Snake Charmer II Shotgun
''Stoeger/IGA Reuna Single Barrel Shotgun
''Tangfolio Model RSG–16
''Tangfolio Blockcard Model
''Tangfolio Model DSG
''Tangfolio Model RSG–12 Series
''Tangfolio Model RSG–20
''Tangfolio RSG-Tactical
''Taurus Circuit Judge Shotgun
''Thompson/Center Encore Shotgun
''Thompson/Center Pro Hunter Turkey Shotgun
''Thompson/Center TCR '87 Hunter Shotgun
''Universal Firearms Model 7212 Single Barrel Trap
''Winchester Model 36 Single Shot
''Winchester Model 37 Single Shot
''Winchester Model 41 Bolt Action
''Winchester Model 9410 Series
''Zoli Apache Model
''Zoli Diano Series
''Zoli Loner Series''.

SEC. 404. PENALTIES.

Section 924(a)(1)(B) of title 18, United States Code, as amended by section 123(b) of this Act, is amended by striking ''or (aa) of section 922'' and inserting ''(r), (v), (w), (aa), or (bb) of section 922''.

SEC. 405. USE OF BYRNE GRANTS FOR BUY-BACK PROGRAMS FOR SEMIAUTOMATIC ASSAULT WEAPONS AND LARGE CAPACITY AMMUNITION FEEDING DEVICES.

Section 501(a)(1) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3751(a)(1)), as amended by section 306(b)(1)(A)(ii) of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(I) Compensation for surrendered semiautomatic assault weapons and large capacity ammunition feeding devices, as those terms are defined in section 921 of title 18, United States Code, under buy-back programs for semiautomatic assault weapons and large capacity ammunition feeding devices.''.

SEC. 406. STUDY BY NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF JUSTICE ON MASS SHOOTINGS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) STUDY.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this title, the Attorney General shall instruct the Director of the National Institutes of Justice to conduct a peer-reviewed factual study of incidents of mass shootings in the United States. Any studies, research, data, or testimony the Director considers must be peer-reviewed, scientifically and methodologically sound, and otherwise bear the indicia of the highest degree of reliability within the relevant field of expertise.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the study required under paragraph (1) begins, the Director shall submit to Congress a report detailing the findings of the study.

(b) ISSUES EXAMINED.—In conducting the study under subsection (a)(1), the Director shall examine the impact, if any, upon perpetrators of mass shooting of each of the following:

(1) Childhood abuse or neglect.

(2) Exposure to criminal acts, including gang violence.

(3) Exposure to bullying.

(4) Mental illness.

(5) The effectiveness of, and resources available for, the mental health system in understanding, detecting, and countering tendencies toward violence.

(6) The availability of mental health and other resources and strategies to help families detect and counter tendencies toward violence.

(7) Familial relationships, including the level of involvement and awareness of parents in the lives of their children.

(8) School supportiveness, including the level of involvement and awareness of teachers and school administrators in the lives of their students, and the availability of mental health and other resources at schools to help detect and counter tendencies of students toward violence.

(9) School performance, academic success and persistence.

(10) The nature and impact of the alienation of the perpetrators of such incidents of violence from their schools, families, peer groups, and places of work.

(11) The availability and nature of firearms, including the means of acquiring such firearms.

(12) The availability of information regarding the construction of weapons, including explosive devices, and any impact of such information on such incidents of violence.

(13) Depictions of violence in the video game, media and entertainment industry.

(14) Poverty or other socioeconomic factors on creating tendencies toward violence.

SEC. 407. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this title, an amendment made by this title, or the application of such provision or amendment to any person or circumstance is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of this title, the amendments made by this title, and the application of such provision or amendment to any person or circumstance shall not be affected thereby.

SA 712. Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 649, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. NO FIREARMS FOR FOREIGN FELONS ACT OF 2013.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''No Firearms for Foreign Felons Act of 2013''.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) COURTS.—Section 921(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(36) The term 'any court' includes any Federal, State, or foreign court.''.

(2) EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN FELONIES.—Section 921(a)(20) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''any Federal or State offenses'' and inserting ''any Federal, State, or foreign offenses'';

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''any State offense classified by the laws of the State'' and inserting ''any State or foreign offense classified by the laws of that jurisdiction''; and

(C) in the matter following subparagraph (B), in the first sentence, by inserting before the period the following: '', except that a foreign conviction shall not constitute a conviction of such a crime if the convicted person establishes that the foreign conviction resulted from a denial of fundamental fairness that would violate due process if committed in the United States or from conduct that would be legal if committed in the United States''.

(c) DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CRIMES.—Section 921(a)(33) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''subparagraph (C)'' and inserting ''subparagraph (B)''; and

(B) in clause (i)—

(i) by inserting ''(I)'' after ''(i)'';

(ii) by striking ''and'' and inserting ''or''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(II) is a crime under foreign law that is punishable by imprisonment for a term of not more than 1 year; and''; and

(2) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking ''if the conviction has'' and inserting the following: ''if the conviction—

''(I) occurred in a foreign jurisdiction and the convicted person establishes that the foreign conviction resulted from a denial of fundamental fairness that would violate due process if committed in the United States or from conduct that would be legal if committed in the United States; or

''(II) has''.

(d) PENALTIES.—Section 924(e)(2)(A)(ii) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''an offense under State law'' and inserting ''an offense under State or foreign law''; and

(2) by inserting before the semicolon the following: '', except that a foreign conviction shall not constitute a conviction of such a crime if the convicted person establishes that the foreign conviction resulted from a denial of fundamental fairness that would violate due process if committed in the United States or from conduct that would be legal if committed in the United States''.

SA 713. Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. KING) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 649, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike title II and insert the following:

TITLE II—STOP ILLEGAL TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS ACT OF 2013

SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Stop Illegal Trafficking in Firearms Act of 2013''.

SEC. 202. HADIYA PENDLETON AND NYASIA PRYEAR-YARD ANTI-STRAW PURCHASING AND FIREARMS TRAFFICKING AMENDMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 932. Straw purchasing of firearms

''(a) For purposes of this section—

''(1) the term 'crime of violence' has the meaning given that term in section 924(c)(3);

''(2) the term 'drug trafficking crime' has the meaning given that term in section 924(c)(2); and

''(3) the term 'purchase' includes the receipt of any firearm by a person who does not own the firearm—

''(A) by way of pledge or pawn as security for the payment or repayment of money; or

''(B) on consignment.

''(b) It shall be unlawful for any person (other than a licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, licensed collector, or licensed dealer) to knowingly purchase, or attempt or conspire to purchase, any firearm in or otherwise affecting interstate or foreign commerce—

''(1) from a licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, licensed collector, or licensed dealer for, on behalf of, or at the request or demand of any other person, known or unknown; or

''(2) from any person who is not a licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, licensed collector, or licensed dealer for, on behalf of, or at the request or demand of any other person, known or unknown, knowing or having reasonable cause to believe that such other person—

''(A) is under indictment for, or has been convicted in any court of, a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding 1 year;

''(B) is a fugitive from justice;

''(C) is an unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802));

''(D) has been adjudicated as a mental defective or has been committed to any mental institution;

''(E) is an alien who—

''(i) is illegally or unlawfully in the United States; or

''(ii) except as provided in section 922(y)(2), has been admitted to the United States under a nonimmigrant visa (as that term is defined in section 101(a)(26) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(26));

''(F) has been discharged from the Armed Forces under dishonorable conditions;

''(G) having been a citizen of the United States, has renounced his or her citizenship;

''(H) is subject to a court order that restrains such person from harassing, stalking, or threatening an intimate partner of such person or child of such intimate partner or person, or engaging in other conduct that would place an intimate partner in reasonable fear of bodily injury to the partner or child, except that this subparagraph shall only apply to a court order that—

''(i) was issued after a hearing of which such person received actual notice, and at which such person had the opportunity to participate; and

''(ii)(I) includes a finding that such person represents a credible threat to the physical safety of such intimate partner or child; or

''(II) by its terms explicitly prohibits the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force against such intimate partner or child that would reasonably be expected to cause bodily injury;

''(I) has been convicted in any court of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence;

''(J)(i) does not reside in any State; and

''(ii) is not a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States;

''(K) intends to sell or otherwise dispose of the firearm to a person described in any of subparagraphs (A) through (J); or

''(L) intends to—

''(i) use, carry, possess, or sell or otherwise dispose of the firearm in furtherance of a crime of violence or drug trafficking crime; or

''(ii) export the firearm in violation of law;

''(c)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), any person who violates subsection (b) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 15 years, or both.

''(2) If a violation of subsection (b) is committed knowing or with reasonable cause to believe that any firearm involved will be used to commit a crime of violence, the person shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than 25 years.

''(d) Subsection (b)(1) shall not apply to any firearm that is lawfully purchased by a person—

''(1) to be given as a bona fide gift to a recipient who provided no service or tangible thing of value to acquire the firearm;

''(2) to be given to a bona fide winner of an organized raffle, contest, or auction conducted in accordance with law and sponsored by a national, State, or local organization or association;

''(3) to be given as a bona fide gratuity to a hunting guide;

''(4) to be given as a bona fide bonus to an employee as the result of lawful services performed in the course of an employment relationship; or

''(5) to be given as a bona fide commemorative award or honorarium;

unless the purchaser knows or has reasonable cause to believe the recipient of the firearm is prohibited by Federal law from possessing, receiving, selling, shipping, transporting, transferring, or otherwise disposing of the firearm.

''§ 933. Trafficking in firearms

''(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to—

''(1) ship, transport, transfer, cause to be transported, or otherwise dispose of 2 or more firearms to another person in or otherwise affecting interstate or foreign commerce, if such person knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the use, carrying, or possession of a firearm by the recipient would be in violation of any Federal law punishable by a term of imprisonment exceeding 1 year;

''(2) receive from another person 2 or more firearms in or otherwise affecting interstate or foreign commerce, if the recipient knows or has reasonable cause to believe that such receipt would be in violation of any Federal law punishable by a term of imprisonment exceeding 1 year; or

''(3) attempt or conspire to commit the conduct described in paragraph (1) or (2).

''(b)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), any person who violates subsection (a) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 15 years, or both.

''(2) If a violation of subsection (a) is committed by a person in concert with 5 or more other persons with respect to whom such person occupies a position of organizer, leader, supervisor, or manager, the person shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than 25 years.

''§ 934. Forfeiture and fines

''(a)(1) Any person convicted of a violation of section 932 or 933 shall forfeit to the United States, irrespective of any provision of State law—

''(A) any property constituting, or derived from, any proceeds the person obtained, directly or indirectly, as the result of such violation; and

''(B) any of the person's property used, or intended to be used, in any manner or part, to commit, or to facilitate the commission of, such violation, except that for any forfeiture of any firearm or ammunition pursuant to this section, section 924(d) shall apply.

''(2) The court, in imposing sentence on a person convicted of a violation of section 932 or 933, shall order, in addition to any other sentence imposed pursuant to section 932 or 933, that the person forfeit to the United States all property described in paragraph (1).

''(b) A defendant who derives profits or other proceeds from an offense under section 932 or 933 may be fined not more than the greater of—

''(1) the fine otherwise authorized by this part; and

''(2) the amount equal to twice the gross profits or other proceeds of the offense under section 932 or 933.''.

(b) TITLE III AUTHORIZATION.—Section 2516(1)(n) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking ''and 924'' and inserting '', 924, 932, or 933''.

(c) RACKETEERING AMENDMENT.—Section 1961(1)(B) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''section 932 (relating to straw purchasing), section 933 (relating to trafficking in firearms),'' before ''section 1028''.

(d) MONEY LAUNDERING AMENDMENT.—Section 1956(c)(7)(D) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking ''section 924(n)'' and inserting ''section 924(n), 932, or 933''.

(e) DIRECTIVE TO SENTENCING COMMISSION.—Pursuant to its authority under section 994 of title 28, United States Code, and in accordance with this section, the United States Sentencing Commission shall review and amend its guidelines and policy statements to ensure that persons convicted of an offense under section 932 or 933 of title 18, United States Code and other offenses applicable to the straw purchases and firearms trafficking of firearms are subject to increased penalties in comparison to those currently provided by the guidelines and policy statements for such straw purchasing and firearms trafficking offenses. In its review, the Commission shall consider, in particular, an appropriate amendment to reflect the intent of Congress that straw purchasers without significant criminal histories receive

sentences that are sufficient to deter participation in such activities. The Commission shall also review and amend its guidelines and policy statements to reflect the intent of Congress that a person convicted of an offense under section 932 or 933 of title 18, United States Code, who is affiliated with a gang, cartel, organized crime ring, or other such enterprise should be subject to higher penalties than an otherwise unaffiliated individual.

(f) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''932. Straw purchasing of firearms.
''933. Trafficking in firearms.
''934. Forfeiture and fines.''.

SEC. 203. AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 922(d).

Section 922(d) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (8), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(2) in paragraph (9), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by striking the matter following paragraph (9) and inserting the following:

''(10) intends to sell or otherwise dispose of the firearm or ammunition to a person described in any of paragraphs (1) through (9); or

''(11) intends to sell or otherwise dispose of the firearm or ammunition in furtherance of a crime of violence or drug trafficking offense or to export the firearm or ammunition in violation of law.

This subsection shall not apply with respect to the sale or disposition of a firearm or ammunition to a licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, licensed dealer, or licensed collector who pursuant to subsection (b) of section 925 is not precluded from dealing in firearms or ammunition, or to a person who has been granted relief from disabilities pursuant to subsection (c) of section 925.''.

SEC. 204. AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 924(a).

Section 924(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking ''(d), (g),''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(8) Whoever knowingly violates subsection (d) or (g) of section 922 shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 15 years, or both.''.

SEC. 205. AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 924(D).

Section 924(d) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''932, or 933'' after ''section 924,''; and

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in subparagraph (E), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (F), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(G) any offense under section 932 or 933.''.

SEC. 206. AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 924(h).

Section 924 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (h) and inserting the following:

''(h)(1) Whoever knowingly receives or transfers a firearm or ammunition, or attempts or conspires to do so, knowing or having reasonable cause to believe that such firearm or ammunition will be used to commit a crime of violence (as defined in subsection (c)(3)), a drug trafficking crime (as defined in subsection (c)(2)), or a crime under the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.), the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), or the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act (21 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.), shall be imprisoned not more than 25 years, fined in accordance with this title, or both.

''(2) No term of imprisonment imposed on a person under this subsection shall run concurrently with any term of imprisonment imposed on the person under section 932.''.

SEC. 207. AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 924(k).

Section 924 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (k) and inserting the following:

''(k)(1) A person who, with intent to engage in or to promote conduct that—

''(A) is punishable under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.), the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 951 et seq.), or chapter 705 of title 46;

''(B) violates any law of a State relating to any controlled substance (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. 802); or

''(C) constitutes a crime of violence (as defined in subsection (c)(3)),

smuggles or knowingly brings into the United States, a firearm or ammunition, or attempts or conspires to do so, shall be imprisoned not more than 15 years, fined under this title, or both.

''(2) A person who, with intent to engage in or to promote conduct that—

''(A) would be punishable under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.), the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 951 et seq.), or chapter 705 of title 46, if the conduct had occurred within the United States; or

''(B) would constitute a crime of violence (as defined in subsection (c)(3)) for which the person may be prosecuted in a court of the United States, if the conduct had occurred within the United States,

smuggles or knowingly takes out of the United States, a firearm or ammunition, or attempts or conspires to do so, shall be imprisoned not more than 15 years, fined under this title, or both.''.

SEC. 208. LIMITATION ON OPERATIONS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

The Department of Justice, and any of its law enforcement coordinate agencies, shall not conduct any planned operation where a Federal firearms licensee is directed, instructed, enticed, or otherwise encouraged by the Department of Justice to sell a firearm to an individual if the Department of Justice, or a coordinate agency, knows or has reasonable cause to believe that such an individual is purchasing on behalf of another for an illegal purpose unless the Deputy Attorney General, the Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division, or the Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives certifies in writing that the planned operation includes sufficient safeguards to prevent firearms from being transferred to third parties without law enforcement taking reasonable steps to lawfully interdict those firearms.

SA 714. Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. COWAN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. CARPER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. HARKIN)) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. BLUMENTHAL to the bill S. 649, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE IV—LARGE CAPACITY AMMUNITION FEEDING DEVICES

SEC. 401. DEFINITIONS.

Section 921(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after paragraph (29) the following:

''(30) The term 'large capacity ammunition feeding device'—

''(A) means a magazine, belt, drum, feed strip, or similar device, including any such device joined or coupled with another in any manner, that has an overall capacity of, or that can be readily restored, changed, or converted to accept, more than 10 rounds of ammunition; and

''(B) does not include an attached tubular device designed to accept, and capable of operating only with, .22 caliber rimfire ammunition.

''(31) The term 'qualified law enforcement officer' has the meaning given the term in section 926B.''.

SEC. 402. RESTRICTIONS ON LARGE CAPACITY AMMUNITION FEEDING DEVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 922 of title 18, United States Code, as amended by this Act, is amended by inserting after subsection (u) the following:

''(v)(1) It shall be unlawful for a person to import, sell, manufacture, transfer, or possess, in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce, a large capacity ammunition feeding device.

''(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to the possession of any large capacity ammunition feeding device otherwise lawfully possessed on or before the date of enactment of the Safe Communities, Safe Schools Act of 2013.

''(3) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to—

''(A) the importation for, manufacture for, sale to, transfer to, or possession by the United States or a department or agency of the United States or a State or a department, agency, or political subdivision of a State, or a sale or transfer to or possession by a qualified law enforcement officer employed by the United States or a department or agency of the United States or a State or a department, agency, or political subdivision of a State for purposes of law enforcement (whether on or off duty), or a sale or transfer to or possession by a campus law enforcement officer for purposes of law enforcement (whether on or off duty);

''(B) the importation for, or sale or transfer to a licensee under title I of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 for purposes of establishing and maintaining an on-site physical protection system and security organization required by Federal law, or possession by an employee or contractor of such licensee on-site for such purposes or off-site for purposes of licensee-authorized training or transportation of nuclear materials;

''(C) the possession, by an individual who is retired in good standing from service with a law enforcement agency and is not otherwise prohibited from receiving ammunition, of a large capacity ammunition feeding device—

''(i) sold or transferred to the individual by the agency upon such retirement; or

''(ii) that the individual purchased, or otherwise obtained, for official use before such retirement; or

''(D) the importation, sale, manufacture, transfer, or possession of any large capacity ammunition feeding device by a licensed manufacturer or licensed importer for the purposes of testing or experimentation authorized by the Attorney General.

''(4) For purposes of paragraph (3)(A), the term 'campus law enforcement officer' means an individual who is—

''(A) employed by a private institution of higher education that is eligible for funding under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.);

''(B) responsible for the prevention or investigation of crime involving injury to persons or property, including apprehension or detention of persons for such crimes;

''(C) authorized by Federal, State, or local law to carry a firearm, execute search warrants, and make arrests; and

''(D) recognized, commissioned, or certified by a government entity as a law enforcement officer.''.

(b) IDENTIFICATION MARKINGS FOR LARGE CAPACITY AMMUNITION FEEDING DEVICES.—Section 923(i) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following: ''A large capacity ammunition feeding device manufactured after the date of enactment of the Safe Communities, Safe Schools Act of 2013 shall be identified by a serial number and the date on which the device was manufactured or made, legibly and conspicuously engraved or cast on the device, and such other identification as the Attorney General shall by regulations prescribe.''.

(c) SEIZURE AND FORFEITURE OF LARGE CAPACITY AMMUNITION FEEDING DEVICES.—Section 924(d) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by inserting ''or large capacity ammunition feeding device'' after ''firearm or ammunition'' each place the term appears;

(B) by inserting ''or large capacity ammunition feeding device'' after ''firearms or ammunition'' each place the term appears; and

(C) by striking ''or (k)'' and inserting ''(k), or (v)'';

(2) in paragraph (2)(C), by inserting ''or large capacity ammunition feeding devices'' after ''firearms or quantities of ammunition''; and

(3) in paragraph (3)(E), by inserting ''922(v),'' after ''922(n),''.

SEC. 403. PENALTIES.

Section 924(a)(1)(B) of title 18, United States Code, as amended by this Act, is amended by inserting ''(v),'' after ''(q),''.

SEC. 404. USE OF BYRNE GRANTS FOR BUY-BACK PROGRAMS FOR LARGE CAPACITY AMMUNITION FEEDING DEVICES.

Section 501(a)(1) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3751(a)(1)), as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(I) Compensation for surrendered large capacity ammunition feeding devices, as that term is defined in section 921 of title 18, United States Code, under buy-back programs for large capacity ammunition feeding devices.''.

SEC. 405. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this title, an amendment made by this title, or the application of such provision or amendment to any person or circumstance is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of this title, the amendments made by this title, and the application of such provision or amendment to any person or circumstance shall not be affected thereby.

SA 715. Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. KIRK, and Mr. SCHUMER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 649, 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; as follows:

Strike title I and insert the following:

TITLE I—PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS PROTECTION ACT

SECTION 101. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Public Safety and Second Amendment Rights Protection Act of 2013''.

SEC. 102. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Congress supports, respects, and defends the fundamental, individual right to keep and bear arms guaranteed by the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

(2) Congress supports and reaffirms the existing prohibition on a national firearms registry.

(3) Congress believes the Department of Justice should prosecute violations of background check requirements to the maximum extent of the law.

(4) There are deficits in the background check system in existence prior to the date of enactment of this Act and the Department of Justice should make it a top priority to work with States to swiftly input missing records, including mental health records.

(5) Congress and the citizens of the United States agree that in order to promote safe and responsible gun ownership, dangerous criminals and the seriously mentally ill should be prohibited from possessing firearms; therefore, it should be incumbent upon all citizens to ensure weapons are not being transferred to such people.

SEC. 103. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this title, or any amendment made by this title, shall be construed to—

(1) expand in any way the enforcement authority or jurisdiction of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; or

(2) allow the establishment, directly or indirectly, of a Federal firearms registry.

SEC. 104. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this title or an amendment made by this title, or the application of a provision or amendment to any person or circumstance, is held to be invalid for any reason in any court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this title and amendments made by this title, and the application of the provisions and amendment to any other person or circumstance, shall not be affected.

Subtitle A—Ensuring That All Individuals Who Should Be Prohibited From Buying a Gun Are Listed in the National Instant Criminal Background Check System

SEC. 111. REAUTHORIZATION OF THE NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

Section 106(b) of Public Law 103–159 (18 U.S.C. 922 note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''of this Act'' and inserting ''of the Public Safety and Second Amendment Rights Protection Act of 2013''; and

(2) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated for grants under this subsection $100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2017.''.

SEC. 112. IMPROVEMENT OF METRICS AND INCENTIVES.

Section 102(b) of the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (18 U.S.C. 922 note) is amended to read as follows:

''(b) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Public Safety and Second Amendment Rights Protection Act of 2013, the Attorney General, in coordination with the States, shall establish for each State or Indian tribal government desiring a grant under section 103 a 4-year implementation plan to ensure maximum coordination and automation of the reporting of records or making records available to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System.

''(2) BENCHMARK REQUIREMENTS.—Each 4-year plan established under paragraph (1) shall include annual benchmarks, including both qualitative goals and quantitative measures, to assess implementation of the 4-year plan.

''(3) PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—During the 4-year period covered by a 4-year plan established under paragraph (1), the Attorney General shall withhold—

''(i) 10 percent of the amount that would otherwise be allocated to a State under section 505 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3755) if the State does not meet the benchmark established under paragraph (2) for the first year in the 4-year period;

''(ii) 11 percent of the amount that would otherwise be allocated to a State under section 505 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3755) if the State does not meet the benchmark established under paragraph (2) for the second year in the 4-year period;

''(iii) 13 percent of the amount that would otherwise be allocated to a State under section 505 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3755) if the State does not meet the benchmark established under paragraph (2) for the third year in the 4-year period; and

''(iv) 15 percent of the amount that would otherwise be allocated to a State under section 505 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3755) if the State does not meet the benchmark established under paragraph (2) for the fourth year in the 4-year period.

''(B) FAILURE TO ESTABLISH A PLAN.—A State that fails to establish a plan under paragraph (1) shall be treated as having not met any benchmark established under paragraph (2).''.

SEC. 113. GRANTS TO STATES FOR IMPROVEMENT OF COORDINATION AND AUTOMATION OF NICS RECORD REPORTING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (18 U.S.C. 922 note) is amended—

(1) by striking section 103 and inserting the following:

''SEC. 103. GRANTS TO STATES FOR IMPROVEMENT OF COORDINATION AND AUTOMATION OF NICS RECORD REPORTING.

