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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 16, 2013.

I hereby appoint the Honorable GREGG HARPER 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.

TIME TO DEAL WITH BUDGET MATTERS

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, now, after 16 days, one remembers the gleeful Republicans pouring out of the House Chamber on the early morning of October 1 so excited that they got the shutdown, the tool they would use to end the Affordable Care Act. Well, it has now collapsed in disarray on the eve of a far more serious deadline: flirting with the default on our national debt.

I am embarrassed for my Republican colleagues who cannot figure out what they want as they tie themselves into knots, refusing to put a simple, clean continuing resolution on the floor that would end this madness, I guess because they fear all the Democrats and many Republicans would approve it, ending this sad chapter.

It is fascinating what a destructive minority and rudderless Republican House leadership can do, inflicting damage in so many ways. This all would have been unimaginable in normal times. I tried to explain it on the air yesterday to a BBC reporter. I felt foolish and embarrassed. It is inexplicable.

It is time to stop negotiating the terms of the release of the American people and their economy. There is a simple answer, and it is not necessarily calling the Republican bluff on the shutdown and debt ceiling. The answer is to encourage the Republicans to try and pass their own spending bills. Don't insulate them any longer from the specifics.

With the Ryan budget, Republicans are on a glide path to 1962 spending levels; but for an America half a century later, with 150 million more people and three times the number of senior citizens, the math doesn't work for most of us, and it appears that it doesn't work for the Republicans either. Why else would they have stopped the consideration of their own spending bills not even halfway through the process? Remember, we still have pending the Transportation-HUD spending bill that was abruptly halted more than 2 months ago, last summer. It is still pending. It could be brought to the floor at any time.

Let us stop tolerating wildly unrealistic political antics, and dive into budget mechanics. Let them try and pass the Interior spending bill, which they were afraid to even take to the full committee, let alone pass the Health and Human Services bill. Let us get into specifics and stop the hostage-taking. No one should be allowed to weaponize the process of governance, especially people unwilling or unable to do their own job.

The President should use his bully pulpit to spotlight their refusal to act and his alternatives. By all means, let us look at the looming Social Security cut that is going to occur 20 years from now. How much do we want to cut of future benefits for people who are increasingly struggling in retirement and who already get less than most other rich countries?

Let us deal with the long-term costs of our military, with hugely expensive, outdated, unnecessary surplus nuclear weapons. Let us help the military deal with health and pension costs that greatly concern the military leadership because they know they are not sustainable.

My Republican colleagues cannot have it both ways: attacking the President for including the chained CPI in his own budget proposal as an assault on senior citizens, as alleged by my friend and colleague GREG WALDEN, the head of the Republican Campaign Committee in the House, when that is actually what many of my Republican friends want; attacking the President and Democrats for having obtained $700 billion in Medicare savings without cutting payments to seniors and then making that into a campaign issue in 2012, and then claiming the President and Democrats don't want to deal with entitlements. How hypocritical.

Let us stop the hostage-taking and deal with specifics. We can resolve these matters in, actually, a matter of months if the American public and the Congress are forced to confront the realities of fantasy budgets and political slogans. The American people deserve better. Now it is time to give that to them.

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REPUBLICAN SHUTDOWN HAS BEEN A DISASTER

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, the Republican government shutdown has been a disaster. A lot of people all across this country have been hurt. Hopefully, the press reports that I am reading this morning are true and that, by the end of the day, this House of Representatives will support a Senate compromise that will reopen our government and will avoid our defaulting on our debt. So, I hope that in a bipartisan way, before this day is out, we can come together and do that.

This shutdown and this threat of default has made this Chamber look ridiculous. People of every political persuasion are disappointed in the behavior, especially of some elements of this House that have driven us to this shutdown and threatened a default of our Nation for the first time in history.

END HUNGER NOW

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I just want to take a few minutes here to speak about another aspect of this shutdown and, indeed, some of the policies that we have approved of here in this House of Representatives, policies that have adversely impacted most, especially the poor and the hungry and the vulnerable.

We have 50 million people in the United States of America who are hungry; 17 million are children. This shutdown and this sequester and the farm bill that this House of Representatives approved goes after the very programs that provide so many of our needy people in this country food. That is it, nothing else but food.

We have a hunger problem in the United States of America, and we all should be ashamed of that. This shutdown, coupled with the sequester, has threatened programs like WIC—the Women, Infants, and Children program. It has gone after the SNAP program, which used to be known as food stamps, threatening the amount that people get to be able to put food on their tables. It has threatened funding for food banks. We have had food banks all across this country that have shut down because of the sequester and also because of what this shutdown has done.

We are a much better country than that. I know that the majority of people in this Chamber, deep down, care about the most vulnerable, but we haven't acted that way. There is a pattern in this House of Representatives and this Republican-led Congress that has diminished the plight of poor people, that has trivialized the need for people to be able to put food on their tables for their families and for their children.

We passed a farm bill in the Congress here that cuts food stamps by $40 billion. That would mean 3.8 million people who currently rely on this benefit would be thrown off the program. We would literally be taking food away from families who need it. It would throw hundreds of thousands of children off the free breakfast and lunch program at school. That cut would result in over 170,000 veterans being thrown off that program. Veterans—men and women who have served our country overseas in battle, who are having trouble finding a job, getting stability in their lives, who need this program to be able to put food on their tables for themselves and their families—we are going to throw them off the program. That is just not right. That is just not right.

The farm bill is going to go to conference, and my hope is that we can come to some sort of a bipartisan agreement to reverse kind of the negative aspects of what the House has done. We can do much better. We can do much better. We need to do much better.

Mr. Speaker, it is not fashionable in this House of Representatives to worry about the poor, I guess maybe because they don't have super PACs; they don't donate to our campaigns; they don't have big lobbies here in Washington. But if government stands for anything, we need to stand for those people. Donald Trump doesn't need us, doesn't need government; but some returning veteran who cannot find a job, or some single mother who is trying to raise her kids and doesn't have enough to put food on the table, or some unemployed man who has worked all of his life and all of a sudden because of this lousy economy has found himself without a job and is trying to support his family, they need us, and we need to be there for them. That should not be a controversial or radical idea; yet, in this House of Representatives, it has been. So, from the shutdown to the sequester to the farm bill, over and over and over again, we have targeted the most vulnerable.

Mr. Speaker, we need to reverse this trend. When this is all over with, I hope we can come together in a bipartisan way and actually talk about hunger; and I hope that the White House will come forward and embrace a White House conference on food and nutrition so we can have some leadership at the national level to come up with a plan to end hunger and to end poverty in this country.

TIME TO END SHUTDOWN AND GO TO WORK ON LONG-TERM PROBLEMS

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

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, it is a rather important day today. Sometime today or in the next 24 hours, the United States Treasury will run out of its ability to borrow money, that is, to roll over its debt, to pay all of the obligations that the United States Government has.

I guess, even this morning, we remain the world's biggest economy. We certainly remain the oldest democracy; although, that seems to be somewhat in doubt here on the floor of the House of Representatives where we don't operate as a democracy. We really operate more as a dictatorship, or at least as an oligarchy, in which one or two or a handful of people makes the decision for the majority of the House.

It is a very, very, very important moment that this Nation moves towards, the moment in which it, for the first time in its history, would default on its payments, default on its debt. We have already seen the effects of this. Banks all around the world are selling, that is, getting out of America's short-term obligations or those obligations, bonds, that are due now or in the next week or so. So they are shedding American debt. They are running away from the world's reserve currency.

Why?

Because this House, the House of Representatives, the people's House, is being jerked around, led around by a small contingent of folks who is not thinking clearly, who is not willing to understand the import, the importance, of the soundness of the American dollar, the importance of the full faith and credit of this Nation, of the 200-plus years of history where this House, where this government, where the people of America have always stood behind its obligations. But that group of individuals who is unwilling to be rational, who is the Tea Party faction of the Republican Party, seems to want to take this Nation into a new era, an era in which the world cannot count on the United States of America.

We are also in the 16th day of the shutdown of the United States Government in which the United States Government is only partially operating; in which the national parks, with the exception of just three, are not open; where the Fish and Wildlife Service's refuges are not available to the public, where much of the government is not operating. We are in the 16th day. Why? Why are we in this situation?

When it started 16 days ago, it was to end the Affordable Health Care Act, and then it was to modify it, and then it was to change it, and then it was to delay it, and now it is not even on the agenda.

So why are we still shut down?

There is no reason that is being presented other than what you might see in a preschool class with some kid who is too tired and is down on the floor, throwing a tantrum, screaming and yelling and trying to stop everything. Kid, get your blanket. Get your bottle and take a nap.

We don't need tantrums around here, but apparently that is the only reason the government continues to be shut down, because some 40 or 50 Members of the Tea Party caucus of the Republican Party are throwing a tantrum, led by Senator CRUZ.

We don't need tantrums; we need cooperation; we need to work together. We have got serious problems. The shutdown has created even more serious problems and, as we run up to the debt crisis, yet one more problem, because 40 or 50 people are throwing a tantrum.

This is the House of Representatives, 435 of us elected to represent the people of America, to do right by them, to do right by this Nation's economy, by the working men and women. Even those who are laid off because of the shutdown want to work.

It is time for us to end this. It is time for us to go to work on the long-term problems.

WHY WE MUST DEFUND OBAMACARE

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

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, 3 years ago, when the President and the Democratic-controlled House and Senate forced ObamaCare into law without a single Republican vote, my constituents wrote and called my office, telling me they didn't want a government takeover of health care. They expressed many concerns, including losing a health care plan they liked, higher costs, overbearing regulations that would prevent businesses and their owners' ability to hire workers, and the government making health care decisions for citizens, just to name a few.

My constituents' concerns proved true. The ObamaCare Web site has been up for 2 weeks or more, and for those who were able to get the Web site to work, the reports have proved disappointing and anything but affordable: rate hikes of 260 percent, $12,600 deductibles, copays up to 40 percent, and zero competition. Perhaps that is why, according to the Daily Mail, on October 11, in the first week, only 51,000 people completed ObamaCare applications.

My constituents continue to write me about their concerns with this bad law, and today, I would like to read a letter from one of my constituents, Lee Stanley. Mr. Stanley is a small business owner from Atlanta, Texas, who is facing difficult decisions due to ObamaCare. Mr. Stanley wrote to my office as follows:

> Dear Congressman Hall, I don't know if you are getting any input from small business owners like us regarding ObamaCare. We are really in a dilemma here at GuardLine.
>
> We found that there are items that we can manufacture here at the same cost as we currently import from Mexico, China, and Pakistan. We would like to bring these jobs back here, but looming in the background is ObamaCare. We employ 85 people in our Atlanta facility. We compete in a world market with distributors or importers that maybe have 15 to 30 employees, and they fall below the 50 employees and, therefore, do not have to pay the $2,000 penalty for not providing health insurance.
>
> Our industry business model does not provide for employee benefits as it is mostly a minimum-wage industry with profit margins very low.
>
> The situation we are in is that we would have to pay $170,000 in penalties under ObamaCare. This is another example of the government picking the winners and the losers, and we begin to show up here totally as the losers. There is no way I can be competitive if I have to raise my prices to cover the $170,000.
>
> Here are my options:
>
> One, don't pay the penalty;
>
> Two, raise my prices and go out of business—85 people lose their jobs;
>
> Three, lay off 15 to 35 employees to get under 50 in order to not pay the penalty, and move more production out of this country;
>
> Four, reduce 35 jobs to part-time, under 30 hours a week, and move more production out of this country.
>
> As you can see from the above options, there is really not a good one. We are having to run our business in a way that does not make very much business sense as we have to always keep in mind the effects of ObamaCare. We are in a position that we can add more jobs here in the USA, and are being penalized for doing that. This country will never be able to completely recover with restrictions on business like that. I am sure we are not the only employer in this situation. I don't know what we can do except express our concerns to our representatives.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents, I will continue to fight to defund as much of this bad law as possible. ObamaCare remains widely, completely unpopular across the country for good reason—it is hurting jobs, hurting pocketbooks of already struggling Americans, and preventing people from making their own health care decisions.

The American people deserve better. Responsible health care reform should do better, that offers true health, job, financial, and personal security.

WORK TOGETHER ON BUDGET MATTERS

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

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, 17 days ago, I came to the House floor to talk about how disappointed I was that a topic of such importance, the medical device tax repeal or delay, was being reduced to the level of political squabbling over whether we are going to continue the function of the government, but here we go again. We are here again to vote on that same policy 17 days later, but we have further delved into the realm of pettiness because the Republican leadership continues to insist that our economy's future should be tied to whether Members of Congress, Cabinet members, the President, and our staffs should have the same health care insurance that other Federal employees receive.

I am surprised. Are we really going to keep the United States Government shut down and threaten the full faith and credit of our country based on whether Members of Congress, our staffs, and the President and Cabinet get the same health care that thousands of other Federal employees get? It is bordering on pettiness. It sounds so silly to be able to deal with this.

I was fortunate enough. I worked 23 years at a company at which they not only subsidized my health insurance, but they paid for my family's. Governments all over the country do that. The State of Texas, where I am proud to be from, pays for health insurance for State employees. The City of Houston has a health insurance plan for their employees that they help pay for. Harris County does it. All governments do that. Frankly, I represent a lot of petrochemical refineries and plants. Exxon, Shell, the ones who are serving our area, all of them have ''subsidies,'' as the Republicans call it, for the health care for their employees; and yet, on the floor of the House, we think it is a dirty word.

Our goal with the Affordable Care Act was to have everyone in the country have access to quality health care, not just because you got to work for the government or work for an Exxon or a Shell, which are great companies—everyone. So that was the goal of it. If you look at the national exchanges, if we ever get the computers fixed, we will see that. People will have the option to be able to have the same options that we have as Members of Congress or as Federal employees or that I had in the private business that I helped manage. That is what we are talking about.

But to put that in a continuing resolution to open up the government and to make it that you have to vote for this or we are not going to pay the TSA, who screens us when we go into the airport—they are working, but they are worried about getting their paychecks; so is the military; so are a lot of folks. But to make that the end-all, the be-all—I can't believe our forefathers and our veterans sacrificed for our country to make sure we have this freedom—to lower it to the level of we are not going to vote for this unless we can take away the President's health care or the Cabinet officials' or the Members of Congress'.

Our constituents expect us to act more responsibly. We should be ashamed of what this House of Representatives has come to over the last number of months, because we need to talk about making sure our country continues to grow. What is so sad is that, last week, some of us were briefed that every week of the government shutdown costs 0.3 percent of our gross domestic product. We want jobs, but here we are, 2 weeks and going on 3 weeks into the shutdown, and we are adding to that unemployment because of what the Federal Government is doing.

Again, we should be embarrassed at what the House of Representatives is doing. Let us pass a continuing resolution. Let us pay our debts that this House of Representatives has voted for.

Every appropriations bill, every dime of that $17 trillion passed this House of Representatives. Why would we not want to pay those debts? That is like my saying in Texas, Oh, I don't want to pay my house note. Well, maybe they will not come after me the first month, but under Texas law, in 90 days, you are going to get your house sold from under you if you don't pay your debts.

The Federal Government at various times has not paid its debts, one by technical glitch in 1979, but the last time we didn't pay our debts was when the British army burned the Treasury. I would hope this stance we have now is not compared to the British army burning our Treasury.

We need to pass a continuing resolution, deal with our budget, and make sure we don't hurt the full faith and credit of our country.

FUNDING FOR IMPACT AID SHOULD NEVER BE THREATENED

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

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent Texas' 25th District, home to Fort Hood, the Army's premier installation to train and deploy heavy forces, and one of the largest military installations in the world and the largest in America.

Fort Hood ranks highest in terms of future capability and can support and sustain more than 50,000 soldiers and their families. The communities surrounding Fort Hood provide outstanding support and resources to these men and women, especially to the school districts, which are responsible for educating the children of our troops and for the education of our kids in the future. For example, 50 percent of all students in Killeen's Independent School District are military kids. That is over 20,000 students, and they are still growing. Nearby, in Copperas Cove Independent School District, well over 8,000 students have a parent in the military.

This is why funding for Impact Aid should never be threatened, not even at a time when Washington is at a stalemate. These students should have access to the best and the brightest educational opportunities our Nation can provide. Our men and women in uniform should not have to worry about their children's education when they are facing potential deployment.

Mr. Speaker, being a part of a military family is not easy. It requires more sacrifice than most of us can fathom. I strongly urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle and in both Chambers of Congress to make good on our commitment to provide for our military and their families as we move forward.

In God we trust.

MOVING TOWARD A PLACE AMERICA SHOULD NOT BE

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, we are now on the precipice, moving toward a place that America should not be. I stood on this floor a few days ago and said, Mr. Speaker, we are facing a crisis; and for some, the argument is we haven't seen the market take a fall.

□ 1030

Let me suggest that we, as custodians of this great Nation—Members of the United States Congress—are like parents. Therefore, I ask any parent who is listening how long do they wait before they see a toddler fall, or do they leap toward that toddler so that they know the strength of that parent is always there.

We have an important challenge today. The headline of this newspaper says:

> Senate Leaders See Deal on the Horizon.

And so I make a plea today, Mr. Speaker, that our Republicans, however distracted they may be, join Democrats so that the Senate bill will be on the desk of our President today before midnight. We are parents holding onto America.

I remind my friends of the words of Abraham Lincoln in his first inaugural address:

> We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection.

We are close to breaking those bonds of affection because we have thrown the American people into a downward spiral. I hope that Members of Congress will join me on H. Res. 375 in which I have this House go on record to never, ever again tie a nongermane legislative matter into the budgeting process: ObamaCare.

The reasons are many. Oh, there is much talk about the challenges we are having with the technological infrastructure. I met with almost 40 members of navigators in my area. I will tell you, when I left the meeting, they were smiling and they were encouraged; they were ready to move forward. They know there are technological glitches, and we will fix those; but they also know there are stories that are important, such as ''ObamaCare Saved My Family from Financial Ruin,'' by Janine Reid:

> House Speaker Boehner and his Tea Party friends shut down the U.S. Government because of people like me. I am the mother of an insurance hog, someone who could have blown through his lifetime limit of health insurance by the time he was 14. My son has managed to survive despite seemingly insurmountable challenges, and he wears his preexisting condition like a Super Bowl ring. Mason, now 16, was probably born with his brain tumor.

It goes on to talk about, We discovered it 6 years ago through biopsies. Over and over again, he has had any number of surgeries until the point that he reached where he was reaching his lifetime caps. But yet Mason came up toward the Affordable Care Act, which lifted his lifetime caps. He is a young man now who plays basketball and argues with his siblings. ObamaCare saved Mason's life and will allow Mason to go forward.

Join in H. Res. 375, never again to be mired in the opposition of a legislative initiative that can go through regular order to be able to, in essence, stop and shut down the government.

This default, which can occur, which we shouldn't play with, some people are talking about it can be 2 weeks from now or we will pay the bondholders so other folk won't suffer. Watch my words: interest rates and mortgages go up; access to small loans, business loans will not be able to survive, and interest rates on credit cards. Working America will literally crumble before us.

I hope that we will take the words of Chaplain Black, a dear friend of all of ours and mine:

> Gracious God, we praise You that although we have merely a feeble hold on You, that You have a mighty grasp on us. Use Your mighty hands to lead our lawmakers to Your desired destination, making them instruments of truth and justice.

Mr. Speaker, there is a rum maker in Pittsburgh who was just getting his business together. After 2 years of work, he had lined up everything. He was ready to produce legally good rum in Pittsburgh, Maggie's Farm Rum. He was shut down because he could not get ATF, Alcohol and Tobacco, to come forward and be able to help him.

Mr. Speaker, the impact is egregious and horrific, and what I would just simply say to you is don't listen to those who are saying it is going to be okay. We have lost $22 billion already. I am asking—I am pleading—to put the Senate bill on the floor, to waive the rules and vote on this. Put it on the President's desk tonight. Don't let Fitch, S&P and others send us downhill. This is a great country. This is a great Nation, and we deserve to show America that we care for them.

SHUTDOWN AND DEFAULT

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

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, we are now 16 days into a government shutdown and standing on the precipice of defaulting on our debt. Families around the country are worrying if they will be able to pay their water bills, but the Members' gym has stayed open during the government shutdown so my colleagues can live rent free in their offices and use the gym to shower and shave.

One of my colleagues who is using his office as a Holiday Inn has nearly 43,000 households on SNAP in his district. These people don't have the option of curling up in a government building or

getting dinner at a congressional reception to cut costs, but my colleague does. The only inconvenience for him is that his office doesn't have a kitchen, so he stocks his office annex with a crock pot, an electric griddle, a microwave, a toaster, and a refrigerator. He told CBS News:

> You can put some frozen chicken in with some bouillon, some vegetables. Let it simmer all day, and you are ready to rock and roll.

Mr. Speaker, the U.S. economy is not ready to rock and roll as long as Congress refuses to pay the government's bills. American small businesses are not ready to rock and roll when the markets worry that we will default and not pay the bills that we have already incurred. The American people are not ready to rock and roll when they don't know when the government will reopen to provide them with the services that they have already paid for but are not receiving.

The House of Representatives is not a campsite. It is embarrassing that Americans have been kicked out of Yosemite and national parks across the country; yet Members sleep in their offices that taxpayers foot the bill for.

As bad as this government shutdown is, however, the debate over the debt ceiling is taking this dysfunction nuclear. A default would bring on an economic catastrophe that would cost Americans who have been prudent with their money, paying their debts and investing in their 401(k)s, billions of dollars in lost value in their investments, in their homes, in their jobs, and in increased lending rates.

Every American in this country knows that every Member of the House of Representatives makes four times the amount of money than they do. We are paid to come up with solutions for the American people, not to sabotage their 401(k)s.

This is what Warren Buffett said last week about trying to use the debt ceiling as a political ploy:

> It should be like nuclear bombs, basically too horrible to use.

In military terms, it is known as MAD, mutually assured destruction. Some on the other side of the aisle seem intent on pushing the button and sending our economy into a nuclear winter. Debt ceiling deniers have now emerged, espousing the belief that the debt ceiling is a figment of our imagination, that it is a part of a liberal agenda to get them to the negotiating table: We are not going to default, there is no default. Or: We shouldn't accept this as the date beyond which we can't go without what they call default. We can go a long time. We can go indefinitely without hitting default, says another.

Mr. Speaker, a reckless faction of your party is not only holding your caucus hostage; it is holding the American people and the global economy hostage. Calling the dealings with this faction as ''negotiating'' is absurd. The reality is there is no negotiating with this reckless faction, which seems bent on the destruction of the American economy and the full faith and credit of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, these Members who are sleeping in their offices should be thinking of all of the Americans who will be sleeping in the streets if this reckless Republican faction gets its way.

THE EXTEND NOT CUT SNAP BENEFITS ACT OF 2013

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

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the opportunity to rise and address my colleagues.

On November 1, households participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, popularly referred to as SNAP, will see their monthly benefits sharply reduced. The temporary benefit boost provided for in the 2009 American Reinvestment and Recovery Act is scheduled to expire next month, leaving many Americans unsure of how they will put food on the table. The November 1 cut will exacerbate the problem of hunger in our Nation and make it much harder for millions of Americans—fathers, mothers, children, veterans, and Active Duty military even—to provide for their loved ones.

The benefit increase passed in the depths of the Great Recession has provided Americans, both directly and indirectly, with substantial benefits. Low-income families who face unemployment and underemployment are provided a critical way to bridge the financial barriers they face. Americans who are employed in adequate-paying jobs are able to remain so because of the boost to the economy; $9 is added to the GDP for every $5 in SNAP benefits that the program provides. These cuts will come at a moment when Americans are ill prepared to afford them. The loss of SNAP will not just mean empty tables for Thanksgiving for millions. It will mean, as well, a weaker economy, now even as the effects of our prolonged shutdown and debt ceiling brinksmanship are beginning to erode economic progress. This cut in benefits will simply push the American economy into a vicious cycle which we simply cannot afford at this time.

So I am urging my colleagues to avoid exacerbating the effects of this government shutdown and the potential default of government debts, and I am calling on them to support my bill, H.R. 3108, the Extend Not Cut SNAP Benefits Act, which provides for a 1-year extension of the 13 percent benefits increase contained in the ARRA through the 2014 fiscal year.

I am proud to proclaim 43 cosponsors so far.

In 2011, SNAP lifted 4.7 million Americans above the poverty line, including 2.1 million children. Without an extension of the 2009 Recovery Act's temporary boost to SNAP, our economy will be the worse, and our children will face a hunger they do not deserve to confront alone. So I urge my colleagues to continue the support of H.R. 3108 and ensure that Americans are not cut off at the worst possible time.

Rep. Bordallo, Madeleine Z. [GU]—9/18/2013
Rep. Brown, Corrine [FL–5]—9/18/2013
Rep. Capuano, Michael E. [MA–7]—9/27/2013
Rep. Cicilline, David N. [RI–1]—9/20/2013
Rep. Clarke, Yvette D. [NY–9]—9/18/2013
Rep. Clay, Wm. Lacy [MO–1]—9/18/2013
Rep. Cohen, Steve [TN–9]—9/20/2013
Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [VA–11]—9/18/2013
Rep. Davis, Danny K. [IL–7]—10/3/2013
Rep. Doyle, Michael F. [PA–14]—9/20/2013
Rep. Ellison, Keith [MN–5]—9/18/2013
Rep. Fudge, Marcia L. [OH–11]—9/18/2013
Rep. Green, Al [TX–9]—10/8/2013
Rep. Green, Gene [TX–29]—9/18/2013
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [AZ–3]—9/18/2013
Rep. Honda, Michael M. [CA–17]—9/20/2013
Rep. Huffman, Jared [CA–2]—9/20/2013
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [TX–18]—9/18/2013
Rep. Johnson, Eddie Bernice [TX–30]—9/18/2013
Rep. Langevin, James R. [RI–2]—9/20/2013
Rep. Lee, Barbara [CA–13]—9/17/2013
Rep. Lewis, John [GA–5]—9/18/2013
Rep. McGovern, James P. [MA–2]—9/18/2013
Rep. Moore, Gwen [WI–4]—9/18/2013
Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [NY–1]—9/18/2013
Rep. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [DC]—9/18/2013
Rep. Pingree, Chellie [ME–1]—9/18/2013
Rep. Pocan, Mark [WI–2]—10/8/2013
Rep. Rangel, Charles B. [NY–13]—9/18/2013
Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [IL–1]—9/18/2013
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [IL–9]—9/27/2013
Rep. Serrano, José E. [NY–15]—9/18/2013
Rep. Shea-Porter, Carol [NH–1]—10/3/2013
Rep. Slaughter, Louise McIntosh [NY–25]—9/27/2013
Rep. Smith, Adam [WA–9]—9/20/2013
Rep. Takano, Mark [CA–41]—10/8/2013
Rep. Thompson, Bennie G. [MS–2]—10/8/2013
Rep. Titus, Dina [NV–1]—9/18/2013
Rep. Vargas, Juan [CA–51]—9/18/2013
Rep. Vela, Filemon [TX–34]—10/10/2013
Rep. Waters, Maxine [CA–43]—9/20/2013
Rep. Welch, Peter [VT]—10/4/2013
Rep. Wilson, Frederica S. [FL–24]—10/8/2013

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 43 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 Reverend Dr. Kurt Gerhard, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, Washington, DC, offered the following prayer:

Sovereign Lord, who binds all people of every nation together as one people, in this era of our country when we are defined by our differences and these

differences cause a great chasm, filled with distrust, to exist between Members of this House and between the branches of this Republic, provide the wisdom to approach this session of the 113th United States Congress with a hermeneutic of generosity toward the motives of those with a differing philosophy of government.

Open the hearts of the men and women elected to represent the American people so that fruitful conversations and compromises will allow this august body to serve the common good.

Help us be mindful of our unity, and bless this country and all nations and people now and forever. This we ask in Your Holy Name.

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. WILSON of South Carolina. 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. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina 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.

AMERICA DESERVES A DELAY IN OBAMACARE

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

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, America is at a crossroads. We have a decision to make. Do we continue down the path of more government, more spending, more taxes, and more borrowing; or do we stand up and fight for the ideals promoted by those who founded our Nation and drafted our Constitution?

Make no mistake about it, the current government shutdown and the looming debt crisis is the result of this administration and this Senate's refusal to respect and honor the will of the American people. We must stand up for our principles that lead to prosperity for all Americans. Less government, less spending, and the simple idea that delaying ObamaCare for 1 year is fair for all Americans and is worth fighting for.

I urge our House leadership and my colleagues to stand strong and to have what many of my Senate colleagues do not: the courage to oppose any deal that does not defund and delay ObamaCare for all Americans now.

DEFAULT WOULD HAVE PROFOUND IMPACT

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, if Congress does not meet its responsibilities, tomorrow the United States Treasury will have $31 billion in revenues and $52 billion in obligations. At that point, the United States would default, with a profound impact on the global markets, which are structured on the premise that U.S. Treasury bonds are the safest asset in the world. The stock market will tank, and interest rates will spike.

Earlier this year, House Republicans passed a budget that spent $800 billion more than it took in. The logical consequence of that is to raise the debt ceiling. For the other side to use America's national credit as leverage is shameful, as shameful as Members protesting the closure of the World War II Memorial when they are the ones who voted to close it.

Austerity and uncertainty kill economic growth. There is not an example in human history where an economy has grown itself out of a recession through austerity. Moving from crisis to crisis, as Congress has done in the last 3 years, has cost the American economy 900,000 jobs.

Enough. Reject austerity. End uncertainty and open the government, and pass a debt limit bill.

OBAMACARE NOT READY FOR PRIME TIME

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last night I hosted a teletown hall with constituents across South Carolina's Second Congressional District. Apart from the vast majority calling for the President and Democrats in the Senate to negotiate with House Republicans to end the shutdown, an overwhelming number of constituents expressed concern about the administration's disastrous ObamaCare roll-out.

During its first week, 9.47 million Americans visited the government Web site, but only 36,000 were able to complete the enrollment due to glitches. Former White House press secretary Robert Gibbs has stated this is ''excruciatingly embarrassing for the White House,'' and he hopes ''they fire some people that were in charge of making sure this thing was supposed to work.''

Secretary Kathleen Sebelius has failed, spending hundreds of millions of dollars. House Republicans have warned that the unaffordable, unsustainable health care law is not ready. The President, himself, has admitted this by delaying key components. Congress must continue to work to replace it with a plan to preserve the doctor-patient relationship.

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

NO MORE DAMAGING TACTICS

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

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, the House of Representatives has put this country through a spectacle these past few months; and it was a spectacle that was based on the proposition that it was legitimate to actually have a discussion about whether we had to pay our bills.

Mercifully, we are on the threshold of a bipartisan agreement whereby, number one, the Affordable Care Act will be the law of the land, and the debate in the future is not about its repeal; it is about improving it. It is about facing the challenges of implementation. Number two, we are repudiating as legitimate tactics to get your way, by any faction—it could be Democrats in the future—the use of tactics that do damage, threatening to default on our obligations and shutting down the government and inflicting pain on innocent people.

So this struggle has damaged the institution, but the principles that were at stake are now resolved: one, the Affordable Care Act is the law of the land; two, you cannot use the tactic of shutdown or the tactic of default as a way to get your way on your agenda.

EXCESSIVE GOVERNMENT SPENDING

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

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because we have a problem in the United States of America; that is, we spend too much. Nobody on my

side of the aisle says let's not pay our bills; but we do say, just like every family does when their credit card bill comes and it is a little higher than they expect, well, let's see how we can maybe save some money. Cut up the credit cards and maybe find a way to bring in some more money.

Mr. Speaker, we can bring in more money with economic growth and economic development. Curtailing things that are killing economic development, like the President's health care plan and excessive regulation, must be stopped. We have to stop spending, and we have to increase our revenue by growing our economy.

MERCY FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, over the past 16 days, many of us have risen to this floor and pleaded with our friends on the other side of the aisle and asked for mercy, not mercy for our individual selves as Members of Congress, but mercy for the American people, for the 800,000 over the past 16 days who have lost their jobs in furloughs, for the $300 million a day that this Nation has lost. This is the very answer to those who are suggesting that we are spending too much money, Mr. Speaker: we have lost money.

But today I come humbly to plead with my friends to do as the Chaplain mentioned this morning, to have a generosity of spirit and recognize that we can come together. Let the voices of common sense recognize that States like Mississippi, Louisiana, Arizona, South Dakota, Missouri, Texas, New Mexico, Montana, Georgia, New York, and Wyoming—States that represent so many—are losing so much because they get the most money from this Nation.

Then let us recognize Juanita Davis with little Tu'Nita, 10 days old, who is fearful that her WIC money, Women, Infant, and Children money, in the State of Texas is running out. I am pleading that we come together with common sense and generosity of spirit and put this bill on the President's desk.

SPINNING GOP WHEEL OF MISFORTUNE

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

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, once again the GOP has threatened the full faith and credit of the United States. Rejecting all warnings from top economists and business leaders, some of my Republican colleagues have actually claimed that default would be good for our economy; but the truth is, when you spin the GOP wheel of misfortune, everyone loses.

How would a GOP default that deprives seniors of Social Security checks be good for our economy? How would a GOP default that pits foreign investors against America's disabled veterans be good for our country? How could ruining the U.S. Treasury bond status as the world's safest asset and hiking interest rates on American families be good for our economy? How could stopping payments for the doctors and nurses who care for Medicare beneficiaries be good for our economy?

Mr. Speaker, the answer is that it can't be. The Treasury can't pick and choose which commitments to honor, nor should it have to.

When you spin the GOP wheel of misfortune, there are only losers. Americans are disgusted when reckless games are played with our economic future. Be responsible, finally. Today, vote to reopen the government and prevent a default.

PRESIDENT'S HEALTH CARE PLAN IS BROKEN

(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, the President's health care plan is broken. Let me read from some of the letters and communications my office is getting from around my district.

Mike and Pat in Queen Anne's County write:

> Mr. Harris, my daughter's health care premium just rose $648 a year thanks to the Affordable Care Act. Don't you or other Republicans give up the fight.

Cindy from Talbot County writes:

> I have just discovered that I can't keep the medical insurance I have had for many years as it no longer exists thanks to ObamaCare. Even though I am 58 years old, I must pay for maternity benefits and pediatric dentistry when I have no child under 19. I get an increased deductible and a premium increase of $143 a month. What a mess that needs to be fixed and in a hurry.

Finally, Lorraine from Queen Anne's County writes that, in tears, she called our office. She was told by her insurer that her premium was just increased $256 a month. Her total payment that she and her husband now are going to pay is $956 a month, and her insurer told her that it went up because of ObamaCare.

Mr. Speaker, the President's health care plan is broken.

JUST HOURS REMAIN UNTIL NATION DEFAULTS

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

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you on this, the 16th day of the shutdown, with just hours remaining until our Nation defaults. The only way to end this crisis is for Members on both sides of the aisle to come together and take bipartisan action today. We need to do our job, and we must act responsibly. The Senate has a bipartisan plan, and we should take it up immediately.

At home and across the Nation, the people we represent are facing harsh consequences: from the couple being denied a loan for their first home, to the Head Start kids whose school doors are shut, to the businesses with lost sales because national parks are closed, to the Border Patrol agent who can't pay his mortgage because his full paycheck hasn't come.

Mr. Speaker, we must vote for commonsense solutions. We must end this shutdown. We must restore faith in the United States of America, and we must restore faith in this, the people's House.

□ 1215

OBAMACARE

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

Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, we are all getting calls in our offices as to the impact of ObamaCare on average Americans. Here is an example from just this morning:

A female, aged 23, making below the D.C. poverty level per year. She currently pays $94 a month for her health care insurance. She went on the ObamaCare Web site just to find out that it would cost her $250 a month, with a $6,000 deductible.

Folks, the impact of ObamaCare on average Americans is why ObamaCare should be a part of this spending-and-debt debate here in Washington.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise with a sense of cautious optimism that we are nearing the end of this financial crisis. Our colleagues in the Senate are showing all of us that we can have disagreements on the issues and still work together to find common ground to tackle the challenges facing our Nation.

After so many weeks of this painful and unnecessary Federal Government shutdown, I urge all of my colleagues in the House to come together to support the commonsense, bipartisan Reid-McConnell proposal emerging from the Senate.

The past few weeks have taken away valuable time and attention from the many challenges facing our country. Once we reopen the government and avoid default, I hope that all of us will redirect our energies toward building consensus on solutions for comprehensive immigration reform, rebuilding our roads, bridges and ports, growing our economy, reducing our debt in a responsible way, and, most urgently, promoting job creation.

I hope every Member of this House will commit themselves to getting back to the work we were sent here to do and delivering real results for our constituents.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. BERA of California. Mr. Speaker, it is day 16, and I am cautiously optimistic that the shutdown ends today and that we begin to restore the full faith and credit of our Nation.

Let's get this done. First, let's open the government today. Second, let's pay our bills and make sure that the world knows America always pays its bills. Most importantly, now is the time for us to come together and put a real budget together, a budget that brings Democrats and Republicans together, the best ideas out of both parties, and really begins to deal with the debt. We need a budget that begins to strengthen Social Security and Medicare for today's seniors, but also the next generation of seniors, and a budget that begins to create jobs and restores the middle class in America.

Let's work together as Democrats and Republicans to put the American people first. We now have that opportunity.

OBAMACARE

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the basic concept of fairness.

In July, the Obama administration announced that it would be providing Big Business a 1-year reprieve from having to comply with ObamaCare. The White House indicated that this decision was made to give employers time to adjust to what the Federal Government was about to impose on them: cover your employees with plans that have been blessed by Washington, or be fined.

It was a stunning move, a move some have said was an admission that either ObamaCare wasn't ready for prime time or that it was a political calculation that employers offloading their employees' health insurance would not be rewarded in the 2014 elections. The other possibility is that delaying the employer mandate was simply the fair thing to do.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask the President that if the delay is good enough for Big Business, wouldn't it also be fair to delay the individual mandate that every American must comply with, or be fined?

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, the time is long overdue for us to put an end to this government shutdown and the tremendously harmful effects it has had on the people in our great Nation.

We need to get behind the Senate's reasonable, bipartisan plan that has been put together to open up our government, pay our bills, and put an end to this shutdown.

Failure, by the way, means that 5 million disabled veterans won't receive their benefits in November. Failure means that 10 million Americans won't receive their Social Security checks on October 23, and 26 million more people will not get their Social Security checks on November 1. Failure means $36,000 in additional interest on an average home loan and an additional $1,000 on an average student loan. Failure means hundreds of thousands of public employees won't get paid, with the businesses and the jobs and the people they serve being at enormous risk.

Mr. Speaker, the simple truth is that we need to end this government shutdown and stop the harm and damage it is causing.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, it appears a negotiated proposal that is bipartisan will come to a vote before this House today to end the government shutdown and avert a debt default. The American people surely are looking for reassurance that their government will offer them the security and dependability that they expect.

Our citizens expect a Nation that is confident and certain, not unsteady and uncertain. With the expectation that this compromise from the Senate will now be brought before the House, the Dow today already is up 200 points. That is what America wants—a growing economy, job creation here at home, a government run efficiently as part of a larger whole in which we all have a stake. As our Nation grows itself out of the deepest recession in modern history, the least any Member can do is do no harm.

A working bipartisan majority here in this House holds the power to govern this Nation. All it needs is the will. Frankly, the world depends on the certainty of the U.S. dollar. Let's get back to regular order. America's challenge is to grow our economy and the jobs that go with it.

Mr. Speaker, let's vote to end the shutdown today, pay our bills, and get America back to work for the American people. It is overtime.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, while I hope today is the last day of the senseless government shutdown, I want to share a part of a letter from one of my constituents, Lindsay Smith, a medical student and 2nd lieutenant in the Air Force's Health Professions Scholarship Program.

She writes:

> On October 15, I woke up anxious. I took a shower, ate breakfast, and right before I left for class, I held my breath and checked my bank account—no deposit.
>
> I am not getting paid during this ridiculous government shutdown game of chicken. Today, I got to call my electric and cell phone providers to ask for an extension of my mid-month bills. Ensuring I eat has become the most pressing issue in my life.
>
> I wish more than anything that I could share my story with those Members of Congress who are keeping this stupid shutdown charade going. The Affordable Care Act has passed all three levels of government. That's how democracy works.
>
> Because our elected representatives couldn't think about the big picture and in light of the Republican Party agenda to block anything and everything coming out of the Oval Office, thousands of Federal employees and non-Active Duty military members are having to make the choice between eating and paying bills.
>
> The pettiness is messing up people's lives, the people who support and defend you. You should be endlessly ashamed of yourselves.

Thank you, Lieutenant Smith, for letting us know and for reminding us of the impact of our actions on real lives.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, in New Hampshire and across our country, we continue to see how congressional dysfunction is damaging our economy.

The other day, I had a telephone town hall to talk with my constituents about how to end this gridlock. I spoke with Nelson in Columbia, New Hampshire, a veteran who fought for our freedom in World War II. All he asked is that Republicans and Democrats stop fighting with each other.

If we do not end this shutdown soon, on November 1, veterans like Nelson will not receive over $6 billion in pension, education, and other benefits they have earned. If we do not act now, we will fail to pay our bills and will default on all of our obligations. This is obviously unacceptable to the American people and to our economy.

Every day this shutdown continues is a day that Congress does not focus on growing the economy, fostering job creation, and expanding opportunity for the middle class.

It is long past time for Republicans and Democrats to come together, and that is why I am proud to be a founding member of United Solutions, a group of new Members who is working together and will vote today to reopen our government, pay our bills, and move our country forward.

PROTEIN SCIENCES

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

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, this shutdown is hurting families and businesses in my district and across the country. It must end.

Protein Sciences in Meriden is a prime example of the many cutting-edge businesses driving economic development in central Connecticut. Their mission is of critical importance to the entire Nation. For the last 30 years, they have been developing and producing lifesaving vaccines to treat and prevent a variety of diseases.

The FDA previously approved Protein Sciences' Flublok vaccine for 18- to 49-year-olds, calling it a ''landmark in influenza vaccine history.'' But with FDA officials and employees now on furlough, Protein Sciences can't get approval for their revolutionary flu vaccine for Americans 50 years and older, increasing the chance that the vaccine won't be available for next year's flu season. The FDA and Protein Sciences can't fulfill their mission of saving lives because of the irresponsible shutdown.

Mr. Speaker, let's come together to end this shutdown today to give businesses in all of our districts certainty and to ensure that businesses like Protein Sciences can get back to their work of keeping our families healthy and of saving lives.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, as the ranking member on the Joint Economic Committee, I would like to call your attention to this recent report. It is subtitled, ''Ten Ways the Shutdown is Hurting the Economy.''

Its findings are rather sobering.

The report makes it clear that the shutdown acts as a serious drag on our economy. Economists have testified before the committee that 3 or 4 weeks of a shutdown would reduce the country's gross domestic product by 1.4 percentage points. We are now entering the third week.

The shutdown harms not only Federal workers, but also the private sector. If it persists, it will reduce tourism revenue, cause contractors to lay off employees; the housing market will suffer, and public health services will feel its effects. The shutdown hurts everyone, from vulnerable mothers and children to ranchers, farmers, and agricultural exporters.

We are close to ending this crisis, and as the JEC points out in this report, it could not end faster. It is hurting our economy.

TIME FOR SOLUTIONS

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, $17 trillion is our national debt. $800 billion is how much we spend more than we take in. We pay $280 billion a year just on interest payments on the money that we borrow. Those are the real numbers, and that is why House Republicans have spent much of these past 2 weeks talking about debt, deficits, and Federal spending.

House Republicans know what is driving America's debt. It is our reckless spending by legislators here in Washington. The American people know this, too. A recent Bloomberg poll found that 61 percent of Americans think it is right to include spending cuts with a debt limit increase.

This is not just a Republican problem. Vice President JOE BIDEN, while serving in the Senate, protested against adding to America's debt without ''taking positive steps to slow its growth.''

Mr. Speaker, that is what this debate has been about, and we will continue to work hard to make that happen.

□ 1230

WE MUST STAY OUR COURSE

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

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, Day 16 of the shutdown; 1 day to the debt limit deadline. The question is: Are we close to a resolution?

We have to stay the course. On October 5, by a unanimous vote of 407–0 in this House, we passed retroactive pay for all Federal workers. On October 8, by a unanimous vote of 420–0 in this House, we passed pay for the essential workers. The Federal workers will be paid, so the people cannot be forced to suffer anymore. That is just common sense.

Mr. Speaker, we must keep our course on the resolution, on the default. An example in Hawaii: 217,678 seniors and disabled workers rely on Medicare. What would happen to them if a default were to occur?

We must stay our course, Mr. Speaker. We must have a resolution. We must vote for the people of this great Nation.

DAY 16 OF THE REPUBLICAN GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, day 16 of the Republican government shutdown: children across the country are being turned away from Head Start educational services; our small businesses are seeing a loss in demand for their services; and local economies are suffering. Americans are finding it harder to finance the purchase of a new home, placing a damper on the housing market, a cornerstone of our national economy. In New York, alone, 50,000 workers are furloughed, holding back on purchases that will help stimulate our local economy.

Now we approach another deadline and the possible default of the Federal debt. Allowing this to happen will be the height of Republican irresponsibility, causing havoc in our capital markets and costing American jobs.

All of this could end today if our colleagues would simply allow a vote. Stop playing political games. We need to reopen the government and pay the bills Congress previously authorized.

Mr. Speaker, the American people have seen enough. The time for talk is over. Let's vote to end this today.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SIGNIFICANT NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS CENTERED IN COLOMBIA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 113–66)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas) laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1622(d), provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia declared in Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995, is to continue in effect beyond October 21, 2013.

The circumstances that led to the declaration on October 21, 1995, of a national emergency have not been resolved. The actions of significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States and to cause an extreme level of violence, corruption, and harm in the United States and abroad. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive

Order 12978 with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia.

BARACK OBAMA.
THE WHITE HOUSE, *October 16, 2013.*

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 34 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 2120

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) at 9 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 16, 2013.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on October 16, 2013 at 8:59 p.m.:

That the Senate passed with amendments H.R. 2775.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

PERMISSION TO FILE REPORT ON H.R. 3080, WATER RESOURCES REFORM AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2013

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure have until 5 p.m. on Monday, October 21, 2013, to file a report to accompany H.R. 3080.

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

There was no objection.

MAKING IN ORDER CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 2775, NO SUBSIDIES WITHOUT VERIFICATION ACT

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order at any time to take from the Speaker's table H.R. 2775, with the Senate amendments thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a single motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendments; that the Senate amendments and the motion be considered as read; that the motion be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations; and that the previous question be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question.

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

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Reserving the right to object, Madam Speaker, I wanted to advise my colleagues that we support this request on this side of the aisle.

With that, I withdraw my reservation.

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

There was no objection.

NO SUBSIDIES WITHOUT VERIFICATION ACT

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the previous order of the House, I call up the bill, (H.R. 2775) to condition the provision of premium and cost-sharing subsidies under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act upon a certification that a program to verify household income and other qualifications for such subsidies is operational, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendments thereto, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the Senate amendments.

The Clerk designated the Senate amendments.

Senate amendments:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

The following sums are hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and out of applicable corporate or other revenues, receipts, and funds, for the several departments, agencies, corporations, and other organizational units of Government for fiscal year 2014, and for other purposes, namely:

DIVISION A—CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014

SEC. 101. (a) Such amounts as may be necessary, at a rate for operations as provided in the applicable appropriations Acts for fiscal year 2013 and under the authority and conditions provided in such Acts, for continuing projects or activities (including the costs of direct loans and loan guarantees) that are not otherwise specifically provided for in this joint resolution, that were conducted in fiscal year 2013, and for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were made available in the following appropriations Acts:

(1) The Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2013 (division A of Public Law 113–6), except section 735.