''(a) AUTHORIZATION.—From amounts made available to carry out this section, the Attorney General shall make grants to States, Indian Tribal governments, and State court systems, in a manner consistent with the National Criminal History Improvement Program and consistent with State plans for integration, automation, and accessibility of criminal history records, for use by the State, or units of local government of the State, Indian Tribal government, or State court system to improve the automation and transmittal of mental health records and criminal history dispositions, records relevant to determining whether a person has been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence, court orders, and mental health adjudications or commitments to Federal and State record repositories in accordance with section 102 and the National Criminal History Improvement Program.

''(b) USE OF GRANT AMOUNTS.—Grants awarded to States, Indian Tribal governments, or State court systems under this section may only be used to—

''(1) carry out, as necessary, assessments of the capabilities of the courts of the State or

Indian Tribal government for the automation and transmission of arrest and conviction records, court orders, and mental health adjudications or commitments to Federal and State record repositories;

''(2) implement policies, systems, and procedures for the automation and transmission of arrest and conviction records, court orders, and mental health adjudications or commitments to Federal and State record repositories;

''(3) create electronic systems that provide accurate and up-to-date information which is directly related to checks under the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, including court disposition and corrections records;

''(4) assist States or Indian Tribal governments in establishing or enhancing their own capacities to perform background checks using the National Instant Criminal Background Check System; and

''(5) develop and maintain the relief from disabilities program in accordance with section 105.

''(c) ELIGIBILITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible for a grant under this section, a State, Indian Tribal government, or State court system shall certify, to the satisfaction of the Attorney General, that the State, Indian Tribal government, or State court system—

''(A) is not prohibited by State law or court order from submitting mental health records to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System; and

''(B) subject to paragraph (2), has implemented a relief from disabilities program in accordance with section 105.

''(2) RELIEF FROM DISABILITIES PROGRAM.—For purposes of obtaining a grant under this section, a State, Indian Tribal government, or State court system shall not be required to meet the eligibility requirement described in paragraph (1)(B) until the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of the Public Safety and Second Amendment Rights Protection Act of 2013.

''(d) FEDERAL SHARE.—

''(1) STUDIES, ASSESSMENTS, NON-MATERIAL ACTIVITIES.—The Federal share of a study, assessment, creation of a task force, or other non-material activity, as determined by the Attorney General, carried out with a grant under this section shall be not more than 25 percent.

''(2) INFRASTRUCTURE OR SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT.—The Federal share of an activity involving infrastructure or system development, including labor-related costs, for the purpose of improving State or Indian Tribal government record reporting to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System carried out with a grant under this section may amount to 100 percent of the cost of the activity.

''(e) GRANTS TO INDIAN TRIBES.—Up to 5 percent of the grant funding available under this section may be reserved for Indian tribal governments for use by Indian tribal judicial systems.

''(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2017.'';

(2) by striking title III; and

(3) in section 401(b), by inserting after ''of this Act'' the following: ''and 18 months after the date of enactment of the Public Safety and Second Amendment Rights Protection Act of 2013''.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections in section 1(b) of the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (18 U.S.C. 922 note) is amended by striking the item relating to section 103 and inserting the following:

''Sec. 103. Grants to States for improvement of coordination and automation of NICS record reporting.''.

SEC. 114. RELIEF FROM DISABILITIES PROGRAM.

Section 105 of the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (18 U.S.C. 922 note) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE.—

''(1) 10 PERCENT REDUCTION.—During the 1-year period beginning 2 years after the date of enactment of the Public Safety and Second Amendment Rights Protection Act of 2013, the Attorney General shall withhold 10 percent of the amount that would otherwise be allocated to a State under section 505 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3755) if the State has not implemented a relief from disabilities program in accordance with this section.

''(2) 11 PERCENT REDUCTION.—During the 1-year period after the expiration of the period described in paragraph (1), the Attorney General shall withhold 11 percent of the amount that would otherwise be allocated to a State under section 505 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3755) if the State has not implemented a relief from disabilities program in accordance with this section.

''(3) 13 PERCENT REDUCTION.—During the 1-year period after the expiration of the period described in paragraph (2), the Attorney General shall withhold 13 percent of the amount that would otherwise be allocated to a State under section 505 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3755) if the State has not implemented a relief from disabilities program in accordance with this section.

''(4) 15 PERCENT REDUCTION.—After the expiration of the 1-year period described in paragraph (3), the Attorney General shall withhold 15 percent of the amount that would otherwise be allocated to a State under section 505 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3755) if the State has not implemented a relief from disabilities program in accordance with this section.''.

SEC. 115. ADDITIONAL PROTECTIONS FOR OUR VETERANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 55 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''§ 5511. Conditions for treatment of certain persons as adjudicated mentally incompetent for certain purposes

''(a) IN GENERAL.—In any case arising out of the administration by the Secretary of laws and benefits under this title, a person who is determined by the Secretary to be mentally incompetent shall not be considered adjudicated pursuant to subsection (d)(4) or (g)(4) of section 922 of title 18 until—

''(1) in the case in which the person does not request a review as described in subsection (c)(1), the end of the 30-day period beginning on the date on which the person receives notice submitted under subsection (b); or

''(2) in the case in which the person requests a review as described in paragraph (1) of subsection (c), upon an assessment by the board designated or established under paragraph (2) of such subsection or court of competent jurisdiction that a person cannot safely use, carry, possess, or store a firearm due to mental incompetency.

''(b) NOTICE.—Notice submitted under this subsection to a person described in subsection (a) is notice submitted by the Secretary that notifies the person of the following:

''(1) The determination made by the Secretary.

''(2) A description of the implications of being considered adjudicated as a mental defective under subsection (d)(4) or (g)(4) of section 922 of title 18.

''(3) The person's right to request a review under subsection (c)(1).

''(c) ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW.—(1) Not later than 30 days after the date on which a person described in subsection (a) receives notice submitted under subsection (b), such person may request a review by the board designed or established under paragraph (2) or a court of competent jurisdiction to assess whether a person cannot safely use, carry, possess, or store a firearm due to mental incompetency. In such assessment, the board may consider the person's honorable discharge or decoration.

''(2) Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Public Safety and Second Amendment Rights Protection Act of 2013, the Secretary shall designate or establish a board that shall, upon request of a person under paragraph (1), assess whether a person cannot safely use, carry, possess, or store a firearm due to mental incompetency.

''(d) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Not later than 30 days after the date of an assessment of a person under subsection (c) by the board designated or established under paragraph (2) of such subsection, such person may file a petition for judicial review of such assessment with a Federal court of competent jurisdiction.

''(e) PROTECTING RIGHTS OF VETERANS WITH EXISTING RECORDS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of the Public Safety and Second Amendment Rights Protection Act of 2013, the Secretary shall provide written notice of the opportunity for administrative review and appeal under subsection (c) to all persons who, on the date of enactment of the Public Safety and Second Amendment Rights Protection Act of 2013, are considered adjudicated pursuant to subsection (d)(4) or (g)(4) of section 922 of title 18 as a result of having been found by the Department of Veterans Affairs to be mentally incompetent.

''(f) FUTURE DETERMINATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the enactment of the Public Safety and Second Amendment Rights Protection Act of 2013, the Secretary shall review the policies and procedures by which individuals are determined to be mentally incompetent, and shall revise such policies and procedures as necessary to ensure that any individual who is competent to manage his own financial affairs, including his receipt of Federal benefits, but who voluntarily turns over the management thereof to a fiduciary is not considered adjudicated pursuant to subsection (d)(4) or (g)(4) of section 922 of title 18.

''(2) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after the Secretary has made the review and changes required under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report detailing the results of the review and any resulting policy and procedural changes.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 55 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''5511. Conditions for treatment of certain persons as adjudicated mentally incompetent for certain purposes.''.

(c) APPLICABILITY.—Section 5511 of title 38, United States Code (as added by this section), shall apply only with respect to persons who are determined by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, to be mentally incompetent, except that those persons who are provided notice pursuant to section 5511(e) shall be entitled to use the administrative review under section 5511(c) and, as necessary, the subsequent judicial review under section 5511(d).

SEC. 116. CLARIFICATION THAT FEDERAL COURT INFORMATION IS TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE NATIONAL INSTANT CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK SYSTEM.

Section 103(e)(1) of Public Law 103–159 (18 U.S.C. 922 note), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(F) APPLICATION TO FEDERAL COURTS.—In this subsection—

''(i) the terms 'department or agency of the United States' and 'Federal department or agency' include a Federal court; and

''(ii) for purposes of any request, submission, or notification, the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts shall perform the functions of the head of the department or agency.''.

SEC. 117. CLARIFICATION THAT SUBMISSION OF MENTAL HEALTH RECORDS TO THE NATIONAL INSTANT CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK SYSTEM IS NOT PROHIBITED BY THE HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT.

Information collected under section 102(c)(3) of the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (18 U.S.C. 922 note) to assist the Attorney General in enforcing section 922(g)(4) of title 18, United States Code, shall not be subject to the regulations promulgated under section 264(c) of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (42 U.S.C. 1320d–2 note).

SEC. 118. PUBLICATION OF NICS INDEX STATISTICS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and biannually thereafter, the Attorney General shall make the National Instant Criminal Background Check System index statistics available on a publically accessible Internet website.

SEC. 119. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this subtitle shall take effect 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

Subtitle B—Providing a Responsible and Consistent Background Check Process

SEC. 121. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this subtitle is to enhance the current background check process in the United States to ensure criminals and the mentally ill are not able to purchase firearms.

SEC. 122. FIREARMS TRANSFERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 922 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by repealing subsection (s);

(2) by redesignating subsection (t) as subsection (s);

(3) in subsection (s), as redesignated—

(A) in paragraph (1)(B)—

(i) in clause (i), by striking ''or'';

(ii) in clause (ii), by striking ''and'' at the end; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(iii) in the case of an instant background check conducted at a gun show or event during the 4-year period beginning on the effective date under section 130(a) of the Public Safety and Second Amendment Rights Protection Act of 2013, 48 hours have elapsed since the licensee contacted the system, and the system has not notified the licensee that the receipt of a firearm by such other person would violate subsection (g) or (n) of this section; or

''(iv) in the case of an instant background check conducted at a gun show or event after the 4-year period described in clause (iii), 24 hours have elapsed since the licensee contacted the system, and the system has not notified the licensee that the receipt of a firearm by such other person would violate subsection (g) or (n) of this section; and'';

(B) in paragraph (3)(C)(ii), by striking ''(as defined in subsection (s)(8))''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(7) In this subsection—

''(A) the term 'chief law enforcement officer' means the chief of police, the sheriff, or an equivalent officer or the designee of any such individual; and

''(B) the term 'gun show or event' has the meaning given the term in subsection (t)(7).

''(8) The Federal Bureau of Investigation shall not charge a user fee for a background check conducted pursuant to this subsection.

''(9) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, upon receiving a request for an instant background check that originates from a gun show or event, the system shall complete the instant background check before completing any pending instant background check that did not originate from a gun show or event.''; and

(4) by inserting after subsection (s), as redesignated, the following:

''(t)(1) Beginning on the date that is 180 days after the date of enactment of this subsection and except as provided in paragraph (2), it shall be unlawful for any person other than a licensed dealer, licensed manufacturer, or licensed importer to complete the transfer of a firearm to any other person who is not licensed under this chapter, if such transfer occurs—

''(A) at a gun show or event, on the curtilage thereof; or

''(B) pursuant to an advertisement, posting, display or other listing on the Internet or in a publication by the transferor of his intent to transfer, or the transferee of his intent to acquire, the firearm.

''(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply if—

''(A) the transfer is made after a licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, or licensed dealer has first taken possession of the firearm for the purpose of complying with subsection (s), and upon taking possession of the firearm, the licensee—

''(i) complies with all requirements of this chapter as if the licensee were transferring the firearm from the licensee's business inventory to the unlicensed transferee, except that when processing a transfer under this chapter the licensee may accept in lieu of conducting a background check a valid permit issued within the previous 5 years by a State, or a political subdivision of a State, that allows the transferee to possess, acquire, or carry a firearm, if the law of the State, or political subdivision of a State, that issued the permit requires that such permit is issued only after an authorized government official has verified that the information available to such official does not indicate that possession of a firearm by the unlicensed transferee would be in violation of Federal, State, or local law;

''(B) the transfer is made between an unlicensed transferor and an unlicensed transferee residing in the same State, which takes place in such State, if—

''(i) the Attorney General certifies that State in which the transfer takes place has in effect requirements under law that are generally equivalent to the requirements of this section; and

''(ii) the transfer was conducted in compliance with the laws of the State;

''(C) the transfer is made between spouses, between parents or spouses of parents and their children or spouses of their children, between siblings or spouses of siblings, or between grandparents or spouses of grandparents and their grandchildren or spouses of their grandchildren, or between aunts or uncles or their spouses and their nieces or nephews or their spouses, or between first cousins, if the transferor does not know or have reasonable cause to believe that the transferee is prohibited from receiving or possessing a firearm under Federal, State, or local law; or

''(D) the Attorney General has approved the transfer under section 5812 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

''(3) A licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, or licensed dealer who processes a transfer of a firearm authorized under paragraph (2)(A) shall not be subject to a license revocation or license denial based solely upon a violation of those paragraphs, or a violation of the rules or regulations promulgated under this paragraph, unless the licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, or licensed dealer—

''(A) knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the information provided for purposes of identifying the transferor, transferee, or the firearm is false;

''(B) knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the transferee is prohibited from purchasing, receiving, or possessing a firearm by Federal or State law, or published ordinance; or

''(C) knowingly violates any other provision of this chapter, or the rules or regulations promulgated thereunder.

''(4)(A) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, except for section 923(m), the Attorney General may implement this subsection with regulations.

''(B) Regulations promulgated under this paragraph may not include any provision requiring licensees to facilitate transfers in accordance with paragraph (2)(A).

''(C) Regulations promulgated under this paragraph may not include any provision requiring persons not licensed under this chapter to keep records of background checks or firearms transfers.

''(D) Regulations promulgated under this paragraph may not include any provision placing a cap on the fee licensees may charge to facilitate transfers in accordance with paragraph (2)(A).

''(5)(A) A person other than a licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, or licensed dealer, who makes a transfer of a firearm in accordance with this section, or who is the organizer of a gun show or event at which such transfer occurs, shall be immune from a qualified civil liability action relating to the transfer of the firearm as if the person were a seller of a qualified product.

''(B) A provider of an interactive computer service shall be immune from a qualified civil liability action relating to the transfer of a firearm as if the provider of an interactive computer service were a seller of a qualified product.

''(C) In this paragraph—

''(i) the term 'interactive computer service' shall have the meaning given the term in section 230(f) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230(f)); and

''(ii) the terms 'qualified civil liability action', 'qualified product', and 'seller' shall have the meanings given the terms in section 4 of the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act (15 U.S.C. 7903).

''(D) Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to affect the immunity of a provider of an interactive computer service under section 230 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230).

''(6) In any civil liability action in any State or Federal court arising from the criminal or unlawful use of a firearm following a transfer of such firearm for which no background check was required under this section, this section shall not be construed—

''(A) as creating a cause of action for any civil liability; or

''(B) as establishing any standard of care.

''(7) For purposes of this subsection, the term 'gun show or event'—

''(A) means any event at which 75 or more firearms are offered or exhibited for sale, exchange, or transfer, if 1 or more of the firearms has been shipped or transported in, or

otherwise affects, interstate or foreign commerce; and

''(B) does not include an offer or exhibit of firearms for sale, exchange, or transfer by an individual from the personal collection of that individual, at the private residence of that individual, if the individual is not required to be licensed under section 923.''.

(b) PROHIBITING THE SEIZURE OF RECORDS OR DOCUMENTS.—Section 923(g)(1)(D) is amended by striking, ''The inspection and examination authorized by this paragraph shall not be construed as authorizing the Attorney General to seize any records or other documents other than those records or documents constituting material evidence of a violation of law,'' and inserting the following: ''The Attorney General shall be prohibited from seizing any records or other documents in the course of an inspection or examination authorized by this paragraph other than those records or documents constituting material evidence of a violation of law.''.

(c) PROHIBITION OF NATIONAL GUN REGISTRY.—Section 923 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(m) The Attorney General may not consolidate or centralize the records of the—

''(1) acquisition or disposition of firearms, or any portion thereof, maintained by—

''(A) a person with a valid, current license under this chapter;

''(B) an unlicensed transferor under section 922(t); or

''(2) possession or ownership of a firearm, maintained by any medical or health insurance entity.''.

(d) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) SECTION 922.—Section 922(y)(2) of title 18, United States Code, is amended, in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking '', (g)(5)(B), and (s)(3)(B)(v)(II)'' and inserting ''and (g)(5)(B)''.

(2) CONSOLIDATED AND FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012.—Section 511 of title V of division B of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2012 (18 U.S.C. 922 note) is amended by striking ''subsection 922(t)'' and inserting ''subsection (s) or (t) of section 922'' each place it appears.

SEC. 123. PENALTIES.

Section 924 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the following:

''(8) Whoever makes or attempts to make a transfer of a firearm in violation of section 922(t) to a person not licensed under this chapter who is prohibited from receiving a firearm under subsection (g) or (n) of section 922 or State law, to a law enforcement officer, or to a person acting at the direction of, or with the approval of, a law enforcement officer authorized to investigate or prosecute violations of section 922(t), shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(q) IMPROPER USE OF STORAGE OF RECORDS.—Any person who knowingly violates section 923(m) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 15 years, or both.''.

SEC. 124. FIREARMS DISPOSITIONS.

Section 922(b)(3) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''located'' and inserting ''located or temporarily located''; and

(2) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) by striking ''rifle or shotgun'' and inserting ''firearm'';

(B) by striking ''located'' and inserting ''located or temporarily located''; and

(C) by striking ''both such States'' and inserting ''the State in which the transfer is conducted and the State of residence of the transferee''.

SEC. 125. FIREARM DEALER ACCESS TO LAW ENFORCEMENT INFORMATION.

Section 103(b) of Public Law 103–159 (18 U.S.C. 922 note), is amended—

(1) by striking ''Not later than'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) VOLUNTARY BACKGROUND CHECKS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of the Public Safety and Second Amendment Rights Protection Act of 2013, the Attorney General shall promulgate regulations allowing licensees to use the National Instant Criminal Background Check System established under this section for purposes of conducting voluntary preemployment background checks on prospective employees.''.

SEC. 126. DEALER LOCATION.

Section 923 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (j)—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking '', and such location is in the State which is specified on the license''; and

(B) in the last sentence—

(i) by inserting ''transfer,'' after ''sell,''; and

(ii) by striking ''Act,'' and all that follows and inserting ''Act.''; and

(2) by adding after subsection (m), as added by section 122(c), the following:

''(n) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit the sale, transfer, delivery, or other disposition of a firearm or ammunition not otherwise prohibited under this chapter—

''(1) by a person licensed under this chapter to another person so licensed, at any location in any State; or

''(2) by a licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, or licensed dealer to a person not licensed under this chapter, at a temporary location described in subsection (j) in any State.''.

SEC. 127. RESIDENCE OF UNITED STATES OFFICERS.

Section 921 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) For purposes of this chapter:

''(1) A member of the Armed Forces on active duty, or a spouse of such a member, is a resident of—

''(A) the State in which the member or spouse maintains legal residence;

''(B) the State in which the permanent duty station of the member is located; and

''(C) the State in which the member maintains a place of abode from which the member commutes each day to the permanent duty station of the member.

''(2) An officer or employee of the United States (other than a member of the Armed Forces) who is stationed outside the United States for a period of more than 1 year, and a spouse of such an officer or employee, is a resident of the State in which the person maintains legal residence.''.

SEC. 128. INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF FIREARMS OR AMMUNITION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 926A of title 18, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''§ 926A. Interstate transportation of firearms or ammunition

''(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term 'transport'—

''(1) includes staying in temporary lodging overnight, stopping for food, fuel, vehicle maintenance, an emergency, medical treatment, and any other activity incidental to the transport; and

''(2) does not include transportation—

''(A) with the intent to commit a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding 1 year that involves a firearm; or

''(B) with knowledge, or reasonable cause to believe, that a crime described in subparagraph (A) is to be committed in the course of, or arising from, the transportation.

''(b) AUTHORIZATION.—Notwithstanding any provision of any law (including a rule or regulation) of a State or any political subdivision thereof, a person who is not prohibited by this chapter from possessing, transporting, shipping, or receiving a firearm or ammunition shall be entitled to—

''(1) transport a firearm for any lawful purpose from any place where the person may lawfully possess, carry, or transport the firearm to any other such place if, during the transportation—

''(A) the firearm is unloaded; and

''(B)(i) if the transportation is by motor vehicle—

''(I) the firearm is not directly accessible from the passenger compartment of the motor vehicle; or

''(II) if the motor vehicle is without a compartment separate from the passenger compartment, the firearm is—

''(aa) in a locked container other than the glove compartment or console; or

''(bb) secured by a secure gun storage or safety device; or

''(ii) if the transportation is by other means, the firearm is in a locked container or secured by a secure gun storage or safety device; and

''(2) transport ammunition for any lawful purpose from any place where the person may lawfully possess, carry, or transport the ammunition, to any other such place if, during the transportation—

''(A) the ammunition is not loaded into a firearm; and

''(B)(i) if the transportation is by motor vehicle—

''(I) the ammunition is not directly accessible from the passenger compartment of the motor vehicle; or

''(II) if the motor vehicle is without a compartment separate from the passenger compartment, the ammunition is in a locked container other than the glove compartment or console; or

''(ii) if the transportation is by other means, the ammunition is in a locked container.

''(c) LIMITATION ON ARREST AUTHORITY.—A person who is transporting a firearm or ammunition may not be—

''(1) arrested for violation of any law or any rule or regulation of a State, or any political subdivision thereof, relating to the possession, transportation, or carrying of firearms or ammunition, unless there is probable cause that the transportation is not in accordance with subsection (b); or

''(2) detained for violation of any law or any rule or regulation of a State, or any political subdivision thereof, relating to the possession, transportation, or carrying of firearms or ammunition, unless there is reasonable suspicion that the transportation is not in accordance with subsection (b).''.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 926A and inserting the following:

''926A. Interstate transportation of firearms or ammunition.''.

SEC. 129. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this subtitle, or an amendment made by this subtitle, shall be construed—

(1) to extend background check requirements to transfers other than those made at gun shows or on the curtilage thereof, or

pursuant to an advertisement, posting, display, or other listing on the Internet or in a publication by the transferor of the intent of the transferor to transfer, or the transferee of the intent of the transferee to acquire, the firearm; or

(2) to extend background check requirements to temporary transfers for purposes including lawful hunting or sporting or to temporary possession of a firearm for purposes of examination or evaluation by a prospective transferee.

SEC. 130. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), this subtitle and the amendments made by this subtitle shall take effect 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) FIREARM DEALER ACCESS TO LAW ENFORCEMENT INFORMATION.—Section 125 and the amendments made by section 125 shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

Subtitle C—National Commission on Mass Violence

SEC. 141. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''National Commission on Mass Violence Act of 2013''.

SEC. 142. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON MASS VIOLENCE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION.—There is established a commission to be known as the National Commission on Mass Violence (in this subtitle referred to as the ''Commission'') to study the availability and nature of firearms, including the means of acquiring firearms, issues relating to mental health, and all positive and negative impacts of the availability and nature of firearms on incidents of mass violence or in preventing mass violence.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) APPOINTMENTS.—The Commission shall be composed of 12 members, of whom—

(A) 6 members of the Commission shall be appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate, in consultation with the Democratic leadership of the House of Representatives, 1 of whom shall serve as Chairman of the Commission; and

(B) 6 members of the Commission shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, in consultation with the Republican leadership of the Senate, 1 of whom shall serve as Vice Chairman of the Commission.

(2) PERSONS ELIGIBLE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The members appointed to the Commission shall include—

(i) well-known and respected individuals among their peers in their respective fields of expertise; and

(ii) not less than 1 non-elected individual from each of the following categories, who has expertise in the category, by both experience and training:

(I) Firearms.

(II) Mental health.

(III) School safety.

(IV) Mass media.

(B) EXPERTS.—In identifying the individuals to serve on the Commission, the appointing authorities shall take special care to identify experts in the fields described in section 143(a)(2).

(C) PARTY AFFILIATION.—Not more than 6 members of the Commission shall be from the same political party.

(3) COMPLETION OF APPOINTMENTS; VACANCIES.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the appointing authorities under paragraph (1) shall each make their respective appointments. Any vacancy that occurs during the life of the Commission shall not affect the powers of the Commission, and shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment not later than 30 days after the vacancy occurs.