(2) The Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2013 (division B of Public Law 113–6).

(3) The Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2013 (division C of Public Law 113–6).

(4) The Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2013 (division D of Public Law 113–6).

(5) The Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2013 (division E of Public Law 113–6).

(6) The Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013 (division F of Public Law 113–6).

(b) The rate for operations provided by subsection (a) for each account shall be calculated to reflect the full amount of any reduction required in fiscal year 2013 pursuant to—

(1) any provision of division G of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013 (Public Law 113–6), including section 3004; and

(2) the Presidential sequestration order dated March 1, 2013, except as attributable to budget authority made available by—

(A) sections 140(b) or 141(b) of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013 (Public Law 112–175); or

(B) the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013 (Public Law 113–2).

SEC. 102. (a) No appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 for the Department of Defense shall be used for: (1) the new production of items not funded for production in fiscal year 2013 or prior years; (2) the increase in production rates above those sustained with fiscal year 2013 funds; or (3) the initiation, resumption, or continuation of any project, activity, operation, or organization (defined as any project, subproject, activity, budget activity, program element, and subprogram within a program element, and for any investment items defined as a P–1 line item in a budget activity within an appropriation account and an R–1 line item that includes a program element and subprogram element within an appropriation account) for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were not available during fiscal year 2013.

(b) No appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 for the Department of Defense shall be used to initiate multi-year procurements utilizing advance procurement funding for economic order quantity procurement unless specifically appropriated later.

SEC. 103. Appropriations made by section 101 shall be available to the extent and in the manner that would be provided by the pertinent appropriations Act.

SEC. 104. Except as otherwise provided in section 102, no appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 shall be used to initiate or resume any project or activity for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were not available during fiscal year 2013.

SEC. 105. Appropriations made and authority granted pursuant to this joint resolution shall cover all obligations or expenditures incurred for any project or activity during the period for which funds or authority for such project or activity are available under this joint resolution.

SEC. 106. Unless otherwise provided for in this joint resolution or in the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2014, appropriations and funds made available and authority granted pursuant to this joint resolution shall be available until whichever of the following first occurs: (1) the enactment into law of an appropriation for any project or activity provided for in this joint resolution; (2) the enactment into law of the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2014 without any provision for such project or activity; or (3) January 15, 2014.

SEC. 107. Expenditures made pursuant to this joint resolution shall be charged to the applicable appropriation, fund, or authorization whenever a bill in which such applicable appropriation, fund, or authorization is contained is enacted into law.

SEC. 108. Appropriations made and funds made available by or authority granted pursuant to this joint resolution may be used without regard to the time limitations for submission and approval of apportionments set forth in section 1513 of title 31, United States Code, but nothing in this joint resolution may be construed to waive any other provision of law governing the apportionment of funds.

SEC. 109. Notwithstanding any other provision of this joint resolution, except section 106, for those programs that would otherwise have high initial rates of operation or complete distribution of appropriations at the beginning of fiscal year 2014 because of distributions of funding to States, foreign countries, grantees, or others, such high initial rates of operation or complete distribution shall not be made, and no grants shall be awarded for such programs funded by this joint resolution that would impinge on final funding prerogatives.

SEC. 110. This joint resolution shall be implemented so that only the most limited funding action of that permitted in the joint resolution shall be taken in order to provide for continuation of projects and activities.

SEC. 111. (a) For entitlements and other mandatory payments whose budget authority was provided in appropriations Acts for fiscal year 2013, and for activities under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, activities shall be continued at the rate to maintain program levels under current law, under the authority and conditions provided in the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2013, to be continued through the date specified in section 106(3).

(b) Notwithstanding section 106, obligations for mandatory payments due on or about the first day of any month that begins after October 2013 but not later than 30 days after the date specified in section 106(3) may continue to be made, and funds shall be available for such payments.

SEC. 112. Amounts made available under section 101 for civilian personnel compensation and benefits in each department and agency may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to avoid furloughs within such department or agency, consistent with the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2013, except that such authority provided under this section shall not be used until after the department or agency has taken all necessary actions to reduce or defer non-personnel-related administrative expenses.

SEC. 113. Funds appropriated by this joint resolution may be obligated and expended notwithstanding section 10 of Public Law 91–672 (22 U.S.C. 2412), section 15 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2680), section 313 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995 (22 U.S.C. 6212), and section 504(a)(1) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3094(a)(1)).

SEC. 114. (a) Each amount incorporated by reference in this joint resolution that was previously designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 or as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of such Act is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of such Act or as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of such Act, respectively.

(b) Of the amounts made available by section 101 for ''Social Security Administration, Limitation on Administrative Expenses'' for the cost associated with continuing disability reviews under titles II and XVI of the Social Security Act and for the cost associated with conducting redeterminations of eligibility under title XVI of the Social Security Act, $273,000,000 is provided to meet the terms of section 251(b)(2)(B)(ii)(III) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, and $469,639,000 is additional new budget authority specified for purposes of section 251(b)(2)(B) of such Act.

(c) Section 5 of Public Law 113–6 shall apply to amounts designated in subsection (a) for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism.

SEC. 115. (a) Employees furloughed as a result of any lapse in appropriations which begins on or about October 1, 2013, shall be compensated at their standard rate of compensation, for the period of such lapse in appropriations, as soon as practicable after such lapse in appropriations ends.

(b) For purposes of this section, ''employee'' means:

(1) a federal employee;

(2) an employee of the District of Columbia Courts;

(3) an employee of the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia; or

(4) a District of Columbia Government employee.

(c) All obligations incurred in anticipation of the appropriations made and authority granted by this joint resolution for the purposes of maintaining the essential level of activity to protect life and property and bringing about orderly termination of Government functions, and for purposes as otherwise authorized by law, are hereby ratified and approved if otherwise in accord with the provisions of this joint resolution.

SEC. 116. (a) If a State (or another Federal grantee) used State funds (or the grantee's non-Federal funds) to continue carrying out a Federal program or furloughed State employees (or the grantee's employees) whose compensation is advanced or reimbursed in whole or in part by the Federal Government—

(1) such furloughed employees shall be compensated at their standard rate of compensation for such period;

(2) the State (or such other grantee) shall be reimbursed for expenses that would have been paid by the Federal Government during such period had appropriations been available, including the cost of compensating such furloughed employees, together with interest thereon calculated under section 6503(d) of title 31, United States Code; and

(3) the State (or such other grantee) may use funds available to the State (or the grantee) under such Federal program to reimburse such State (or the grantee), together with interest thereon calculated under section 6503(d) of title 31, United States Code.

(b) For purposes of this section, the term ''State'' and the term ''grantee'' shall have the meaning as such term is defined under the applicable Federal program under subsection (a). In addition, ''to continue carrying out a Federal program'' means the continued performance by a State or other Federal grantee, during the period of a lapse in appropriations, of a Federal program that the State or such other grantee had been carrying out prior to the period of the lapse in appropriations.

(c) The authority under this section applies with respect to any period in fiscal year 2014 (not limited to periods beginning or ending after the date of the enactment of this joint resolution) during which there occurs a lapse in appropriations with respect to any department or agency of the Federal Government which, but for such lapse in appropriations, would have paid, or made reimbursement relating to, any of the expenses referred to in this section with respect to the program involved. Payments and reimbursements under this authority shall be made only to the extent and in amounts provided in advance in appropriations Acts.

SEC. 117. Expenditures made pursuant to the Pay Our Military Act (Public Law 113–39) shall be charged to the applicable appropriation, fund, or authorization provided in this joint resolution.

SEC. 118. For the purposes of this joint resolution, the time covered by this joint resolution shall be considered to have begun on October 1, 2013.

SEC. 119. Section 3003 of division G of Public Law 113–6 shall be applied to funds appropriated by this joint resolution by substituting ''fiscal year 2014'' for ''fiscal year 2013'' each place it appears.

SEC. 120. Section 408 of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1736b) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution for ''December 31, 2012''.

SEC. 121. Amounts made available under section 101 for ''Department of Commerce—National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—Procurement, Acquisition and Construction'' may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to maintain the planned launch schedules for the Joint Polar Satellite System and the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite system.

SEC. 122. The authority provided by sections 1205 and 1206 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (Public Law 112–81) shall continue in effect, notwithstanding subsection (h) of section 1206, through the earlier of the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution or the date of the enactment of an Act authorizing appropriations for fiscal year 2014 for military activities of the Department of Defense.

SEC. 123. Section 3(a)(6) of Public Law 100–676 is amended by striking both occurrences of ''$775,000,000'' and inserting in lieu thereof, ''$2,918,000,000''.

SEC. 124. Section 14704 of title 40, United States Code, shall be applied to amounts made available by this joint resolution by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution for ''October 1, 2012''.

SEC. 125. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for ''The Judiciary—Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services—Salaries and Expenses'' at a rate of operations of $4,820,181,000: Provided, That notwithstanding section 302 of Division C, of Public Law 112–74 as continued by Public Law 113–6, not to exceed $25,000,000 shall be available for transfer between accounts to maintain minimum operating levels.

SEC. 126. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for ''The Judiciary—Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services—Defender Services'' at a rate for operations of $1,012,000,000.

SEC. 127. Notwithstanding any other provision of this joint resolution, the District of Columbia may expend local funds under the heading ''District of Columbia Funds'' for such programs and activities under title IV of H.R. 2786 (113th Congress), as reported by the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, at the rate set forth under ''District of Columbia Funds—Summary of Expenses'' as included in the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Request Act of 2013 (D.C. Act 20–127), as modified as of the date of the enactment of this joint resolution.

SEC. 128. Section 302 of the Universal Service Anti-deficiency Temporary Suspension Act is amended by striking ''December 31, 2013'', each place it appears and inserting ''January 15, 2014''.

SEC. 129. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for the ''Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board'' at a rate for operations of $3,100,000.

SEC. 130. For the period covered by this joint resolution, section 550(b) of Public Law 109–295 (6 U.S.C. 121 note) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution for ''October 4, 2013''.

SEC. 131. The authority provided by section 532 of Public Law 109–295 shall continue in effect through the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution.

SEC. 132. The authority provided by section 831 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 391) shall continue in effect through the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution.

SEC. 133. (a) Any amounts made available pursuant to section 101 for ''Department of Homeland Security—U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Salaries and Expenses'', ''Department of Homeland Security—U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Border Security Fencing, Infrastructure, and Technology'', ''Department of Homeland Security—U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Air and Marine Operations'', and ''Department of Homeland Security—U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Salaries and Expenses'' shall be obligated at a rate for operations as necessary to respectively—

(1) sustain the staffing levels of U.S. Customs and Border Protection Officers, equivalent to the staffing levels achieved on September 30, 2013, and comply with the last proviso under the heading ''Department of Homeland Security—U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Salaries and Expenses'' in division D of Public Law 113–6;

(2) sustain border security operations, including sustaining the operation of Tethered Aerostat Radar Systems;

(3) sustain necessary Air and Marine operations; and

(4) sustain the staffing levels of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents, equivalent to the staffing levels achieved on September 30, 2013, and comply with the sixth proviso under the heading ''Department of Homeland Security—U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Salaries and Expenses'' in division D of Public Law 113–6.

(b) The Secretary of Homeland Security shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on each use of the authority provided in this section.

SEC. 134. Section 810 of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6809) shall be applied by substituting ''11 years'' for ''10 years''.

SEC. 135. In addition to the amount otherwise provided by section 101 for ''Department of the Interior—Department-wide Programs—Wildland Fire Management'', there is appropriated $36,000,000 for an additional amount for fiscal year 2014, to remain available until expended, for urgent wildland fire suppression activities: Provided, That of the funds provided, $15,000,000 is for burned area rehabilitation: Provided further, That such funds shall only become available if funds previously provided for wildland fire suppression will be exhausted imminently and the Secretary of the Interior notifies the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate in writing of the need for these additional funds: Provided further, That such funds are also available for transfer to other appropriations accounts to repay amounts previously transferred for wildfire suppression.

SEC. 136. In addition to the amount otherwise provided by section 101 for ''Department of Agriculture—Forest Service—Wildland Fire Management'', there is appropriated $600,000,000 for an additional amount for fiscal year 2014, to remain available until expended, for urgent wildland fire suppression activities: Provided, That such funds shall only become available if funds previously provided for wildland fire suppression will be exhausted imminently and the Secretary of Agriculture notifies the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate in writing of the need for these additional funds: Provided further, That such funds are also available for transfer to other appropriations accounts to repay amounts previously transferred for wildfire suppression.

SEC. 137. The authority provided by section 347 of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (as contained in section 101(e) of division A of Public Law 105–277; 16 U.S.C. 2104 note) shall continue in effect through the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution.

SEC. 138. (a) The authority provided by subsection (m)(3) of section 8162 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2000 (40 U.S.C. 8903 note; Public Law 106–79), as amended, shall continue in effect through the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution.

(b) For the period covered by this joint resolution, the authority provided by the provisos under the heading ''Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission—Capital Construction'' in division E of Public Law 112–74 shall not be in effect.

SEC. 139. Activities authorized under part A of title IV and section 1108(b) of the Social Security Act (except for activities authorized in section 403(b)) shall continue through the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution in the manner authorized for fiscal year 2013, and out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are hereby appropriated such sums as may be necessary for such purpose.

SEC. 140. Notwithstanding section 101, the matter under the heading ''Department of Labor—Mine Safety and Health Administration—Salaries and Expenses'' in division F of Public Law 112–74 shall be applied to funds appropriated by this joint resolution by substituting ''is authorized to collect and retain up to $2,499,000'' for ''may retain up to $1,499,000''.

SEC. 141. The first proviso under the heading ''Department of Health and Human Services—Administration for Children and Families—Low Income Home Energy Assistance'' in division F of Public Law 112–74 shall be applied to amounts made available by this joint resolution by substituting ''2014'' for ''2012''.

SEC. 142. Amounts provided by section 101 for ''Department of Health and Human Services—Administration for Children and Families—Refugee and Entrant Assistance'' may be obligated up to a rate for operations necessary to maintain program operations at the level provided in fiscal year 2013, as necessary to accommodate increased demand.

SEC. 143. During the period covered by this joint resolution, amounts provided under section 101 for ''Department of Health and Human Services—Office of the Secretary—Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund'' may be obligated at a rate necessary to assure timely execution of planned advanced research and development contracts pursuant to section 319L of the Public Health Service Act, to remain available until expended, for expenses necessary to support advanced research and development pursuant to section 319L of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d–7e) and other administrative expenses of the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority.

SEC. 144. Subsection (b) of section 163 of Public Law 111–242, as amended, is further amended by striking ''2013–2014'' and inserting ''2015–2016''.

SEC. 145. Notwithstanding any other provision of this joint resolution, there is appropriated for payment to Bonnie Englebardt Lautenberg, widow of Frank R. Lautenberg, late a Senator from New Jersey, $174,000.

SEC. 146. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no adjustment shall be made under section 610(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 31) (relating to cost of living adjustments for Members of Congress) during fiscal year 2014.

SEC. 147. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for ''Department of Veterans Affairs—Departmental Administration—General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration'' at a rate for operations of $2,455,490,000.

SEC. 148. The authority provided by the penultimate proviso under the heading ''Department of Housing and Urban Development—Rental Assistance Demonstration'' in division C of Public Law 112–55 shall continue in effect through the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution.

SEC. 149. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for ''Department of Transportation—Federal Aviation Administration—Operations'', at a rate for operations of $9,248,418,000.

SEC. 150. Section 601(e)(1)(B) of division B of Public Law 110–432 shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) for ''4 years after such date''.

SEC. 151. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for ''Maritime Administration—Maritime Security Program'', at a rate for operations of $186,000,000.

SEC. 152. Section 44302 of title 49, United States Code, is amended in paragraph (f) by deleting ''September 30, 2013, and may extend through December 31, 2013'' and inserting ''the date specified in section 106(3) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014'' in lieu thereof.

SEC. 153. Section 44303 of title 49, United States Code, is amended in paragraph (b) by deleting ''December 31, 2013'' and inserting ''the date specified in section 106(3) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014'' in lieu thereof.

SEC. 154. Section 44310 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by deleting ''December 31, 2013'' and inserting ''the date specified in section 106(3) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014'' in lieu thereof.

SEC. 155. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Transportation may obligate not more than $450,000,000 of the amounts made available to carry out section 125 of title 23, United States Code, under chapter 9 of title X of division A of the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013 (Public Law 113–2; 127 Stat. 34) under the heading ''EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAM'' under the heading ''FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS'' under the heading ''FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION'' for emergency relief projects in the State of Colorado arising from damage caused by flooding events in that State in calendar year 2013: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 156. Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, any reference in this division to ''this joint resolution'' shall be deemed a reference to ''this Act''.

SEC. 157. Fourteen days after the Department of Homeland Security submits a report or expenditure plan required under this division to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and House of Representatives, the Secretary shall submit a copy of that report to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

DIVISION B—OTHER MATTERS

VERIFICATION OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND OTHER QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE PROVISION OF ACA PREMIUM AND COST-SHARING SUBSIDIES

SEC. 1001. (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this section as the ''Secretary'') shall ensure that American Health Benefit Exchanges verify that individuals applying for premium tax credits under section 36B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and reductions in cost-sharing under section 1402 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 18071) are eligible for such credits and cost sharing reductions consistent with the requirements of section 1411 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 18081), and, prior to making such credits and reductions available, the Secretary shall certify to the Congress that the Exchanges verify such eligibility consistent with the requirements of such Act.

(b) REPORT BY SECRETARY.—Not later than January 1, 2014, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress that details the procedures employed by American Health Benefit Exchanges to verify eligibility for credits and cost-sharing reductions described in subsection (a).

(c) REPORT BY INSPECTOR GENERAL.—Not later than July 1, 2014, the Inspector General of the

Department of Health and Human Services shall submit to the Congress a report regarding the effectiveness of the procedures and safeguards provided under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act for preventing the submission of inaccurate or fraudulent information by applicants for enrollment in a qualified health plan offered through an American Health Benefit Exchange.

DEFAULT PREVENTION

SEC. 1002. (a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''Default Prevention Act of 2013''.

(b) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than 3 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President may submit to Congress a written certification that absent a suspension of the limit under section 3101(b) of title 31, United States Code, the Secretary of the Treasury would be unable to issue debt to meet existing commitments.

(c) SUSPENSION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3101(b) of title 31, United States Code, shall not apply for the period beginning on the date on which the President submits to Congress a certification under subsection (b) and ending on February 7, 2014.

(2) SPECIAL RULE RELATING TO OBLIGATIONS ISSUED DURING SUSPENSION PERIOD.—Effective February 8, 2014, the limitation in section 3101(b) of title 31, United States Code, as increased by section 3101A of such title and section 2 of the No Budget, No Pay Act of 2013 (31 U.S.C. 3101 note), is increased to the extent that—

(A) the face amount of obligations issued under chapter 31 of such title and the face amount of obligations whose principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States Government (except guaranteed obligations held by the Secretary of the Treasury) outstanding on February 8, 2014, exceeds

(B) the face amount of such obligations outstanding on the date of enactment of this Act. An obligation shall not be taken into account under subparagraph (A) unless the issuance of such obligation was necessary to fund a commitment incurred by the Federal Government that required payment before February 8, 2014.

(d) DISAPPROVAL.—If there is enacted into law within 22 calendar days after Congress receives a written certification by the President under subsection (b) a joint resolution disapproving the President's exercise of authority to suspend the debt ceiling under subsection (e), effective on the date of enactment of the joint resolution, subsection (c) is amended to read as follows:

''(c) SUSPENSION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3101(b) of title 31, United States Code, shall not apply for the period beginning on the date on which the President submits to Congress a certification under subsection (b) and ending on the date of enactment of the joint resolution pursuant to section 1002(e) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014.

''(2) SPECIAL RULE RELATING TO OBLIGATIONS ISSUED DURING SUSPENSION PERIOD.—Effective on the day after the date of enactment of the joint resolution pursuant to section 1002(e) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014, the limitation in section 3101(b) of title 31, United States Code, as increased by section 3101A of such title and section 2 of the No Budget, No Pay Act of 2013 (31 U.S.C. 3101 note), is increased to the extent that—

''(A) the face amount of obligations issued under chapter 31 of such title and the face amount of obligations whose principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States Government (except guaranteed obligations held by the Secretary of the Treasury) outstanding on the day after the date of enactment of the joint resolution pursuant to section 1002(e) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014, exceeds

''(B) the face amount of such obligations outstanding on the date of enactment of this Act. An obligation shall not be taken into account under subparagraph (A) unless the issuance of such obligation was necessary to fund a commitment incurred by the Federal Government that required payment before the day after the date of enactment of the joint resolution pursuant to section 1002(e) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014.''.

(e) DISAPPROVAL PROCESS.—

(1) CONTENTS OF JOINT RESOLUTION.—For the purpose of this subsection, the term ''joint resolution'' means only a joint resolution—

(A) disapproving the President's exercise of authority to suspend the debt limit that is introduced within 14 calendar days after the date on which the President submits to Congress the certification under subsection (b);

(B) which does not have a preamble;

(C) the title of which is only as follows: ''Joint resolution relating to the disapproval of the President's exercise of authority to suspend the debt limit, as submitted under section 1002(b) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014 on _____'' (with the blank containing the date of such submission); and

(D) the matter after the resolving clause of which is only as follows: ''That Congress disapproves of the President's exercise of authority to suspend the debt limit, as exercised pursuant to the certification under section 1002(b) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014.''.

(2) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

(A) REPORTING AND DISCHARGE.—Any committee of the House of Representatives to which a joint resolution is referred shall report it to the House of Representatives without amendment not later than 5 calendar days after the date of introduction of a joint resolution described in paragraph (1). If a committee fails to report the joint resolution within that period, the committee shall be discharged from further consideration of the joint resolution and the joint resolution shall be referred to the appropriate calendar.

(B) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—After each committee authorized to consider a joint resolution reports it to the House of Representatives or has been discharged from its consideration, it shall be in order, not later than the sixth day after introduction of a joint resolution under paragraph (1), to move to proceed to consider the joint resolution in the House of Representatives. All points of order against the motion are waived. Such a motion shall not be in order after the House of Representatives has disposed of a motion to proceed on a joint resolution. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion. The motion shall not be debatable. A motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is disposed of shall not be in order.

(C) CONSIDERATION.—The joint resolution shall be considered as read. All points of order against the joint resolution and against its consideration are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to its passage without intervening motion except 2 hours of debate equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent. A motion to reconsider the vote on passage of the joint resolution shall not be in order.

(3) EXPEDITED PROCEDURE IN SENATE.—

(A) RECONVENING.—Upon receipt of a certification under subsection (b), if the Senate would otherwise be adjourned, the majority leader of the Senate, after consultation with the minority leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the Senate that, pursuant to this subsection, the Senate shall convene not later than the thirteenth calendar day after receipt of such certification.

(B) PLACEMENT ON CALENDAR.—Upon introduction in the Senate, the joint resolution shall be immediately placed on the calendar.

(C) FLOOR CONSIDERATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, it is in order at any time during the period beginning on the day after the date on which Congress receives a certification under subsection (b) and ending on the 6th day after the date of introduction of a joint resolution under paragraph (1) (even if a previous motion to the same effect has been disagreed to) to move to proceed to the consideration of the joint resolution, and all points of order against the joint resolution (and against consideration of the joint resolution) are waived. The motion to proceed is not debatable. The motion is not subject to a motion to postpone. A motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is agreed to or disagreed to shall not be in order. If a motion to proceed to the consideration of the joint resolution is agreed to, the joint resolution shall remain the unfinished business until disposed of.