(4) OPERATION OF THE COMMISSION.—

(A) MEETINGS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall meet at the call of the Chairman.

(ii) INITIAL MEETING.—The initial meeting of the Commission shall be conducted not later than 30 days after the later of—

(I) the date of the appointment of the last member of the Commission; or

(II) the date on which appropriated funds are available for the Commission.

(B) QUORUM; VACANCIES; VOTING; RULES.—A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum to conduct business, but the Commission may establish a lesser quorum for conducting hearings scheduled by the Commission. Each member of the Commission shall have 1 vote, and the vote of each member shall be accorded the same weight. The Commission may establish by majority vote any other rules for the conduct of the Commission's business, if such rules are not inconsistent with this subtitle or other applicable law.

SEC. 143. DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION.

(a) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—It shall be the duty of the Commission to conduct a comprehensive factual study of incidents of mass violence, including incidents of mass violence not involving firearms, in the context of the many acts of senseless mass violence that occur in the United States each year, in order to determine the root causes of such mass violence.

(2) MATTERS TO BE STUDIED.—In determining the root causes of these recurring and tragic acts of mass violence, the Commission shall study any matter that the Commission determines relevant to meeting the requirements of paragraph (1), including at a minimum—

(A) the role of schools, including the level of involvement and awareness of teachers and school administrators in the lives of their students and the availability of mental health and other resources and strategies to help detect and counter tendencies of students towards mass violence;

(B) the effectiveness of and resources available for school security strategies to prevent incidents of mass violence;

(C) the role of families and the availability of mental health and other resources and strategies to help families detect and counter tendencies toward mass violence;

(D) the effectiveness and use of, and resources available to, the mental health system in understanding, detecting, and countering tendencies toward mass violence, as well as the effects of treatments and therapies;

(E) whether medical doctors and other mental health professionals have the ability, without negative legal or professional consequences, to notify law enforcement officials when a patient is a danger to himself or others;

(F) the nature and impact of the alienation of the perpetrators of such incidents of mass violence from their schools, families, peer groups, and places of work;

(G) the role that domestic violence plays in causing incidents of mass violence;

(H) the effect of depictions of mass violence in the media, and any impact of such depictions on incidents of mass violence;

(I) the availability and nature of firearms, including the means of acquiring such firearms, and all positive and negative impacts of such availability and nature on incidents of mass violence or in preventing mass violence;

(J) the role of current prosecution rates in contributing to the availability of weapons that are used in mass violence;

(K) the availability of information regarding the construction of weapons, including explosive devices, and any impact of such information on such incidents of mass violence;

(L) the views of law enforcement officials, religious leaders, mental health experts, and other relevant officials on the root causes and prevention of mass violence;

(M) incidents in which firearms were used to stop mass violence; and

(N) any other area that the Commission determines contributes to the causes of mass violence.

(3) TESTIMONY OF VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS.—In determining the root causes of these recurring and tragic incidents of mass violence, the Commission shall, in accordance with section 144(a), take the testimony of victims and survivors to learn and memorialize their views and experiences regarding such incidents of mass violence.

(b) RECOMMENDATIONS.—Based on the findings of the study required under subsection (a), the Commission shall make recommendations to the President and Congress to address the causes of these recurring and tragic incidents of mass violence and to reduce such incidents of mass violence.

(c) REPORTS.—

(1) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than 3 months after the date on which the Commission first meets, the Commission shall submit to the President and Congress an interim report describing any initial recommendations of the Commission.

(2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after the date on which the Commission first meets, the Commission shall submit to the President and Congress a comprehensive report of the findings and conclusions of the Commission, together with the recommendations of the Commission.

(3) SUMMARIES.—The report under paragraph (2) shall include a summary of—

(A) the reports submitted to the Commission by any entity under contract for research under section 144(e); and

(B) any other material relied on by the Commission in the preparation of the report.

SEC. 144. POWERS OF THE COMMISSION.

(a) HEARINGS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, administer such oaths, take such testimony, and receive such evidence as the Commission considers advisable to carry out its duties under section 143.

(2) WITNESS EXPENSES.—Witnesses requested to appear before the Commission shall be paid the same fees as are paid to witnesses under section 1821 of title 28, United States Code.

(b) INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—The Commission may secure directly from any Federal agency such information as the Commission considers necessary to carry out its duties under section 143. Upon the request of the Commission, the head of such agency may furnish such information to the Commission.

(c) INFORMATION TO BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall be considered an agency of the Federal Government for purposes of section 1905 of title 18, United States Code, and any individual employed by any individual or entity under contract with the Commission under subsection (d) shall be considered an employee of the Commission for the purposes of section 1905 of title 18, United States Code.

(2) DISCLOSURE.—Information obtained by the Commission or the Attorney General under this subtitle and shared with the Commission, other than information available to the public, shall not be disclosed to any person in any manner, except—

(A) to Commission employees or employees of any individual or entity under contract to the Commission under subsection (d) for the purpose of receiving, reviewing, or processing such information;

(B) upon court order; or

(C) when publicly released by the Commission in an aggregate or summary form that does not directly or indirectly disclose—

(i) the identity of any person or business entity; or

(ii) any information which could not be released under section 1905 of title 18, United States Code.

(d) CONTRACTING FOR RESEARCH.—The Commission may enter into contracts with any entity for research necessary to carry out the duties of the Commission under section 143.

SEC. 145. COMMISSION PERSONNEL MATTERS.

(a) COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS.—Each member of the Commission who is not an officer or employee of the Federal Government shall be compensated at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, for each day (including travel time) during which such member is engaged in the performance of the duties of the Commission. All members of the Commission who are officers or employees of the United States shall serve without compensation in addition to that received for their services as officers or employees of the United States.

(b) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—The members of the Commission shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for employees of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of service for the Commission.

(c) STAFF.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Chairman of the Commission may, without regard to the civil service laws and regulations, appoint and terminate an executive director and such other additional employees as may be necessary to enable the Commission to perform its duties. The employment and termination of an executive director shall be subject to confirmation by a majority of the members of the Commission.

(2) COMPENSATION.—The executive director shall be compensated at a rate not to exceed the rate payable for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code. The Chairman may fix the compensation of other employees without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, relating to classification of positions and General Schedule pay rates, except that the rate of pay for such employees may not exceed the rate payable for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of such title.

(3) DETAIL OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.—Any Federal Government employee, with the approval of the head of the appropriate Federal agency, may be detailed to the Commission without reimbursement, and such detail shall be without interruption or loss of civil service status, benefits, or privilege.

(d) PROCUREMENT OF TEMPORARY AND INTERMITTENT SERVICES.—The Chairman of the Commission may procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, at rates for individuals not to exceed the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of such title.

SEC. 146. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Commission and any agency of the Federal Government assisting the Commission in carrying out its duties under this subtitle such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this subtitle. Any sums appropriated shall remain available, without fiscal year limitation, until expended.

SEC. 147. TERMINATION OF THE COMMISSION.

The Commission shall terminate 30 days after the Commission submits the final report under section 143(c)(2).

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

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 24, 2013, in room SD–628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing on ''The President's Fiscal Year 2014 Budget for Tribal Programs.''

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public of an addition to a previously announced hearing before 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 addition to the other measures previously announced, the Committee will also consider:

S. 684, to amend the Mni Wiconi Project Act of 1988 to facilitate completion of the Mni Wiconi Rural Water Supply System, and for other purposes;

S. 693, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the City of Hermiston, Oregon, water recycling and reuse project, and for other purposes;

and,

S. 715, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to use designated funding to pay for construction of authorized rural water projects, and for other purposes.

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 e-mail to *john_assini@energy.senate.gov*.

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

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 11, 2013, at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 11, 2013, at 10:30 a.m., in room 406 of the Dirksen Senate office building, to conduct a hearing entitled ''Hearing on the Nomination of Gina McCarthy to be Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.''

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 11, 2013, at 2:30 p.m., in room 215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled ''The President's Fiscal Year 2014 Budget.''

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 11, 2013, at 2:15 p.m., to conduct a hearing entitled, ''U.S. Policy Toward Syria.''

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet, during the session of the Senate, to conduct a hearing entitled ''A New, Open Marketplace: The Effect of Guaranteed Issue and New Rating Rules'' on April 11, 2013, at 10 a.m., in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 11, 2013, at 10 a.m., in SD–226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct an executive business meeting.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 11, 2013, at 2:30 p.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and

Urban Affairs Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 11, 2013, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled ''Outsourcing Accountability—Examining the Role of Independent Consultants.''

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MANCHIN. I ask unanimous consent that on Monday, April 15, 2013, at 5 p.m., the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination: Calendar No. 21; that there be 30 minutes for debate equally divided in the usual form; that upon the use or yielding back of time the Senate proceed to vote without intervening action or debate on the nomination; further, that at a time to be determined by the majority leader, after consultation with the Republican leader, the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 22 and 23; that the Senate proceed to vote without intervening action or debate on the nominations in the order listed; further, that following the votes on Calendar No. 21 and Calendar No. 23, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and the Senate then resume legislative action.

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

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2013

Mr. MANCHIN. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 2 p.m. on Monday, April 15, 2013; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following any leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business until 5 p.m. with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each; further, that at 5 p.m., the Senate proceed to executive session under the previous order.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. MANCHIN. At 5:30 p.m. on Monday there will be a rollcall vote on confirmation of the O'Connell nomination to be a U.S. district judge in California.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2013, AT 2 P.M.

Mr. MANCHIN. 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 6:37 p.m., adjourned until Monday, April 15, 2013, at 2 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS

MATTHEW C. ARMSTRONG, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR A TERM EXPIRING AUGUST 13, 2015, VICE DANA M. PERINO, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TULINABO SALAMA MUSHINGI, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO BURKINA FASO.

NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD

HARRY R. HOGLANDER, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2014. (REAPPOINTMENT)

LINDA A. PUCHALA, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2015. (REAPPOINTMENT)

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

RICK LOWE, OF TEXAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 3, 2018, VICE JOANN FALETTA, TERM EXPIRED.

DOROTHY KOSINSKI, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE HUMANITIES FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 26, 2016, VICE RICARDO QUINONES, TERM EXPIRED.

FOREIGN SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE TO BE CONSULAR OFFICERS AND/OR SECRETARIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AS INDICATED:

SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

JAMES BENJAMIN GREEN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

CONSULAR OFFICERS AND SECRETARIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CANDICE EVETTE PARKER BRUCE, OF GEORGIA
JENNIFER ARGUETA CLEVER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JOSHUA EMMANUEL LAGOS, OF TEXAS
LASHONDA V. MCLEOD, OF MISSISSIPPI
JOHN P. SLETTE, OF MINNESOTA
LINSTON WINSTON TERRY, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ORESTES H. VASQUEZ, OF FLORIDA
ROBERT THOMSON WRIGHT, OF WASHINGTON
JEFFREY E. ZIMMERMAN, OF MINNESOTA

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR PROMOTION WITHIN THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE TO THE CLASS INDICATED, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 27, 2013:

CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER:

GEOFFREY W. WIGGIN, OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. GABRIEL TROIANO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be brigadier general

COL. JEFFREY B. CLARK

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADES INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. JAMES A. ADKINS

To be brigadier general

COL. JAMES D. CAMPBELL

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COLONEL WAYNE L. BLACK
COLONEL MICHAEL K. HANIFAN
COLONEL DANIEL M. KRUMREI
COLONEL ROBERT E. WINDHAM, JR.

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be major general

BRIGADIER GENERAL MARK E. ANDERSON
BRIGADIER GENERAL JULIE A. BENTZ
BRIGADIER GENERAL COURTNEY P. CARR
BRIGADIER GENERAL DANIEL R. HOKANSON
BRIGADIER GENERAL FRANCIS S. LAUDANO III
BRIGADIER GENERAL SCOTT D. LEGWOLD
BRIGADIER GENERAL ROGER L. MCCLELLAN
BRIGADIER GENERAL TIMOTHY M. MCKEITHEN
BRIGADIER GENERAL MICHAEL D. NAVRKAL
BRIGADIER GENERAL BRUCE E. OLIVEIRA
BRIGADIER GENERAL CHARLES E. PETRARCA, JR.
BRIGADIER GENERAL KENNETH C. ROBERTS
BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM F. ROY
BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM L. SMITH

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COLONEL STEVEN R. BEACH
COLONEL KENNETH A. BEARD
COLONEL FRED C. BOLTON
COLONEL MICHAEL J. BOUCHARD
COLONEL GREGORY S. BOWEN
COLONEL MARK D. BRACKNEY
COLONEL JOHN E. BURK
COLONEL CHRISTOPHER M. BURNS
COLONEL SEAN M. CASEY
COLONEL RUSSELL A. CRANE
COLONEL RICHARD H. DAHLMAN
COLONEL MARC FERRARO
COLONEL ROBERT A. FODE
COLONEL CHRISTOPHER J. FOWLER
COLONEL PAUL F. GRIFFIN
COLONEL GERALD E. HADLEY
COLONEL PATRICK M. HAMILTON
COLONEL WILLIAM M. HART
COLONEL ROBERT T. HERBERT
COLONEL MARVIN T. HUNT
COLONEL CHARLES T. JONES
COLONEL HUNT W. KERRIGAN
COLONEL JOHN F. KING
COLONEL DIRK R. KLOSS
COLONEL JEFFERY P. KRAMER
COLONEL GORDON D. KUNTZ
COLONEL MASAKI G. KUWANA, JR.
COLONEL DONALD P. LAUCIRICA
COLONEL MARK S. LOVEJOY
COLONEL MARK A. LUMPKIN
COLONEL ROBERT K. LYTLE
COLONEL TAMMY J. MAAS
COLONEL FRANCIS B. MAGURN II
COLONEL MARK G. MALANKA
COLONEL THOMAS R. MCCUNE
COLONEL FRANCIS M. MCGINN
COLONEL MICHAEL D. MERRITT
COLONEL RICHARD J. NORIEGA
COLONEL ROBERT D. PASQUALUCCI
COLONEL VAL L. PETERSON
COLONEL CHRISTOPHER J. PETTY
COLONEL JOHN M. RHODES
COLONEL CHRISTOPHER A. ROFRANO
COLONEL SCOTT H. SCHOFIELD
COLONEL TIMOTHY J. SHERIFF
COLONEL LINDA L. SINGH
COLONEL DANNY K. SPEIGNER
COLONEL BRYAN E. SUNTHEIMER
COLONEL MICHAEL A. SUTTON
COLONEL STEVEN A. TABOR
COLONEL GREGORY A. THINGVOLD
COLONEL MICHAEL C. THOMPSON
COLONEL KIRK E. VANPELT
COLONEL WILLIAM A. WARD
COLONEL STEVEN R. WATT
COLONEL RONALD P. WELCH
COLONEL DAVID B. WILES
COLONEL GISELLE M. WILZ
COLONEL JAMES P. WONG
COLONEL JERRY L. WOOD
COLONEL GARY S. YAPLE

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be major

CHRISTOPHER E. CURTIS
RASHMI G. JUNEJA
JOSEPH P. TOMSIC

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

TIMOTHY A. BUTLER
DWAYNE R. PEOPLES
LISA H. TICE
GARY J. ZICCARDI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

JOHN T. GRIVAKIS

To be lieutenant colonel

MATTHEW T. BARNES
TRACY R. CARVER
KEVIN S. CURRIE
JERROD W. DUGGAN
CRAIG L. HARVEY
MICHAEL R. SHEPHERD
ALESANDRO V. SMITH
SARAH K. TOBIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

DANNY L. BLAKE
DUANE M. BRAGG
JOHN R. BROOKS
KEVIN M. FRANKE
SEAN A. HOLLOWAY
RONALD L. JOHNSON
DANIEL E. LEE
MICHAEL D. LOVERING
CHRISTOPHER A. PHILLIPS
STEVEN P. VANDEWALLE
ANDREA C. VINYARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

RICHARD G. ANDERSON
JAMES R. ARMSTRONG
KLEET A. BARCLAY
PAUL CASTILLO
JANIS A. B. DASHNER
TRENT C. DAVIS
PETER N. FISCHER
GLENN H. GRESHAM
RANDALL D. GROVES
TIMOTHY S. MOERMOND
MICHAEL J. MORRIS
JOSHUA NARROWE
BRENDON M. ODOWD
MARK J. ROBERTS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

JEFFERY R. ALDER
PETER G. BREED
RENE J. CHADWELL
KEVIN W. CULP
DANA J. DANE
VERNE S. FUTAGAWA
NATHAN H. JOHNSON
THERESA A. LAWSON
TRACY A. NEALWALDEN
WENDY E. ODDEN
KIRK A. PHILLIPS
TASHA L. PRAVECEK
SHARI FOX SILVERMAN
JEFFREY A. STINSON
TRENT J. TATE
NORMAN S. WEST
KEVIN L. WRIGHT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

RONNELLE ARMSTRONG
ZEBULON E. BECK
CHAD A. BELLAMY
SHAWN C. BISHOP
CHRISTOPHER A. CONKLIN
DANIEL W. FORMAN
WALID A. HABASH
RICHARD H. HOLMES
TONY G. KING
JASON M. KNUDESON
DALE E. MARLOWE
MARK B. MCKELLEN
LASERIAN I. NWOGA
EUSEBIA D. RIOS
GABRIEL A. RIOS
MELVIN K. SMITH
ERIK A. TISHER
JOSEPH M. WATSON
MARK R. WILLIAMS
CHAD W. ZIELINSKI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

MAIYA D. ANDERSON
MONTY T. BAKER
MARK BALLESTEROS
MICHAEL A. BLOWERS
STEPHEN L. BOGLARSKI
DAVID L. BRAZEAU
SCOTT L. CARBAUGH
REBECCA W. CARTER
DANIEL J. CASTIGLIA
RAMIL C. CODINA
KATHLEEN A. CRIMMINS
MELINDA EATON
CLAUDIA M. EID
VALLA C. FAIRLEY
KEVIN J. FAVERO
JAMES D. FOLTZ
DONNA J. FOX
DAVID W. HAGERTY
ACHILLES J. HAMILOTHORIS
DAVID M. KEMPISTY
PATRICK W. KENNEDY
TIMOTHY R. LANDIS
STEVEN H. LANGE
ROBERTA A. LENSKI
MARYBETH E. LUNA
TERESA L. MADDOX
RYAN W. MARESH
ROBERT G. MARTIN
THOMAS V. MASSA
MICHAEL L. NEACE
ALICIA N. NELSON
TODD W. NEU
LAWRENCE B. NOEL, JR.
MATTHEW W. OSTLER
MELISSA J. PAMMER
DWAYNE I. PORTER
LEEANN RACZ
ROBERT W. RAINEY
JUAN M. RAMIREZ
RUTH A. ROANAVARRETE
DANIEL A. ROBERTS
IAN C. RYBCZYNSKI
ERIC E. SASSI
MADELAINE SUMERA
LISA A. TAUAI
JEANNETTE M. WATTERSON
JAMES L. WEINSTEIN
MARC D. WEISHAAR
JON E. WILSON
ELLEN M. WIRTZ
JEFFREY L. WISNESKI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

MATTHEW G. ADKINS
TREVOR L. AMBRON
CHRISTINA M. ANDERSON
LYNNETTE V. ANGEL
ROBERT F. ATKINSON III
BECKY K. AZAMA
JOSEPH E. BALL
JURAM R. BALSA
ERIC W. BARONI
ADAM S. BATCHELLOR
HEATHER D. BAUTISTA
ROY D. BLOUNT
CHRISTOPHER A. BREWER
SHERROD A. BROWN
STEVEN L. BRYANT
ADAM G. BUFFINGTON
EMILY YOUNG BULLOCK
DONNA M. BURROWES
CHRISTOPHER J. BUTTON
KIRSTYN D. CALDWELL
JASON CALL
JOEL M. CARTIER
WILLIAM J. CHALMERS III
LARRY E. CHUPP
ERIC R. CLINTON
CONNIE M. CONVERSE
CASEY W. COOPER
CHRISTY S. CRUZ
KEVIN W. CURTIS
KATHERINE A. DANIEL
RICARDO DEJESUS
ABRAHAM C. DIAZ, JR.
CARLOS DORIA, JR.
MARYANN A. EDWARDS
MITZI D. ELLIOTT
NICOLE M. ESCHER
ZACHARY G. FINNEY
KIMBERLY J. FISK
COURTNEY A. FITZGERALD
JOHN M. FOSTER
ANTHONY A. FRANCISCO
DAVID FRANKLIN FERNANDEZ
JASMIN S. FURLOUGH
DAMIAN X. GARZA
ANDREW E. GAWLIKOWSKI
JONATHAN P. GORHAM
MICHELLE A. GRAMLING
ROBERT D. GREIMAN, JR.
PERCIVAL C. HARGROVE
KRISTIN N. HENLEY
JUSTIN R. HOLBROOK
MARCY N. HOLLOWAY
CHASTITY V. HOWARD
JOSHUA L. HUBBELL
KEVIN D. HURLEY
KRISTA K. HUTCHINSON
FELIX ISLAS
JOHN J. JAHNKE
CAROLYN A. JENSEN
BRYAN W. JOHNSON
JEREMIAH E. JOHNSON
JUSTIN R. KANDLE
JULIE KENA
RICHARD L. KICE
ERIKA L. KING
SCOTT T. KING
ALEX C. KWON
MICHAEL KWON
MICHAEL J. KWON
SYREETA DANIELS LAWRENCE
JENNIFER E. LEPPER
IVY TAT MADSON
JOLENE A. MANCINI
JOHN C. MARREN
DENISE M. MARTIN ZONA
SHANE M. MARTIN
JEFFREY L. MCCLELLAN
JANICE MCDOWELL
CHRISTINA M. MCQUAIDE
REGAN R. MILLER
JENNIFER R. MILLINGTON
BRIAN M. MIRACLE
JONATHON W. MUELLER
TAMARAH G. MURPHY
KRISTEN NEWSOME
MY N. NGUYEN
JOHN C. NOAH
ANGELA M. OKROI
ROBERT A. OLIVI
CHRISTIANNE N. OPRESKO
ALLISON E. PANGANIBAN
SOKUNTHEA PEOU
BRANDY R. PERRY
THOA N. PHAM
ERIC D. POWELL
RAY M. QUENNEVILLE
KATIE M. RAGAN
JOHN M. REARDON
RETT J. REBER
ROMAN REPCHAK
SCOTT A. ROBERTSON
MICHELE M. SAMPAYAN
DANIELLE E. SCHNITKER
WILLIAM A. SCHULTZ
CRESCENT A. SEIBERT
PATRICK D. SHORTER
RITA N. SIRCAR
LEONARDO G. SOMERA III
TARA A. STOGDILL
ERIN R. STURGELL
DAVID PAUL SUPINSKI, JR.
STEVEN C. TANG
ALDEN L. TAYLOR
MARK A. TENN
NICOLE R. THOMPSON
MICHAEL A. TOMMOLINO
MICHAEL VALDOVINOS
BROOKE MARIE VAN EEGHEN
CARIST WASHINGTON
WADE F. WHEELER
CHAD E. WILLIS
ETHAN C. WOODBURY
KATHY L. WYNKOOP
ROBEL A. YOHANNES
JOSEPH ZAMORA, JR.
NORMAN DALE ZELLERS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

BENNIE EARL ABBOTT
ISRAEL ABENSUR
ADAM BENNETTE ABERCROMBIE
DONALD P. ABRAHAM
CHRISTOPHER M. ACS
ALPHANSO R. ADAMS
CHRISTOPHER GENE ADAMS
MATTHEW S. ADAMS
RICHARD G. ADAMS
THOMAS CALVIN ADAMS
STEPHEN M. ADDINGTON
MATTHEW C. ADDISON
PHILLIP C. ADKINS
RODNEY DANIEL ADKINS
JASON S. AHRENS
LEE EDMOND AKERS
YALUNDA M. AKINLOBA
AARON J. ALBANO
BRIAN A. ALBARADO
LOUIS J. ALDINI
LEE J. ALEXANDER
STEPHEN V. S. ALEXANDER
JUSTIN T. ALFORD
JOHNEMMANUEL E. ALFREDOCKIYA
DANIEL S. ALLEN
GEORGE M. ALLEN
SHEILA A. ALLEN
CHRISTOPHER W. ALLGEIER
EDGAR ADOLFO ALONSOBERNAL
ERIC A. ALONSOBERNAL
MATTHEW S. ALTER
CARLO E. ALVAREZ
JAKE ALVERSON
NICHOLAS JAMES AMATO
GEORGE AMBELANG
JACOB CASSIDY AMES
RANDY ALAN ANDERSEN
ANDREW D. ANDERSON
BRIAN EDWARD ANDERSON
CHRISTINA M. ANDERSON
CLIFTON R. ANDERSON
DEREK C. ANDERSON
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CHRISTOPHER F. QUINLAN
AARON WESLEY QUINN
RYAN M. QUINN
ERIC GUY RABARIJAONA
ROBERT S. RABON
LAURA ROCHELLE RACKIS
STEPHEN D. RAHAM
ROLAND RAINEY, JR.
GLORIA N. RAMIREZ HICKEY
ISABELLA K. RAMIREZ
NOEL ADALBERTO RAMIREZ
JAMES S. RANKIN
SHAHN S. RASHID
ALAN R. RATHJEN
NATHAN RATSCHAN
STEPHEN M. RAUSA
JOSHUA L. REAM
JOHN TRAVIS REAVES
KEVIN F. REBHOLZ
DAVID G. RECHNER
BRENDA L. RECKART
LUKE REDERUS
ABRAHAM REDOBLE
BRIAN DENNIS REDSTONE
WARREN D. REECE
BRODIE JAMES REED
MARK E. REED
NATOSHA L. REED
SARAH L. REEVE
JEREMY W. REGANS
JOHN P. REGO
PHILLIP M. REHMERT
JOHN H. REHRER III
ALEXANDER J. REICH
ERIC M. REICHERT
DEREK K. REIMER
SCOTT JOSEPH REINECKE
MICHELLE L. REINSTATLER
BRENT K. REISS
JOSHUA M. RENFRO
MAX J. RENNER
KRISTINA D. RENNIE
LISA M. RESCH
NATHANIEL LEE RESENDEZ
JUSTIN B. REX
NATHAN P. REYNEN
SEAN CHRISTOPHER REYNOLDS
ROY Q. RHINEHART
CHRISTINE MORGAN RHYNE
CHARLES L. RICE
JOSEPH M. RICE
BENJAMIN COULSON RICH
JAMEY D. RICHARDI
MICHELLE PATRICIA RICHARDS
BENJAMIN P. RICK
JONATHAN A. RIEGLE
JAY J. RIENDL
JAMIE N. RIGGINS
MICHAEL L. RILEY
SCOTT RINELLA
OBADIAH N. RITCHEY
CALEB H. RITLAND
JONATHAN JAMES RITSEMA
KALLI J. RITTER
ANTHONY P. RIZZUTO
CHRISTOPHER P. ROBERTS
DARIN L. ROBERTS
CHRISTOPHER ADAM ROBEY
SAMUEL P. ROBINO
COREY JOEL ROBINSON
JOHN A. ROBINSON IV
ALANI I. ROBLES
JONATHAN D. ROE
OLIVER L. ROE
BLAKE S. ROEDER
CHRISTOPHER W. ROGERS
NEIL GIPSON ROGERS
ROBERT M. ROGERS
CHRISTOPHER R. ROLFE
TIMOTHY C. ROLLING
JOHN J. ROLSEN
KERA A. ROLSEN
PIERRE EUGENE ROMEO
EDWARD ROMERO
BENJAMIN J. RONNAU
TYLER S. ROOT
WILLIAM ROOT
ALBERT ROPER
BRENT D. ROPER
RYAN L. ROPER
PAUL N. ROQUE
JOSEPH DAVID ROSAL
JACK J. ROSE
LUCAS S. ROSELIUS
ERIC STEVEN ROSENLOF
WAYNE H. ROSSO
TODD ANDREW ROTRAMEL
TIMOTHY J. ROTT
MATTHEW D. ROTTINGHAUS
CHARLES RANDALL ROWELL, JR.
PAUL A. ROWNEY
STANLEY JOHN RUDA III
TRAVIS L. RUEFF
GARY M. RUEHS
HOMERO H. RUIZ PEREZ
NATHAN J. RUIZ
CRAIG CHARLES RUMBLE
SCOTT RUMISEK
ANDREW J. RUPERT
ANDREW JOSEPH RUPP
MICHAEL A. RUPP
CHRISTINA F. E. RUSNOCK
ANTHONY DOUGLAS RUSSELL
CHARLES R. RUSSELL II
MICHAEL S. RYAN
RAYMOND B. RYLANDER
LIVIU CRISTINEL SABAU
CARISSA L. SABELLICO
ETHAN E. SABIN
WILLIAM B. SACK
MICHELLE SAFFOLD
OLIVER A. SAGUN
PHILEMON SAKAMOTO
JAMES M. SALAZAR
JUAN CARLOS SALAZAR
AMANDA J. SALMOIRAGHI
JAY SAMPLES
ANGELIA T. SANDERS
DUSTIN M. SANDERS
RYAN P. SANDERS
JEANNETTE T. SANDOVAL
ROBERT I. SANDWITH III
KARA SARTORI
DAVID M. SATTERFIELD
SHANE C. SAUM
ERIC VONDELL SAUNDERS
MICHAEL JOSEPH SAVAGE
ANDREW G. SAYLOR
JOSEPH T. SCHAEFER
BYRON HENRY SCHALK
EARL D. SCHALLER
NICOLE M. SCHATZ
TIMOTHY D. SCHEFFLER
DANIEL SCHEMPP
JASON L. SCHENCK
JOEL A. SCHERER
MATTHEW J. SCHEULEN
JOHN SCHEUREN
JONATHAN DAVID SCHIFERL
RYAN F. SCHIFFNER
FRANCIS J. SCHILLINGER
PAUL SCHIMPF
BRYAN SCHMELZER
PETER J. SCHMICK
NESLI SCHMIDT
JOSEPH J. SCHMITT

JULIANA BRUNS SCHMITZ
JOSHUA E. SCHNEIDER
BROCK A. SCHNUTE
MICHAEL A. SCHONBACHLER
DANIEL J. SCHONE
MICHAEL KAMUELA SCHRIEVER
MATTHEW BRADLEY SCHROER
ADAM L. SCHUBERT
CHARLES O. SCHULZ
JOHN R. SCHWARTZ
KATRINA L. SCHWEIKER
SETH PETER SCHWESINGER
NICHOLAS M. SCOTCH
DAVID CHRISTOPHER SCOTT
JOSHUA P. SCOTT
WINFIELD W. SCOTT IV
JAMES A. SCOVILLE
BRIAN L. SCOZZARO
JEFFREY A. SEARCY
ANDREA E. SEAROR
TIMOTHY S. SECOR
BENJAMIN A. SEEDALL
NANCY SEGARRA
WILLIAM B. SELBER
KEVIN MICHAEL SELIN
JEREMY J. SELSTROM
CLIFFORD JOSEPH SERATTI
CHERI J. SETTELL
SCOTT R. SEVIGNY
BRADLEY DAVID SEVY
JEREMY L. SEXTON
JASON ROBERT SEYBA
FRANK TEH JUNG SHA
JARED C. SHACKELFORD
JUSTIN D. SHADDEN
KEVIN M. SHAFFER
BRENDAN THOMAS SHANAHAN
PATRICK T. SHANAHAN
DARIN D. SHANKS
CHRISTOPHER MICHAEL SHARP
MICHAEL D. SHARPE
WILLIAM I. SHAVER IV
MATTHEW G. SHAW
ERIN E. SHAY
JONATHAN P. SHEA
BRIAN H. SHEEHAN
TIMOTHY C. SHEEHAN
JEREMY R. SHERMAN
JAMES HENSLEY SHIELDS
DANIEL WESLEY SHIMONSKY
JEROMIE L. SHOULDERS
BRYAN P. SHOUPE
DANIEL J. SHOWALTER
BRANDON R. SHROYER
AMANDA J. SHUMAKER
ROBERT FREDERICK SHUMAKER
ROBERT WAYNE SHUPING, JR.
MICHAEL E. SIAN
AMANDA R. SICKELS
GEORGE W. SICKELS
JOHN DAVID SIEPS
TIMOTHY R. SILFIES, JR.
AMANDA L. SILL
SEAN M. SILVA
STEPHANIE M. SILVA
DENNIS MARK SIMERLY
DAVID BENJAMIN SIMMONS
LADY NOREEN SANTOS SIMMONS
MATTHEW C. SIMMONS
THOMAS ERIC SIMMONS
JUSTIN D. SIMMS
ANTHONY ROY SIMPSON
RYAN A. SIMPSON
BENJAMIN M. SIMS
KAZUMI UDAGAWA SIMS
MATTHEW E. SIMS
JAMES SINCLAIR
JOSHUA A. SINGSAAS
BRIAN R. SINKULE
SHANE NATHAN SIRIANNI
ANDREW S. SISLER
FORREST S. SISSON
THANE A. SISSON
RYAN DANIEL SKAGGS
STEVEN EARL SLAGLE
CHRISTOPHER J. SLAUSON
JAMES C. SLAYTON
DAVID PETER SLEEPER
ANDREW TERRY SMECKERT
BRENT L. SMITH
DEAN A. SMITH
GEORGE E. SMITH
JAMES LEON SMITH
JEFFREY E. SMITH
JOSEPH M. SMITH
KELLY M. SMITH
LATOYA D. SMITH
MARSHA L. SMITH
RICHARD M. SMITH
RIKKI D. SMITH
ROBERT A. SMITH
TIFFANY LAKEESHA SMITH
TYLER SMITH
ZACHARY M. SMITH
JORDAN M. SMYTH
JOEL MICHAEL SNOWDEN
ERIC BENJAMIN SNYDER
JAMES SNYDER
WILLIAM A. SOCTOMAH
JASON T. SODEN
ANDREW TOM SOINE
JESSE PAUL SOMANN
JARED W. SORENSEN
LENARD C. SORIANO
JARED B. SORTERS
MATTHEW WAYNE SOWARDS
CARMEN M. SOWERS
CHARLES C. SPAULDING
CHRIS B. SPAULDING, JR.
JASON W. SPAULDING
JONATHAN CHARLES SPAULDING
DEREK G. SPEAR
DEVIN A. SPERLING
JASON A. SPINDLER
JONATHAN E. SPRAGUE
DEVIN L. SPROSTON
JAMES C. SPRYS
WESLEY N. SPURLOCK III
ALBERT F. SQUIRE
CHRISTOPHER S. STACHEWICZ
JASON E. STACK
MICHAEL J. STACKHOUSE
MATTHEW J. STAMPHER
CHRISTOPHER K. STANLEY
SEAN THOMAS STAPLER
ALEXANDER J. STARK
DUSTIN PAUL STEDNITZ
VIRGIL V. STEELE IV
ANDREW M. STEIN
DANIEL M. STEINHISER
BRETT A. STENSRUDE
LUCAS Z. STEPANEK
ANGELINA R. STEPHENS
JOHN RICHARD STEPHENS III
WILLIAM JAMES STEPHENSON
KYE D. STEPP
KENNETH R. STERLING
LYSA M. STERN
SEAN CHRISTOPHER STEVENS
DOUGLAS W. STEVENSON
ERNEST R. STEWART, JR.
PAUL D. STGEORGE
JOHN WILLIAM STILES
JUSTIN W. STIMETS
MATTHEW STINES
BRETT A. STITT
DEREK J. STJOHN
MICHAEL H. STOBIE
BRANDON J. STOCK
BRANDON W. STOCK
JOHN D. STOCK
RICHARD C. STOCKER
DANA S. STOCKTON
ANDREW T. STOLEE
KEVIN THOMAS STONE
BRADLEY JOHN STOOR
JOHN BLAKENEY STOVALL
DANIEL A. STOWELL
KYLE J. STRANG
JAMES J. STRAUB, JR.
WAYNE M. STRAW
MARCELL S. STRBICH
ADAM M. STRECKER
BENJAMIN A. STREET
MELANIE D. STRICKLAN
MARK D. STRUSKA
MATTHEW S. STRUTHERS
KELLY A. STUART
JAMES G. STUDER
MATTHEW D. STURTEVANT
CHRISTOPHER STUTHEIT
JASON A. STUTZMAN
ERIC LANDON SUITS
CHRISTINA J. SUKACH
BRADLEY KENT SULLIVAN
KATHLEEN SULLIVAN
TIMOTHY S. SULLIVAN
ERIC JOSEPH SULSER
DANIEL SCOTT SUMMERS
KEVIN L. SUMMERS
MATTHEW R. SUMMEY
NICHOLAS A. SUPPA
AMY L. SWEAZY
MATTHEW A. SWEE
PHILIP HENRY SWENSON
DEBBIE L. SWETLAND
TIMOTHY M. SWIERZBIN
SCOTT A. SWIGERT
ROBERT A. SWITZER
JOHN S. SYKES
RONNIE JOSEPH SYNAKOWSKI
JAMIE M. SZMODIS
BENJAMIN TABER
RUDY R. TALAMANTEZ
ANDREW C. TALBERT
EMILIO L. TALIPAN, JR.
BRADLEY R. TALLEY
PETER C. TALLEY
MAUREEN E. TANNER
RAYMOND DION TANSIL
ALVIN TAT
JOHN J. TATAR
STEVE M. TATRO
SCOTT TAYLOR
ERIN MAUREEN TEDESCO
RYAN M. TEEL
TYWANN D. ANDRE TELFAIR
DAVID ISAAC TEMPLE
SEAN C. TEMPLE
PAVEL G. TENDETNIK
TERENCE BRADY TENNANT
MICHAEL D. TERRELL
CHRISTOPHER M. THACKABERRY
FRANKLIN M. THARP
JOEL A. THEISEN
JAEFEN THIELKER
CHARLES D. THOMAS
DAVID WAYNE THOMAS II
JULIAN T. THOMAS
STEPHEN L. THOMAS
VICTORIA LEE THOMAS
JOAN E. THOMPSON
JOHN D. THOMPSON
JOHN M. THOMPSON
MARK WILLIAM THOMPSON
MATTHEW S. THOMPSON
THOMAS W. THOMPSON
WILLIAM J. THOMPSON
TIMOTHY A. THOREN
CAITLIN R. THORN
RYAN C. THULIN
MATTHEW A. THURBER
TRAVIS L. THURMOND
JOHN R. TICE
WILLIAM E. TIERNEY, JR.
MICHAEL L. TILLIS
SHANNA MARIE TIMLIN
JEFFREY A. TIMM
JASON P. TINGSTROM
DONALD L. TINSLEY
JEREMY N. TIPPEY
CATHERINE TOBIN
JASON TOMCHO
MICHAEL P. TONKS
DUSTIN C. TORBENSEN
MATTHEW A. TORNEY
JONAH R. TORRES
JOSEPH A. TORTELLA
JOHNNY L. TOUCHSTONE
SARAH E. TOWLER
ANDREW G. TOWNSEND
JEREMIAH C. TRAWICK
BRANT C. TRETTER
MICHAEL M. TRIMBLE
BRIAN TRIPP
JOHN V. TROMBETTA
JOHN W. TROMBETTA, JR.
NICHOLAS TRUDELL
BRIAN M. TRUMBLE
COREY L. TRUSTY
HSIENLIANG R. TSENG
SPIRIDON J. TSITSILIANOS
ADAM TUCCI
KENNETH W. TUCK, JR.
SEAN REIDY TUCKER
SUZANNE L. TUCKER
CHRISTOPHER M. TULIP
STEVEN M. TUPPER
LEE M. TURCOTTE
HOWARD C. TURNER III
TIMOTHY A. TURNER
PETER A. TYMITZ
JOSHUA MICHAEL TYSON
SHAI TZIONY
DANIEL JAMES UGER
MASON R. ULLRICH
DAVID M. UNDERWOOD
MARCUS LEE UNDERWOOD
SAMANTHA MICHIKO UNRUH
AARON J. URBANOVSKY
MOSES A. URIBARRI
KYLE G. VACCA
SCOTT B. VALENTINE, JR.
GLENN VALLEJO
JAMES M. VALPIANI
NICHOLAS C. VAN ELSACKER
JESSE W. VANASSE
RONIECE VANDYKE
SCOTT CHARLES VANHOOGEN
GEORGE M. VANOSTEROM
JASON T. VANTA
ELLIOT B. VASQUEZ
FRANK VASQUEZ III
JACOB J. VAUGHT
SHELLIE R. VAUGHT
TRAVIS JOHN VAZANSKY
MATTHEW E. VEALE
STEVEN L. VEGA
PEDRO VELEZ CRUZ
BRIAN BAUTISTA VELEZ
PHILLIP WILLIAM VENTURA
TERRA S. VERBIK
JACK VETAS
STEVEN M. VICK
JAMES A. VICKERY
OMAR VILLARREAL
BRIAN VIOLA
LUKE D. VITOLO
STEVEN VIVEIROS
JAY BELOY VIZCARRA
BENJAMIN J. VOETBERG
MATTHEW S. VOGEL
STACIE L. VOORHEES
RYAN S. VORHIES
NICHOLAS WABEKE
JOSEPH T. WADDELL
BRANDY L. WADE
JENNIFER D. WADE
WESLEY ADAM WADE
MARK R. WAGNER
DANIEL EARL WAID
MICHAEL F. WAITES
JASON D. WALDOW
BENJAMIN D. WALKER
HUGH E. WALKER III
JACK B. WALKER
JOHNATHAN T. WALKER
JONATHAN M. WALKER
RYAN T. WALKER
WHITNEY P. WALKER
JASON P. K. WALL
NEAL D. WALL
GARY D. WALLACE
JOHN SILAS WALLACE
TREVOR M. WALLACE
BRANDON D. WALSH
JOHN T. WALSH
SHAWN P. WALSH
THOMAS ALAN WALSH
CASEY WALTERSCHEID
DANIEL A. WALTON

KEVIN M. WALTON
MARCI J. WALTON
ANDY YUEHCHUNG WANG
TIMOTHY M. WANKOWSKI
KIRK A. WANNER
MICHAEL E. WARD
JOHN R. WARE
MARK A. WARNER
MICHAEL V. WARNER, JR.
BENJAMIN D. WARREN
SHANE M. WARREN
ANDREW M. WASHBURN
BENJAMIN R. WASHBURN
KENNETH GERARD WASILIK
DANIEL W. WASSERMAN
DANIEL C. WASSMUTH
RAY A. WATERMAN
ERIC WATERS
ADAM RICHMOND WATKINS
MICHAEL S. WATKINS
BRIAN D. WEAR
ANGELA M. WEBB
BEACHER R. WEBB III
BRYON S. WEBB
PATRICK H. WEBSTER
ANTHONY J. WEEDN
JOSHUA WEHRLE
YU HANG WEI
GREGORY D. WEIGEL
TREVOR R. WEINERT
CORY N. WEISS
KURT WEISSGERBER
ADAM C. WELCH
MICHAEL S. WELCH
ERIKA ANNE WELLER
RYAN PATRICK WELLS
NATHAN F. WELTY
BRIAN ALLEN WERSCHING
JAMES RUSSELL WEST
TYLER A. WEST
MALCOLM C. WESTBERRY
JEFFREY M. WESTERMAN
ANDREW WESTMAN
JUSTIN T. WESTMORELAND
JUSTIN W. WETTERHALL
MICHAEL SCOTT WHEELER
PAMELA L. WHEELER
RICHARD E. WHEELER
CHRISTOPHER L. WHITAKER
ANTHONELLI WHITE, JR.
CLARENCE E. WHITE, JR.
EMILY JOY WHITE
ERIC T. WHITE
GREGORY C. WHITE
JOHN M. WHITE
NATHAN JUDE WHITE
THOMAS W. WHITE
CHARLES J. WHITEHEAD
JALEN A. WHITENER
GEOFFREY S. WHITMER
BISHANE ANTHONY WHITMORE
MICHAEL J. WHITMORE
CHARLES M. WHITWORTH
BRIAN DOUGLAS WICHAEL
CHRISTOPHER D. WICKLINE
DENNIS S. WIDNER
JOSEPH E. WIERENGA
ERIC B. WIETLISBACH
DOUGLAS EUGENE WIGGERS
JEREMY WIGGINS
SEAN MATHEW WILE
CHRISTOPHER GLEN WILEY
WAYNE P. WILEY
WILLIAM R. WILKERSON
ADAM M. WILLIAMS
BENJAMIN C. WILLIAMS
CHRISTINA MARIKO WILLIAMS
DAMIEN P. WILLIAMS
JOHN S. WILLIAMS
JONATHAN WHITNEY WILLIAMS
MARK E. WILLIAMS
MICHAEL S. WILLIAMS
NICHOLAS DURWOOD WILLIAMS
SAMUEL L. WILLIAMS, JR.
SEAN M. WILLIAMS
TRAVIS K. WILLIAMS
TREVOR L. WILLIAMS
REBECCA LYNN WILLIAMSON
NATHAN J. WILLIS
JEFFREY D. WILLS
SHANEA L. WILSON CAMPBELL
AARON P. WILSON
MICHAEL R. WILSON
SCOTT NIXON WILSON
MACIEJ MAREK WILTOWSKI
JACOB JOSEPH WILWERT
JOHN P. WIMBERLEY
THOMAS B. WINGARD
ALEXANDER D. WINN
TYLER J. WINTERMOTE
WILLIAM L. WISEHART
JOSEPH ROBERT WITHERSPOON
THOMAS I. WITKOWSKI
BARRY WITT
JOSEPH P. WITT
THOMAS M. WNETRZAK
CASANDRA M. WOLAK
JUSTIN C. WOLD
KEVIN D. WONG
STANLEY Y. WONG
ANDREW L. WOOD
BENJAMIN J. WOOD
JAMES BRANSON WOOD
DORIAN H. WOODLIFF
GEOFFREY R. WOOLF
CHARLES A. WRIGHT
ERIC W. WRIGHT
JONATHAN G. WRIGHT
JOSEPH CAMPBELL WRIGHT
LARRY DOUGLAS WRIGHT II
SCOTT K. WRIGHT
DARIUSZ WUDARZEWSKI
INGA E. WUERGES
MARK ARNOLD WUERTZ II
MATTHEW C. WUNDERLICH
COLIN EDWARD WYATT
DAVID W. WYATT
JOHN B. WYDRO
HILLARY B. WYKES
SEAN PATRICK YANDLE
RUVEN G. YARBROUGH
JERRY W. YARRINGTON, JR.
JOSEPH W. YASUNAGA
ERIKA ANNE YEPSEN
MICHAEL YEUNG
WILLIAM D. YOAKLEY
YESUN YOON
CHRISTOPHER J. YORK
MATTHEW L. YOUNG
ROBERT J. YOUNG
WILLIAM C. YOUNG, JR.
ZACHARY GILBERT YOUNG
MICHAEL GRAY YTTRI
AARON J. ZAMORA
JONATHAN A. ZANNIS
DANIEL J. ZAPPE
BENJAMIN DONALD ZATORSKI
JONATHAN DRYDEN ZEBRE
ARTHUR ZEITLER
CHRISTINE LYNN ZENS
ANTHONY L. ZERWIG
TODD M. ZIELINSKI
AMANDA L. ZUBER
BRYAN S. ZUMBRO
BENJAMIN ZUNIGA
LAURA L. ZURESS

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS PERMANENT PROFESSOR AT THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY IN THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 4333 (B) AND 4336 (A):

To be colonel

SUZANNE C. NIELSEN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be major

ANN M. RUDICK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AS A CHAPLAIN UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

To be major

MATTHEW P. WEBERG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR ARMY AS A CHAPLAIN UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

To be major

GRADY L. GENTRY

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

DEVIN R. BLOWES

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be captain

KEVIN J. PARKER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be captain

OLEH HALUSZKA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant commander

STEPHEN S. CHO
CALEB J. NOORDMANS
JAMES W. WINDE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 5721:

To be lieutenant commander

TIMOTHY R. ANDERSON
FREDERICK ATIENZA
DANIEL B. BOND
VICTOR J. BOZA
DAMON J. BRIDGES
MATTHEW C. CHERRSTROM
RANDALL J. CLEMONS
JASON A. CONLEY
JASON C. CREWS
CHRISTOPHER T. DEITZ
JAMES R. J. DIEFENDERFER
JOSH W. DUGGAN
ROBERT L. EDMONSON III
SHANNYN W. FOWLER
PETER A. GAAL
THOMAS P. GILFILLAN
MICHAEL C. GRAHAM
NATHAN A. HALL
RYAN M. HERNANDEZ
SAMUEL HIGGINBOTHAM
NICHOLAS S. HILL
JEREMY L. JAMES
DEVINE JOHNSON
RUSSELL J. KUNTZ
DAVID D. MAHONEY
JAMES G. MASSIE III
JEREMY B. MITCHELL
TOD F. OCONNELL
JOSHUA D. PETERS
MATTHEW D. W. PHILLIPS
SCOTT D. RATHKE
ERIC A. REARDON
TIMOTHY W. ROCHHOLZ
ALERON B. ROGNLIE
ERIC T. RYAN
DAVID C. SANDOMIR
DESTINY N. SAVAGE
SAMUEL M. SPLETZER
DAVID L. STARNES
NATHAN C. STUHLMACHER
CHAD T. TELLA
MICHAEL J. TOZZI
MICHAEL C. WALTERS
MICHAEL R. WEBB
RYAN S. WILLETTE
MATTHEW W. WOLF
JOHN E. WOODSON
ANDREW J. WOOLLEY

IN THE COAST GUARD

PURSUANT TO SECTION 336(B) AND (C), TITLE 14, U.S. CODE, THE FOLLOWING OFFICER OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE POSITION OF COAST GUARD BAND DIRECTOR IN THE GRADE INDICATED:

To be lieutenant commander

ADAM R. WILLIAMSON

PURSUANT TO SECTION 188, TITLE 14, U.S. CODE, THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER AS A MEMBER OF THE COAST GUARD PERMANENT COMMISSIONED TEACHING STAFF FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD:

To be commander

KEVIN J. LOPES

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING ED JOHNSTONE'S COMMITMENT AND SERVICE TO THE OLYMPIC PENINSULA REGION OF WASHINGTON STATE

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Ed Johnstone, a community leader engaged on climate change issues in our region. Today, the President is recognizing his efforts by awarding Mr. Johnstone the Champions of Change award.