(ii) CONSIDERATION.—Consideration of the joint resolution, and on all debatable motions and appeals in connection therewith, shall be limited to not more than 10 hours, which shall be divided equally between the majority and minority leaders or their designees. A motion further to limit debate is in order and not debatable. An amendment to, or a motion to postpone, or a motion to proceed to the consideration of other business, or a motion to recommit the joint resolution is not in order.

(iii) VOTE ON PASSAGE.—If the Senate has voted to proceed to a joint resolution, the vote on passage of the joint resolution shall occur immediately following the conclusion of consideration of the joint resolution, and a single quorum call at the conclusion of the debate if requested in accordance with the rules of the Senate.

(iv) RULINGS OF THE CHAIR ON PROCEDURE.—Appeals from the decisions of the Chair relating to the application of the rules of the Senate, as the case may be, to the procedure relating to a joint resolution shall be decided without debate.

(4) AMENDMENT NOT IN ORDER.—A joint resolution of disapproval considered pursuant to this subsection shall not be subject to amendment in either the House of Representatives or the Senate.

(5) COORDINATION WITH ACTION BY OTHER HOUSE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If, before passing the joint resolution, one House receives from the other a joint resolution—

(i) the joint resolution of the other House shall not be referred to a committee; and

(ii) the procedure in the receiving House shall be the same as if no joint resolution had been received from the other House, except that the vote on passage shall be on the joint resolution of the other House.

(B) TREATMENT OF JOINT RESOLUTION OF OTHER HOUSE.—If the Senate fails to introduce or consider a joint resolution under this subsection, the joint resolution of the House of Representatives shall be entitled to expedited floor procedures under this subsection.

(C) TREATMENT OF COMPANION MEASURES.—If, following passage of the joint resolution in the Senate, the Senate then receives the companion measure from the House of Representatives, the companion measure shall not be debatable.

(D) CONSIDERATION AFTER PASSAGE.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—If Congress passes a joint resolution, the period beginning on the date the President is presented with the joint resolution and ending on the date the President signs, allows to become law without his signature, or vetoes and returns the joint resolution (but excluding days when either House is not in session) shall be disregarded in computing the calendar day period described in subsection (d).

(ii) DEBATE ON A VETO MESSAGE.—Debate on a veto message in the Senate under this subsection shall be 1 hour equally divided between the majority and minority leaders or their designees.

(6) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE.—This subsection is enacted by Congress—

(A) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate and House of Representatives, respectively, and as such it is deemed a part of the rules of each House, respectively, but applicable only with respect to the procedure to be followed in that House in the case of a joint resolution, and it supersedes other rules only to the extent that it is inconsistent with such rules; and

(B) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change the rules (so far as relating to the procedure of that House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of that House.

This Act may be cited as the ''Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014''.

Amend the title so as to read: ''An Act making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes.''.

MOTION OFFERED BY MR. ROGERS OF KENTUCKY

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

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

The text of the motion is as follows:

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky moves that the House concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 2775.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the motion shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations.

The gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the further consideration of H.R. 2775.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise today to present H.R. 2775. This legislation will raise the Nation's debt ceiling to avoid default, reopen the doors of the Federal Government, and end this unfortunate shutdown.

The legislation before us is Senate amendments to H.R. 2775. The Senate has just passed this bill, and now it is up to the House to send it to the President for his signature. It is the product of a final agreement between Republicans and Democrats to help put us back on stable ground with an open government and without the threat of default as we look to find a long-term comprehensive solution to our multitude of fiscal problems.

First and foremost, it provides critical funding for operating the Federal Government at the current annual rate of $986 billion through January 15 of next year to end the government shutdown.

The resolution includes a limited number of noncontroversial or technical changes called ''anomalies.'' Many have already been passed by the House and the Senate. A few are new, such as provisions to ensure the smooth reopening of the government, to provide due compensation for Federal employees and other funding for shutdown costs, to provide funding for the FAA to continue current operations without interruption, and so on. These have been included to prevent irrevocable harm to vital government programs, to continue critical services, and to ensure good governance.

To be clear, Madam Speaker, the CR portion of this resolution is virtually clean and is essentially identical to the legislation I introduced in the House in early September.

Secondly, this legislation will increase the debt limit until February 7 of next year. By extending our borrowing ability, these amendments will avoid the damage a default would cause to our recovering economy, to businesses large and small, and to our people who desperately need a stable economy and continued job growth.

Lastly, the resolution before us will help protect against fraud and abuse by requiring income verifications for individuals seeking subsidies under the ObamaCare act.

Essentially, this bill before us tonight allows us to move on. It deals with the Nation's immediate short-term problem and allows time for Congress to address the broader picture: what the real drivers of our debt are, how we can keep from reaching the debt limit in the future, and how we avoid staggering from fiscal crisis to fiscal crisis.

□ 2130

After 2 long weeks, it is time to end the government shutdown. It is time to take the threat of default off the table. It is time to restore some sanity to this place. To do this, we have all got to give a little.

Clearly no one on either side has received everything they wanted, but I believe that now we all should act for the greater needs of our Nation. If we want to get anywhere, we must be willing to negotiate, and we should be willing to put partisanship aside and govern for the greater good.

The House must realize it is just one-half of one-third of this government and that no laws can be made without the consent of the Senate and the President, just as they can't enact laws without us. We must also acknowledge the profligate spending and borrowing that is driving us into unsustainable debt and hurting this Nation and the people who call it home.

I am optimistic that once this resolution is passed, the House and the Senate will come together in a budget conference to work out our broad fiscal and budgetary challenges.

It is my hope that a common, topline discretionary number for fiscal year 2014 will be established that will allow Congress to enact full-year appropriations bills and avoid shutdowns like this in the future; and it is also my hope that Congress can address head-on the problem of unsustainable growth in our mandatory and entitlement programs and work to reform our overly complicated growth-stifling Tax Code.

The resolution before us will buy us some time to accomplish this must-do list, and it will ensure that our people have access to the critical government services they rely on in the meantime. We must take actions that will help restore the people's confidence in their elected officials and in the economic future of this Nation. We must.

The sooner we pass this resolution, the sooner we can move on to the many tasks before us that the people have sent us here to work on.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, 15 days after the shutdown began, the House is finally considering a bill to reopen the government and avoid the economic calamity that could have ensued if the United States defaulted on its debt. Frankly, it is disappointing that Republicans have dangerously put our economy and American families at such great risk. 800,000 Federal workers have been furloughed. Families that depend on critical services—from disaster aid to nutrition assistance—have been left in the cold. Billions in economic activity have been lost. Fitch Ratings placed the United States, the United States of America, on ''rating watch negative'' due to political brinkmanship.

Despite clear opposition from the American people, many Republicans, it is hard to believe, are still poised to oppose this short-term bill tonight to reopen government, pay America's bills, and negotiate a reasonable budget agreement for 2014.

Congress, let's remember, has already enacted $2.5 trillion in deficit reduction measures since 2010. Looming across-the-board sequester cuts threaten all our priorities, from job creation to Head Start to military readiness and everything in between. For example, if we do not act before January 15, defense spending will be cut by approximately $20 billion below 2013 levels, and we could jeopardize up to 1.6 million American jobs over the next year.

Madam Speaker, we cannot meet these serious challenges without a spirit of bipartisanship and a commitment to working together in good faith.

I urge the majority to learn the lesson of this irresponsible shutdown: do not allow the fringe in your party, those disconnected from reality whose sole goal is obstruction, to continue to dictate the agenda of this House.

No Member of this esteemed body should ever again threaten the full

faith and credit of the United States of America or shut down the government to advance a reckless ideological agenda. I strongly support this bill tonight with hope that my colleagues in the majority will work in a bipartisan way to avoid a repeat of this tragic episode when the funding and debt ceiling and deadlines in this bill are reached in the new year.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DENT), a very hardworking member of the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. DENT. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight in support of the Senate compromise legislation being considered to end this unnecessary government shutdown and futile exercise in brinkmanship. This legislation reopens the government and prevents a catastrophic default and credit downgrade that would spur another recession.

I am genuinely pleased that the cooler heads have finally prevailed. However, it is very disappointing that we are in this situation, that after more than 2 weeks of a government shutdown and on the eve of a default on our government's obligations, we have finally reached an agreement.

This legislation must be supported, but it should not be celebrated, no high-fives or spiking the football. It is a temporary government funding bill and a short-term debt limit increase. It is not a win for anyone, particularly the institution of Congress or the Presidency, for that matter.

The bill represents the conclusion of a difficult period, from which I hope that many can draw important lessons. I hope that this sad episode will result in a newfound commitment and intensity for the governing majority in Congress to make the difficult decisions that must be made to keep the government functioning while addressing the many problems facing our country, including the budget deficit, the Nation's out-of-control debt, and the many challenges presented by the health care law, or ObamaCare.

For many months and particularly throughout the last 2 weeks, I have worked tirelessly with colleagues from both sides of the aisle and in both Chambers to find an agreement to break the impasse.

I particularly want to thank Representative RON KIND, Senators SUSAN COLLINS and JOE MANCHIN, and the many other Members who participated in the many discussions. I believe these conversations have laid a strong foundation that we can build on to arrive at agreements on many of the major issues that need to be addressed in this country.

I urge my colleagues not only to vote in favor of this legislation tonight but to join with those of us who share an affirmative obligation to govern and who seek bipartisan solutions to the challenges facing our great Nation.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH), a member of the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, I rise to urge expedited passage of this legislation. I join with the chairman and the ranking member of my committee, and I agree with every word that has been stated by the majority chairman and the ranking member.

This is critically important. This Monday, I was in a foreign country. I was in the State of Israel. I met with the President and with a whole group of brain researchers from around the world. They had difficulty understanding, given our Nation's leadership on so many critical issues, that we could be in a paralyzed situation.

So I am happy that the Senate has acted in such an overwhelming way on this matter, with some 81 bipartisan votes. And I would urge the House to act—and I know we will—to restore our government, to pay our bills, and to get on with our responsibilities as the most powerful Nation in the world, the wealthiest country in the world. We can pay our bills, and we can conduct the affairs of government in a way that gains us respect around the world rather than befuddlement.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California, Ms. BARBARA LEE, a distinguished member of the Appropriations Committee.

Ms. LEE of California. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

I rise in support of this bipartisan budget deal. By voting in favor of this bill tonight, we will finally shut down this awful government shutdown.

While I am pleased that common sense and cooler heads have finally prevailed, make no mistake, this unnecessary shutdown has caused real pain for millions of innocent families. Never again should the American people be taken hostage to a political agenda. This is wholly unacceptable, and these tactics must be rejected once and for all.

Now, I hope that tomorrow people can begin to put their lives back together, go back to work, and provide the government services that our veterans and our seniors and our children so deserve.

While I am pleased that this deal will reopen the government and pay our bills, much more work needs to be done. The temporary spending level of $986 billion keeps sequester level cuts in place that are hurting our economy, children, seniors, workers, and communities across this Nation. So I hope that as we move forward, we will understand that we need to protect vital programs that make for a functioning government so everyone can have the opportunity to climb, strive, and reap the rewards and security of the American Dream.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS), the former chairman of the Financial Services Committee of the House.

Mr. BACHUS. I thank the chairman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, for one night, let us talk about what is good for this country and not about the other party because it is going to take both parties to solve our problems.

As chairman emeritus of the Financial Services Committee, I am very aware of the direct connection between a strong dollar and a vibrant economy so necessary to create jobs, and that is what we need for America—jobs.

The U.S. dollar is the reserve currency of the world. Globally, the dollar and U.S. Treasurys are two of the most preferred safe haven investments. Their reserve status has been a benefit and blessing to all of us economically. It has traditionally brought this country good jobs and a higher standard of living.

However, the dollar is under attack today. Out-of-control spending, unless addressed, will become more and more of a threat to a strong dollar and our currency. It will continue to erode our economy and cost jobs.

However, two wrongs don't make a right. A default would further weaken the dollar, destroy jobs, and be a self-inflicted wound I am not willing to deliver. Therefore, I will be voting ''yes'' on this bipartisan agreement, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR), a distinguished member of the Appropriations Committee.

Ms. KAPTUR. I thank Ranking Member LOWEY for yielding me time.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the Senate's bipartisan compromise to end the government shutdown, reopen the government, avert a debt default, and pay our bills to spur economic growth and job creation in this country.

This compromise today is what the American people expect of us. They are tired of the partisan bickering and the economic uncertainty that the deadlock has created. The biggest challenge facing our country is creating growth to help to balance the budget. We can start by coming together on a budget agreement.

So let's restore regular order. Let the Budget Committee go back to work. Let the Ways and Means Committee go back to work. Let the Appropriations Committee go back to work under regular order, not just continuing resolutions. And let us move our bills in regular order and not govern from manufactured crisis to manufactured crisis.

I will vote for this this evening. It is the best we could get under the circumstances, but it is far less than we are capable of.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SERRANO),

a distinguished member of the Appropriations Committee.

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

Mr. SERRANO. I thank the gentlewoman.

Madam Speaker, I will strongly support this bill tonight because it not only opens our government but it enables us to meet our obligations in a proper way.

But if we walk away from this tonight without having learned a lesson, this would have all been a futile exercise. The lesson that we have to learn is that we can become obsessed with one issue and close down a government over one issue.

□ 2145

When a bill becomes a law and gets signed by a President, gets judged on and approved by the Supreme Court, that is the law of the land. We have to abide by that. We should in no way continue to act as if things really didn't happen—only what is happening now happened.

Secondly, we need to understand that there are no winners or losers tonight. The real losers are only the American people, who had to put up with this situation for these past weeks. If we go away tonight not learning that lesson—that we cannot allow that to happen again—it would have been a waste of time.

So I hope that we move ahead on the budget commission, that we move ahead on that conference, and that we move ahead in a joint way, in a two-party system, to work on behalf of the American people.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL).

Mr. NEAL. I thank the gentlelady.

Madam Speaker, this vote has been portrayed as an opportunity for new spending. The difficulty with that argument is that this is really an argument about paying our bills and for debts incurred.

This vote tonight is a vote about paying for the war in Iraq, which I opposed, but still believe it has to be paid for.

The former majority leader of this House said at a critical moment that having a tax cut in a time of war was patriotic. You know what is patriotic? Paying for those veterans hospitals, whether you were for the war or against the war.

Those wars were put on the credit card. It is our responsibility to pay for them. That is what this debate is about tonight—not the opportunity for new expenditure and not a debate over social program spending in the future. It is simply a vote to pay for bills that have been currently incurred.

To have shut this government down was not only wrongful, but that decent people across this country were hurt by this irresponsible manner of conduct in this House remains reprehensible.

Tonight, we are going to have a chance to vote to reopen this government and repay our bills.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DAVID SCOTT).

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise to support this very needed legislation.

Let me make a point here. There is a very important part of this legislation which sets up the budget commission. I would just like to make an appeal to that commission to not only get to us a good budget by December 15, but take some time to see how we can get some mechanisms in place to prevent us from ever again shutting down the Federal Government.

We take a solemn oath here to defend the Federal Government, to support the Federal Government, to uphold the Federal Government. We must honor that. Maybe we can do mandatory arbitration in its place. But we have got some smart people in this place. We hurt too many people when we shut down the Federal Government.

Hopefully, we can put the MITCH MCCONNELL rule in place. God bless that Senator from Kentucky, and the courage that he had to step forward in a bipartisan way so that we can put that mechanism in place so that we will never again put our good faith and credit at risk in this country.

Finally, let us, Democrats and Republicans, work together, beginning tonight, and pass this bill.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE).

Mr. POE of Texas. I thank the gentleman.

The fact that we are here today to debate raising America's debt limit is a sign of leadership failure.

It is a sign that the U.S. Government cannot pay its own bills. It is a sign that we depend on financial assistance from foreign countries to finance our Government's reckless fiscal policy. Money that we have borrowed from the Social Security trust fund, borrowed from China, borrowed from Japan, borrowed from American taxpayers.

The rising debt is a hidden domestic enemy. Robbing our cities and States of critical investments in infrastructure like bridges, ports, and levees; robbing our families and our children of critical investments in education and health care reform; robbing our seniors of retirement and health security they have counted on.

Every dollar we pay in interest is a dollar that is not going to investment in America's priorities.

Increasing America's debt weakens us domestically and internationally. Washington is shifting the burden of bad choices onto the backs of our children and our grandchildren. Americans deserve better.

Driving up our national debt is irresponsible. It's unpatriotic.

These are the words of Senator Barack Obama in 2006 and in 2008.

Madam Speaker, what was irresponsible and unpatriotic is all of a sudden responsible conduct? I think not.

We should be talking about cutting spending before we start raising America's debt ceiling.

And that's just the way it is.

Mrs. LOWEY. I am delighted to yield 1 minute to the distinguished leader from California (Ms. PELOSI).

Ms. PELOSI. I thank the gentlelady for yielding, and for her great leadership as our ranking member on the Appropriations Committee. I also thank her for bringing us together this evening.

Madam Speaker, we have been, all along, 200 House Democratic Members strong, in support of the Republican number that we are voting on today.

Tonight, the unnecessary shutdown America has been enduring for 16 days comes to an end. Thank you, Speaker BOEHNER, for finally allowing a majority of House Members to reopen government and avoid a default that would have clearly wreaked havoc on our economic credibility and the stability of our country.

It is equally clear that the shutdown has already shaken some pillars of our economic security and growth. It has jeopardized our credit rating and slowed our GDP growth by 0.6 percent. It has eroded consumer and investor confidence in our economy, while taking $24 billion out of our economy.

My colleagues, do you think that your recklessness was worth $24 billion to our economy? This recklessness is a luxury the American people cannot afford.

Tomorrow, we can finally begin what Democrats have been waiting for 7 months to do. Tomorrow, we can go to the negotiating table to debate a budget to create jobs, jobs, jobs—that four-letter word—expand the economy, strengthen the middle class, and reduce the deficit in a meaningful way.

Tomorrow, we must stop governing from manufactured crisis to manufactured crisis and start working to find solutions so that we never again see a day when the government has been shut down and the full faith and credit of the United States of America has been called into question.

For that reason, I urge a ''yes'' vote on this bill, and not just on its merits, because as we know, this number is too low. Even the chairman of the committee has said it is an unrealistic and ill-conceived number and must be brought to an end. This number, if left in effect, would cost us hundreds of thousands of jobs in the months ahead, in the next year. Hundreds of thousands of jobs. Again, a number that is a luxury this country cannot afford.

So if the Republican number is key to reopening the doors of government and restoring confidence in our economy, Democrats are willing to accept this resolution tonight. As I said, not because of its merits. We do so because a vote ''yes'' on this bill will take us, hopefully, down a path to grow the economy, promote the prosperity of every American who is willing to work hard, play by the rules, and to achieve the American Dream.

So with those qualifications as to what we are voting for tonight, the

number doesn't meet the needs of the American people. The length of time that the debt ceiling is extended is not long enough. Apparently, that is the best we can do. I commend Senator REID for working in a bipartisan way to send us this bill tonight so we can bring this sadness to an end, and how it has affected so many people.

I do not come here to pin a rose on this legislation. It does not have that respect. But it does have my support as a means to an end.

With that, I urge a ''yes'' vote.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, might I inquire of my colleague if she has further speakers and is prepared to yield back?

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

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I urge passage of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, after two weeks of anguish, the American people can finally breathe a sigh of relief. Thanks to bipartisan efforts in the Senate, my Democratic colleagues and I stand ready to support the responsible legislation before us and bring this self-inflicted crisis to an end.

From the efforts of the Minority Leader PELOSI to the work of the minority on the Rules Committee, House Democrats have been committed to finding a responsible resolution to the GOP's crisis.

When it was apparent that Democrats would not be able to stop the House Majority from shutting down the government, the Minority Leader and House Democrats began making extraordinary efforts to achieve a swift and responsible end to the Majority's shameful example of legislative malfeasance.

For example, during Rules Debates on both October 2nd and October 4th, I came to the floor and proposed a way to bring an immediate end to the government shutdown. Each time not a single member of the Majority voted for the proposal. In addition, House Democrats launched a discharge petition to force a vote on the clean Senate Continuing Resolution—an effort that the Majority also refused to support.

Fortunately, House Democrats were not alone in seeking a responsible and bipartisan solution to the crisis. With the proposal being offered today, the leadership in the Senate—both the Majority and the Minority leaders—have demonstrated how to legislate for the American People.

We also owe a debt of gratitude to the talented and intelligent women from both sides of the aisle who have shown us that when the going gets tough, you can always count on women to come together and get to work.

Madam Speaker, we have a lot to do in the days and months ahead. As we speak, there is an outbreak of antibiotic-resistant Salmonella that is threatening public health. Unfortunately, this outbreak of antibiotic-resistant bacteria surely won't be the last. There is a bill, H.R. 1150, that deserves an immediate vote in Congress so that we can stop the overuse of antibiotics in agriculture and address the growing threat of antibiotic-resistant disease.

Furthermore, there is an urgent need in our country to rebuild our infrastructure, create millions of jobs and fix our schools so that our nation remains a global superpower in the century to come.

We must not fool ourselves. The self-inflicted wound that the GOP inflicted upon this nation has done real damage to millions of Americans and to our role in the world.

Just last night, the Chinese government declared that it was time for the world to ''de-Americanise,'' and governments around the world have taken note of the shameful display that has occurred in this chamber over the last two weeks.

It is my sincere hope that this has been the last time our economy and our democracy will be subjected to such reckless and irresponsible governing. It is imperative that in the days to come the Majority finally allows bipartisanship and responsible governance to take hold in the House of Representatives. It is time to sit down together and start solving the most urgent issues of our time.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, throughout my political career, I have always tried to work with my colleagues—no matter the party—to get things done for my constituents in San Diego.

This week, however, it is hard to point to anything we did to help the American people.

As we move past this episode, commentators will inevitably try to decide who looked strong, and who looked weak, who is up in the polls and who is down, who blinked and who stood firm. But Mr. Speaker we need to move past such talk.

Because make no mistake, there were no winners this week. Only losers.

Thousands of hard working American families who rely on government aid programs, federal employees who were furloughed, and kids just hoping to visit a national park all were hurt this week for no real reason at all.

In fact, in my city of San Diego alone, it is estimated we lost $7 million a week during the shutdown. $7 million. Imagine the investments in our schools, roads, and small businesses that we could have made with that money.

Madam Speaker we can't keep hurting ourselves. We have many important things to do to put Americans back to work and strengthen the middle class to be playing these sorts of games.

The American economy is on the road to recovery, but we keep getting in its way, as we barely avert one manmade disaster after another. For once, let's bring stability to the markets, rather than continually manufacturing uncertainty.

In the next few weeks we will have an opportunity to come together and once and for all, put these battles behind us. We understand that agreeing on a budget will not be easy. But that doesn't mean we should stop talking and wait until the last minute to figure out what to do.

Instead, let's start working today on finding a balanced approach to solving our budget problems. We can do this, but only if we stop playing games and get to work as soon as possible.

Madam Speaker, Americans are sick and tired of watching the show we put on this week, and I am sick and tired of being a part of it. Most of all, I am sick and tired that people here in the Majority think they can routinely use my friends and neighbors back home in San Diego as pawns in some larger political game.

Let's agree to never again embrace such a reckless approach to governing that does nothing but cause needless pain to the American people. Let's agree to never again make up problems, when we have actual ones to solve. Let's agree to discuss our differences rather than resent each other for them.

That's what American democracy is all about, that's what it has always been about.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, today, the House is finally, at the 11th hour, voting to reopen the government and avert a financial disaster by avoiding a default on our debt. The bill keeps the government open until January 15, 2014, and raises the debt ceiling until February 7, 2014. This is a stopgap measure, and my fear is that we will face another manufactured crisis again a few months. We should have never gotten to this point, the majority should have never caved to the vocal minority in the House.

This bill ends an unnecessary, self-induced crisis. It fails to end sequestration's painful cuts in government services. It fails to invest in creating new jobs. It follows costly weeks of government shutdown and unnerving the financial world. It sets up the alarming prospect of new confrontations over the budget and the debt ceiling early next year.