Mr. Johnstone is a member of the Quinault Indian Nation and serves as their spokesperson on ocean policy and treaty fishing rights. He has done remarkable work explaining how climate change is negatively impacting the ecosystems and fisheries that are central to the traditions, culture, and spiritual beliefs of his tribe, as well as our regional economy.

Mr. Johnstone has helped raise awareness of climate change by co-leading the First Stewards: Coastal Peoples Address Climate Change Symposium at the National Museum of the American Indian.

Climate change is an issue that involves not only preserving our environment. It's also about protecting our economic and national security interests. Climate change is already beginning to negatively impact our state's agriculture and shellfish industries, forests, and salmon habitat. Promoting growth and preserving these industries is essential in retaining and creating new jobs in our area.

Mr. Speaker, I enjoy living in our region because I value the richness of our environment. We know our generation must be responsible stewards of our lands, waters, and of our entire planet for future generations. It's leaders like Mr. Johnstone that are taking that vision and turning it into a reality day in and day out.

It takes great effort and service to earn this prestigious award. On behalf of our region, it is an honor to congratulate Mr. Johnstone on this accomplishment.

RECOGNIZING MANO A MANO FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of Mano a Mano Family Resource Center, an organization in my district that is dedicated to helping immigrants realize their dreams here in the United States. We are a nation of immigrants, but without the work of organizations like Mano a Mano, we are merely a nation that accepts immigrants, rather than one encouraging them to be active, engaged members of the community.

Started out of a small storefront, Mano a Mano has grown over the last decade to help more than 4,300 people per year. With language courses, early education programs, GED tutoring, computer skills training and health education, Mano a Mano has helped countless families and individuals become complete participants in American life.

The beauty of these programs, and what makes Mano a Mano so effective, is how they are tailored to client and community needs. For example, recognizing challenges managing or understanding life with diabetes, Mano a Mano launched an initiative to educate the community on living with a chronic disease and how better to manage it.

The success stories go on and on and on and are too many to enumerate. Let me highlight, however, what I think is a most telling attribute of their success: year after year, Mano a Mano clients often return as volunteers, tutors or educators. Not only are these programs successfully enriching our communities and the lives of their clients, but they also inspire a tradition of giving back, of paying it forward, and of doing for others as Mano a Mano did for them. Such is the cycle—a community of reaching out—where one good turn leads to another and another.

On the eve of the annual gala, I thank Mano a Mano for all that they are and all that they do. I am proud that this organization makes its home in our Tenth District.

HONORING PAUL SPRING

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Paul Spring. Paul is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Paul has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Paul has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Paul has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Paul led a construction team in building a picnic area consisting of four cedar tables and an encompassing rubber mulch area at Pleasant Valley Baptist Church in Kansas City, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Paul Spring for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE 110TH ANNIVERSARY OF BOILERMAKERS LOCAL 363

HON. WILLIAM L. ENYART

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. ENYART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 110th anniversary of the Boilermakers Local 363 of East St. Louis, Illinois.

By the late 19th century many of the skilled craftsmen who powered the Industrial Revolution were seeking to improve pay and working conditions through the formation of unions. Workers in the boilermaker and iron ship building trades had formed a union in Chicago as had boilermakers in Atlanta. These two organizations would merge in 1893 to form the International Brotherhood of Boiler Makers and Iron Ship Builders and, on March 22, 1903, Local 363 in East St. Louis, Illinois received its charter.

Over the years the Boilermakers Union would continue to grow and diversify as other related trade unions merged with it. A Helpers Division was added in 1902 and Blacksmiths and Drop Forgers merged in 1954. In 1984, the United Cement, Lime, Gypsum and Allied Workers merged, to be followed, in 1994, by the Stove, Furnace and Allied Appliance Workers. The Metal Polishers, Buffers and Platers would merge in 1996. As a result of these many mergers, the name of the union is now the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers.

Membership in the union grew in the 20th century as the needs for the skilled labor grew. At the dawn of the century, membership was about 8,500 but had grown to over 350,000 by the end of World War II in the mid-1940s. There are currently 534 members in Local 363.

Local 363 has always realized that its responsibility to its members also extends to those members' community. The list of organizations that have been assisted by the local's support include: the United Way, Special Olympics, the Illinois Cancer Society and the Boy Scouts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the leadership and members of Boilermakers Local 363 as they celebrate their 110th anniversary and to wish them continued success in the future.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MR. JIM LEEDY

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Jim Leedy, a renowned artist who

envisioned and fostered the beginning of a thriving arts community and culture in downtown Kansas City. He did this by transforming an undesirable section of Kansas City, Missouri into what is now known as the Crossroads Art District. As an established artist whose work has been exhibited around the world, in over 1,000 one-man shows, he understands the importance of a culture where artists have an integrated community to live, work and showcase their work. Considering those basic necessities, he purchased a building in 1985 and remodeled it to accommodate live/work artist studios and multiple gallery spaces, known as the Leedy-Voulkos Art Center. Today, the Crossroads Art District is home to more than 400 local artists, 100 independent studios, and over 30 galleries. It is one of the most concentrated gallery districts in the nation. On the first Friday of each month, known as ''First Friday's'', you will find thousands of people visiting the galleries, listening to music and eating at their favorite establishment. It is a uniquely Kansas City environment.

So who is this man that made such a dramatic difference, not only in our community but throughout his artistic career? Born in 1930, Jim Leedy grew up in the clay soils of Virginia and Kentucky. Working with this medium came naturally to him. During the formative time of his career, while attending Columbia University for his art history post-graduate studies, he had the opportunity to meet and listen to the dialogue of established artists in New York City. In 1966 he joined the staff of the Kansas City Art Institute, sharing his artistic skills and working with the administration and faculty to take the Kansas City Art Institute in a new direction. He taught there for over 40 years and mentored thousands of students throughout his career.

As an artist he has been influenced by his life experiences, colleagues, students, friends and family. His daughter, Stephanie Leedy and his granddaughter, Erin Woodworth, now run the Leedy-Voulkos Art Center and continue to showcase both local and international artists. He is an artist in the truest sense, whether he is painting or working with clay. His original artistic renderings with clay can be classified as one of the first Abstract Expressionism ceramic pieces. It was about the material, it was about the clay and creating a non utilitarian piece that would evolve by using the Raku firing technique. A method he learned about in Japan while on leave from the Korean War. His art is about instilling the essence of nature, color, and the continuous experiment and evolution of creativity.

As a Korean Veteran, who served as a military photographer, he had to deal with his war memories and did so through his art. Every war veteran can tell you that war alters and changes your view of life and death. Jim Leedy began experiencing flash backs during the mid 80's and through most of the 90's. Many times through his art he relived the haunting memory of a day in Korea when he jumped into a stream only to see underneath him the rotting corpses and skeletons of the dead. During this time his art focused on the images of that day. It was not until 2000 with his work ''The Earth Lies Screaming,'' that his art conveyed the recurring reality of war through his wall of skeletons and skulls. He reminds us that war brings death. This work was the last of its kind because it put to rest his personal conflict.

Since this period in his life, he continues to experiment with his art. A painting need not be flat, clay need not go through a long firing process. He encourages today's artists and remains a friend to anyone that has an open mind and loves creating.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in expressing our appreciation to Mr. Jim Leedy and his endless commitment to our artistic community. He is a true role model not only for our artists, but he serves as an example of how we can all live our lives. He comprehended the essential, and with the purchase of his first building, began a slow sprawl that has become the cultural center of Kansas City. Mr. Speaker, his action made a dynamic difference for all of us to enjoy.

RECOGNITION OF THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. ALBIO SIRES

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the upcoming 65th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel and the bond of friendship between the United States and Israel.

Like the United States, the State of Israel has stood as a beacon of democracy and hope for Jewish immigrants from all over the world. As an immigrant myself, I understand the importance of the democratic freedoms and values that our nation holds dear. The United States and Israel share and embrace those values as the cornerstones of a vibrant democratic society.

I have been fortunate enough to visit Israel and witness the importance of the friendship the U.S. and Israel share. We share the common goals of peace, freedom, security and prosperity for our citizens and for the region. I am pleased to help honor the State of Israel on its 65th birthday I hope all my colleagues and fellow Americans will join me in taking pride in the unique contributions that our Israeli community has made to our nation.

Again, congratulations to Israel and its people all across the world on their 65th independence day.

RETIREMENT PLANNING WEEK

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize this week, April 8–12, 2013, as Retirement Planning Week. This week is held during the national effort to observe Financial Literacy Month. This endeavor promotes the education and awareness of important financial issues and provides Americans with essential retirement planning information.

Comprehensive retirement planning is an important step that will lead Americans into a financially secure future. But, the process can be challenging for consumers which leads many Americans into retirement without an adequate financial plan. We must make this a national priority and convey to our constituents the value of retirement planning so that more Americans can appropriately prepare for and attain financial security during their retirement years.

Social Security and Medicare face long-term challenges. My constituents depend on Social Security and Medicare for their livelihood. It is important for everyone to think about long-term financial needs, plan for a secure retirement, and create a comprehensive retirement plan. It is vital to have a plan that will leave Americans better prepared and more confident in their financial future.

COMMENDING TAMPA TSA AGENT JIM FLAHERTY

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the heroic efforts of a constituent of mine, Mr. Jim Flaherty. An Army veteran, who served over twenty years with the New York Police Department, Mr. Flaherty was driving to his job with the TSA at Tampa International Airport in the early morning hours on March 13th, 2013. He was passed by a speeding car and, minutes later, Mr. Flaherty watched that same car crash into the woods by the side of the road and catch on fire.

Mr. Flaherty stopped his car and, without concern for his own well-being, ran to aid the victim who was unable to escape on her own due to her injuries and the driver's door unable to be opened due to the accident. Along with another passerby, Mr. Flaherty proceeded to pull her out of the passenger-side of the burning vehicle. When it was clear that the injured woman was unable to walk, the two men carried her to safety before the car was consumed by fire. They stayed with her until local first responders arrived on scene. Mr. Flaherty then selflessly continued onto work, demonstrating his commitment to helping others and his official duties.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Flaherty's heroic actions are an example of the best in humanity that all of us should strive for. I applaud his actions and thank him for the bravery that he exhibited that day.

HONORING BENJAMIN KIRTLEY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Benjamin Kirtley. Benjamin is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 43, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Benjamin has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Benjamin has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Benjamin has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Benjamin

researched a family grave box and restored a Civil War soldier's gravestone at Mt. Mora Cemetery in St. Joseph, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Benjamin Kirtley for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

''THE VETERANS' PRIVACY ACT''

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing a bill, the Veterans' Privacy Act, a bill that directs the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to prescribe regulations ensuring that, when veterans receive care from VA, their privacy will not be violated by unauthorized video surveillance.

By its very nature, medical care requires that an individual forfeit some privacy in order to obtain treatment. However, when a veteran walks into a VA medical facility, they should not have to worry about a covert camera being in their treatment room.

Last June, a covert camera disguised as a smoke detector was installed in the room of a brain damaged veteran who was being treated at the James A. Haley VA Medical Center in Tampa, Florida. Upon discovering the hidden camera, the veteran's family was understandably outraged.

When the veteran's family asked about the camera, VA officials first stated that the camera did not exist, then changed their story and admitted that the ''smoke detector'' was actually a video camera. When further asked if the camera was recording, VA told the family that the camera was only ''monitoring'' the patient and was not recording. Only after inquiries by local media and the House Veterans' Affairs Committee did VA admit that the camera was recording. VA then removed the camera from the patient's room.

In the wake of this incident, I sent a letter to VA asking for its legal authority to place a camera in a patient's room without consent. VA stated that its legal opinion was that the hidden camera did not violate the law, but that it was developing a national policy to address the issue of video surveillance of patients. In response to a recent status request on this national policy from my staff, VA stated that it did not expect to have the policy finalized before September 2013, well over a year after this incident occurred.

I am deeply disturbed at VA's callous actions and response to the privacy interests of this veteran, and can't help but wonder whether similar incidents are occurring across the country, especially since VA still lacks a national policy in this area. The least we can do is ensure basic privacy rights of the men and women who have served our country when they seek the treatment they have earned.

Mr. Speaker, no veteran should have to worry about being secretly recorded when he or she goes to VA for medical treatment, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Veterans' Privacy Act.

COMMEMORATING YOM HASHOAH

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate Holocaust Remembrance Day, or Yom Hashoah, and to pay tribute to the men, women, and children murdered by the Nazis during the Holocaust.

This week, we pause to join in solidarity to remember one of the darkest chapters in human history. During the Holocaust, six million Jews were killed, and countless others were brutalized, raped, dehumanized, and robbed. It is critical that, as nations and as individuals, we preserve the history of the Holocaust and the memories of survivors and other witnesses.

The Days of Remembrance hold a deep meaning for me, as a Jewish American, and for my community. My district, the 9th Congressional District of Illinois, is home to one of the largest concentrations of Holocaust survivors in the country. An estimated 3,500 Holocaust survivors live in the Chicago area, all of whom are elderly, and many of whom do not receive the care and services they need. Skokie, in my district, is home to a beautiful Holocaust museum opened in 2009, a 65,000-square-foot facility dedicated to sharing the history of the Holocaust and teaching the importance of combating hatred, indifference, and genocide to current and future generations across the Midwest.

We pledged ''Never Again'' but, over sixty years later, we continue to fight anti-Semitism and other forms of hatred and intolerance, even genocide. As we reflect on the tragedy of the lives lost and honor those who survived, we need to also pledge to do better moving forward. In a world where genocide, intolerance, and neglect are far too prevalent, we need to stand up against violations of human rights. We need to continue to fight injustice and protect people everywhere.

This week, we pause to remember all those who perished, honor those who survived, and redouble our pledge to fight genocide, intolerance, and persecution wherever they occur.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OLD DOMINION DENTAL SOCIETY

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a legacy of community service in the Commonwealth of Virginia and throughout the nation. This year, the Old Dominion Dental Society is celebrating its 100th anniversary, and I would like to take a moment to reflect on the history of this esteemed organization and its contributions to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

In 1913, black dentists sought to organize into a professional society and these efforts resulted in the Tri-State Dental Association of Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia, formed under the leadership of Dr. D. A. Ferguson of Richmond, Virginia. Five years later the name was changed to the Interstate Dental Association to accommodate growing interest from dentists around the region. Ultimately, in 1932, the organization's name was changed to the National Dental Association, and so it remains today. Since that time, the National Dental Association has provided over 6000 African-American dentists in the United States and abroad the platform and the support to help them succeed.

From this history also arose the Old Dominion Dental Society. The Old Dominion Dental Society served as a forum for minority dentists in Virginia who were denied membership to the American Dental Association and the Virginia Dental Association. For 100 years, the Old Dominion Dental Society has grown and fostered professional development for the dental profession and brought needed services to the most vulnerable communities in Virginia.

The Old Dominion Dental Society has also invested in the next generation of dentists through annual scholarships for underrepresented minorities. Through these scholarships, the Society has insured that a diverse group of young students will have the opportunity to excel in the field of dentistry. Members of the organization have been generous donors of their time and expertise to various state and community service organizations, strengthening communities and making our neighborhoods healthier. Motivated by the philosophy that health care is a born right for all people, the Old Dominion Dental Society has been a relentless leader in the quest for equality and equity in health care and today I celebrate all of the members, past and present, that have set an example for all of us over the past 100 years.

There are many Old Dominion Dental Society members that have worked tirelessly to make the Society as successful and respected as it is today. I want to congratulate the members for all their achievements, and especially acknowledge a few: Dr. McKinley Price, Mayor of Newport News; the late Dr. James Holley, former Mayor of Portsmouth; the late Dr. Hugo Owens, former Vice Mayor of Chesapeake; Dr. Elizabeth Daniels, Vice Chair of Portsmouth School Board; Dr. Walter Claytor, the first African-American dentist to serve on the Virginia Board of Dentistry; and Dr. James Watkins, presently serving his fourth term as a member of the Virginia Board of Dentistry and the first African-American dentist to be president of the Virginia State Dental Board. Under their leadership, the Old Dominion Dental Society has and will continue to flourish.

As the Old Dominion Dental Society gathers to celebrate this historic milestone, this organization can truly remember its past, celebrate its present, and focus on its future. As we continue to work to invest in our future, protect access to health care, and promote education, I praise the drive and vision of the members who make our community a better place to live. I would like to congratulate all of the members of the Old Dominion Dental Society on the occasion of its 100th Anniversary, and I wish them many more years of dedicated service to the community.

HONORING AUSTIN VAN BLACK

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Austin Van Black. Austin is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Austin has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Austin has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned 121 merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Austin has led his troop as Senior Patrol Leader, attended the 2010 National Jamboree and 2011 World Jamboree in Sweden and earned the rank of Warrior in the Tribe Mic-O-Say and became a member of the Order of the Arrow. Austin has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Austin completed 137 service hours for Hillcrest Transitional Housing, a homeless transition and education ministry, in Liberty, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Austin Van Black for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

MINGO COUNTY SHERIFF EUGENE CRUM A TRUE TITAN IN THE BATTLE FOR LAW AND ORDER

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, each April just a few blocks from the Nation's Capitol Building, we witness in full bloom 10,000 daffodils, amidst well manicured lawns, signaling the advent of the season of renewal and hope. This peaceful setting surrounds two blue-gray curved marble walls that help form our Nation's lasting tribute and memorial to law enforcement officers who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

Every 57 hours in this Country, a law enforcement officer lays down their life, so that the rest of us can enjoy lives enriched by the very safety and security our officers provide.

Last week, West Virginians lost a true titan in the battle for law and order. Mingo County Sheriff Eugene Crum had just left his friend and compatriot, Judge Michael Thornsbury, with the parting words, ''I'm going to fight the good fight,'' so he could spend his lunch hour in his vehicle, keeping an eye on a former illegal pill mill. Moments later, the Sheriff would be slain. While the cause of the heinous murder remains under intense investigation its effect is well known.

Dave Rockel, Sheriff Crum's friend and teammate as the Commander of Mingo County's Drug Task Force said the murder has ''awakened a sleeping giant.'' Commander Rockel pointed out ''Operation Zero Tolerance'' has taken on a new significance to continue the Sheriffs legacy of waging a successful war against the scourge of prescription drug abuse. As Judge Thornsbury calculated, the Sheriff had already achieved 57 felony convictions within 93 days of being sworn into office. Make no mistake, Eugene Crum may have been a new Sheriff, but he was a three-decade-old seasoned veteran of law enforcement, having served as a police lieutenant, chief of police, magistrate and chief magistrate.

Since the Sheriffs passing, many tributes have been offered by friends, officeholders and multiple newspaper editorials have been written to honor Sheriff Crum, his achievements, his compassion, his humility, his selflessness, and his fervent dedication and devotion to duty. And, what honor and comfort it must be to his widow, Rosie, his children, Julie and Bub, and his entire family to know that, as Judge Thornsbury relayed, Eugene was often times able to personally enjoy one of the highest compliments anyone can be paid. For when many of those he had previously arrested would see Eugene on the street, they would stop to thank him for saving their lives. I ask my colleagues, here in the people's House, ''What truer measure of a man is there?''

To such a man, this Nation remains deeply indebted and eternally grateful. On the National Memorial honoring the fallen, one of its four inscriptions reads, ''In valor, there is hope.'' Eugene Crum's valor was as significant as that of the bravest soldier on the most tumultuous of battlefields. For Eugene, the field of battle was in the hills and hollows of home, on the front porches and through the backyards of neighbors, on the streets of Mingo County's downtowns and on their corners during the darkest hours of night. His battle endured without end until justice had ultimately prevailed. Indeed the legacy of Eugene Crum will live on each time justice is served and tempered with mercy to give new hope to those who have wronged their families and their communities. Eugene Crum's hope for a more civil world, born of his life of valor, is the badge of honor Sheriff Rosie Crum now wears, as do his comrades in law enforcement throughout our Nation.

As it was strongly and passionately relayed at his memorial this past weekend by Mingo County Commission President John Mark Hubbard, shame on anyone who will not make sure that the change Sheriff Crum laid his life down for does not continue.

Mr. Speaker, the obligation of the Congress to aid our law enforcement officers is clear. As American citizens, let us pray for their safe keeping, and that their resolve—this Nation's resolve—will be strengthened by the indelible mark left by Eugene Crum to serve and protect the people he loved.

EQUAL PAY DAY

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support of the Equal Pay Day, April 9, 2013, which recognized the critical disparity between the working wages between men and women.

Women have come so far in our society and make up 50 percent of the workforce by contributing their skills and experiences that drive our economy, making it the most dynamic in the world. But, women are not worth their work according to their wages and the services they provide. On average, we still earn 77 cents for every dollar earned by men. For a woman working full time, the current wage gap represents a loss of $430,000 over the course of her career.

There are many women in my district who are the sole providers for their family. They act as the mother and the father rearing their family and struggling to put food on the table and a roof over their heads.

One of our top priorities should be closing the wage gap. By doing so, the middle class will be stronger and struggling Americans will have the support they need. I am a proud sponsor of the Equal Pay Day Resolution and urge my colleagues to become a cosponsor.

PASSING OF FAMILY PATRIARCH ENRIQUE ROS

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, my dad was and will always be the wind beneath my wings. His passing leaves in us a loss that is eternal and deep. 'Abu Kiki' as we lovingly called him was the center, the foundation of us all, and the one person who kept us grounded and confident in the path our lives had taken. If there is one comfort we feel during this time of unequaled sorrow is that we are confident that my dad is once again reunited with his beloved and cherished soul mate, Amanda Ros.

Today I can look at my life and the lives of my brother Henry and my dad's adult grandchildren with joy and fulfillment. And I can do that because Abu Kiki worked hard to instill in us ageless ideals of fairness and doing always what was right.

My dad was a prolific writer and well-known historian. He was working on his 20th book, a biography of Antonio Maceo, when he died of respiratory complications at South Miami Hospital late Wednesday night. He authored 19 other books on Cuban history and local politics that are an important source of information for other historians, academics and scholars. All who shared my father's life knew that he was happiest when he was busy doing research and writing his books. His beloved library was a meeting ground for our family and he kept a detailed log of all the articles and pictures that told the story of my family's life and of his cherished books.

For 65 years, Enrique and Amanda Ros, shared a wonderful life together and they did it by way of love and hard work. They raised two children who have families of their own, founded and expanded a successful family business for over 30 years (Ros-Forwarding), and labored both as one in noble endeavors to re-establish democracy to our beloved Cuba. They were in love and it showed through their actions.

In the name of all of us in the Ros and Lehtinen families we would like to ask his friends and everyone else to not be despondent but rather to come together and celebrate his long and fulfilled life. That is what my dad

would have wanted. I know my brother and I shall terribly miss him, but we know that this is not a goodbye but rather a time apart before we are reunited once again next to our creator.

HONORING JORDAN PAUL NAZARIO

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jordan Paul Nazario. Jordan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jordan has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Jordan has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jordan has led his troop in various positions including Patrol Leader and Quartermaster. Jordan has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jordan built a shed for his church's garden ministry, allowing the church to safely store hoses, wheelbarrows and other necessary garden equipment.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jordan Paul Nazario for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RE-INTRODUCTION OF THE COAST GUARD ACADEMY OPPORTUNITY ACT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to re-introduce the "Coast Guard Academy Opportunity Act," legislation to create new opportunities for careers in the U.S. Coast Guard with a geographically and politically diverse group of colleagues. They are: Representative ELIJAH CUMMINGS of Maryland, Representative JOHN DUNCAN of Tennessee, Delegate MADELEINE BORDALLO of Guam, Representative CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Representative YVETTE CLARKE of New York, Delegate PEDRO PIERLUISI of Puerto Rico, Representative MICHAEL MICHAUD of Maine, Representative BETTY MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Representative JANICE HAHN of California, Delegate GREGORIO SABLAN of the Northern Mariana Islands, Representative JACK KINGSTON of Georgia, and Representative KEITH ELLISON of Minnesota.

Currently, Members of Congress are allowed to nominate a limited number of candidates to the U.S. Military Academy, the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Air Force Academy, and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. However, the smallest of the five federal service academies—the U.S. Coast Guard Academy (USCGA)—does not accept congressional nominations.

Instead, the USCGA admits candidates through a process that resembles the admissions processes of civilian colleges and universities. Without a congressional nominations process, the applicant pool of candidates to the USCGA is predictably less geographically diverse than at the other military service academies. The inevitable result of a less geographically diverse applicant pool is a less geographically diverse class. The statistics bear this out; in fact, the incoming Class of 2016 does not have a single cadet from: Arkansas, the District of Columbia, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming, American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands, or Guam.

Under the "Coast Guard Academy Opportunity Act," starting in academic year 2014, each Member of Congress could nominate up to three qualified candidates to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. In turn, the Coast Guard would be required to fill a quarter of slots for the incoming class from this pool of congressional nominations comprised of qualified, geographically diverse applicants. Then, in each subsequent academic year, half of the slots in each incoming class would have to be filled through the congressional nominations process.

This legislation would not require the Coast Guard to lower its student selection criteria or increase the size of the student population. To the contrary, it anticipates that the Coast Guard will continue to use its criteria to select the best candidates from the pool of Member-nominated candidates for half of the slots in the incoming class, just as it will do to fill the slots in the other half of the incoming class. The "Coast Guard Academy Opportunity Act" simply seeks to make Congress a partner in helping to put talented young people—from every corner of the country—on the path to a rewarding career in the U.S. Coast Guard.

I urge support of this commonsense, bipartisan legislation.

A FAILED POLICY ON SUDAN

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, as of Friday, March 15, the position of Sudan special envoy at the State Department has been vacant.

This vacancy is symptomatic of a president that has all but forsaken the people of Sudan.

Last December a group of prominent Sudan activists and advocates wrote a letter to the administration, which I submit for the RECORD, expressing their "grave concerns that the current U.S. policy is ineffective at stopping mass atrocities in Sudan." They urged President Obama, in his second term, to embrace "an urgent shift in the U.S. policy to finally end the humanitarian crises and bring about a just and lasting peace in Sudan."

The letter cited the president's own words from 2007 when he rightly called the genocide in Darfur a "stain on our souls" and said that "as a president of the United States I don't intend to abandon people or turn a blind eye to slaughter."

And yet, I can't help but wonder if the people of Darfur, who have been displaced from their homes and brutalized by violence for ten years now, do in fact feel abandoned by this president and this administration.

On March 7, CNN featured a piece by the chairman of the Darfur Union in the United Kingdom, himself a Darfuri. Tellingly, he wrote, ". . . Khartoum's attempt to establish a racially pure Islamic state involves waging war against its own unarmed civilians, systematically and with impunity. In Darfur this has lasted a decade. The U.N. estimates that 300,000 Darfuris have died since 2003, but it hasn't bothered to estimate casualty numbers since 2008. With fighting continuing to this day, the number is likely to be far higher. The world assumes 'Darfur is over.' It isn't."

Not only is Darfur's nightmare ongoing, but Khartoum's brutality has only spread, consistent with its decades' long effort to systematically and ruthlessly consolidate power resulting in the death and displacement of untold thousands. More recently the Nuban people have been driven from their homes, targeted for killing and terrorized because of the color of their skin. Khartoum has indiscriminately bombed civilian populations—disrupting an entire way of life for this largely farming population. Starvation, death and despair have followed. I have visited the refugee camps and talked with the people personally. I have heard their pleas for help and I have conveyed their message to this administration—a message which fell on largely deaf ears.

On March 19, USA Today featured a joint op-ed by actor and co-founder of the anti-genocide organization Not On Our Watch, Don Cheadle, and John Prendergast the co-founder of the Enough Project, in the op-ed wrote, "By excluding all but a narrow clique of Sudanese from access to the power and wealth of the country, marginalized groups from the west (Darfur), south (Blue Nile and the Nuba Mountains) and east have all taken up arms against that regime. . . . Any peace effort should deal comprehensively with all the rebel movements, the unarmed opposition, and civil society, in search of a solution for the whole of Sudan. Until the abusive governing system in Sudan is radically reformed, there will be blood."

Indeed, much blood has been shed, and yet inexplicably this administration has embraced a policy of engagement marked by conciliatory outreach to Khartoum, including the prospect of debt relief for a genocidal government, and a perverse sense of moral equivalence in dealing with South Sudan and Sudan.

While there has been criticism of two successive special envoys, ultimately they were merely the implementers of a policy that is inherently flawed and ultimately ineffective. In fact, I am grateful for the dedication and efforts of both Ambassadors Scott Gration and Princeton Lyman both of whom have poured much time and energy into a daunting task. We owe them a debt of gratitude.

In a February 12 letter to Secretary of State Kerry I wrote, "Our approach to Sudan and South Sudan needs reinvigorating. It demands a renewed sense of moral clarity about who we are dealing with in Khartoum—namely genocidaires. It necessitates someone who can speak candidly with our friends in South Sudan about their own internal challenges, including corruption, and shortcomings as a new nation. While an envoy alone does not a policy make, a high-profile special envoy, from

outside the department, with the knowledge and mandate to aggressively pursue peace, security and justice for the people of Sudan and South Sudan, is an important step in the right direction.''

Specifically, I recommended someone like former Senator Russ Feingold.

Now there are whispers that the administration is considering former U.S. ambassador to Sudan, Tim Carney. Many in the Sudan advocacy community are deeply dismayed at this prospect and took the unusual step of asking Secretary Kerry not to move forward with this nomination.

In a March 19 letter, Act for Sudan wrote, ''It has come to our attention that former U.S. Ambassador to Sudan, Timothy Carney, is being considered for the position of Special Envoy. . . . While Ambassador Carney has experience in Sudan, we are concerned that his publicly stated advice and guidance with regard to U.S. policy on Sudan will prolong the suffering of the Sudanese people and will undermine U.S. objectives to support a just peace and stable democracies in Sudan and South Sudan, which ultimately are in the best interest of the U.S. and the international community.''

The letter references a February 2009 Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing that Kerry chaired where Carney proposed offering a series of carrots to Khartoum, including deferring the International Criminal Court (ICC) arrest warrant for Sudanese President Omar Bashir, sending an ambassador to Khartoum and removing Sudan from the State Department's list of state sponsors of terrorism.

If the past is any indication, this would be precisely the wrong direction for U.S. policy. Khartoum has met this administration's overtures with continued atrocities and intransigence. Khartoum has rightly concluded that they incur no more blame than the leadership in Juba for what has occurred since the independence vote of January 2011.

Meanwhile, this administration sought to block efforts in Congress, which I initiated, to isolate Bashir. Last year I offered an amendment to the State and Foreign Operations appropriations bill which would have cut non-humanitarian foreign assistance to any nation that allowed him into their country without arresting him. The amendment was adopted with bipartisan support by voice vote despite the department's opposition.

This approach of using our increasingly scarce aid dollars to effectuate change and further our foreign policy objectives is a tried and true method. When Malawi allowed Bashir to enter the country to attend a regional trade summit I pressed the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) to end Malawi's compact. The MCC was initially opposed to this course of action but ultimately, in the face of a deteriorating human rights situation internally, reversed course and suspended Malawi's compact, citing Bashir's visit as one of the reasons.

Fortunately Malawi's new president, Joyce Banda, hoping to reinvigorate her country's relationship with donor countries, last year took a firm stand in refusing to allow Bashir to visit her country for the African Union (AU) summit. President Banda went so far as to decline to host the summit lest her country and her government be placed in the position of being forced to host a war criminal. Given her principled stand I made clear to the MCC Board that I supported Malawi's compact being reinstated which it ultimately was.

However, other countries, including large recipients of U.S. foreign assistance, have not followed suit and the administration has failed to embrace this approach to spur such action.

The amendment I proposed would isolate Bashir and make him an international pariah as is befitting a man with blood on his hands. It is noteworthy that the amendment garnered the support of 70 prominent Holocaust and genocide scholars. Dr. Rafael Medoff, director of the Wyman Institute, which initiated a letter of support to the administration from these scholars, said: ''Halting aid to those who host Bashir would be the first concrete step the U.S. has taken to isolate the Butcher of Darfur and pave the way for his arrest. If the Obama administration is serious about punishing perpetrators of genocide, it should support the Wolf Amendment.''

Sadly that support never materialized.

Candidate Obama purported to be deeply concerned by the crisis in Sudan and committed to bold actions.

Have we seen a fraction of that concern or anything close to bold action since he became president?

Candidate Obama was sharp in his criticism of President Bush's handling of Sudan.

Have we seen President Obama take even fleeting interest, beyond the occasional talking point, in the deteriorating situation in Sudan marked in part by a growing humanitarian crisis in the Nuba Mountains?

In a piece in the August 4, 2011 Christian Science Monitor, noted Sudan researcher and activist Eric Reeves, wrote, ''If the world refuses to see what is occurring in South Kordofan, and refuses to respond to evidence that the destruction of the Nuba people, as such, is a primary goal of present military and security actions by Sudan, then this moment will represent definitive failure of the 'responsibility to protect.' ''

Meanwhile in an April 23, 2012 speech at the U.S. Holocaust Museum President Obama lauded his commitment in the realm of genocide and mass-atrocities prevention, saying, without a hint of irony, ''We're making sure that the United States government has the structures, the mechanisms to better prevent and respond to mass atrocities. So I created the first-ever White House position dedicated to this task. It's why I created a new Atrocities Prevention Board, to bring together senior officials from across our government to focus on this critical mission. This is not an afterthought.''

He continued, ''. . . we need to be doing everything we can to prevent and respond to these kinds of atrocities—because national sovereignty is never a license to slaughter your people.''

I couldn't agree more. And yet, I think most in the Sudan watchers would hardly be able to claim that this administration has done everything it can to prevent and respond to Khartoum's assault on its own people.

With tensions between Sudan and South Sudan on the rise and nearing a tipping point, thousands starving in the Nuba Mountains, refugees fleeing aerial bombardment and pouring over the border into South Sudan, violence persisting in Darfur and an internationally indicted war criminal at the helm in Khartoum who travels the globe with virtual impunity, it is time for a fresh policy and a renewed commitment to peace and justice in Sudan.

To date, this president has offered nothing more than an abdication of leadership and a failure of vision, which has culminated in human suffering and misery.

DECEMBER 11, 2012,

Hon. BARACK OBAMA,
President of the United States,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT, We, the undersigned human rights organizations, have grave concerns that the current U.S. policy is ineffective at stopping mass atrocities in Sudan. We write in the hope that the transition to your second term in office will bring an urgent shift in the U.S. policy to finally end the humanitarian crises and bring about a just and lasting peace in Sudan.

As you know, genocide continues in Sudan. The National Congress Party (NCP) regime in Sudan, led by a president indicted by the International Criminal Court for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, is causing the death, starvation, displacement, and destruction of livelihood of Sudanese civilians in Darfur, Nuba Mountains/South Kordofan and the Blue Nile state.

When speaking about Sudan in 2007 you called the genocide in Darfur a ''stain on our souls'' and said that ''as a president of the United States I don't intend to abandon people or turn a blind eye to slaughter.'' Vice President Biden, the same year, called for military force in Darfur. Yet five years later, the same genocidal regime, whose grave human rights abuses have been left unchecked by the international community, is emboldened to continue to perpetrate atrocities, not only in Darfur but now in Sudan's border regions.

In your first term, your administration pursued a policy of engagement, marked by conciliatory diplomacy. Under the oversight of two Special Envoys, this policy has failed to stop the government of Sudan from committing ongoing mass atrocities.

We now ask that you revamp your Sudan policy to address the root cause of Sudan's multiple conflicts, the repressive and genocidal Sudan regime.

Specifically, we ask that your administration:

(1) Deliver humanitarian aid to the starving Sudanese civilians in the Nuba Mountains/South Kordofan and Blue Nile State, with or without agreement from the government of Sudan or the U.N. Security Council, with multilateral partners or unilaterally, and with the urgency required to save starving people.

(2) Instruct the National Security Council to accelerate decisions and related actions regarding protection of Nuba, Blue Nile, and Darfuri populations from air attacks and to seriously consider the destruction of Sudan's offensive aerial assets and/or the imposition of a no-fly zone pursuant to the responsibility to protect doctrine.

(3) Support an end to the NCP regime's control of the government of Sudan and support the movement within Sudan for democratic transformation.

(4) Oppose debt relief and cash transfers to the government of Sudan, thereby increasing pressure on that government and strengthening the effects of U.S. sanctions.

(5) Demonstrate strong leadership to end the government-sponsored violence in Sudan, protect civilians in Sudan and South Sudan, ensure unhindered humanitarian access for those in need, and bring the perpetrators of genocide and mass atrocities to justice at the International Criminal Court.

The government of Sudan's blatant and longstanding abuse of its citizens and disregard for the international community clearly defines the nature of that government. Sudan's repeated failure to abide by

the outcome of negotiations is a well-established pattern. After 23 years of mass atrocities committed by President Bashir and his government, it is long past time for the United States and the international community to confront Bashir and the NCP and bring an end to their mass atrocities.

Sincerely,

Act for Sudan, Martina Knee, Co-Founder USA; African Soul, American Heart, Debra Dawson, President, Fargo, ND, USA; Americans Against the Darfur Genocide, Nikki Serapio, Director, Washington, DC, USA; Amnesty Group 133, Robert Saulnier, Somerville, MA, USA; Dr. Kjell Anderson, Senior Researcher/Project Leader, The Hague Institute for Global Justice, Member, Advisory Board International Association of Genocide Scholars, The Hague, The Netherlands; Armenian Assembly of America, Bryan Ardouny, Executive Director, Washington, DC, USA; Beja Organization for Human Rights and Development, Ibrahim T. Ahmed, Co-founder and Executive Director, Fairfax, VA, USA; Blue Nile Association of North America, Abdalla Babikir, Washington, DC, USA; Brooklyn Coalition for Darfur & Marginalized Sudan, Laura Limuli, Coordinator, Brooklyn, NY, USA; ''Change the world. It just takes cents'' TM, Sara Caine Kornfeld, Founder/Educator, Denver, CO, USA; Christian Solidarity International—USA, Rev. Heidi McGinness, Director of Outreach, Denver, CO, USA.

Church Alliance for a New Sudan, The Institute on Religion and Democracy, Faith J. H. McDonnell, Director, Washington, DC, USA; Colorado Coalition for Genocide Awareness and Action, Roz Duman, Founder/Director Denver, CO, USA; Connecticut Coalition to Save Darfur, Timothy Oslovich, Chairperson, Vernon, CT, USA; Damanga Coalition for Freedom and Democracy, Mohamed Yahya, Executive Director, Falls Church, VA, USA; Darfur Action Group of SC, Richard Sribnick, Chairman, Columbia, SC, USA; Darfur and Beyond, Cory Williams, Co-Founder, Phoenix, AZ, USA; Darfur Association, Adam Omer, President, Lincoln, NE, USA; Darfur Association of the USA, Dr. Mahmoud Braima, President, Baton Rouge, LA, USA; Darfur Association, Ahmed Adam Ali, Denver, CO, USA; Darfur Community Organization, Bakheit A. Shata, Founder/Executive Director, Omaha, NE, USA; Darfur Human Rights Organization of the USA, Abdelgabar Adam, Founder and President, Philadelphia, PA, USA; Darfur Interfaith Network, Richard Young, Co-Chair, Washington, DC, USA.

Darfur Leaders Network (DLN), Motasim Adam, Director, Washington, DC, USA; Darfur People's Association of New York, Ahmat Nour, President, Brooklyn, NY, USA; Darfur Solidarity USA, Mohammed Ahmed Eisa, Executive Director, Cambridge, MA, USA; Darfur Women Action Group, Niemat Ahmadi, President, Washington, DC, USA; Darfurian Association of Greater Houston, Sallah Yahya, Executive Director, Houston, TX, USA; Dear Sudan, Love Marin, Gerri Miller, Founder and Coordinator, Tiburon, CA, USA; Tanya L. Domi, Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University, New York, NY, USA; Dr. Herbert Ekwe-Ekwe, Independent Scholar, Author of Biafra Revisited (Dakar and Reading: African Renaissance, 2006) and Readings from Reading: Essays on African Politics, Genocide, Literature (Dakar and Reading: African Renaissance, 2011), London, England; Essex County Coalition for Darfur, Gloria Crist, Co-Founder, Montclair, NJ, USA; Mia Farrow, Actor, CT, USA; Fur Cultural Revival, El-Fadel Arbab, Executive Director and Lecturer, Portland, ME, USA; Genocide No More, Mary Steinberg, Coordinator, Redding, CA, USA.

Genocide Watch, George Mason University, Dr. Gregory Stanton, President, Arlington, VA, USA; GeNoticed, Elizabeth Blackney, Co-Founder, Author and Anti-genocide advocate, Virginia Beach, VA, USA; Georgia Coalition to Prevent Genocide, Melanie Nelkin, Chair, Atlanta, GA, USA; Harry Potter Alliance, Andrew Slack, Executive Director, Somerville, MA, USA; Help Nuba, Rabbi David Kaufman, Founder, Des Moines, IA, USA; Dr. Rick Halperin, Director, Embrey Human Rights Program, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX, USA; Herbert Hirsch, Professor of Political Science and Co-Editor, Genocide Studies and Prevention, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, USA; Human Rights & Advocacy Network for Democracy (HAND), Abdalmageed Haroun, Chairperson, Brooklyn, NY, USA; Humanity is Us, Kimberly Hollingsworth, Founder, New York, NY, USA; Idaho Darfur Coalition, A. J. Fay, Co-Founder, Boise, ID, USA; International Justice Project, Raymond Brown, President, Newark, NJ, USA; Investors Against Genocide, Eric Cohen, Chairperson, Boston, MA, USA.

Iowa Center for Genocide Prevention, Kristen Anderson, Founder & 2011 Carl Wilkens Fellow, Des Moines, IA, USA; Jewish World Watch, Vaughan Meyer, Advocacy Committee Chair, Los Angeles, CA, USA; Jews Against Genocide, Eileen Weiss, Co-founder, New York, NY, USA; Joining Our Voices, Jack Slater Armstrong, Founder/Director, Baton Rouge, LA, USA; George Kent, Professor of Political Science, Emeritus, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI, USA; Keokuk for Global Awareness and Aid, Blake McGhghy, Co-Founder, Keokuk, IA, USA; Mr. David Kilgour, J.D., Former Canadian Secretary of State for Africa, Ottawa, Canada; Massachusetts Coalition to Save Darfur, William Rosenfeld, Director, Boston, MA, USA; Winter Miller, Writer, Greenfield, MA, USA; Paul Mojzes, Ph.D., D.D, Professor of Religious Studies and Genocide, Scholar, Rosemont College, Rosemont, PA, USA; Never Again Coalition, Diane Koosed, Co-Chair, Portland, OR, USA; New York Coalition for Darfur and All Sudan, Neiki Ullah, Communications Director, New York, NY, USA; New York Darfur Vigil Group, Helga Moor, Coordinator, New York, NY, USA.

Nuba Mountain Peace Coalition, Tito Elgassai, Founder, Dallas, TX, USA; Nuba Mountains Advocacy Group, USA, Abdelgadir Kurba, Secretary General, New York, NY, USA; Nuba Mountains International Association USA, Magid Kabashi, Secretary for Information, Ashburn, VA, USA; Nuba Vision Coalition, Inc, Yassir A. Kori, Founder & Executive Director, Oklahoma City, OK, USA; Nubia Project, Nuraddin Abdelmannan, President, Silver Spring, MD, USA; NYC Genocide Prevention Coalition, Staci M. Alziebler-Perkins, Convener, NY, NY, USA; Operation Broken Silence, Mark C. Hackett, CEO, Executive Director, Memphis, TN, USA; Eric Reeves, Sudan Researcher, Northampton, MA, USA; Hawa Abdallah Mohammed Salih, U.S. Department of State 2012 International Women of Courage Award Winner, Flemington, NJ, USA; San Francisco Bay Area Darfur Coalition, Mohamed Suleiman, President, San Francisco, CA, USA; Save Darfur Washington State, Ned Laskowski, President, Seattle, WA, USA; Shine a Ray of Hope, Carmen Paolercio, Coordinator, New Rochelle, NY, USA; Robert Skloot, Professor Emeritus, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, USA.

Society for Threatened People, Sharon Silber, US Representative, New York, NY, USA; Stop Genocide Now, Gabriel Stauring, Director and Founder, Redondo Beach, CA, USA; Sudan Advocacy Action Forum, Dr. Eleanor Wright, Moderator, Birmingham, AL, USA; Sudan Human Rights Network, Ismail Kardoly, Vice President, Washington, DC, USA; Sudan Liberation Movement, Shafi Aldin Mosa, Office Coordinator, Atlanta, GA, USA; Sudan Rowan Inc., Ngor Kur Mayol, Founder, Atlanta, GA, USA; Sudan Unlimited, Esther Sprague, Director, San Francisco, CA, USA; Sudanese Marginalized Forum-USA, Gogadi Amoga, Chair, Batavia, OH, USA; The Advocates for Human Rights, Robin Phillips, Executive Director, Minneapolis, MN, USA; The Institute on Religion and Democracy, Mark Tooley, President, Washington, DC, USA.

Dr. Samuel Totten, Professor Emeritus, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Author of Genocide by Attrition: Nuba Mountains, Sudan (Transaction, 2012), Fayetteville, AR, USA; Triangles of Truth, Simon Goldberg, Executive Director, Boca Raton, FL, USA; Unite For Darfur, Bahar Arabie, CEO, Author of Darfur, Road to Genocide, Rockville, MD, USA; United Sudanese and South Sudanese Community Association (USASSCA), Henry Lejukole, Chairman, Des Moines, IA, USA; Use Your Voice to Stop Genocide RI, Sandra Hammel, Director, Portsmouth, RI, USA; Village Help for South Sudan, Franco Majok, Executive Director, Lynn, MA, USA; Voices for Sudan, Jimmy Mulla, Founder and President, Washington, DC, USA; Roger P. Winter, Former U.S. Special Representative on Sudan, Woodbine, MD, USA.

RECOGNIZING WASHINGTON'S MOST WANTED PROGRAM

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the program Washington's Most Wanted. This television program began in Washington State in partnership with Crime Stoppers of Puget Sound and Tacoma-Pierce County Crime Stoppers in November of 2008 and expanded to Spokane, Yakima, and the Tri-Cities as well as Portland, OR in February of 2009. The weekly half hour telecast was created by Seattle's Q13 FOX General Manager Pam Pearson and hosted by anchor David Rose and has evolved into a state-wide effort to encompass much of the Pacific Northwest region.

This month, the program saw its 400th capture. This means that 400 individuals were arrested for such crimes as murder, rape, theft, assault and other travesties. I applaud Washington's Most Wanted for its successful efforts towards creating safer communities and giving a voice to the victims of violent crime.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HOLOCAUST RAIL JUSTICE BILL

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the bipartisan Holocaust Rail Justice Act along with my colleagues Representatives ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER, ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, CHARLES B. RANGEL, JOHN SARBANES, RUSH HOLT, BILL PASCRELL, JR., ALLYSON SCHWARTZ, GERRY CONNOLLY, TED DEUTCH, CORRINE BROWN, ROBERT BRADY, JERROLD NADLER, JIM MORAN, DAVID CICILLINE, ALCEE HASTINGS, RAÚL M. GRIJALVA, PETER KING, LOIS FRANKEL and RANDY WEBER.

During World War II, trains operated by Societe Nationale des Chemins de fer Francais (SNCF) transported more than 75,000 Jews, United States pilots shot down over France, and other ''undesirables,'' from France toward Nazi death camps. SNCF willingly collaborated with the Nazi government, operating the trains as a commercial venture and were paid per head, per kilometer to deliver thousands to their deaths.