Ever since this phony crisis began, a majority of the Congress—Democrats and Republicans alike—have sought to reopen the government. Yet Republican leaders, out of misguided deference to the reckless ideologues in their ranks, refused to allow a vote on clean legislation to reopen the government.

Today that finally changed. The Speaker allowed the majority of House members to work their will, and as a result, our government has reopened and the U.S. can resume paying her debts, as we have for centuries. My hope is that, in the months ahead, Speaker BOEHNER will follow today's precedent and allow votes on other pressing issues, such as job creation and immigration reform, that Democrats and Republicans can agree on.

The alternative would be to continue to follow the extreme minority who shut down the government for no apparent reason, with no clear idea of what they hoped to win.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, many of us have fond memories of the classic 1950s James Dean movie ''Rebel Without a Cause.'' Who can forget Dean's tragic Jim Stark—who, in rebelling against his parents, the police, and other like-minded ''conformists'', spends the film putting his friends in harm's way as he tries proving his worth to the town tough guys. Jim gets in a switchblade fight. He nearly drives off a cliff during a game of chicken. In the end, his friend Plato is killed after Jim leads his friends to an abandoned house where they live in their own fantasy world where they don't have to justify themselves to anyone.

As we finally bring to end this reckless government shutdown, I must say that this plot feels eerily familiar. It would seem many in the House of Representatives, in their inchoate rebellion, would have rather driven our Nation and the economy off a cliff than sit down and talk like grown-ups. Even former Republican governor Tim Pawlenty recognized this troubling behavior and said that the actions of his fellow Republicans in dealing with the debt ceiling reminded him of a group of rebellious teenagers—out for a night on the town—pulling quote, a ''dine-and-dash.''

These rebels without a cause paralyzed our government and wreaked havoc on Virginia's

economy. It is estimated that the shutdown has cost Virginia's economy more than $200 million a day. That's $1 billion a week. I heard from community bankers that could not process loan applications because the IRS was shuttered. The SBA could not issue new loans, choking off small businesses ability to grow and create jobs.

The last time political brinksmanship from the House Majority brought us to the verge of default in August 2011, it resulted in a historic downgrading of the nation's credit and a loss of $2.4 trillion in household wealth. Many of our region's business leaders and every Chamber of Commerce in Northern Virginia warned of the risks of default and demanded Congress pass a clean CR.

In case anyone still believed these rebels might actually have a cause, one only need review the constantly changing demands they made over the past two weeks. First, they demanded we defund the Affordable Care Act, then delay the Affordable Care Act, then repeal the medical-device tax. Then as a precondition for the Nation paying its bills on time they demanded we build the Keystone Pipeline, expand offshore drilling, repeal Dodd-Frank, enact tort-reform, and repeal the Public Health trust fund.

I am not sure even the House Majority knows why they have spent the past few weeks driving us toward the cliff. I think many of my colleagues have convinced themselves they are Jim Stark—rebels, lashing out, ready to prove the world wrong, and more comfortable holed up in a house living a fantasy where they don't have to play by the rules. There is no doubt that Virginians have grown tired of these reckless antics and these repeated games of chicken. It's a relief that the adults in the room finally stepped in to reopen the government, raise the debt ceiling, and restore sanity. I was pleased to work in a bipartisan fashion with some in the Virginia delegation and other pragmatic Members to get this done.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I thank you and Ranking Member SLAUGHTER for the opportunity to speak in support of the Senate Amendments to H.R. 2775 which:

Reopens the government;

Averts a catastrophic default that would risk the full faith and credit of the United States; and

Clears the way for the House and Senate to appoint conferees to start the budget negotiations that Democrats have called for since April.

The government shutdown has lasted 16 days making the beginning of fiscal year 2014 an extremely difficult time for Federal employees and the people they serve. It has also imposed tremendous hardship on the dedicated employees of the House of Representatives as well as for each Member of the House of Representatives.

The bipartisan Senate compromise would:

Extend the continuing resolution through January 15;

Suspend the debt limit through February 7, with congressional disapproval process;

Require certification by HHS that there is income verification for those applying for premium tax credits under the Affordable Care Act, a provision supported by the administration;

Allow for the appointment of budget conferees, who will report to Congress by December 13.

Madam Speaker, this should not have taken 16 days to accomplish.

Federal workers are our Nation's greatest resource because they provide the know-how and expertise to meet the needs of this great Nation.

Madam Speaker, I consider all of our Federal workers as essential, not just the 1.3 million who are designated as such.

A healthy Federal government does not function as dismembered parts but as a single unit. The plot by the Republican majority to pass funding for only those agencies the public might miss immediately following the self imposed shutdown while leaving others to languish was wrong.

The Congress has learned a very costly lesson for the American Taxpayer. The 16 day shutdown has cost taxpayers $24 billion dollars.

The 14th Amendment provides that "The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payments of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned."

Some scholars have suggested that this provision empowers a President to take appropriate action to prevent default. I agree with President Obama that this is a question that requires much thought and reflection. The important thing is that we must never ever risk defaulting on the public debt and injury to the full faith and credit of the United States.

There are also the events over the last 16 days that made it clear that we need the Nation's Federal agency workforce:

Foodborne illness outbreak that sickened hundreds in several States not being addressed;

An unexpected blizzard was reported to have killed 5 percent of the cattle in the State of South Dakota;

The nearly dozen transportation accidents that were not investigated.

I urge all members of the Rules Committee to vote in support of this bipartisan effort before us.

Madam Speaker, I rise to speak in support of the Senate Amendments to H.R. 2775 which:

Reopens the government;

Averts a catastrophic default that would risk the full faith and credit of the United States; and

Clears the way for the House and Senate to appoint conferees to start the budget negotiations that Democrats have called for since April.

I would like to thank the Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate for their stewardship in crafting a resolution to this crisis.

The Government shutdown has lasted 16 days, making the beginning of fiscal year 2014 an extremely difficult time for Federal employees and the people they serve. It has also imposed tremendous hardship on the dedicated employees of the House of Representatives as well as for each Member of the House of Representatives.

Because of the circumstances that led to the budget impasse, I introduced H. Res. 375, a bill expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Congress should refrain from conditioning the resolution of fiscal and budgetary disputes on the taking of action relating to non-germane legislative matters.

I invite members from both sides of the aisle to become a sponsor of H. Res. 375 as a way to make amends to the American people and assuring through its passage that Congress will not place the Nation in the situation we found ourselves in ever again for the reasons that this budget impasse occurred.

Madam Speaker, this is an extraordinary time to be in America.

We have seen the Legislative and Executive Branches of our government and the constitutional balance that the framers of the Constitution intended regarding matters related to public purse tested.

It is extraordinary when a matter that should be dealt with in the regular order of the business of the House and Senate becomes a matter so grave that a broad and diverse coalition call on Members of this body to do what we were elected to do—manage the business of the people through cooperation and compromise.

I have heard from the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the NAACP, United States Conference of Mayors, the National Education Association and the Coalition on Human Needs, each calling for the passage of the Senate bipartisan budget compromise.

The bipartisan Senate compromise would:

Extend the continuing resolution through January 15;

Suspend the debt limit through February 7, with congressional disapproval process;

Require certification by HHS that there is income verification for those applying for premium tax credits under the Affordable Care Act, a provision supported by the Administration;

The appointment of budget conferees, who will report to Congress by December 13.

Madam Speaker, I would like to request unanimous consent to place into the RECORD an editorial that was published in "The Hill."

Federal workers are our Nation's greatest resource because they provide the know-how and expertise to meet the needs of this great Nation.

The Federal government for many may have been a faceless nameless entity, but these last two weeks have taught us that they are people who have specific skill sets that cannot be replaced or ignored.

Madam Speaker, I consider all of our Federal workers as essential, not just the 1.3 million who are designated as such.

This fact was made apparent by what the American people experienced over the last 16 days the:

National Park Service,

Veterans Affairs,

Department of Defense,

Men and women of the armed services,

CDC,

HHS,

NASA, and

FDA, are only 10 of the hundreds of essential agencies, not including the thousands of essential offices that comprise the Federal government.

A healthy Federal government does not function as dismembered parts but as a single unit. The plot by the Republican majority to pass funding for only those agencies the public might miss immediately following the self-imposed shutdown while leaving others to languish was wrong.

The Congress has learned a very costly lesson for the American taxpayer. The 16 day shutdown has cost taxpayers $24 billion.

I want the American people to know that I do understand what the cost of that education has been to them both in hard earned dollars that were withheld or forgone due to the cascading economic impact of the shutdown on small and mid-sized businesses as well as the personal costs in worry and frustration at watching the events of the last three weeks unfold.

These costs should not be forgotten, such as the:

Additional pain caused to the grieving families of our Nation's fallen heroes;

Delay in Veterans' benefits and services;

Trips of a lifetime that did not happen;

Wedding plans interrupted or cancelled;

U.S. astronauts on the International Space Station without Houston Mission Control at full staff capacity; and

Hundreds of thousands of Federal workers and their families put out of work, and over a million more working without pay.

There are also the events over the last 16 days that made it clear that we need the Nation's Federal agency workforce:

Foodborne illness outbreak that sickened hundreds in several states not being addressed;

An unexpected blizzard was reported to have killed 5 percent of the cattle in the state of South Dakota;

The nearly dozen transportation accidents that were not investigated.

I urge all Members of the House of Representatives to join me in voting in support of this bipartisan effort before us.

[From The Hill, Sept. 16, 2013]

LET'S UNIFY AROUND COMMONSENSE SOLUTIONS TO REOPEN THE GOVERNMENT AND AVOID DEFAULT

(By Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee)

The objective of the misguided and irresponsible strategy of the Republicans in the House to shut down the government was to kill Obamacare. That strategy failed miserably. But it succeeded spectacularly in inflicting injury on the American people. And the collateral damage of this irresponsible and callous decision mounts every day.

Having shut down the government for more than two weeks, House Republicans, dominated by their extremist Tea Party faction, now seem determined to shut down the American economy by continuing their reckless strategy of proposing at the 11th hour irresponsible and unacceptable conditions for raising the debt ceiling and preserving America's hard won and well-earned reputation as the most credit worthy nation in the history of the world.

The credit-worthiness of the United States is the engine pulling the train of the American economy. Inspired by their Tea Party element, House Republicans have hijacked the train and are hurtling it toward the cliff. They are willing to take it over the fiscal cliff and destroy the lives of everyone on board unless the president and the Senate agree to their ransom demand to throw Obamacare from the train.

The behavior of House Republicans is worse than reckless and irresponsible; it is unpatriotic. No one who really loves America would risk the catastrophe that will befall Americans if the United States defaults on its debt. And to risk such a calamity just to prevent 22 million Americans from receiving affordable health care and the peace of mind it brings to them and their families is unconscionable.

House Republicans claim that they only want negotiations with the president and Senate. This is disingenuous. The Senate requested a conference with the House to resolve their budgetary difference six months ago and has renewed that request 19 times. Those repeated requests were repeatedly rejected by the House Republicans, who refused even to appoint conferees to negotiate with the Senate.

The Republican leadership of the House has proven time and again that it is incapable of governing in a responsible manner. Instead of passing legislation to create jobs and completing its work on the appropriations bills needed to fund the government, House Republicans have neglected their duties and wasted time on their futile obsession with defunding, delaying, and impeding the implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

Every landmark social insurance program in our history has experienced growing pains and the Affordable Care Act is no exception. Seniors initially were reluctant to enroll in Medicare when it was rolled out in 1965. The same was true ten short years ago with respect to the prescription drug benefit of Medicare Part D.

The proper way to address any problems with the Affordable Care Act is to work together to fix them—to mend the law, not end the law. And it certainly makes no sense to shut down the government and take the economy over the cliff if the unreasonable demand of a minority to repeal the Affordable Care Act is not met.

Not for the first time Democrats and Republicans in the Senate have worked together and reached a compromise agreement to avoid default. Under the terms of this bipartisan agreement, funds will be provided to reopen and operate the federal government until January 15, 2014 and the debt ceiling would be raised to enable the Treasury to pay its bills through February 7, 2014.

Additionally, the agreement provides for the creation of a bicameral select budget committee that is required to meet and report its recommendations by December 13, 2013. Finally, the agreement reaffirms existing legislation strengthening the income verification requirements of the Affordable Care Act and delays the imposition of the reinsurance fee provision.

This is not a perfect agreement but no compromise ever is. Democratic members of Congress prefer a permanent reopening of the government, a much longer extension of the debt ceiling, and have little enthusiasm for another ''super-committee'' like the one that failed in 2011 and ushered in the disastrous period of sequestration. Senate Republicans have different preferences. But the important thing is that the parties took a responsible view of the matter and were able to bridge their differences to reach an agreement that reopens and funds the government and avoid an unprecedented an calamitous default on the national debt.

The responsible course for House Republicans to take is to follow the lead of their Senate counterparts and bring the proposal to the floor for a vote without delay. But instead of taking that action and bringing this crisis to an end, House Republicans, egged on by their Tea Party faction and its darling, Senator Ted Cruz, seem intent on sabotaging the carefully crafted Senate plan by attaching to it provisions which eliminate health insurance for lawmakers and government officials and delays for two years the imposition of the medical device tax that offsets the cost of the Affordable Care Act.

These poison pills have previously been considered and rejected by the Senate and the President and have no chance of becoming law. Their only purpose is to needlessly and recklessly bring our nation closer to the brink of default. And to compound the damage resulting from their reckless act, House Republicans also are seeking to add a provision that will prohibit the Secretary of the Treasury from taking any ''extraordinary measures'' necessary to stave off default after the February 7, 2014 extension date. The only plausible inference to be drawn from the insistence on this provision is that its proponents wish to see the worse come to pass. The provision is akin to prohibiting a person whose house is on fire from borrowing her neighbor's water hose to put it out.

In 1789, Alexander Hamilton, the nation's first and greatest Treasury Secretary, understood that the path to American prosperity and greatness lay in its creditworthiness which provided the affordable access to capital needed to fund internal improvements and economic growth. The nation's creditworthiness was one of its most important national assets and according to Hamilton, ''the proper funding of the present debt, will render it a national blessing.'' But to maintain this blessing, or to ''render public credit immortal,'' it is necessary that ''the creation of debt should always be accompanied with the means of extinguishment.''

In other words, to retain and enjoy the prosperity that flows from good credit, it is necessary for a nation to pay its bills.

That is why the Republican leadership of the House should bring to the floor immediately for a vote the responsible and bipartisan agreement reached by Senate Democrats and Republicans to reopen the government and raise the debt limit.

Nothing else would do more to send the message to the American people that their elected representatives in Congress care more about addressing issues of importance to them than advancing the narrow partisan agenda of Tea Party extremists whose supporters disrespect the nation's Commander in Chief and proudly display Confederate flags in front of the White House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the motion by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS).

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

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on adoption of the motion will be followed by a 5-minute vote on approval of the Journal, if ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 285, nays 144, not voting 3, as follows:

[Roll No. 550]

YEAS—285

Andrews	Braley (IA)	Castro (TX)
Bachus	Brooks (IN)	Chu
Barber	Brown (FL)	Cicilline
Barletta	Brownley (CA)	Clarke
Barrow (GA)	Buchanan	Clay
Bass	Bustos	Cleaver
Beatty	Butterfield	Clyburn
Becerra	Calvert	Coble
Benishek	Camp	Coffman
Bera (CA)	Cantor	Cohen
Bilirakis	Capito	Cole
Bishop (GA)	Capps	Connolly
Bishop (NY)	Capuano	Conyers
Blumenauer	Cárdenas	Cook
Boehner	Carney	Cooper
Bonamici	Carson (IN)	Costa
Boustany	Cartwright	Cotton
Brady (PA)	Castor (FL)	Courtney

Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Daines
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Dent
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farr
Fattah
Fitzpatrick
Fortenberry
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Gardner
Gerlach
Gibson
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Grijalva
Grimm
Guthrie
Gutiérrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Heck (WA)
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Huffman
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Joyce
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Kline
Kuster
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Michaud
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Nolan
Nunes
O'Rourke
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Pittenger
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reichert
Ribble
Richmond
Rigell
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stivers
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Upton
Valadao
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Webster (FL)
Welch
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NAYS—144

Aderholt
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Barr
Barton
Bentivolio
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Brady (TX)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Broun (GA)
Bucshon
Burgess
Campbell
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Culberson
Denham
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Garrett
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffith (VA)
Hall
Harris
Hartzler
Hensarling
Holding
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
King (IA)
Kingston
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lankford
Latta
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Marchant
Marino
Massie
McCaul
McClintock
Meadows
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mullin
Mulvaney
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Pearce
Perry
Petri
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Radel
Reed
Renacci
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sanford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Smith (MO)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stewart
Stockman
Stutzman
Thornberry
Turner
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Weber (TX)
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho

NOT VOTING—3

McCarthy (NY)
Rush
Young (FL)

□ 2218

Mrs. ROBY and Messrs. DesJARLAIS and YOHO changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Mrs. NAPOLITANO changed her vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the motion to concur was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

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

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

□ 2230

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON S. CON. RES. 8, CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the House be considered to have taken from the Speaker's table the Senate Concurrent Resolution (S. Con. Res. 8) setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023, adopted an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of House Concurrent Resolution 25, as adopted by the House; adopted such concurrent resolution, as amended; insisted on its amendment; and requested a conference with the Senate thereon; and during the remainder of the 113th Congress, it shall not be in order to offer a motion under clause 7(c) of rule XXII with respect to Senate Concurrent Resolution 8.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate concurrent resolution, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 8

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

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

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

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

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

TITLE I—RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS

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

TITLE II—RECONCILIATION

Sec. 201. Reconciliation in the Senate.

TITLE III—RESERVE FUNDS

Sec. 301. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to replace sequestration.
Sec. 302. Deficit-neutral reserve funds to promote employment and job growth.
Sec. 303. Deficit-neutral reserve funds to assist working families and children.
Sec. 304. Deficit-neutral reserve funds for early childhood education.
Sec. 305. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for tax relief.
Sec. 306. Reserve fund for tax reform.
Sec. 307. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to invest in clean energy and preserve the environment.
Sec. 308. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for investments in America's infrastructure.
Sec. 309. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for America's servicemembers and veterans.
Sec. 310. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for higher education.
Sec. 311. Deficit-neutral reserve funds for health care.
Sec. 312. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for investments in our Nation's counties and schools.
Sec. 313. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for a farm bill.
Sec. 314. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for investments in water infrastructure and resources.
Sec. 315. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for pension reform.
Sec. 316. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for housing finance reform.
Sec. 317. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for national security.
Sec. 318. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for overseas contingency operations.
Sec. 319. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for terrorism risk insurance.
Sec. 320. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for postal reform.
Sec. 321. Deficit-reduction reserve fund for Government reform and efficiency.

Sec. 322. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve Federal benefit processing.
Sec. 323. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for legislation to improve voter registration and the voting experience in Federal elections.
Sec. 324. Deficit-reduction reserve fund to promote corporate tax fairness.
Sec. 325. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for improving Federal forest management.
Sec. 326. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for financial transparency.
Sec. 327. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to promote manufacturing in the United States.
Sec. 328. Deficit-reduction reserve fund for report elimination or modification.
Sec. 329. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for the minimum wage.
Sec. 330. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve health outcomes and lower costs for children in Medicaid.
Sec. 331. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve Federal workforce development, job training, and reemployment programs.
Sec. 332. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for repeal of medical device tax.
Sec. 333. Deficit-neutral reserve fund prohibiting Medicare vouchers.
Sec. 334. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for equal pay for equal work.
Sec. 335. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to women's health care.
Sec. 336. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to require State-wide budget neutrality in the calculation of the Medicare hospital wage index floor.
Sec. 337. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for the promotion of investment and job growth in United States manufacturing, oil and gas production, and refining sectors.
Sec. 338. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to allow States to enforce State and local use tax laws.
Sec. 339. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to the definition of full-time employee.
Sec. 340. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to the labeling of genetically engineered fish.
Sec. 341. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for the families of America's servicemembers and veterans.
Sec. 342. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to establishing a biennial budget and appropriations process.
Sec. 343. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to the repeal or reduction of the estate tax.
Sec. 344. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for disabled veterans and their survivors.
Sec. 345. Deficit reduction fund for no budget, no OMB pay.
Sec. 346. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating hardrock mining reform.
Sec. 347. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to end ''too big to fail'' subsidies or funding advantage for wall street mega-banks (over $500,000,000,000 in total assets).
Sec. 348. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to authorizing children eligible for health care under laws administered by Secretary of Veterans Affairs to retain such eligibility until age 26.
Sec. 349. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for State and local law enforcement.
Sec. 350. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to establish a national network for manufacturing innovation.
Sec. 351. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to ensure that any carbon emissions standards must be cost effective, based on the best available science, and benefit low-income and middle class families.
Sec. 352. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to address the eligibility criteria for certain unlawful immigrant individuals with respect to certain health insurance plans.
Sec. 353. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to ensure no financial institution is above the law regardless of size.
Sec. 354. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to helping homeowners and small businesses mitigate against flood loss.
Sec. 355. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to restore family health care flexibility by repealing the health savings account and flexible spending account restrictions in the health care law.
Sec. 356. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for BARDA and the BioShield Special Reserve Fund.
Sec. 357. Deficit-reduction reserve fund for postal reform.
Sec. 358. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to broaden the effects of the sequester, including allowing Members of Congress to donate a portion of their salaries to charity or to the Department of the Treasury during sequestration.
Sec. 359. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to ensure the Bureau of Land Management collaborates with western states to prevent the listing of the sage-grouse.
Sec. 360. Deficit-Reduction Reserve Fund for Eminent Domain Abuse Prevention.
Sec. 361. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for export promotion.
Sec. 362. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for the prohibition on funding of the Medium Extended Air Defense System.
Sec. 363. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to increase the capacity of agencies to ensure effective contract management and contract oversight.
Sec. 364. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for investments in air traffic control services.
Sec. 365. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to address prescription drug abuse in the United States.
Sec. 366. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to support rural schools and districts.
Sec. 367. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to strengthen enforcement of free trade agreement provisions relating to textile and apparel articles.
Sec. 368. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to assist low-income seniors.
Sec. 369. Reserve fund to end offshore tax abuses by large corporations.
Sec. 370. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to ensure that domestic energy sources can meet emissions rules.
Sec. 371. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to increasing funding for the inland waterways system.
Sec. 372. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for achieving full auditability of the financial statements of the Department of Defense by 2017.
Sec. 373. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to sanctions with respect to Iran.
Sec. 374. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to prevent restrictions to public access to fishing downstream of dams owned by the Corps of Engineers.
Sec. 375. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to address the disproportionate regulatory burdens on community banks.
Sec. 376. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to authorize provision of per diem payments for provision of services to dependents of homeless veterans under laws administered by Secretary of Veterans Affairs.
Sec. 377. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to support programs related to the nuclear missions of the Department of Defense and the National Nuclear Security Administration.
Sec. 378. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to phase-in any changes to individual or corporate tax systems.
Sec. 379. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to increases in aid for tribal education programs.
Sec. 380. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to expedite exports from the United States.
Sec. 381. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to supporting the reauthorization of the payments in lieu of taxes program at levels roughly equivalent to property tax revenues lost due to the presence of Federal land.
Sec. 382. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to ensure that the United States will not negotiate or support treaties that violate Americans' Second Amendment rights under the Constitution of the United States.
Sec. 383. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to increase funding for Federal investments in biomedical research.
Sec. 384. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to uphold Second Amendment rights and prevent the United States from entering into the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty.

TITLE IV—BUDGET PROCESS

Subtitle A—Budget Enforcement

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

Subtitle B—Other Provisions

Sec. 411. Oversight of Government performance.
Sec. 412. Budgetary treatment of certain discretionary administrative expenses.
Sec. 413. Application and effect of changes in allocations and aggregates.
Sec. 414. Adjustments to reflect changes in concepts and definitions.

Sec. 415. Exercise of rulemaking powers.
Sec. 416. Congressional budget office estimates.

TITLE V—OTHER MATTERS

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

TITLE I—RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS

SEC. 101. RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SEC. 102. SOCIAL SECURITY.

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

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

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

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

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

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

SEC. 103. POSTAL SERVICE DISCRETIONARY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.

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

Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $255,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $255,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $262,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $262,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $272,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $272,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $284,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $283,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $295,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $294,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $308,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $307,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $319,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $318,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $332,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $331,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $345,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $344,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $357,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $356,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $371,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $370,000,000.

SEC. 104. MAJOR FUNCTIONAL CATEGORIES.

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

(1) National Defense (050):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $648,215,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $658,250,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $560,243,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $599,643,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $567,553,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $575,701,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $575,019,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $575,203,000,000.

Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $582,648,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $573,557,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $590,411,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $574,884,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $598,867,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $587,226,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $607,454,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $595,192,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $616,137,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $603,369,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $625,569,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $617,186,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $636,480,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $621,603,000,000.
(2) International Affairs (150):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $58,425,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $48,716,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $47,883,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $47,508,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $46,367,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $46,830,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $47,521,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $46,580,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $48,666,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $46,792,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $49,831,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $47,157,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $51,004,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $47,707,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $52,194,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $48,729,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $52,898,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $49,801,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $54,417,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $51,209,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $55,664,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $52,212,000,000.
(3) General Science, Space, and Technology (250):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $29,154,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $28,949,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $29,700,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,426,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $30,301,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $30,022,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $31,019,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $30,553,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $31,749,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $31,229,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $32,508,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $31,962,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $33,264,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $32,655,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $34,030,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $33,408,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $34,795,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $34,073,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $35,590,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $34,851,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $36,396,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $35,643,000,000.
(4) Energy (270):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $6,243,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $9,122,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $4,465,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $5,270,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $4,061,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,078,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $4,185,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $3,563,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $4,309,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $3,822,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $4,489,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,105,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $4,622,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,316,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $4,803,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,538,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $4,875,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,696,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $5,000,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,862,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $5,072,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,913,000,000.
(5) Natural Resources and Environment (300):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $44,150,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $41,682,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $43,019,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $43,121,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $42,872,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $43,165,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $44,055,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $44,394,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $45,500,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $45,681,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $47,245,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $47,014,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $48,036,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $48,112,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $49,596,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $49,435,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $50,174,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $50,074,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $51,331,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $50,862,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $52,759,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $51,703,000,000.
(6) Agriculture (350):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $22,373,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $28,777,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $22,550,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $21,136,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $20,180,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,909,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $19,717,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,283,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $19,780,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,289,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $19,613,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,087,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $19,908,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,301,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $20,379,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,878,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $20,588,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $20,116,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $21,105,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $20,626,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $21,421,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $20,959,000,000.
(7) Commerce and Housing Credit (370):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $−30,498,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−24,504,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $16,201,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,408,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $10,733,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−2,394,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $11,112,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−4,110,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $11,827,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−5,624,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $14,224,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−3,938,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $16,885,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−6,483,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $16,984,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−6,238,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $17,099,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−981,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $17,226,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−2,004,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $17,334,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−3,032,000,000.
(8) Transportation (400):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $100,501,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $93,656,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $88,556,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $94,621,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $88,419,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $95,092,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $89,319,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $95,855,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $90,186,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $96,577,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $91,115,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $96,478,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $91,977,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $97,757,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $93,143,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $99,308,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $94,330,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $101,593,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $95,586,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $103,395,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $96,864,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $105,364,000,000.
(9) Community and Regional Development (450):
Fiscal year 2013:

(A) New budget authority, $51,911,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $38,409,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $24,995,500,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,779,500,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $25,362,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $31,033,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $25,808,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,233,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $26,360,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,216,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $26,442,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,660,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $26,610,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,831,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $27,212,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,873,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $27,828,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,154,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $28,461,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,487,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $29,098,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,953,000,000.
(10) Education, Training, Employment, and Social Services (500):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $77,536,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $82,279,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $78,349,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $86,546,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $89,537,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $96,269,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $106,927,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $98,922,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $117,961,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $111,494,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $123,744,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $122,679,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $119,139,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $117,997,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $120,411,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $119,806,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $122,546,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $121,459,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $124,565,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $123,422,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $126,825,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $125,845,000,000.
(11) Health (550):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $365,206,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $361,960,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $420,326,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $415,573,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $500,356,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $493,639,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $554,680,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $560,173,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $611,908,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $614,248,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $648,773,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $648,945,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $685,879,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $684,985,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $732,529,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $721,193,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $764,934,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $763,469,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $808,026,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $806,172,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $852,829,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $851,028,000,000.
(12) Medicare (570):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $511,692,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $511,240,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $535,596,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $535,067,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $540,503,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $540,205,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $586,873,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $586,662,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $602,495,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $602,085,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $626,619,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $626,319,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $687,071,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $686,851,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $734,468,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $734,051,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $782,452,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $782,386,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $855,410,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $855,061,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $883,491,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $883,062,000,000.
(13) Income Security (600):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $544,094,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $542,998,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $530,103,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $526,954,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $528,197,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $524,043,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $537,117,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $536,196,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $536,006,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $531,153,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $538,914,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $529,716,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $565,188,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $560,677,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $578,159,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $573,775,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $592,348,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $587,965,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $611,644,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $612,070,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $619,422,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $614,921,000,000.
(14) Social Security (650):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $52,803,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $52,883,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $27,506,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,616,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $30,233,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $30,308,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $33,369,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $33,407,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $36,691,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $36,691,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $40,005,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $40,005,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $43,421,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $43,421,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $46,954,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $46,954,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $50,474,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $50,474,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $54,235,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $54,235,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $58,441,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $58,441,000,000.
(15) Veterans Benefits and Services (700):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $140,646,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $138,860,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $145,488,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $145,254,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $150,218,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $149,672,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $162,493,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $161,876,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $161,405,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $160,549,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $159,902,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $159,031,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $171,529,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $170,622,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $176,188,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $175,286,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $180,118,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $179,169,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $191,846,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $190,875,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $188,517,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $187,433,000,000.
(16) Administration of Justice (750):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $53,094,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $57,120,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $66,526,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $55,445,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $56,476,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $57,912,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $59,937,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $62,665,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $59,940,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $65,090,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $61,751,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $63,405,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $63,708,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $63,959,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $65,672,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $65,153,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $67,840,000,000.

(B) Outlays, $67,246,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $70,695,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $70,066,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $76,218,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $75,564,000,000.
(17) General Government (800):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $24,000,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,263,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $23,616,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,527,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $24,258,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,540,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $24,995,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,616,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $25,640,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $25,247,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $26,497,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,039,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $27,377,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,724,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $28,210,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,520,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $29,089,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $28,437,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $29,996,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,353,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $30,900,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $30,304,000,000.
(18) Net Interest (900):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $331,271,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $331,271,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $342,703,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $342,703,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $370,274,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $370,274,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $419,485,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $419,485,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $506,103,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $506,103,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $608,623,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $608,623,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $683,623,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $683,623,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $752,067,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $752,067,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $806,870,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $806,870,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $859,077,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $859,077,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $905,971,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $905,971,000,000.
(19) Allowances (920):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $99,868,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $3,853,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $31,869,500,000.
(B) Outlays, $39,233,500,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $1,469,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $32,941,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $−35,734,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $2,211,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $−42,592,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−20,253,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $−51,675,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−36,471,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $−61,088,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−48,910,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $−68,207,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−61,194,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $−76,108,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−70,697,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $−84,378,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−80,463,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $−92,680,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−89,556,000,000.
(20) Undistributed Offsetting Receipts (950):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $−76,489,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−76,489,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $−75,946,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−75,946,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $−80,864,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−80,864,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $−86,391,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−86,391,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $−90,137,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−90,137,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $−90,503,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−90,503,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $−97,574,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−97,574,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $−98,916,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−98,916,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $−103,177,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−103,177,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $−105,117,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−105,117,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $−108,885,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−108,885,000,000.

TITLE II—RECONCILIATION

SEC. 201. RECONCILIATION IN THE SENATE.

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

TITLE III—RESERVE FUNDS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(a) INCOME SUPPORT.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG), the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, child support enforcement programs, or other assistance to working families, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SEC. 306. RESERVE FUND FOR TAX REFORM.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(6) greenhouse gas emissions levels;

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

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

(9) wildland fire management activities;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(a) PHYSICIAN REIMBURSEMENT.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments,

motions, or conference reports that increase payments made under, or permanently reform or replace, the Medicare Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) formula, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that the provisions in such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that make changes to or provide for the reauthorization of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act (Public Law 107–297; 116 Stat. 2322), by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

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

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

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

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that achieve savings through the use of performance data or scientifically rigorous evaluation methodologies for the elimination, consolidation, or reform of Federal programs, agencies, offices, and initiatives, or the sale of Federal property, or the

reduction of duplicative Federal financial literacy programs, or the reduction of duplicative Federal housing assistance programs or the reduction of duplicative Federal grant programs within the Department of Justice, or the reduction of duplicative Federal unmanned aircraft programs, or the reduction of duplicative Federal science, technology, engineering, and mathematics programs or the reduction of duplicative Federal economic development programs or the reduction of duplicative Federal support for entrepreneurs programs, or the reduction of duplicative preparedness grants by the Federal Emergency Management Agency or the reduction of duplicative Federal green building programs, or the reduction of duplicative Federal diesel emissions programs, or the reduction of duplicative early learning child care programs, or the reduction of duplicative domestic food assistance programs, or the reduction of duplicative teacher quality programs, or the reduction of duplicative food safety programs, or the reduction of duplicative Defense language and cultural training programs, or the reduction of duplicative nuclear nonproliferation programs, or reduce improper payments, and reduce the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023. The Chairman may also make adjustments to the Senate's pay-as-you-go ledger over 6 and 11 years to ensure that the deficit reduction achieved is used for deficit reduction only. The adjustments authorized under this section shall be of the amount of deficit reduction achieved.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(b) MEDICALLY COMPLEX CHILDREN.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that improve the health outcomes and lowers costs for medically complex children in Medicaid, which may include creating or expanding integrated delivery models or improving care coordination, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

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

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

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

reports that would ensure effective administration, reduce inefficient overlap, improve access, and enhance outcomes of Federal workforce development, youth and adult job training, and reemployment programs, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(1) expanding educational opportunities;

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

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

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

(5) improving military housing;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to providing better coordination among flood mitigation programs to meet the unmet mitigation needs of homeowners and small businesses, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to the establishment of the Office of Rural Education Policy within the Department of Education, which could include a clearinghouse for information related to the challenges of rural schools and districts or providing technical assistance within the Department of Education on rules and regulations that impact rural schools and districts, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports relating to the phase-in of any changes to the individual or corporate tax systems, including any changes to individual or corporate income tax exclusions, exemptions, deductions, or credits, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

TITLE IV— BUDGET PROCESS

Subtitle A—Budget Enforcement

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

(a) SENATE POINT OF ORDER.—

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

(2) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEALS.—

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

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

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

(1) for fiscal year 2013—

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

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

(2) for fiscal year 2014—

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

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

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

(c) ADJUSTMENTS IN THE SENATE.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(3) ADJUSTMENTS FOR OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS.—

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

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

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

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

(iv) conference reports;

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

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

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

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

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

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

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

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

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

SEC. 402. POINT OF ORDER AGAINST ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) POINT OF ORDER.—Except as provided in subsection (b), it shall not be in order in the

Senate to consider any bill, joint resolution, motion, amendment, amendment between the Houses, or conference report that would provide an advance appropriation.

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

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

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

(2) for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting; and

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

(c) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—

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

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

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

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

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

SEC. 403. ADJUSTMENTS FOR SEQUESTRATION OR SEQUESTRATION REPLACEMENT.

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

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

SEC. 404. SENATE POINT OF ORDER AGAINST PROVISIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS LEGISLATION THAT CONSTITUTE CHANGES IN MANDATORY PROGRAMS AFFECTING THE CRIME VICTIMS FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the Senate, it shall not be in order to consider any appropriations legislation, including any amendment thereto, motion in relation thereto, or conference report thereon, that includes any provision or provisions affecting the Crime Victims Fund (as established by section 1402 of Public Law 98–473 (42 U.S.C. 10601)) which constitutes a change in a mandatory program that would have been estimated as affecting direct spending or receipts under section 252 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (as in effect prior to September 30, 2002) were they included in legislation other than appropriations legislation. A point of order pursuant to this section shall be raised against such provision or provisions as described in subsections (d) and (e).

(b) DETERMINATION.—The determination of whether a provision is subject to a point of order pursuant to this section shall be made by the Committee on the Budget of the Senate.

(c) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—This section may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn. An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

(d) GENERAL POINT OF ORDER.—It shall be in order for a Senator to raise a single point of order that several provisions of a bill, resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report violate this section. The Presiding Officer may sustain the point of order as to some or all of the provisions against which the Senator raised the point of order. If the Presiding Officer so sustains the point of order as to some of the provisions (including provisions of an amendment, motion, or conference report) against which the Senator raised the point of order, then only those provisions (including provision of an amendment, motion, or conference report) against which the Presiding Officer sustains the point of order shall be deemed stricken pursuant to this section. Before the Presiding Officer rules on such a point of order, any Senator may move to waive such a point of order as it applies to some or all of the provisions against which the point of order was raised. Such a motion to waive is amendable in accordance with rules and precedents of the Senate. After the Presiding Officer rules on such a point of order, any Senator may appeal the ruling of the Presiding Officer on such a point of order as it applies to some or all of the provisions on which the Presiding Officer ruled.

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

SEC. 405. SUPERMAJORITY ENFORCEMENT.

Section 425(a)(1) and (2) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 shall be subject to the waiver and appeal requirements of subsections (c)(2) and (d)(3) of section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

SEC. 406. PROHIBITING THE USE OF GUARANTEE FEES AS AN OFFSET.

(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to ensure that increases in guarantee fees charged by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac shall not be used to offset provisions that increase the deficit.

(b) BUDGETARY RULE.—In the Senate, for purposes of determining budgetary impacts to evaluate points of order under this resolution and the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, this resolution, any previous resolution, and any subsequent budget resolution, provisions contained in any bill, resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that increases any guarantee fees of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac shall not be scored with respect to the level of budget authority, outlays, or revenues contained in such legislation.

Subtitle B—Other Provisions

SEC. 411. OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE.

In the Senate, all committees are directed to review programs and tax expenditures within their jurisdiction to identify waste, fraud, abuse, or duplication, and increase the use of performance data to inform committee work. Committees are also directed to review the matters for congressional consideration identified on the Government Accountability Office's High Risk list and the annual report to reduce program duplication. Based on these oversight efforts and performance reviews of programs within their jurisdiction, committees are directed to include recommendations for improved governmental performance in their annual views and estimates reports required under section 301(d) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to the Committees on the Budget.

SEC. 412. BUDGETARY TREATMENT OF CERTAIN DISCRETIONARY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.

In the Senate, notwithstanding section 302(a)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, section 13301 of the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990, and section 2009a of title 39, United States Code, the joint explanatory statement accompanying the conference report on any concurrent resolution on the budget shall include in its allocations under section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to the Committees on Appropriations amounts for the discretionary administrative expenses of the Social Security Administration and of the Postal Service.

SEC. 413. APPLICATION AND EFFECT OF CHANGES IN ALLOCATIONS AND AGGREGATES.

(a) APPLICATION.—Any adjustments of allocations and aggregates made pursuant to this resolution shall—

(1) apply while that measure is under consideration;

(2) take effect upon the enactment of that measure; and

(3) be published in the Congressional Record as soon as practicable.

(b) EFFECT OF CHANGED ALLOCATIONS AND AGGREGATES.—Revised allocations and aggregates resulting from these adjustments shall be considered for the purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 as allocations and aggregates contained in this resolution.

(c) BUDGET COMMITTEE DETERMINATIONS.—For purposes of this resolution the levels of new budget authority, outlays, direct spending, new entitlement authority, revenues, deficits, and surpluses for a fiscal year or period of fiscal years shall be determined on the basis of estimates made by the Committee on the Budget of the Senate.

SEC. 414. ADJUSTMENTS TO REFLECT CHANGES IN CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS.

Upon the enactment of a bill or joint resolution providing for a change in concepts or definitions, the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may make adjustments to the levels and allocations in this resolution in accordance with section 251(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 415. EXERCISE OF RULEMAKING POWERS.

Congress adopts the provisions of this title—

(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate, and as such they shall be considered as part of the rules of the Senate and such rules shall supersede other rules only to the extent that they are inconsistent with such other rules; and

(2) with full recognition of the constitutional right of the Senate to change those rules at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as is the case of any other rule of the Senate.

SEC. 416. CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE ESTIMATES.

(a) REQUEST FOR SUPPLEMENTAL ESTIMATES.—In the case of any legislative provision to which this section applies, the Congressional Budget Office, with the assistance of the Joint Committee on Taxation, shall prepare, to the extent practicable, as a supplement to the cost estimate for legislation affecting revenues, an estimate of the revenue changes in connection with such provision that incorporates the macroeconomic effects of the policy being analyzed. Any macroeconomic impact statement under the preceding sentence shall be accompanied by a written statement fully disclosing the economic, technical, and behavioral assumptions that were made in producing—

(1) such estimate; and

(2) the conventional estimate in connection with such provision.

(b) LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS TO WHICH THIS SECTION APPLIES.—This section shall apply to any legislative provision—

(1) which proposes a change or changes to law that the Congressional Budget Office determines, pursuant to a conventional fiscal estimate, has a revenue impact in excess of $5,000,000,000 in any fiscal year; or

(2) with respect to which the chair or ranking member of the Committee on the Budget of either the Senate or the House of Representatives has requested an estimate described in subsection (a).

TITLE V—OTHER MATTERS

SEC. 501. TO REQUIRE TRANSPARENT REPORTING ON THE ONGOING COSTS TO TAXPAYERS OF OBAMACARE.

When the Congressional Budget Office releases its annual Update to the Budget and Economic Outlook, the Congressional Budget Office shall report changes in direct spending and revenue associated with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111–148) and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–152), including the net impact on deficit, both with on-budget and off-budget effects. The information shall be similar to that provided in Table 2 of the Congressional Budget Office's March 20, 2010 estimate of the budgetary effects of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), as passed by the Senate.

SEC. 502. TO REQUIRE FULLER REPORTING ON POSSIBLE COSTS TO TAXPAYERS OF OBAMACARE.

When the Congressional Budget Office releases its annual update to the Budget and Economic Outlook, the Congressional Budget Office shall provide an analysis of the budgetary effects of 30 percent, 50 percent, and 100 percent of Americans losing employer sponsored health insurance and accessing coverage through Federal or State exchanges.

SEC. 503. TO REQUIRE FULLER REPORTING ON POSSIBLE COSTS TO TAXPAYERS OF ANY BUDGET SUBMITTED BY THE PRESIDENT.

When the Congressional Budget Office submits its report to Congress relating to a budget submitted by the President for a fiscal year under section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, such report shall contain—

(1) an estimate of the pro rata cost for taxpayers who will file individual income tax returns for taxable years ending during such fiscal year of any deficit that would result from the budget; and

(2) an analysis of the budgetary effects described in paragraph (1).

SEC. 504. SENSE OF SENATE ON UNDERUTILIZED FACILITIES OF THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION AND THEIR POTENTIAL USE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds the following:

(1) The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is the ninth largest real property holder of the Federal Government, with more than 124,000 acres and more than 4,900 buildings and other structures with a replacement value of more than $30,000,000,000.

(2) The annual operation and maintenance costs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration have increased steadily, and, as of 2012, the Administration has more than $2,300,000,000 in annual deferred maintenance costs.

(3) According to Office of Inspector General (OIG) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Administration continues to retain real property that is underutilized, does not have identified future mission uses, or is duplicative of other assets in its real property inventory.

(4) The Office of Inspector General, the Government Accountability Office (GAO), and Congress have identified the aging and duplicative infrastructure of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration as a high priority and longstanding management challenge.

(5) In the NASA Authorization Act of 2010, Congress directed the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to examine its real property assets and downsize to fit current and future missions and expected funding levels, paying particular attention to identifying and removing unneeded or duplicative infrastructure.

(6) The Office of Inspector General found at least 33 facilities, including wind tunnels, test stands, airfields, and launch infrastructure, that were underutilized or for which National Aeronautics and Space Administration managers could not identify a future mission use and that the need for these facilities have declined in recent years as a result of changes in the mission focus of the Administration, the condition and obsolescence of some facilities, and the advent of alternative testing methods.

(7) The Office of Inspector General found that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration has taken steps to minimize the costs of continuing to maintain some of these facilities by placing them in an inactive state or leasing them to other parties.

(8) The National Aeronautics and Space Administration has a series of initiatives underway that, in the judgment of the Office of Inspector General, are ''positive steps towards 'rightsizing' its real property footprint'', and the Office of Inspector General has concluded that ''it is imperative that NASA move forward aggressively with its infrastructure reduction efforts''.

(9) Existing and emerging United States commercial launch and exploration capabilities are providing cargo transportation to the International Space Station and offer the potential for providing crew support, access to the International Space Station, and missions to low Earth orbit while the National Aeronautics and Space Administration focuses its efforts on heavy-lift capabilities and deep space missions.

(10) National Aeronautics and Space Administration facilities and property that are underutilized, duplicative, or no longer needed for Administration requirements could be utilized by commercial users and State and local entities, resulting in savings for the Administration and a reduction in the burden of the Federal Government to fund space operations.

(b) SENSE OF SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the levels in this concurrent resolution assume—

(1) the National Aeronautics and Space Administration should move forward with plans to reduce its infrastructure and, to the greatest extent practicable, make property available for lease to a government or private tenant or report the property to the General Services Administration (GSA) for sale or transfer to another entity;

(2) the National Aeronautics and Space Administration should pursue opportunities for streamlined sale or lease of property and facilities, including for exclusive use, to a private entity, or expedited conveyance or transfer to a State or political subdivision, municipality, instrumentality of a State, or Department of Transportation-licensed launch site operators for the promotion of commercial or scientific space activity and for developing and operating space launch facilities; and

(3) leasing or transferring underutilized facilities and properties to commercial space entities or State or local governments will reduce operation and maintenance costs for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, save money for the Federal Government, and promote commercial space and the exploration goals of the Administration and the United States.

Passed the Senate March 23 (legislative day, March 22), 2013.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees on Senate Concurrent Resolution 8: Messrs. RYAN of Wisconsin, COLE, PRICE of Georgia, Mrs.

BLACK, Messrs. VAN HOLLEN, CLYBURN, and Mrs. LOWEY.

There was no objection.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING NEED FOR CONTINUED AVAILABILITY OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES TO MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 58) expressing the sense of Congress regarding the need for the continued availability of religious services to members of the Armed Forces and their families during a lapse in appropriations, with the Senate amendments thereto, and concur in the Senate amendments.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the Senate amendments.

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendments:

(1) Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas the Department of Defense determined that some contractor clergy, like other Department of Defense contractors, were unable to perform their contractual duties during the current lapse in appropriations;

Whereas this determination may have impacted the ability of members of the Armed Forces and their families to worship and participate in religious activities;

Whereas military chaplains on active duty, like all military personnel on active duty, continue to perform their duties during the current lapse in appropriations;

Whereas the Department continues to analyze its authorities under the Pay Our Military Act (Public Law 113–39) with respect to contractors; and

Whereas the Pay Our Military Act appropriates such sums as are necessary to pay contractors of the Department whom the Secretary of Defense determines are providing support to members of the Armed Forces: Now, therefore, be it

(2) On page 2, strike line 3 and all that follows through page 3, line 2, and insert the following:

(1) finds that the provision and availability of religious services and clergy is important to the morale and wellbeing of many members of the Armed Forces and their families; and

(2) hopes the Secretary of Defense is able to determine that contractor clergy provide necessary support to military personnel, and would therefore be covered under the appropriations made available under the Pay Our Military Act (Public Law 113–39).