SNCF has not been held accountable for its actions by never paying reparations to its victims in the almost 70 years since the end of World War II. The Holocaust Rail Justice Act allows the hundreds of known survivors, veterans and their family members living in the United States today to hold SNCF accountable. Holocaust survivors would be granted their deserved day in court, including many who have sought legal action for the past 10 years.

SNCF has thus far succeeded in evading jurisdiction in the United States courts by hiding behind foreign sovereign immunity. This legislation would simply preclude, in this one limited instance, the defense of foreign sovereign immunity from being raised. As the facts make clear, this is not the type of situation foreign sovereign immunity was intended to cover.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation that would finally hold SNCF accountable for its wartime actions and provide survivors with what is likely their last opportunity for justice in their lifetimes.

HONORING BEN C. MAYS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ben C. Mays. Ben is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ben has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Ben has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Ben has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Ben erected a 25-foot flagpole on the grounds of the First Presbyterian Church of Liberty, Missouri, to honor the veterans of the United States military.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ben C. Mays for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING HARRISON AKINS

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, with the emerging debate on drones and their use, I recently had lunch here in Washington, DC with Harrison Akins, a former constituent of mine, to discuss the subject. He is a fine young man who grew up in Blount County in East Tennessee, and I have known him for many years.

He is now a research fellow at American University working as the chief researcher on a book project with Ambassador Akbar Ahmed, the Chair of Islamic Studies at American University, the first Distinguished Chair of Middle East Studies at the U.S. Naval Academy, and the former Political Agent in charge of Waziristan in the Tribal Areas of Pakistan. Ambassador Ahmed's new book is called The Thistle and the Drone.

This book examines the tribal societies targeted by America's drone campaigns in Pakistan, Yemen, and Somalia, as well as other tribal societies involved in the war on terror.

As I wrote in my August 2012 newsletter, Georgie Anne Geyer is one of this Nation's most senior and most highly-respected foreign policy columnists. She wrote recently that we ''are embarked upon missions mired in the fog of human nature, with robotic weapons that may relieve the threat to our human soldiers but that will cause many times more hatred toward America.''

She wrote about inaccurate drones ''killing totally innocent people'' in several countries and quoted a Washington Post article that said ''an escalating campaign of U.S. drone strikes is stirring increasing sympathy for al-Quaeda-linked militants and driving tribesmen to join a network linked to terrorist plots against the United States.'' Of course, a large amount of money is being made off the sale of those drones to the government.

Mr. Speaker, we should heed the words of Benjamin Franklin: ''Those who would give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety.''

Harrison Akins is an extremely intelligent, capable young man who I believe will be a great leader for this Nation in the years ahead.

His outstanding research on this book is a significant contribution in an area that deserves very serious and thoughtful consideration.

The Thistle and the Drone gives us all pause to think about the future of drone warfare and the war on terror and the direction of our country, and I call it to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

AMERICA NEEDS REAL JOBS, REAL SOLUTIONS, AND REAL RESULTS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, last week, we were reminded of the devastating economic consequences that tax hikes and Obamacare are having on our economy.

Only 88,000 jobs were added last month, according to the Department of Labor, and nearly half a million people left the job market. The percentage of Americans in the labor force is now at its lowest level since the Carter era.

For every job gained last month, more than five people stopped looking for work altogether.

And now the President submits a budget proposal that completely ignores this economic reality. This proposal hikes taxes and does nothing to balance our budget.

This is unacceptable. America needs real jobs, real solutions, and real results.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was $10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is $16,798,984,234,792.33. We've added $6,172,107,185,879.25 to our debt in 4 years. This is $6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL YOUTH HIV AND AIDS AWARENESS DAY

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of National Youth HIV and AIDS Awareness Day which occurred yesterday. This day is symbolic of communities, government leaders, schools and most importantly today's young people leading the effort to end the HIV and AIDS pandemic that is still rapidly spreading among our nation's teens and young adults more than 30 years after it was first discovered.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, HIV and AIDS education and prevention information has made great strides in slowing infection and mortality rates, however young people between the ages of 13

and 24 account for 26 percent of new HIV infections each year, with nearly 60 percent unaware that they are infected.

The Advocates for Youth organization in conjunction with 11 other founding partners are supporting young people in the fight against HIV and AIDS. This national day marks an important step toward recognizing the key role that future generations play in becoming leaders in disease prevention and education.

Three years ago, the White House unveiled the National HIV/AIDS Strategy, our country's first-ever comprehensive plan with measurable goals to be achieved by 2015. This plan calls for a renewed commitment and increased public attention to meet three goals: reduce the number of people who become infected with HIV; increase access to care and improve health outcomes for people living with HIV; and reduce HIV-related health disparities. In outlining these goals, President Obama challenged everyone to partner in supporting the implementation of the innovative strategy ''that provides a clear direction for moving forward together.''

North Carolina ranks in the top ten states for rates of new HIV infection. This alarming statistic is one of the reasons why medical professionals such as Dr. Michelle Collins-Ogle, of Northern Outreach Clinic in Henderson, North Carolina are so passionate about offering illness education, prevention, testing, and medical intervention. Even with few resources, Dr. Ogle, the clinic's director, fights not just the disease but the perceived stigma of the disease as well.

As a former civil rights attorney I applaud the efforts of organizations who are advocating for the rights of people living with HIV and AIDS. Organizations such as the North Carolina AIDS Action Network, who mobilized support to persuade the AIDS Drug Assistance Program to reopen new enrollments for low-income people needing access to life-saving HIV medication. I want to also recognize Duke University's AIDS Legal Project, a pro bono program that trains law school students to serve the unmet need of providing legal counsel to highly stigmatized, low-income HIV-infected clients.

Combating HIV and AIDS, as with any other illness plaguing this country, requires a partnership for success. That partnership must include action on behalf of our governing bodies, healthcare providers, and individual citizens to keep these issues at the forefront of the minds of all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing April 10th as National Youth HIV & Awareness Day as we salute the efforts of young people nationwide who are tirelessly and effectively working toward achieving the goal of an AIDS-free generation.

HONORING NILS HAUGEN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nils Haugen. Nils is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Nils has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Nils has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Nils has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Nils built two picnic tables and two benches at the Northland Therapeutic Riding Center in Holt, Missouri, which provides equine-based therapy for people with special needs.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nils Haugen for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IMPROVED HEALTH CARE AT LOWER COST ACT OF 2013

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, it is widely accepted, on both sides of the aisle in both the House and Senate, that health care costs are the single major driver of our deficit and that we need better quality health care at lower costs—for our citizens and for our economy. When it comes to implementing carefully crafted gainsharing programs, existing law is in the way. To meet the three goals of (1) decreasing costs, (2) improving quality, and (3) not compromising access to health care services, the ''Improved Health Care at Lower Cost Act of 2013'' (the ''Act'') will require the OIG and CMS to issue regulations that define standards for gainsharing and similar arrangements that will be protected under the anti-fraud laws. The requirements that federal regulators set should include a primary emphasis on quality. OIG has vast experience in approving shared savings programs where the shared savings payment to physicians by the hospital was conditioned upon meeting certain quality metrics. The idea that shared savings payments should take quality into account seems obvious to me; no one should be permitted to share in savings that the hospital accrues without demonstrating that quality either improved, or at a minimum, was not adversely impacted by such arrangements. I am assuming that regulators will draw upon their vast experience with these programs and put in place sufficient protections to guard against fraud, waste, and abuse. Such protections may include requirements around quality; comparisons against historical data; a ceiling on savings that will inure to any given physician; and a requirement that arrangements be reduced to writing to ensure that it easier to identify arrangements that do not comply with the requirements that CMS and OIG set through rulemaking.

The Act will allow hospitals and physicians to better align incentives in order to decrease health care costs through allowing certain ''gainsharing'' arrangements. The term ''gainsharing'' refers to arrangements where hospitals share with physicians any reduction in the hospital's costs for patient care that the hospital gets as a result of the efforts of the physician. Currently, gainsharing arrangements are prohibited under several anti-fraud laws. First, the federal Civil Monetary Penalty statute prevents hospitals and physicians from engaging in ''gainsharing'' arrangements. Second, the Office of the Inspector General for the Department of Health and Human Services (''OIG'') has indicated that gainsharing arrangements may implicate the federal Anti-Kickback law. Finally, gainsharing arrangements may be prohibited by the Physician Self-Referral law. Because of the potential legal implications, hospitals and physicians have been reluctant to participate in gainsharing arrangements for fear of prosecution under all of these laws or even under the False Claims Act.

Notwithstanding existing law, the government has acknowledged that there is potential benefit associated with gainsharing arrangements. In its 1999 guidance, the OIG said:

> [t]he OIG recognizes that hospitals have a legitimate interest in enlisting physicians in their efforts to eliminate unnecessary costs. Savings that do not affect the quality of patient care may be generated in many ways[.] Achieving these savings may require substantial effort on the part of the participating physicians. Obviously, a reduction in health care costs that does not adversely affect the quality of the health care provided to patients is in the best interest of the nation's health care system [emphasis supplied].

Then, in 2005, MedPAC issued a recommendation in its Report to Congress that hospitals and physicians be permitted to engage in gainsharing arrangements. In this report, MedPAC stated that:

> [t]he Commission believes that gainsharing arrangements have the potential to improve patient care and reduce hospital costs as long as safeguards are in place to minimize the undesirable incentives. . . Due to the potential for gainsharing arrangements to encourage physician and hospital cooperation to lower costs and improve care, the Congress should provide the Secretary with the authority to allow and regulate these arrangements. The Secretary should develop rules that allow gainsharing arrangements as long as safeguards exist to ensure that cost-saving measures do not reduce quality or inappropriately influence physician referrals [emphasis supplied].

Finally, in 2008, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (''CMS'') issued a proposed rule that would have created an exception under the Physician Self-Referral law to protect certain ''shared savings and incentive payment programs.'' In the preamble to the proposed rule, CMS stated the following:

> [s]hared savings programs have been recognized by stakeholders as an effective means of controlling costs, improving efficiency, and promoting quality in the delivery of health care services. Government stakeholders have recognized similar potential benefits when shared savings programs are properly structured to ensure compliance with Federal health care program requirements. Empirical evidence suggests that the goal of patient care quality maintenance or improvement can be achieved through a properly-designed shared savings program.

The rule was never finalized. However, based upon the assertions of OIG, MedPAC, and CMS, the evidence seems clear and convincing: properly structured gainsharing programs show substantial potential in reducing

costs by aligning incentives between hospitals and physicians to make cost-saving improvements to healthcare delivery.

In sum, the Act strikes the right balance between the need for innovation in promoting cost savings efforts and the need to guard against waste, fraud, and abuse. CMS and OIG can structure the requirements that hospital-physician arrangements must meet in a way that ensures federal health care programs will be protected from fraud, waste, and abuse. Federal regulators have been overseeing these arrangements for nearly a decade—either through demonstration authority or through the advisory opinion process—I am confident that this legislation holds genuine promise for being a ''game changer'' in getting us towards the goal of better care at a lower cost without compromising access to quality health care services.

HONORING WILLIAM TELFORD BARNHOUSE II ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate William Telford Barnhouse II, known as Bill to his friends, was born on April 18, 1923 and is celebrating his 90th birthday this year along with family and friends. Bill was raised in Austin, Texas when it was still a small town. He graduated in 1940 from Austin High School where he competed on the debate team. His fondest memories of those years are of his family, his dog and the car he was able to buy with the money he made selling fireworks.

After high school Bill went to the University of Texas in Austin where he joined the United States Navy as a Naval Reserve Officer Cadet. He received his commission as an Ensign in the United States Naval Reserve on February 26, 1944, married his college sweetheart Margaret Pierson on February 27, 1944, received his degree in Business Administration on February 29, 1944 and his orders to report to the USS *Kidd*, Destroyer 661 in the South Pacific that same day.

After surviving repeated kamikaze attacks during the battle of Okinawa, on April 11, 1945 the *Kidd* was struck by a kamikaze killing thirty-seven and wounding seventy-five of the *Kidd's* sailors and officers. Bill survived the attack and helped sail the *Kidd* back to the United States for repairs. After it was decommissioned, the *Kidd* eventually sailed to Baton Rouge, Louisiana where it now serves as Louisiana's Naval War Memorial in Baton Rouge.

After the war, Bill worked in a number of jobs before going to work for Southern Union Gas Company as its Office Manager in Austin, Texas. In 1961, Southern Union moved Bill to Albuquerque to be its office manager here, where he worked in the building now housing the Flying Star at 8th Street and Central. After advancements that required moving to El Paso and Dallas, Bill was named President of the Gas Company of New Mexico and returned to Albuquerque in 1975. He retired from that position in 1983.

Margaret and Bill were married for fifty years and were blessed with five children: William T. Barnhouse III (known as Tig to friends and family) who lives in La Union, New Mexico and, along with his wife Lydia, owns two businesses operating out of El Paso, Texas; Gene Barnhouse who along with his wife Carmen owns Albuquerque Lighting; Kyle Barnhouse who owns Southwest Childcare and its three child care centers in Albuquerque; Dolph Barnhouse, a lawyer practicing in Albuquerque; and Marlane Barnhouse, who works as a special education teacher for the Albuquerque Public Schools. After Margaret passed away in 1994, Bill renewed an old friendship with Glyn Walker, who he knew from his days in Austin. Bill and Glyn enjoyed sixteen years of marriage before she passed away. Glyn's daughter Donna Agler and her husband Hal live in Santa Fe and remain close to Bill and his family. Bill was again blessed when a close cousin introduced him to Anne Weigers, who he married last year. Anne's daughter Margaret Vitullo and son David bring to eight the number of Bill's children and step children.

During his ninety years Bill has always worked to help others and build his community. In addition to his service during WW II, Bill helped establish the New Mexico Museum of Natural History (where he is honored by name on its wall of recognition), the El Paso Cancer Research Center, the Board of Advisors for the New Mexico Cancer Research Center, and the USS *Kidd* and Louisiana Veterans Memorial in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Other highlights of his nine decades include his tenure as Chairman of the Lovelace Medical Center Board of Advisers, Chairman and President of the El Paso United Way and his service as a Boy Scout Troop Leader for nine years.

Family and friends will join Bill on April 18 to celebrate his ninetieth birthday, and honor all he has done over those ninety years.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND SERVICE OF ANNE EVANS

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Anne Evans, United States Department of Commerce International Trade Administration District Director for Connecticut. I congratulate her for her induction into the New England Tire and Service Association (NETSA) Hall of Fame for 2013 and wish to recognize her numerous achievements in business, government, and service to her country and community.

Throughout her career, Anne has demonstrated a commitment to excellence. From her childhood experience learning valuable customer service skills from her father and grandfather, through her leadership of New England's tire industry, and now as a senior Department of Commerce Official, Anne continues to seek innovative approaches to develop New England and Connecticut's economy and solve business and environmental challenges.

Anne's career began early, helping with the family business. As a young professional, she served her state in Washington, D.C. as a Congressional and Committee staff member, as well as in the Connecticut Assembly. While Anne would go on to an illustrious career in government service, her family business came calling first. When her father fell ill in 1978, Anne returned to Connecticut to run the family tire business.

Over her 30 year career in the tire industry, Anne has found success in the retreading, retailing, distribution, and import-export sectors. Joining Import Tire in 1982 sparked Anne's passion for international trade. She dove headfirst into global challenges facing the tire industry, forming a company to focus on international trade in tires as well as the global waste-tire disposal. This company, in partnership with Oxford Energy, developed the Exeter Energy Plant in Sterling, Connecticut. She was recognized for her immense success and went on to manage waste-tire issues for the government of the United Kingdom and founded Elm Energy and Recycling Limited with the support of the global tire industry. Her commitment to global business issues culminated in 2008 when she was appointed as the District Director for Connecticut to the United States Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration.

For her efforts, Anne has been featured in the Wall Street Journal, The New Yorker, The Financial Times, and the New York Times. In 2000, she received the International Business Leader of the Year award from the Metro Hartford Chamber of Commerce. In 2003 Anne was awarded the Tire Industry Association ''Industry Pioneer Award'' for her leadership and achievements in the waste tire industry. In 2012 the Hartford Business Journal named Anne as the ''Remarkable Business Woman of the Year.'' Most recently, in December of 2012, she was recognized by the U.S. Department of Commerce for her work in creating and sustaining her Veterans Workforce Development Program at the Middletown Export Center. Since I was elected to Congress, I have worked closely with Anne to help Connecticut companies expand exports. Anne and I have lead trade missions to the United Kingdom, Israel, and Belgium with Connecticut companies to help create new economic opportunities and jobs in the state.

Anne's honor gives us the opportunity to reflect on our shared commitment to growing our economy in the face of the challenges of increased global competition. I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Anne Evans's induction into the NETSA Hall of Fame for 2013.

IN RECOGNITION OF UKRAINIAN PRESIDENT YANUKOVYCH'S DECISION TO PARDON FORMER INTERIOR MINISTER LUTSENKO AND FORMER ENVIRONMENT MINISTER FILIPCHUK.

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in my capacity as the Ranking Member of the Europe, Eurasia and Emerging Threats subcommittee to recognize the decision of Ukrainian President Yanukovych to pardon former Interior Minister Lutsenko and former Environment Minister Filipchuk. This is a notable step

toward bringing Ukraine closer to a path that espouses the democratic values that the Ukrainian people have fought so long and hard to receive and maintain. The path toward democracy is not an easy one, and my hope is that we will be hearing more bright news from Ukraine in the near future. Of particular concern is the continued imprisonment of former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko. I hope that Ukraine will fulfill its commitment to a democratic future for its people and secure her release, as well.

CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL OF DAUPHIN ISLAND JOINING THE UNITED STATES

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to mark the bicentennial of Dauphin Island, Alabama, joining the United States of America. On this date in 1813, Spain handed over the 14-mile-long, 1¾-mile-wide barrier island, located at the mouth of Mobile Bay, to the United States.

Dauphin Island has a long and rich history which spans nearly 500 years since it was first mapped by Alonzo Pineda in 1519. In fact, according to some accounts, it may have caught the eye of western explorers even earlier.

In 1699, French explorers landed on the small island, providing an anchor for the establishment of the French colony of Mobile. The French gave the island its present day name. When nearby Fort Louis de la Mobile became capital of the French Louisiana Territory, Dauphin Island, with its deep water and strategic location, was home to trading ships, settlers and naval surveillance.

Dauphin Island was threatened by the Spanish in 1719 during the Pensacola War. Hurricanes and changing conditions on the island also had an impact on the history and development of the island. During the great storm of 1740, nearly half the island was washed away, including 300 head of cattle. After the French left Dauphin Island around 1763, the English took possession of the tiny barrier island until it was finally captured by the Spaniards in 1781. Two years later, Dauphin Island was taken by General James Wilkinson and claimed by the United States.

In 1822, Fort Gaines was constructed by the United States Army on the eastern side of the island and it remained in U.S. hands until 1861 when Confederate-allied troops took possession. The fort was surrendered and returned to Union forces in 1864.

Today, Dauphin Island has long since relinquished its long-held military role for another of equal importance. As Alabama's barrier island, it is also a natural protector of the coast from hurricanes and tropical storms for an ever growing south Mobile County. It is also a popular tourist destination and home to 1,200 permanent residents. Thousands of visitors come each year to Dauphin Island to experience the sun and surf as well as the wildlife.

The Island is also home to the Dauphin Island Sea Lab, an Audubon Bird Sanctuary, and Dauphin Island Campground. Fishing piers provide access to Gulf of Mexico and Mississippi Sound for shallow water fishing for the land lovers, while charter boats offer deep water fishing excursions.

As the people of Dauphin Island celebrate the bicentennial of their beautiful island becoming an official part of the United States, I extend greetings and best wishes on behalf of the House of Representatives. May Dauphin Island's significant role in our nation's long history never be forgotten.

HONORING DAYTON R. ZIRKLE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Dayton R. Zirkle. Dayton is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 216, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Dayton has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Dayton has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned 68 merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Dayton has led his troop as Senior Patrol Leader and earned the rank of Tom-Tom Beater in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Dayton has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Dayton built a migration tower and nesting habitat for the Chimney Swift at Helen Davis School in St. Joseph, Missouri, providing much-needed habitat for a bird population in need of support.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Dayton R. Zirkle for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

REMEMBERING MARINE MASTER SERGEANT PATRICK T. QUIRK

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Marine Master Sergeant Patrick T. Quirk, who passed away on March 23, 2013.

Master Sergeant Quirk was a 20 year veteran of the United States Marine Corps, having served his country in Vietnam. Among some of the awards highlighting his valiant service to his nation are the National Defense Service Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon, and the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, awarded to soldiers who accomplished deeds of valor and displayed heroic conduct.

After leaving active duty, Master Sergeant Quirk continued to serve his country and this nation's youth as a JROTC instructor for over 20 additional years, highlighted by his 18 year tenure at Ouachita Parish High School.

Master Sergeant Quirk will be remembered by those he taught for his leadership, wisdom, and compassion, and his legacy will live on in the countless students who he helped usher into adulthood with the lessons he instilled in them.

So today, I ask that you please join me in remembering Master Sergeant Patrick Quirk. It is my hope that his service to our nation and his fellow man continue to inspire future generations to follow in his footsteps.

IN HONOR OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE RESERVE 65TH BIRTHDAY

HON. TIMOTHY J. WALZ

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 65th anniversary of the Air Force Reserve, created by President Harry S. Truman on April 14, 1948.

Since the founding of the United States, citizens have answered the call to arms, accomplished their mission with professionalism and honor, and returned to their civilian lives to await the next call.

Truman envisioned a new Reserve Component to continue this tradition of service—''being ready when called upon''—that was founded by the Army Air Service reservists of the First World War who flew wood and canvas biplanes. The forerunner of our modern Air Force Reserve was authorized by Congress and the National Defense Act of 1916.

Today, Air Force reservists, known as Citizen Airmen, perform leading roles in military operations, humanitarian crisis and disaster relief around the globe. The Air Force Reserve consists of officers, enlisted and civil servants who are tasked by law to fill the needs of the armed forces whenever more units and people are required than are in the Regular Air Force.

More than 860,000 people make up the Ready, Standby, Retired and Active Duty Retired Reserve. This includes 70,000 Selected Reservists who are ready-now and participate in every job specialty and on the front lines of daily military operations around the globe.

The creation of the Air Force Reserve followed the birth of the Air Force itself about seven months earlier on Sept. 18, 1947. The newly created Air Force had gained its independence from the Army, tracing its roots back to the Aeronautical Division of the U.S. Army's Office of the Chief Signal Officer which took charge of military balloons and air machines in 1907.

Ten years later, the first two air reserve units were mobilized, and one of them, the First Aero Reserve Squadron from Mineola, N.Y., deployed to France as the United States entered World War I in 1917. The new ''Air Service'' reserve program provided the war effort about 10,000 pilots who had graduated from civilian and military flying schools.

Later, reservists played a critical role in World War II when 1,500 reserve pilots along with 1,300 non-rated officers and 400 enlisted Airmen augmented the Army Air Corps in the war's early days. This included the legendary Jimmy Doolittle who was ordered to active duty to work in Detroit to convert automobile manufacturing plants into aircraft factories and later went on to lead ''Doolittle's Raiders,'' the first American bombing attack on the Japanese mainland.

After World War II ended, the young Air Force Reserve was barely two years old when it mobilized nearly 147,000 reservists for the Korean War from 1950 to 1953.

In the 1960s, five Air Force Reserve C–124 aircraft units along with 5,613 reservists were

mobilized for a year to support the Berlin Crisis. By 1962, an additional mobilization of 14,220 reservists and 422 aircraft were supporting operations during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

During the Vietnam War, the Air Force Reserve provided strategic airlift as well as counterinsurgency, close air support, tactical mobility, interdiction, rescue and recovery, intelligence, medical, maintenance, aerial port and air superiority until U.S. involvement ended in 1973.

For the most part, the nation was at peace for the next few years with the Air Force Reserve periodically engaged in emergency-response missions. This included the rescue and return of American students from Grenada in 1983, aerial refuelings of F–111 bombers during the El Dorado Canyon raid on Libyan-sponsored terrorists in 1986, and Operation Just Cause which ousted Panama's General Noriega in 1989–1990.

Also, Air Force Reservists supported humanitarian and disaster relief efforts, including resupply and evacuation missions in the aftermath of Hurricane Hugo.

More than twenty years of continual combat operations began with Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm in response to Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait in 1990.

In the aftermath of coalition victory, Air Force reservists continued to serve and were heavily involved in enforcing the no-fly zones over northern and southern Iraq as well as in humanitarian relief missions to assist the uprooted Iraqi Kurds.

In 1993, Air Force Reserve tanker, mobility and fighter units began operations in Bosnia and in 1999 were also supporting Operation Allied Force over Serbia and Kosovo.