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

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

There was no objection.

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

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has agreed to a concurrent resolution of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 24. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate. and an adjournment of the House of Representatives.

The message also announced that pursuant to the provisions of section 1151 of title II, United States Code, as amended, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, appoints the following individuals to the Board of Trustees of the Open World Leadership Center:

The Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH).

The Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN).

□ 2245

PROVIDING FOR A CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE SENATE AND AN ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following privileged concurrent resolution:

S. CON. RES. 24

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That when the Senate recesses or adjourns on any day from Wednesday, October 16, 2013, through Friday, October 25, 2013, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until 12:00 noon on Monday, October 28, 2013, or such other time on that day as may be specified by its Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the House adjourns on any legislative day from Wednesday, October 16, 2013, through Monday, October 21, 2013, on a motion offered pursuant to this current resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 22, 2013, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, or their respective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the House, shall notify the Members of the Senate and House, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate if, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

Passed the Senate October 16, 2013.

The concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for October 14 on account of personal business.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GARRETT. Madam Speaker, pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution 24, 113th Congress, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 55 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until Tuesday, October 22, 2013, at 2 p.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

3311. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Kurt A. Cichowski, United States Air Force, and his advancement on the retired list in the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

3312. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Kathleen M. Gainey, United States Air Force, and her advancement on the retired list in the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

3313. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Dana K. Chipman, United States Army, and his advancement on the retired list in the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

3314. 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; Connecticut; Redesignation of Connecticut Portion of the New York-New Jersey-Connecticut Nonattainment Area to Attainment of the 1997 Annual and 2006 24-Hour Standards for Fine Particulate Matter [EPA-R01-OAR-2013-0020; FRL-9901-11-Region 1] received September 20, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3315. 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; Delaware; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference [DE104-1103; FRL-9900-05-Region 3] received September 20, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3316. 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; Maryland; Adoption of Control Techniques Guidelines for Miscellaneous Metal and Plastic Parts which Includes Pleasure Craft Coating Operations [EPA-R03-OAR-2013-006; FRL-9901-20-Region 3] received September 20, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3317. 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; Redesignation of the Dayton-Springfield Area to Attainment of the 1997 Annual Standard for Fine Particulate Matter [EPA-R05-OAR-2011-0596; FRL-9901-09-Region 5] received September 20, 2013, pursuant to 5

U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3318. 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; States of Michigan and Minnesota; Regional Haze [EPA-R05-OAR-2010-0954 and EPA-R05-OAR-2010-0037; FRL-9901-31-Region 5] September 20, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3319. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 13-47, Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer and Acceptance, pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3320. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 13-43, Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer and Acceptance, pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3321. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 20-158, ''Extension of Time to Dispose of Hine Junior High School Temporary Amendment Act of 2013''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3322. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 20-159, ''Fire and Emergency Medical Services Major Changes Temporary Amendment Act of 2013''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3323. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 20-160, ''School Transit Subsidy Temporary Amendment Act of 2013''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3324. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 20-183, ''Chief Financial Officer Compensation Temporary Amendment Act of 2013''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3325. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 20-184, ''CCNV Task Force Temporary Act of 2013''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3326. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 20-185, ''Income Tax Secured Bond Authorization Act of 2013''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3327. A letter from the Auditor, Office of the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting a report entitled, ''District of Columbia Agencies' Compliance with Fiscal Year 2013 Small Business Enterprise Expenditure Goals through the 3rd Quarter Fiscal Year 2013''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

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. MILLER of Florida: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 2072. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the accountability of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to the Inspector General of the Department of Veterans Affairs; with an amendment (Rept. 113–245). 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. CASTOR of Florida:

H.R. 3295. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to eliminate contributing factors to disparities in breast cancer treatment through the development of a uniform set of consensus-based breast cancer treatment performance measures for a 6-year quality reporting system and value-based purchasing system under the Medicare program; 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. GALLEGO:

H.R. 3296. A bill to authorize the United States Department of Treasury to prioritize certain payments in the event that the debt limit is reached; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 3297. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to authorize the use of funds for the inclusion in domestic violence education programs of information on legal rights available to teenage victims of dating violence; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. ROSS:

H.R. 3298. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow individuals a deduction for amounts contributed to disaster savings accounts to help defray the cost of preparing their homes to withstand a disaster; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ROSS:

H.R. 3299. A bill to amend section 340A of the Public Health Service Act to protect the privacy of personally identifiable information in relation to enrollment activities of health insurance exchanges, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

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. CASTOR of Florida:

H.R. 3295.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

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

By Mr. GALLEGO:

H.R. 3296.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION ARTICLE I, SECTION 8:

POWERS OF CONGRESS 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 this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 3297.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

By Mr. ROSS:

H.R. 3298.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. ROSS:

H.R. 3299.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3—to regulate commerce among the several states

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 24: Mrs. ELLMERS.

H.R. 25: Mr. STOCKMAN.

H.R. 60: Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 366: Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.

H.R. 494: Ms. FUDGE.

H.R. 685: Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. WOLF, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. HECK of Nevada, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Mr. BARBER.

H.R. 713: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.

H.R. 724: Mr. SHUSTER and Mr. HUDSON.

H.R. 725: Mr. SERRANO.

H.R. 792: Mrs. BACHMANN.

H.R. 846: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida and Mr. BUTTERFIELD.

H.R. 855: Mr. QUIGLEY.

H.R. 911: Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 942: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 963: Mrs. BEATTY.

H.R. 1074: Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Mr. GERLACH.

H.R. 1094: Mr. LOWENTHAL and Mr. PALLONE.

H.R. 1125: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.

H.R. 1146: Ms. WATERS.

H.R. 1180: Mr. WALZ, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. EDWARDS, and Mr. ENYART.

H.R. 1217: Mr. FOSTER and Mr. PEARCE.

H.R. 1240: Ms. MCCOLLUM and Mr. SCHNEIDER.

H.R. 1318: Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. POCAN, and Ms. SLAUGHTER.

H.R. 1351: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 1354: Mr. COLLINS of New York.

H.R. 1429: Ms. DELAURO.

H.R. 1461: Mr. PEARCE.

H.R. 1462: Mr. NUNNELEE.

H.R. 1473: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.

H.R. 1528: Mr. CRENSHAW and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 1599: Ms. MCCOLLUM.

H.R. 1666: Mr. MCDERMOTT.

H.R. 1708: Mr. TIBERI.

H.R. 1726: Mr. COSTA and Mr. CUMMINGS.

H.R. 1731: Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. KILMER, and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.

H.R. 1755: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.

H.R. 1779: Mr. SCHOCK and Mr. HUDSON.

H.R. 1780: Mr. DESJARLAIS.

H.R. 1812: Mr. LOWENTHAL and Ms. BORDALLO.

H.R. 1877: Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. ISRAEL, and Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.

H.R. 1986: Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 1991: Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 2001: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Mr. VARGAS.
H.R. 2027: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 2084: Mr. FARENTHOLD.
H.R. 2101: Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 2213: Mr. CRAMER.
H.R. 2305: Mr. RENACCI, Mr. HANNA, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. HANABUSA.
H.R. 2315: Mr. YOUNG of Indiana.
H.R. 2368: Mr. RUIZ.
H.R. 2430: Ms. FUDGE, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, and Mr. TAKANO.
H.R. 2485: Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 2512: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 2607: Mr. PASTOR of Arizona.
H.R. 2662: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 2663: Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia.
H.R. 2734: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H.R. 2767: Mr. PALAZZO, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, and Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 2790: Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 2807: Mrs. BUSTOS.
H.R. 2818: Mr. TIERNEY.
H.R. 2847: Ms. TSONGAS.
H.R. 2856: Ms. SCHWARTZ.
H.R. 2866: Mr. JONES, Mr. WOLF, and Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 2902: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 2914: Mr. CARTWRIGHT and Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 2919: Mr. DAINES and Mr. SCHRADER.
H.R. 2932: Ms. CHU, Mr. LATTA, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, and Mr. DOYLE.
H.R. 2955: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 2989: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 3013: Mr. HARPER and Mr. OLSON.
H.R. 3077: Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 3097: Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 3103: Mr. LATTA.
H.R. 3111: Mr. BARBER and Mr. ISSA.
H.R. 3133: Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. CARTER, and Mr. FINCHER.
H.R. 3143: Mr. BUCHANAN.
H.R. 3163: Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 3179: Mr. KINGSTON and Mr. HECK of Nevada.
H.R. 3183: Mrs. BACHMANN.
H.R. 3188: Mr. PEARCE.
H.R. 3218: Mr. STOCKMAN and Mr. JONES.
H.R. 3279: Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. PETERSON, and Mr. GARRETT.
H.R. 3285: Mr. MARCHANT and Mr. SESSIONS.
H.J. Res. 20: Mrs. CAPPS.
H.J. Res. 51: Mr. LATTA.
H.J. Res. 64: Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. COLLINS of New York, and Mr. SCHOCK.
H.J. Res. 94: Mr. OLSON.
H. Con. Res. 46: Mr. COFFMAN.
H. Con. Res. 60: Mr. FARR, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. WOLF, Mr. RANGEL, and Ms. CHU.
H. Res. 326: Mr. KING of Iowa.
H. Res. 365: Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. POLIS, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. MOORE, Ms. CHU, Mr. POCAN, Mr. KILDEE and Mrs. DAVIS of California.

DISCHARGE PETITIONS—ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

The following Members added their names to the following discharge petition:

Petition 5 by Mr. VAN HOLLEN on House Resolution 372: Nancy Pelosi, Hakeem S. Jeffries, John Lewis, Brian Higgins, Louise McIntosh Slaughter, Michael E. Capuano, Donald M. Payne Jr., Grace F. Napolitano, Kyrsten Sinema, Bruce L. Braley, and Peter J. Visclosky.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 159 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2013 No. 147

Senate

The Senate met at 12 noon and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, we are grateful that You are gracious and merciful, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love.

Lord, we see a faint light at the end of a long dark tunnel. Thank You for lawmakers who understand that when everyone loses, America loses. We are grateful also for Senators who know that before they are Democrat, Republican or Independent, they are Americans. As they remember their accountability to You and to history, empower them to keep our Nation strong, staying true to their oath to defend our Constitution against external and internal foes. Lord, keep them from making any decision that will seem reckless in the sober light of hindsight.

We pray in Your mighty Name. Amen

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

DEFAULT PREVENTION ACT OF 2013—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to Calendar No. 211.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 211, S. 1569, a bill to ensure the complete and timely payment of the obligations of the United States Government until December 31, 2014.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Following the remarks of the Republican leader and me the Senate will be in a period of morning business where Senators will be allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes each—or at least be in a situation where people can speak up to 10 minutes each.

Mr. President, I am going to wait until Senator MCCONNELL gets to the floor, so I will not give any long remarks here. In fact, I won't give any long remarks at any time, but I do have a few things to say.

RECOGNITION OF THE SENATE CHAPLAIN

While we are waiting for Senator MCCONNELL, I want to take this opportunity to say this. Admiral Black has, for me, during this long period of crisis we have had in the country, been a voice of stability and a voice of inspiration. I am being very selfish in saying me, because it has been so for the entire Senate and for the country. His heartfelt prayers are so timely and so sensitive to the needs of our country and the need we all have to call upon our spirituality to get us through periods of difficulty.

I can speak for the entire Senate when I say how much we admire and respect this good man, who is a counselor and as much a leader in the Senate as anyone who serves in this body.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Madam President, the eyes of the world have been on Washington all this week—and that is a gross understatement—and while they witnessed a great deal of political discord, today they will also see Congress reach a historic bipartisan agreement and avoid a default on the Nation's bills.

The compromise we reached will provide our economy with the stability it desperately needs. It is never easy for two sides to reach consensus. Sometimes it is harder than others. This time it was really hard. After weeks spent facing off across a partisan divide that often seemed too wide to cross, our country came to the brink of disaster. But in the end, political adversaries set aside their differences and disagreements to prevent that disaster.

I thank the Republican leader for his diligent efforts to reach this important agreement. The Republican leader's cooperation was essential to reach an accord to pass both Chambers of Congress and also be signed by President Obama.

As part of our agreement, in order to ensure Congress continues the work of setting this country on a path of fiscal sustainability, this legislation instructs leaders to name conferees to a budget conference committee that will set our country on a long-term path to fiscal sustainability. I know some say that is going to be hard. What we do is hard here, and this is really hard, but I think we can get it done. The committee members selected must have open minds, be willing to exert every option no matter how painful to their own political ideas and even their own political parties. This conference committee, led by Chairman MURRAY and Chairman RYAN—which will produce its negotiated budget resolution in December—is the appropriate place to discuss our different views and the best way to chart a course for economic growth.

This legislation also funds the government through January 15 and averts default through February 7, during which time we can work toward a long-term budget agreement that prevents these frequent crises. Perhaps most importantly, this legislation ends a

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

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standoff that ground the work of Washington to a halt this fall.

This is not a time for pointing fingers or blame. This is a time of reconciliation. I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of this great Capitol to pass this remarkable agreement which will protect the long-term health of our economy, avert a default on our Nation's debt, and allow us to set a foundation for economic expansion.

What we have done is sent a message to Americans from every one of our 50 States, but in addition to that, the citizens of every country and the world, that the United States lives up to its obligations. Now Congress must return to its most important job—fostering economic growth and protecting middle-class families.

I appreciate through all of this the steady hand of President Obama to help guide us to this conclusion. I am optimistic that the spirit of compromise which has taken root in the Senate over the last 2 days will endure.

I do know this: Senator MCCONNELL and I have sat in very serious discussions the last few days, and we are going to do everything we can to change the atmosphere in the Senate and accomplish what needs to be done for our country.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

SHUTDOWN RESOLUTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, this has been a long, challenging few weeks for Congress and for the country. It is my hope that today we can put some of those most urgent issues behind us.

After yesterday's events the majority leader and I began a series of conversations about a way to get the government reopened and to prevent default. I am confident we will be able to do both of those things later today.

Crucially, I am also confident we will be able to announce that we are protecting the government's spending reductions that both parties agreed to under the Budget Control Act and that the President signed into law. That has been a top priority for me and for my colleagues on the Republican side of the aisle throughout this debate, and it has been worth the effort. Some have suggested that we break that promise as part of this agreement. Some have said that Washington needs to spend more, that we need to raise taxes, that we need to just tax our way to prosperity and balance. But what the BCA showed is that Washington actually can cut spending, and because of this law, that is just what we have done. For the first time since the Korean war—for the first time in 50 years—government spending has declined for 2 years in a row. And we are not going back on this agreement.

There is a lot more we need to do to get our Nation's fiscal house in order. Hopefully, once we have gotten past the drama of the moment, we can get to work on it. But for now, let's not understate the importance of the Budget Control Act or the importance of the fight to preserve it. This legislation is the largest spending reduction bill of the last quarter century and the largest deficit reduction bill since 1981 that didn't include a tax hike. Preserving this law is critically important to the future of our country.

Throughout this debate, the public has rightly focused on ObamaCare—for good reason. This law is ravaging our economy, killing jobs, driving up premiums, and driving people off the health care plans they have and like in droves. Its disastrous rollout is a sign of even worse things to come. The refusal to delay it reflects the kind of stubborn, ideological obsession that will do untold damage to our country, and Republicans remain determined to repeal this terrible law. But for today, the relief we hope for is to reopen the government, avoid default, and protect the historic cuts we achieved under the Budget Control Act. This is far less than many of us had hoped for, frankly, but it is far better than what some had sought. Now it is time for Republicans to unite behind other crucial goals.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, Senators are permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I had not intended to speak right now. I know the leaders are working on trying to get the process clear so we can move this legislation forward. But I would like to mention a few of my colleagues who really helped in this process.

We had a number of Democrats and Republicans who met together and talked to try to come to a resolution on a package we wanted to present to the leaders. In fact, the structure of what the two leaders have agreed on is very similar to what we had proposed to them.

I see some of my colleagues here today who were instrumental. I see the Senator from Alaska, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and I know Senator AYOTTE is here, as well as Senator FLAKE, who happens to be in the Chamber right now, and Senator KIRK, Senator JOHANNS, Senator MCCAIN, and, of course, Senator COLLINS. Senator COLLINS really led and spearheaded the effort, and she deserves a lot of credit for getting us together and helping to move the ball down the field.

I hadn't planned on controlling the floor right now or even talking about this very much, but since we have the opportunity—I know on our side of the aisle Senators MANCHIN, KLOBUCHAR, KING, DONNELLY, HEITKAMP, and SHAHEEN all played a critical role. Again, this had not been planned by anyone; it just looks as though we have a little bit of time.

If it is agreeable, I would like to yield to one of my colleagues to say a word about the agreement we reached or that we were working on to try to present to the leaders and just really say thank you to Senator COLLINS and thank you for all 14 of us. It turns out we had seven Republicans, six Democrats, and one Independent. Basically what we tried to do is come up with a sensible framework the leaders could use to get us to where we are today. Again, they didn't accept every single thing we wanted, but the framework was good, and certainly it was great to see everyone work together.

Before I turn it over to the Senator from Arizona, I wish to thank him because he was great and very instrumental in moving this ball down the court.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, I think it is obvious we are seeing the end of this agonizing odyssey this body has been put through but, far more importantly, the American people have been put through. It is one of the more shameful chapters I have seen in the years I have spent here in the Senate.

But I wish to say that if there is a good outcome, it is the fact that 14 of us were able to join together—Republican and Democrat. Leadership, I must fully admit, was provided primarily by women in the Senate. I won't comment further on that.

Seriously, 14 of us got together and came up with a plan after very spirited discussion. I think that plan was probably better than the one we are going to act on today. But the fact is that this group of 14 people is committed to staying together to address other issues of importance and to tell the American people that there are at least 14 of us—and there are many others who wanted to join that group and who are welcomed to join that group—we are not going to let this kind of partisanship cripple this body and injure the American people.

I am proud to have worked with Members from both sides of the aisle. This isn't the last crisis we are going to go through, but I think we have the framework for the kind of bipartisanship the American people need and want. So I thank them. I look forward to working with them in the future. I also enjoyed the spirited discussions we had.

I wish to thank especially my friend from Maine, who enriched me with a small side wager we made during the course of this discussion.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Madam President, I thank the Senator from Arizona—he brought a very experienced voice to our group—and especially I thank Senator COLLINS for bringing this group together. I think it shows what courage

is going to be in the next year in this Chamber and in the Congress. It is not going to be just standing here by yourself making a speech with no one there. Courage is going to be whether you are willing to stand next to someone you do not always agree with for the betterment of this country.

This was very close to another default—to seeing what we saw in 2011 with the Dow down 2000 points, household wealth down over $2 trillion. That cannot happen again. Thanks to our leader Senator REID, thanks to his work with Senator MCCONNELL, we averted it this time. I think you will find a strong bipartisan vote in the Senate for this compromise, for this idea of paying our bills, opening the government again, and making sure we have a reasonable time period to work out a solution long term. That is our challenge.

Yes, we have averted this crisis, but we need to stop having these crises. We need to actually come up with a long-term solution in a balanced way that brings down our debt while at the same time doing it in a way that will not start another financial crisis.

I thank my colleagues for their amazing work, for their good humor during a very difficult time, and for the fact that we are finally moving forward and ending the brinkmanship.

I see my friend the Senator from Alaska is here.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, I join my colleague Senator PRYOR. I don't think any of us had planned to do anything coordinated at this point in time. I came to the floor and was anticipating the announcement from both leaders. But I see so many of our colleagues who have been working on this proposal with Senator COLLINS from Maine. She has truly been remarkable in her persistence and insistence that we continue this effort to work collegially, to work collaboratively on these very difficult issues that we have been facing these past several weeks.

I thank Senator COLLINS for her leadership most particularly, but we all know, if you are trying to move the ball, just one person, you don't get anywhere. We do a lot of sports analogies around here. Honestly, I am tired of the sports analogies. But what I do appreciate is that as a Senate we cannot work together as individuals and expect to accomplish the work that is needed, not only for my constituents in Alaska but around the country. Regardless of who is in the majority or who is in the minority, in order to make it work for the country we have to be working together.

As difficult as all this has been in the past several weeks, what I found encouraging is there has been a nucleus of folks who would come together as the need arose, or perhaps just for a little moral support, and continued the effort to try to find common ground. We went from a small group to a group of six on each side to a group of seven on each side. I think with every passing day we had more colleagues who were interested in helping and participating to try to find that common ground. As we noted, the agreement that has been reached by our respective leaderships, while it is not what our working group came up with, there are certain elements of it that we had helped to shepherd.

But this should not be about who claims authorship, who puts their name behind it. What this should be about is whether we can get the government open again, we can get focused on dealing with our fiscal issues, dealing with the fact that we are up against the debt ceiling perhaps tomorrow. Our reality is in front of us right now.

Getting caught up with whether it is the Senate that should make this happen or the House that makes this happen, whether it is Leader REID or Minority Leader MCCONNELL, that is not what the public cares about. The news that is coming out today is that there is a deal. There is a deal. That deal should give America hope.

But it does not get us out of the mess we are in. I think we are at pretty low approval ratings. It is going to take a while for us to rebuild any credibility. But I think the effort to rebuild credibility begins when we honestly and earnestly roll up our sleeves, tackle the big problems, recognize we have to do it together rather than to retreat into our respective corners and just hope that we can get it right without talking to one another.

I again thank Senator COLLINS for her leadership on this issue. I thank all my colleagues on the Democratic side of the aisle and the Republican side of the aisle for coming to this point. I am most hopeful we will see it quickly resolved today so the country can breathe easily and sleep a little better tonight.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. DONNELLY. Madam President, I thank Senator COLLINS, who helped lead our group, Senator PRYOR, Senator MANCHIN, and so many others who helped lead our group as well. This was not Democrats and Republicans, this was Americans who were sent here to serve our country.

I am blessed to come from the State of Indiana. They gave me this great honor to serve. I know precisely why they sent me here, which is to do the work of the Nation, to protect our Nation, to not worry about Republican or Democrat, but to do what is right.

I take that charge very seriously. That is why I am working with my colleagues to see is there a way we can help bring an agreement closer, bring an agreement together that protects our credit ratings, that protects our financial situation, and that protects our country. I was very lucky to be part of such an extraordinary group of partners in this effort. I thank all of them.

As the Senator from Alaska was saying, we have a lot of work to do, as all Senators know. We stand ready, on whatever front our Nation needs us, to do that kind of work. That is not Democrat work, that is not Republican work, but that is American work, to move our Nation and our country forward.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, later today the Senate is likely to consider legislation that would reopen government, avert the default, and put us on a long-term path to come up with a plan to deal with our unsustainable $17 trillion national debt by reopening the long overdue budget negotiations. I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will support the plan that has been put forth by our two leaders, Senator REID and Senator MCCONNELL.

I am pleased that elements of the compromise that the two leaders have worked out have been taken from a plan that was developed by 14 Senators who have worked very hard, on both sides of the aisle, 7 Democrats—actually 6 Democrats and 1 Independent, the Senator from Maine—and 7 Republicans, who have come together in good faith and have worked very hard over the last 2 weeks to put together a compromise plan, a compromise plan that I have to say I actually prefer to that which we will vote on later today.

But elements of our plan have been incorporated into the plan the two leaders have presented for our consideration. This was truly a collaborative effort. I want to make sure that all of my colleagues who worked so hard on it receive the kudos they deserve for being willing to do what this body does too rarely, and that is for both sides to get together, come out of our partisan corners, stop fighting, and start legislating.

This great country deserves a Congress that can govern, and that was the unifying theme of our group. On October 5, a Saturday, when we were in session and the shutdown was in its early days, I was sitting in my Senate office, watching the floor debate. I was disheartened by what I heard because what I heard were partisan speeches from both sides of the aisle and no one offering a path forward. I decided then and there to chart out, to outline a possible plan to end this impasse, and I marched over to the Senate floor and gave a speech in which I urged my colleagues to work together.