When terrorists attacked the United States on Sept. 11, 2001, Air Force reservists responded in full measure. Air Force Reserve F–16 fighter aircraft flew combat air patrols to protect American cities while KC–135 tankers and AWACS aircraft supported security efforts.

In October 2001, Operation Enduring Freedom began as U.S. military forces entered Afghanistan to combat the Taliban and terrorist sanctuaries. In March 2003, Operation Iraqi Freedom began in order to end Saddam Hussein's regime. Air Force Reserve units and reservists played key roles in all combat operations as Air Force Reserve MC–130 Combat Talon aircraft became the first fixed-wing aircraft to penetrate Afghan airspace while Air Force Reserve F–16 crews performed the first combat missions.

In recent years, Citizen Airmen have supported every Air Force core function and every Combatant Commander around the world. Air Force reservists were engaged in surge operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. They supported combat and humanitarian missions in Haiti, Libya, Japan, Mali and the Horn of Africa. Also, they've provided national disaster relief at home in the U.S. after Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy, the gulf oil spill and the wildfires in the western states.

Throughout their history, Citizen Airmen have volunteered continually, allaying concerns that reservists would not be available when really needed.

Since its inception in 1948, the Air Force Reserve has evolved from a unit-mobilization-only force into an operational reserve that participates daily in missions around the globe. Today, Air Force reservists safeguard nuclear weapons and guide Global Positioning Satellites. From bases in the United States, reservists fly remotely piloted aircraft in combat half a world away. They track hurricanes out at sea and bring medical supplies and food into disaster areas to save lives around the world.

Spanning six and a half decades—with the last two decades of continuous combat—the Air Force Reserve has fulfilled the legacy of early air pioneers and exceeded the potential seen by the visionaries who created it in 1948.

Congratulations to all Citizen Airmen, past and present, on the 65th Anniversary of the Air Force Reserve on April 14, 2013.

HONORING AND CELEBRATING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MICHAEL PRITCHARD

HONORABLE ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge and honor Michael Pritchard upon his retirement from Pathway Society, Inc.

Michael has been the Executive Director at Pathway Society, Inc. since 1991. Pathway is the oldest and largest community-based nonprofit organization in Santa Clara County providing low-income residents with substance abuse treatment, intervention, education, and prevention. In 1970, Michael graduated from Western Michigan University, where he majored in Psychology. In 1976, he received his Masters Degree in Psychology at California State University at Los Angeles.

Michael's leadership expanded Pathway's programs, budget, and staffing. During Michael's nineteen years as the Executive Director, Pathway helped 60,000 people lead healthy lives. 25,000 youth stopped using drugs and escaped gangs during his tenure. When Michael joined Pathway in 1991, the organization served around 550 people annually. Today, Pathway serves around 3,500 people annually.

While at Pathway, Michael helped implement one of the first substance-abuse day treatment programs in the country specifically focused on helping gang-involved Latinos get off drugs and out of gangs. He is a founding member of San Jose Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force Policy Team, which supports these efforts.

Michael served as board member and officer of Treatment Communities of America, a national consortium of over 600 programs providing an array of integrated services in substance abuse treatment and behavioral health. He is a past officer of California Therapeutic Communities, a statewide organization of addiction treatment providers. He served as president of the Alcohol and Drug Contractors Association, a countywide network of community-based organizations providing substance use prevention, treatment, recovery, and supportive transitional housing to adolescents and adults in Santa Clara County.

Michael is retiring after 22 years of devoted leadership of Pathway Society. I commend his decades of contribution and service to the betterment of our society. The community is very fortunate to have benefited from his dedication, commitment, and advocacy. I wish Michael the best of luck in his future endeavors.

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY INSURANCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS DOUBLE DIP ELIMINATION ACT OF 2013

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, for more than 50 years the Social Security Disability Insurance program has provided a vital safety net for workers who have worked long enough and recently enough and who meet the definition of disability.

Unemployment benefits, through the Federal-State Unemployment Insurance program and Trade Adjustment Assistance, are available for those workers who have lost a job and are looking for a new one. These workers know they can work and these important benefits are there to help them through a tough time.

Now here's the rub. Even though disability benefits are for those who can't work and unemployment benefits are for those who can work if they could find a job, under current law someone can receive both benefits at the same time. That just doesn't make sense.

A July 2012 Government Accountability Office (GAO) report, Overlapping Disability and Unemployment Benefits Should be Evaluated for Potential Savings, highlighted this double dip situation. In fiscal year 2010, at least 117,000 individuals received both disability insurance and unemployment insurance, representing less than 1 percent of total beneficiaries of both programs. The overlapping cash benefits paid to these individuals totaled over $281 million from disability insurance and more than $575 million from the unemployment insurance program in that year. By paying cash benefits through both programs, these workers are being paid twice.

That's why I am introducing the Social Security Disability Insurance and Unemployment Benefits Double Dip Elimination Act of 2013, which ends this double dipping and preserves Social Security benefits for only those who truly cannot work. Starting next year, those applying for disability benefits won't be eligible to receive these benefits in any month they are also receiving unemployment benefits. And for those workers who are already on the rolls, receiving unemployment benefits will count towards the maximum number of months they may try work without impacting their benefits.

President Obama agrees and in his budget, he included his own proposal to stop the double dipping. When we agree, we should act.

I urge my colleagues to sponsor this common sense legislation.

EDITORIAL BY FORMER CONGRESSMAN BARNEY FRANK IN THE PORTLAND PRESS HERALD ON MARCH 24, 2013

HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following editorial by Former Congressman Barney Frank.

RULING FOR SAME-SEX MARRIAGE WOULD BE RIGHT, NOT ''ACTIVISM''

(By The Honorable Barney Frank)

People who are caught making assertions that blatantly contradict positions they have previously taken often respond that ''Consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds,'' trying to trade an old quote for a little intellectual honesty.

But inconsistency is nothing to be proud of. It is an unmistakable sign that a person has lost confidence in an argument but believes it can be won by invoking some general principle, even if it's one the person has previously repudiated.

Then the hobgoblin involved is the person's effort to hide his or her real motive.

We will—I hope—soon see an example of rhetorical hobgobliny if the Supreme Court issues an opinion holding that the law that currently treats my marriage to my husband Jim as a threat to society is a clear denial to us of the equal protection of the law.

If a majority holds that the stupidly named Defense of Marriage Act is unconstitutional, right-wing advocates of the view that same-sex married couples should pay the same taxes as our straight fellow citizens but not receive any of the same benefits will respond not so much by defending this blatant discrimination as by piously denouncing ''judicial activism.''

They will have no other option. Persisting in the claim that happily married men in an opposite-sex marriage will, on seeing Jim and me together, be sorely tempted to abandon their wives clearly no longer has the persuasive power it once had.

When DOMA was enacted in 1996, it was apparently plausible to most Americans that those of us in same-sex marriages would have the same effect on some men as a popular juice commercial claims for its product. Instead of slapping their foreheads and regretting that they hadn't had a V-8, the fear was that they would see Jim and me and proclaim, ''I could have married a guy.''

To their credit, the right-wingers understand that since there has been no such result in the nine years since same-sex marriage was first legalized in Massachusetts, nor in any of the other eight jurisdictions that have followed, claiming that they are defending their marriages by defunding mine is a losing proposition—intellectually, factually, and increasingly electorally.

So they will instead invoke the principle that unelected judges should not annul laws adopted by the elected President and Congress, piously insisting that it is the right of the people in our system to make the laws.

But they will only be pretending to believe in that principle. In fact, since 2010, conservatives—including virtually all of those who will denounce the judicial activism of the anti-DOMA decision—have been working hard to get these very same judges to annul most of the laws enacted by the elected president and Congress in 2009 and 2010.

Conservatives not only sought to have the health care bill canceled by judges, they have denounced Chief Justice Roberts for voting not to overturn the elected officials' decision. The financial reform bill has been the subject of multiple conservative-backed lawsuits seeking to cancel regulation of speculation in oil, to block consumer protection, and to return derivative trading to its unregulated status.

Most glaringly, the right-wing politicians are hoping the Supreme Court will throw out one of the greatest legislative achievements of the past fifty years—the Voting Rights Act (This law was passed in 1965 and has since been reenacted several times, under the signature of Ronald Reagan among others.)

Exposing the inconsistency—i.e., hypocrisy—of conservatives who will weep for democracy if discrimination based on sexual orientation is struck down while they are utilizing that very process to rescind financial regulation, un-defend consumers, reduce health care programs, and take away voting protections understandably makes them uncomfortable. And labeling those of us who do it as hobgoblins does not solve their rhetorical problem.

Lacking any basis for the proposition that same-sex marriages cause any harm to those who have opted not to enter into one, the pro-DOMA faction needs an inconsistent denunciation of judicial activism to avoid acknowledging that their real motive is some combination of dislike, disapproval or disgust at the notion that gay people should be allowed by society to live legally free from prejudice.

A TRIBUTE TO MIDLAND COUNTY FAIR MANAGER TOM VALLIERE

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Tom Valliere for his years of service as Midland County Fair Manager.

Tom Valliere concluded his 32-year career at the fair this spring. Through his vast wealth of experience and dedication, he has brought an astounding 300,000–350,000 people to the Midland community each year for the fair and other events.

Tom was first hired by the Midland County Fair Board as manager in 1980. Since then the fair has seen major changes under his direction. Some of Tom's most valuable contributions to the fair have been his work on modernizing its infrastructure. The fairground now has one of the most revered horse arenas in the area, as well as all-weather facilities for merchants. The fair has also hosted concerts featuring some of the biggest names in music.

Although Tom's tenure at the Midland County Fair has come to an end, his place in the community will forever be remembered. On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Michigan, I congratulate Tom Valliere for his 32-year career as the Midland County Fair Manager. I wish him well in his much-deserved retirement.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2571–S2627

Measures Introduced: Seventeen bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 703–719, and S. Res. 96. **Page S2589**

Measures Reported:

S. 689, to reauthorize and improve programs related to mental health and substance use disorders, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S2588–89**

Measures Passed:

STOCK Act: Senate passed S. 716, to modify the requirements under the STOCK Act regarding online access to certain financial disclosure statements and related forms. **Pages S2583–84**

Measures Considered:

Safe Communities, Safe Schools Act: Senate began consideration of S. 649, 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, after agreeing to the motion to proceed, and taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S2572–81, S2581–83, S2584**

Pending:

Manchin Amendment No. 715, to protect Second Amendment rights, ensure that all individuals who should be prohibited from buying a firearm are listed in the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, and provide a responsible and consistent background check process. **Page S2584**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 68 yeas to 31 nays (Vote No. 95), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S2580**

O'Connell, Torres, Watson Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 5 p.m., on Monday, April 15, 2013, Senate begin consideration of the nomination of Beverly Reid O'Connell, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, and that there be 30 minutes for debate equally divided in the usual form; that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination, without intervening action or debate; provided further, that at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, after consultation with the Republican Leader, Senate begin consideration of the nominations of Analisa Torres, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, and Derrick Kahala Watson, to be United States District Judge for the District of Hawaii; and Senate vote on confirmation of the nominations in the order listed, without intervening action or debate; and that no further motions be in order. **Page S2619**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Matthew C. Armstrong, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term expiring August 13, 2015.

Tulinabo Salama Mushingi, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Burkina Faso.

Harry R. Hoglander, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the National Mediation Board for a term expiring July 1, 2014.

Linda A. Puchala, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Mediation Board for a term expiring July 1, 2015.

Rick Lowe, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2018.

Dorothy Kosinski, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2016.

83 Army nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Foreign Service, Marine Corps, and Navy. **Pages S2619–27**

Executive Communications: **Page S2588**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S2589**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2589–90**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2590–98**

Additional Statements: **Pages S2587–88**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S2598–S2618**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S2618**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S2618–19**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—95) **Page S2580**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:37 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, April 15, 2013. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2619.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2014 for the Department of Commerce, after receiving testimony from Rebecca Blank, Deputy Secretary, and Todd J. Zinser, Inspector General, both of the Department of Commerce.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2014 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, after receiving testimony from Shaun Donovan, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

NOMINATION

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of General Philip M. Breedlove, USAF for reappointment to the grade of general and to be Commander, United States European Command and Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

INDEPENDENT CONSULTANTS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection concluded a hearing to examine outsourcing accountability, focusing on examining the role of independent consultants, after receiving testimony from Daniel P. Stipano, Deputy Chief Counsel, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury; Richard M. Ashton, Deputy General Counsel, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; Konrad Alt, Promontory Financial Group, LLC, Piedmont, California; James F. Flanagan, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Huntington, New York; and Owen Ryan, Deloitte and Touche LLP, Basking Ridge, New Jersey.

BUDGET

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2014, after receiving testimony from Jeff Zients, Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget.

NOMINATION

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Regina McCarthy, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Cowan and Warren, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

PRESIDENT'S BUDGET REQUEST

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2014, after receiving testimony from Jacob J. Lew, Secretary of the Treasury.

U.S. POLICY TOWARD SYRIA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States policy toward Syria, after receiving testimony from Robert Ford, Ambassador to the Syrian Arab Republic, and Beth Jones, Acting Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs, both of the Department of State; Daniel Glaser, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorist Financing; and Dennis Ross, Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Washington, DC.

OPEN MARKETPLACE

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine an open marketplace, focusing on the effect of guaranteed issue and new rating rules, after receiving testimony from Gary Cohen, Deputy Administrator and Director, Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services; Kevin Counihan, Access Health CT, Hartford, Connecticut; Sabrina Corlette, Georgetown University Center on Health Insurance Reforms, Washington, DC; Christopher Carlson, Oliver Wyman, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and Stacy Cook, Carroll, Iowa.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Kenneth John Gonzales, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 36 public bills, H.R. 1483–1518; 1 private bill, H.R. 1519; and 2 resolutions, H. Res. 151–152 were introduced. **Pages H1955–57**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1958–59**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 756, to advance cybersecurity research, deelopment, and technical standards, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 113–33) and

H.R. 967, to amend the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 to authorize activities for support of networking and information technology research, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 113–34). **Page H1955**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Foxx to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1913**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:48 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H1918**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 272 yeas to 136 nays with 1 answering ''present'', Roll No. 99. **Pages H1918, H1931**

Oath of Office—Second Congressional District of Illinois: Representative-elect Robin L. Kelly presented herself in the well of the House and was administered the Oath of Office by the Speaker. Earlier, the Clerk of the House transmitted a scanned copy of a letter from Mr. Rupert T. Borgsmiller, Executive Director, Illinois State Board of Elections, indicating that, according to the unofficial returns of the Special Election held April 9, 2013, the Honorable Robin L. Kelly was elected Representative to Congress for the Second Congressional District, State of Illinois. **Pages H1929–30**

Whole Number of the House: The Speaker announced to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentlewoman from Illinois, Ms. Kelly, the whole number of the House is 433. **Page H1930**

Preventing Greater Uncertainty in Labor-Management Relations Act—Rule for Consideration: The House agreed to H. Res. 146, the rule that is providing for consideration of H.R. 1120, to prohibit the National Labor Relations Board from taking any action that requires a quorum of the members of the Board until such time as Board constituting a quorum shall have been confirmed by the Senate, the Supreme Court issues a decision on the constitutionality of the appointments to the Board made in January 2012, or the adjournment sine die of the first session of the 113th Congress, by a yea-and-nay vote of 226 yeas to 194 nays, Roll No. 98, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 226 yeas to 192 nays, Roll No. 97. **Pages H1923–29, H1930–31**

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. tomorrow. **Page H1932**

Discharge Petition: Representative DeLauro presented to the clerk a motion to discharge the Committee on Education and the Workforce from the consideration of H.R. 377, to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes (Discharge Petition No. 1).

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H1929 and H1951.

Senate Referral: S. 716 was held at the desk.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1929, H1930–31, H1931. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Committee Meetings

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a hearing on the Department of Education. Testimony was heard from Arne Duncan, Secretary, Department of Education.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on FY 2014 Budget Request for the Department of Homeland Security. Testimony was heard from Janet Napolitano, Secretary, Department of Homeland Security.

APPROPRIATIONS—NUCLEAR WASTE PROGRAMS AND STRATEGIES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on Oversight Hearing: Nuclear Waste Programs and Strategies. Testimony was heard from Peter B. Lyons, Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy, Department of Energy; Michael Weber, Deputy Executive Director for Operations for Materials, Waste, Research, State, Tribal, and Compliance Programs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission; Frank Rusco, Director of Natural Resources and Environment, Energy and Science, Government Accountability Office; Rodney C. Ewing, Chairman, Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board; and public witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies held a hearing on Department of Commerce Budget Request. Testimony was heard from Rebecca M. Blank, Acting Secretary, Department of Commerce.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies held a hearing on Department of the Interior Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2014. Testimony was heard from Ken Salazar, Secretary, Department of the Interior.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BUDGET

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing on Fiscal Year 2014 National Defense Authorization Budget Request from the Department of Defense. Testimony was heard from General Martin Dempsey, USA, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff; and Chuck Hagel, Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense.

EQUIPPING THE INDIVIDUAL SOLDIER AND MARINE: CURRENT AND FUTURE YEAR ACQUISITION AND MODERNIZATION STRATEGIES AND THE FISCAL YEAR 2014 BUDGET REQUEST

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces held a hearing on Equipping the Individual Soldier and Marine: Current and Future Year Acquisition and Modernization Strategies and the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Request. Testimony was heard from Peter B. Bechtel, Director, Capabilities Integration, Prioritization, and Analysis, Department of the Army; Brigadier General Paul Ostrowski, USA, Program Executive Officer, Soldier, U.S. Army; Brigadier General Frank Kelley, USMC, Commander, Marine Corps Systems Command, U.S. Marine Corps.

PRESIDENT'S FISCAL YEAR 2014 BUDGET

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''The President's Fiscal Year 2014 Budget''. Testimony was heard from Jeffrey Zients, Acting Director and Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing on H.R. 1406, the ''Working Families Flexibility Act of 2013''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

STRENGTHENING MEDICARE FOR SENIORS: UNDERSTANDING THE CHALLENGES OF TRADITIONAL MEDICARE'S BENEFIT DESIGN

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled ''Strengthening Medicare for Seniors: Understanding the Challenges of Traditional Medicare's Benefit Design''. Testimony was heard from a public witness.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy held a hearing on a draft discussion on the ''Coal Ash Recycling and Oversight Act of 2013''. Testimony was heard from Mathy Stanislaus, Assistant Administrator for Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Environmental Protection Agency; Robert J. Martineau, Jr., Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation; Stephen A. Cobb, Chief, Governmental Hazardous Waste Branch Land Division, Alabama Department of Environmental Management; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a markup on legislation to affirm the policy of the United States regarding Internet governance. The discussion draft to affirm the policy of the United States regarding Internet governance was passed without amendment.

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS REGARDING DERIVATIVES AND SEC ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets held a hearing entitled ''Legislative Proposals Regarding Derivatives and SEC Economic Analysis''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

HIGHLIGHTING VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN ADVANCE OF THE U.S.-VIETNAM DIALOGUE

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations held a hearing entitled ''Highlighting Vietnamese Government Human Rights Violations in Advance of the U.S.-Vietnam Dialogue''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BREAKING THE IRAN, NORTH KOREA, AND SYRIA NEXUS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa; Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific; and Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade held a hearing entitled ''Breaking the Iran, North Korea, and Syria Nexus''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ENERGY OPPORTUNITIES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere held a hearing entitled ''Energy Opportunities in Latin America and the Caribbean''. Testimony was heard from Carlos Pascual, Special Envoy and Coordinator for International Energy Affairs, Department of State; Matthew M. Rooney, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, Department of State; and public witnesses.

COUNTERTERRORISM EFFORTS TO COMBAT A CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL, AND NUCLEAR ATTACK ON THE HOMELAND

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence held a hearing entitled ''Counterterrorism Efforts to Combat a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Attack on the Homeland''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

TSA'S EFFORTS TO ADVANCE RISK-BASED SECURITY: STAKEHOLDER PERSPECTIVES

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Transportation Security held a hearing entitled ''TSA's Efforts to Advance Risk-Based Security: Stakeholder Perspectives''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 367, the ''Regulations From the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2013''. The bill was ordered reported, as amended.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation held a hearing on the following: legislation regarding ''Restoring Healthy Forests for Healthy Communities Act''; H.R. 1294, the ''Self-Sufficient Community Lands Act''; H.R. 818, the ''Healthy Forest Management and Wildfire Prevention Act''; H.R. 1345, the ''Catastrophic Wildfire Prevention Act of 2013''; legislation regarding the ''O&C Trust, Conservation, and Jobs Act''; and H.R. 1442, the ''Depleting Risk from Insect Infestation, Soil Erosion, and Catastrophic Fire Act of 2013''. Testimony was heard from Chairman Hastings (WA); and Representatives Labrador, Tipton, Gosar, Markey, DeFazio, Walden, Schrader, and Tom Tidwell, Chief, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Ray Campbell, Commissioner, Okanogan County, WA; Judy Morris, Supervisor, Trinity County, CA; Skip Brandt, Commissioner, Idaho County, ID; John Maisch, State Forester and Director, Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry; John Martin, Commissioner, Garfield County, CO; Cindy Dozier, Commissioner, Hinsdale County, CO; Tommie Martin, District Supervisor and Vice Chair, Gila County, AZ; Tom Tuchmann, Forestry and Conservation Finance Advisor, Office of the Governor, State of Oregon; Doug Robertson, Commissioner, Douglas County, OR; and public witnesses.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM: IS IT A GOOD VALUE FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, U.S. Postal Service, and the Census held a hearing entitled ''The Federal Employees Health Benefit Program: Is It a Good Value for Federal Employees?''. Testimony was heard from Jonathan Foley, Director, Planning and Policy Analysis, Office of Personnel Management; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 875, to provide for a comprehensive assessment of the scientific and technical research on the implications of the use of mid-level ethanol blends, and for other purposes; and H.R. 1422, the ''EPA Science Advisory Board Reform Act of 2013''. The bills, H.R. 875 and H.R. 1422, were ordered reported, as amended.

JOBS ACT IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Investigations, Oversight and Regulations held a hearing

entitled ''JOBS Act Implementation Update''. Testimony was heard from Lona Nallengara, Acting Director, Division of Corporation Finance, Securities and Exchange Commission; John Ramsay, Acting Director, Division of Trading and Markets, Securities and Exchange Commission; and public witnesses.

AMTRAK'S FISCAL YEAR 2014 BUDGET: THE STARTING POINT FOR REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials held a hearing entitled ''Amtrak's Fiscal Year 2014 Budget: The Starting Point for Reauthorization''. Testimony was heard from Joseph H. Boardman, President and CEO, Amtrak; and Joseph C. Szabo, Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS BUDGET REQUEST FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing on Department of Veterans Affairs Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2014. Testimony was heard from Eric K. Shinseki, Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs.

PRESIDENT'S FISCAL YEAR 2014 BUDGET PROPOSAL WITH U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Committee on Ways and Means: Full Committee held a hearing on President's Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Proposal with U.S. Department of the Treasury. Testimony was heard from Jacob Lew, Secretary, Department of Treasury.

WORLDWIDE THREATS

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Worldwide Threats''. Testimony was heard from James R. Clapper, Director of National Intelligence; John O. Brennan, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency; Lieutenant General Michael T. Flynn, Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, Department of Defense; Robert S. Meuller, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2013

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies, hearing on National Park Service, 9:30 a.m., B–308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing on Commodity Futures Trading Commission Budget, 10 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, and Science and Related Agencies, hearing on Drug Enforcement Administration Budget Request, 10 a.m., H–309 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, hearing on Installations, Environment, Energy and BRAC Budget and Oversight, 10:30 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee On Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing on Fiscal Year 2014 National Defense Authorization Budget Request from the Department of the Air Force, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy and Power, hearing on the ''Energy Consumers Relief Act of 2013'', 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee On Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency, hearing entitled ''The Impact of Sequestration on Homeland Security: Scare Tactics of Possible Threat?'', 9 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on Natural Resources, April 12, Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation, hearing on H.R. 1208, to establish the Manhattan Project National Historical Park in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, Los Alamos, New Mexico, and Hanford, Washington, and for other purposes, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, hearing on President Obama's budget proposals for the Department of Health and Human Services for fiscal year 2014, 9 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

2 p.m., Monday, April 15

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 5 p.m.), Senate will begin consideration of the nomination of Beverly Reid O'Connell, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, with a vote on confirmation of the nomination at approximately 5:30 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Friday, April 12

House Chamber

Program for Friday: Complete consideration of H.R. 1120—Preventing Greater Uncertainty in Labor-Management Relations Act.

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