Virtually immediately I heard from colleagues on both sides of the aisle who wanted to be part of that effort and who have worked night and day to try to come up with a plan, a plan that I believe helped lay the foundation for the ultimate compromise reached by our two leaders.

Senator MURKOWSKI and Senator AYOTTE were the first two Members to call me. I know my colleagues are tired

of hearing about the women in the Senate, but the fact is they were the first two to contact me. Senator JOE MANCHIN was the first person on the Democratic side to call and say: Count me in. I want to work on this as well. Senator PRYOR and Senator KING were also very early on, and Senator MCCAIN endorsed the proposal of our working together and the outlines of this plan. Senator JOHANNS was such a thoughtful addition to our group. AMY KLOBUCHAR was there for every meeting. Senator KIRK, Senator HEIDI HEITKAMP, Senator JEFF FLAKE, Senator JOE DONNELLY, Senator JEANNE SHAHEEN—it was a wonderful group of people, united by our determination to demonstrate that we could compromise, we could govern, we could bring an end to this impasse and do it in a way that was worthy of this great country and our constituents.

We worked together over and over. There were a lot of tough decisions to be made, a lot of lengthy negotiations. We came up with a plan which we presented to our two leaders, Senator REID and Senator MCCONNELL. Not all elements of our plan were incorporated by the leaders, but I think they would say they built on our work and did, indeed, take some of our provisions verbatim. I continue to believe our plan was a great path forward, but I am pleased that it paved the way to what I hope will be a solution to the impasse we have been facing, that has been so unfair to the American people and has hurt so many people.

I think it is important for us to remember that the damage goes beyond the hundreds of thousands of furloughed Federal workers, furloughed through no fault of their own. It goes beyond the damage to the private sector employees who lost business because of the closure of our parks.

It goes beyond the damage to our disabled veterans who have had to wait for their claims to be handled. It goes beyond the anxiety of many who are dependent on very important Federal programs, the most vulnerable in our society. It goes beyond the impact on our national defense, although we were able to mitigate that to some extent. It goes to something far more fundamental, and that is whether the people of this country can have confidence in our ability to put aside partisan politics and act as patriots committed to doing what is right for our Nation.

I thank the 13 Senators who joined me and worked so hard and did just that—they left their partisanship at the door and negotiated as real patriots who care about America. I thank them all. It has been a great pleasure to work with each and every one of them. All of them contributed so much to the bipartisan plan we presented, and I am glad it has helped to bring us to what I hope is an end to a very unfortunate chapter in America's history.

I thank the Presiding Officer.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Madam President, I am very proud to be a part of a group who truly put their country first. I have been here probably a shorter period of time than most of my colleagues—not quite 3 years. I think people know I have been a little bit frustrated at times, if not quite frustrated. I heard stories about how the Senate used to work and that when the going got tough, the Senators really got going. I have not seen much of that in the last 3 years.

We had a dichotomy of Senators—ANGUS KING, my dear friend, who is an Independent from Maine, seven Republicans led by Senator COLLINS, and our Democratic colleagues—come together and play off each other's strengths. They did not play off of their egos at all.

Two weeks ago I could not believe the self-inflicted pain this Congress put upon the people of America by shutting down the government—also coming on the brink of a financial calamity, if you will, and not being able to pay our bills. I have watched businesses and individuals get into financial problems before. Financial problems can come in many different ways, but basically you have early warnings and can step in front of that so you can restructure your spending, restructure your habits, and get yourself whole again—it takes a while—or you can wait until it hits you, and then you have to foreclose or go bankrupt, and it is almost impossible to get yourself out of it.

This was really congressional-made. There may be times when we have pressures put upon us as a country where we will have to do extraordinary work to keep ourselves afloat, but this is not one, and it should not be made because of political dysfunction.

I saw our colleagues playing off of the strengths each person brought to the group, and it got stronger and stronger each day. We faced the shutdown that we thought was absolutely ridiculous and unnecessary and should never have happened, and then we were looking at facing a financial meltdown, if you will, the insolvency of our country, and that could not be tolerated.

As each person played off the other to try to help make this come together—I think Senator COLLINS explained it so well—we were able to have a piece of agreed-upon legislation that had a tremendous framework and good template that was presented to leadership here in the Senate. I applaud both of our leaders, Senator REID and Senator MCCONNELL, for taking that constructively and working with it. They worked together to try to make the best possible piece of legislation, and we encourage our colleagues in the House to accept that legislation.

I am hopeful for a large vote in the Senate. I am very much hopeful for that. I am hopeful that our colleagues in the House will accept that in the spirit of a bipartisan agreement we worked on. When we were doing this, we considered the House and what would be acceptable and palatable, but, more importantly, we took into consideration the American people and what they wanted us to do and why they sent us here.

In the spirit of the Senate, I am proud to see the Senate rise to the occasion and work the way I heard it used to work. I was able to experience that in the last 2 weeks, and I am proud to have been a part of that.

I thank all of my colleagues on the Republican side in both the Senate and the House. This is truly a time when America rose to show its best. Now we have to make sure we complete this.

During the negotiation we found out why we could not get to a budget conference. This bill will have a mandatory budget conference that has to report back and go back to some regular order. That was important for all of us to agree on. Everybody said there will be some criticism because of the short time period. We have a better framework than we have ever had in order to fix and repair the damage that has been done and address the uncertainty that will be lurking if we don't do something.

I am very pleased and proud. I thank Senator COLLINS, Senator MURKOWSKI, Senator KLOBUCHAR, Senator PRYOR, Senator KING, and Senator HEITKAMP, and everybody who has worked so hard to make this happen. Again, I am proud to be a part of an extraordinary group of people who put the country before themselves.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Ms. HEITKAMP. Madam President, 5 days ago I wondered why I came to the Senate. I had the same belief the American people had: This is a place which is no longer functioning, stuck in gridlock and not able to get anything done.

Then an amazing thing happened. Under the leadership of some strong and senior Members, a group came together to have a broader discussion. We called the discussion plan B. This discussion presented ideas that would, in fact, find their way toward compromise. Under the strong leadership of Senator COLLINS, as well as the great Senator from Alaska LISA MURKOWSKI, we were able to bring people together and begin those discussions. They started the dialog that I really think had an opportunity to present a template for a resolution.

Today we are doing something the American people have waited for us to do for the last 16 days. We are doing what is responsible and opening the government, extending the debt limit, and doing regular order. No more special committees, no more supercommittees or pinning our hopes on a Bowles-Simpson or Rivlin commission—we are going to make this body function again.

I think we have a lot of great hope that our chairman PATTY MURRAY and ranking member, Senator SESSIONS from Alabama, will meet with their House counterparts in principled negotiations and discussions that will once

again tell the American people we are serious about doing their bidding and their business.

The proof now is in the pudding. We have taken what little confidence the American public had in this institution and the institution of the U.S. Congress and once again shook it. It is time that we bring that confidence back. There is no better time than fulfilling the promise and commitment of this agreement today and getting back to regular order.

I thank all of my colleagues—Senator MANCHIN, Senator ANGUS KING from Maine, MARK PRYOR from Arkansas, who was instrumental in getting me to run for the Senate. I occasionally remind him of that. MARK and I were attorneys general together. There have been so many great opportunities to have conversations across the aisle that I think bore fruit today and will continue to flourish, thrive, and provide opportunity for more bipartisan compromise.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Mr. KING. Madam President, Winston Churchill once famously observed that Americans will always do the right thing only after they have tried everything else. I think the last 2 weeks demonstrates the wisdom of that observation.

I join my colleagues in congratulating, first, the leaders for putting aside their substantial differences and partisan divide to meet together over the last 2 or 3 days and hammer out an agreement that is not going to be acceptable or exciting to anyone but will put America back together in terms of our government functioning, avoiding the threat of default, and allowing us to move forward with the Nation's problems.

My first congratulation is to Senator HARRY REID and Senator MITCH MCCONNELL for coming together as they have in the last 24 hours.

I also have to acknowledge the leadership of my senior colleague from Maine, SUSAN COLLINS. I happened to be presiding when she made her speech last Saturday, and it was really her initiative to stand, take a risk, and say: Let's try to work something out. She outlined the beginning of a framework which was then fleshed out over the last 10 days in discussions among the group we have been talking about.

I was interviewed recently on the radio and somebody asked: Don't you think Senator COLLINS may be subject to some criticism from some corner or another about her role in all of this? I paused for a minute, and I said: That is what leadership is. It is the willingness to bear criticism and stick your neck out. As my dad used to say, it is like the turtle crossing the road—the only way the turtle can cross the road is to stick his neck out. And that is what we are trying to do on behalf of the American people.

Senator PATTY MURRAY is not on the floor right now, but I am so glad we are entering into a process where she and her colleagues on the Budget Committee will be able to work with Congressman RYAN and try to really solve some of these issues that have been plaguing us so severely. We are doing it, as we should, in the proper process. I am delighted that Senator MURRAY is now going to step into this role, which is one of the most important we have had in recent years, and we will be able to work toward a resolution.

This is an important and perhaps historic compromise where Congress was really looking into the abyss. Congress was really proving that it could not function and that our system could not function in the divided politics of America today. It now appears that our leaders have pulled us back from that abyss and given us an opportunity—not a guarantee but an opportunity to continue the discussions that started with this terrible shutdown. It will give us the opportunity to try to bring our country together and resolve the problems we face.

It is a shame we have spent so much time doing what I think is the obvious—run the government and pay our bills. Now that we seem to have passed through this moment, we can move forward into the long-term challenges of our budget, the challenges facing our people, and our ability to solve problems so we can prove once again that this wonderful Constitution that has been bequeathed to us can still function, produce results, and govern this country.

Abraham Lincoln said we can't escape history. This morning the Chaplain's prayer talked about being accountable to history, and that, indeed, is what we are doing in this body. I hope that history will judge today as a moment—and the beginning—of a new era of cooperation and civility and problem-solving. This is not about the loss of our differences or the papering over of legitimate arguments of principle but the ability to try to work together, to talk to each other, respect one another, and listen to one another. Those are the essential qualities of leadership that I believe we are seeing demonstrated here today, and I hope it is a beginning.

I congratulate and thank all of my colleagues but especially the two leaders for getting us to this moment.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I would like to say a few more words.

When the Democratic leader pointed at me to say something a few moments ago, we were not really prepared for that. We talked about coming to the floor later. I am so glad Senator COLLINS is on the floor now. She really deserves a lion's share of the credit for pulling this together. I am sorry we had no notice on that.

Some have kind of joked about the process and the women of the Senate. The truth is that women in the Senate is a good thing, and we see leadership. We are all glad they allowed us to tag along so we could see how it is done. Isn't that right?

It was a great experience for us to work together. I know it will be a Reid-McConnell product at the end of the day, and that is great. That is really what we wanted it to be. We talked about, in one of our first meetings, how we understood that we would be the plan B. The problem was there wasn't really a plan A. We would be the plan B, so that if we could help move things along, that would be beneficial and constructive. And I think it was. I think the fact that the leaders knew we were working and trying to do some problem solving helped to move the process along. I know it wasn't always a pretty process, but we tried.

I think what this is all about today is a victory for bipartisanship. When we look at all the talk shows and listen to all the talking heads and do all that stuff, they never mention this. But the truth is the only way to get work done is by doing it in a bipartisan way. It doesn't really matter if we are in the Senate or on the local school board. If we want to get something done, we have to work with the other people in the room. We may not always agree with them. Maybe that is not who a particular individual would have elected, but that is who was elected.

I think that is really one of the lessons today; that is, if we work together, we can solve these problems. That starts by putting the rhetoric aside, putting the party labels aside, sitting down, and listening to the other side. We had to do a lot of listening because sometimes people have different views. They come at issues from different angles. They have different backgrounds to bring to the table. Nonetheless, we have to do a lot of listening.

I hope today is a big loss for blame game politics. From my standpoint, when I turn on the television and I see people here on this floor or on the floor down the hall or having press conferences and it is just blame, blame, blame, to me that is dead end politics. That is one of those situations where some people put on a red jersey and some people put on a blue jersey. We shouldn't do that. To me that is how we have ended up where we have, with shutting down the government and with running the risk of breaching the debt ceiling.

We should never allow that to happen. That is what is wrong with Washington. We need to work together to get things done.

We have always said—I think all 14 of us who were in this group, the Collins group, who worked together—we said we can do this if cooler heads prevail, and that is what happened. We were so delighted and pleased to be a part of it. I wish to thank the two leaders for their leadership and for encouraging us to, behind the scenes, move forward and get this done, and we definitely appreciate that.

The truth is we have a lot more work to do. We have a lot of work to do. There is a lot of work in this city that has been left undone, and Congress is largely responsible. If we can work together and if we can do what we did today, if we can drop the rhetoric, if we can roll up our sleeves, just as they do in Maine and in Arkansas and in other places around the country—people in this country know that governing is hard work, but that is why they sent us here. That is why we run for these jobs. We run for these jobs so that we can make the hard decisions, so that we can make the big decisions. That is what the American people are starving for. They want us to work together. I know it is the last day before we have some terrible consequences to the economy, but that is what people want. They wish we would have done it a lot sooner than we did, but nonetheless that is what they want.

I hope and pray that, in this body, we will continue to work together and we will be problem solvers and that we will get work done. The legislative process is not always pretty, and we understand that. But work will get done at the end of the day, and we will reach those bipartisan agreements that will make this country proud.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Thank you very much, Madam President.

I am not part of this group of 14, I believe it is, but I wish to thank them. I know a little bit about how hard it is to try to pull something together in an emerging situation, and they have done it. I see SUSAN and AMY and LISA here on the floor, three Senators who played a major role in this effort. I wish to thank them for taking the time, having the courage, and putting forward the ideas they did. I also wish to thank the leaders, Senator REID and Senator MCCONNELL, because I think their coming together essentially averted what I saw as a potential catastrophe.

Although there is many a slip between the cup and the lip, I think we are in the home stretch. I think what we see is both a continuing resolution and the debt limit being extended, albeit not for long. Coming over here somebody stopped me and said: Well, we will be right back here in 3 or 4 months. Our challenge is to make that not so.

I also wish to thank Senator CRUZ, with whom I have had occasions to tangle, but he has said that he will not stand in the way of the vote. To me that is very important, because nobody knows what really will happen if we do not pass the debt ceiling in a timely way. In a way it is a big lesson in itself: Let us not go there again, and let us use this 3- to 4-month period in a wise and willing way to sit down, as the group of 14 did, and work out issues before we are right back from where we came.

I think another part of the agreement that is very good is that it allows the Budget Committee to go ahead and conference. Senator MURRAY sits next to me. After her 20 attempts to move this body to conference, all of which failed, it looks as though now it will happen. Here is what that means. That means we will have a budget for next year, from which the appropriations allocations will be drawn very quickly, and then our bills can be brought into conformance. I happen to chair one of the appropriations subcommittees, and that is the committee that includes the modernization of our warheads, the Department of Energy, as well as the Army Corp of Engineers. Beginning tomorrow, seven big labs were going to begin to shut down: Los Alamos, Sandia, Lawrence Livermore, Lawrence Berkeley; as well as our nuclear program reactors were being shut down and put in safe conditions. Thirty thousand contract employees were going to lose their work, and the contract says they cannot be reimbursed for any day that is not worked. So that presented a particular special situation.

In the time I have been here, the Senate has become a very different body, and maybe now is not a bad time to say that. We used to be able to do much more along the lines of what the group of 14 has done. But I think scar tissue has built up in this house. I think it has built up in this house for one reason, and that is the prodigious use of cloture—a significant change because a majority body has been turned into a supermajority body. What do I mean by that? What I mean by that is everything, albeit but the simplest thing, has to have 60 votes. We had a clean debt resolution and cloture, and we did not have 60 votes even to debate the issue on the floor.

That has never been what the history of this body has shown. It has never been one of the reasons why I wanted to join this body. I have always felt that this body was sort of the prime of political officeholders—not the bottom but the top—and has always shown a willingness as to how this democratic process can work, by people sitting down together, understanding that our two-party system demands compromise to be able to make any progress at all. What I have found is that is less and less available to those of us who want to problem solve, who want to sit down and work out issues.

So I look forward to more efforts such as this effort that just took place, and I would very much like to join this esteemed new group of Senators for the future, because we cannot be here again in 4 months.

I was surprised—and I don't quite know what to do about it—but what I find is that people in the House too, who have come here with a very small number of votes, believe they so know what is best for this Nation, above anybody else, they are willing to do whatever they need to do to get their way. That is just not the way these bodies have traditionally worked. Now, that hasn't worked so far.

I think what is before us, which is a very simple 3-, 4-month advance of a continuing resolution, of the debt limit, verification of income, and the ability of the Budget Committee to go back to work, really signals that this next 3 to 4 months are so important to do what we need to do to restore comity to this body and the other body. Just think if we can find points of agreement in 3 to 4 months and then go ahead and regularly extend the debt limit for its full length of time, do away with the continuing resolution. It has been 3 or 4 years with no budget, and it has to stop.

So I am hopeful, with the leadership that now appears to have come together between Senator HARRY REID and Senator MITCH MCCONNELL, that these months can really be dedicated to a bringing together of both sides around problem solving. All I can do is pledge myself to do my utmost to help us get there. So this is just one step on the road.

Again, there is many a slip between the cup and the lip. So I hope this is going to pass this body today, pass the House, and that we go out with a resoluteness to come back another day and work together to solve what are some very major problems before us.

So thank you very much. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Thank you, Madam President.

I am very happy to be able to come to the floor this afternoon to join those who have already spoken to commend the fact that we have finally come to an agreement, it appears, that will end this government shutdown, that will allow the country to pay its bills, and that will, hopefully, address some of the uncertainty and harm that has come to families, to businesses, and to this economy over the last several weeks.

I wish to thank and applaud the leadership of Majority Leader REID and Republican Leader MCCONNELL for being able to come together to reach this agreement. I also wish to commend the many people who have come to the floor this afternoon, led by Senator COLLINS, who have been working over the last week to try to come up with some ideas to provide a framework for an agreement. I was especially appreciative to be part of that group of 14 of us, along with Senator COLLINS—and I think her leadership was very important—along with Senator KLOBUCHAR, Senator PRYOR, and the many people who have come to the floor, in providing some impetus for people to work together and to move forward on an agreement that could finally end this shutdown. I certainly appreciated the comments of Senator PRYOR when he talked about the need for us to work together, to listen to each other, and to put aside the blame game and address the many challenges facing this country. That is clearly where we need

to go next, and I certainly hope we will all in this Chamber recommit ourselves to doing that.

We need to pass this compromise quickly so we can end the shutdown's negative effects on our economy. We need to move forward and think about how we can get some agreement long term in the future, and I think the bipartisan efforts that have been shown over the last week will be very important to doing that.

The fact is, while the agreement is good news, we know the agreement is only short term and that we are going to have to figure out a way to address keeping the government open, address paying the Nation's bills, address coming up with a long-term budget agreement, and we do not have a whole lot of time to do that.

I hope people will understand the very real impacts I have been hearing in my office, I know Senator COLLINS has been hearing that as well, and people throughout this body have been hearing from people across the country about what the impact has been.

Yesterday I participated in a Small Business Committee hearing to hear the impacts of the shutdown on small businesses across the country, and I appreciate the leadership of Senator LANDRIEU in organizing that hearing. It gave a voice to many of the small businesses, to many of the people across this country who have been suffering as a result of the shutdown. I thought it would be helpful to share a few of those stories as a reminder that as happy as I am that we have reached agreement, we have a lot of work to do in the future to make sure this does not happen again.

One of the people we heard from yesterday was New Hampshire community banker Chuck Withee. He is the president of Provident Bank. They have four locations in New Hampshire. He told me that small businesses, as we know, ''are the backbone'' of what they do at his community bank. He said the ''shutdown has had a material and profound effect on many small businesses in the Southern New Hampshire region'' because of the shutdown of the SBA loan programs.

We all know how critical access to capital is to making sure businesses can operate. Chuck testified that Provident Bank has 12 loans that are stalled right now. They are just waiting for the SBA to open. They have a total of $2.7 million in small business loans—that is at just one small bank—that are currently on hold because of this crisis.

Sadly, according to Chuck, the consequences of this holdup may be permanent for some of those businesses:

> There are purchase and sale agreements hanging in the balance, that may lapse and have to be renegotiated. . . . The small business owner may also lose credibility and the ability to negotiate similar contracts in the future.

He went on to say the numbers do not really include the dozens of applications for loans that would have come through the door but did not because of the shutdown.

He also talked about a new program that Provident was just about to launch before the shutdown, a program that would focus on microloans for very small businesses—those businesses that usually have borrowing needs of between $10,000 and $100,000 that would have been able to get loans as part of this program. Because of the shutdown, the bank had not continued that program. He indicated they hope to roll it out as soon as the government is operating again. But clearly there are businesses that have been hurt in the interim.

We heard from people across the country at that hearing yesterday, from another SBA lender, Sally Robertson, who pointed out that one of the borrowers she is working with has posted a $149,000 deposit on a new project—that if they cannot close in a timely fashion, they are going to lose that deposit.

We heard from some small businesses with Federal contracts. They have their contracts on hold, so they have had to dip into their cash reserves or furlough workers.

We also heard from a representative from the tourism industry who pointed out that travel and tourism in this country is losing $152 million a day during this government shutdown.

I know everybody here has heard stories such as that from their home States. I am sure the Presiding Officer has heard those kinds of stories from the State of Wisconsin.

Hopefully, we will reopen the government, we will pass this agreement today, we will be able to get those small businesses up and running again, we will be able to provide some certainty for those Federal contracts, we will be able to bring back to work those furloughed workers and make sure they get backpay. But the challenge is that we cannot let this happen again.

I am hopeful—because we have a budget conference committee going forward—there will be a process by which we can put in place a longer term budget agreement so we are not facing another shutdown in January, right after the holiday season. We do not want people to think they cannot spend money during this holiday season because there is going to be another government shutdown or because the country might think about again defaulting on its debts in early February.

As Chuck Withee from Provident Bank said yesterday: Small businesses will remain uncertain. They could face higher borrowing costs if Congress comes close to the brink yet again. It is an admonition I am certainly going to take to heart, and I hope all of us will.

Again, I thank everybody who has helped in reaching an agreement today. Hopefully, this will be approved by both Houses of Congress, we will get the government open, we will pay the country's bills, and we will not let it happen again.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, this country has gone through over 2 weeks of very difficult times. It is extremely distressful that approximately 1 million Federal employees have not received a paycheck. These Federal employees have gone 3 years without a raise, they have been furloughed because of sequestration, and now they have been sent home, in many cases without any pay. Similar to every other working American, these are people who are worried as to how they are going to pay their mortgages, how they are going to pay their car loans, how they are going to pay their college loans, and they are extremely anxious.

But it is not only the 1 million or so Federal employees who are hurting. Obviously, it is the tens of millions of Americans who are in enormous anxiety about whether they are going to get the Federal benefits they are entitled to and the Federal services they need.

I am talking now, as chairman of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, about Vietnam veterans who have written to me from Vermont and elsewhere who are worried that they may not get their veterans' disability benefits. Think about that. People who have put their lives on the line for this country, were wounded in action, and they are sitting at home wondering whether they are going to get a check, which they desperately need in order to keep their family going.

I am talking now about people on Social Security who are wondering that if this government actually defaults for the first time in our history—does not pay our bills—that they may not get a Social Security check. Millions and millions of seniors depend on that Social Security check in order to pay their bills and to maintain a very minimal standard of living.

I am talking about moms who today are walking their kids into the Head Start Program and then going off to work, and they are worried about what happens if their Head Start Program is shut down. What does that mean to their child? What does it mean to them? How do they get to work? Who is going to take care of their kid? Are they going to lose their job?

So what has happened in the last few weeks has brought a whole lot of anxiety and pain to tens and tens of millions of Americans. Why? Because over in the House we had a handful of right-wing extremists who decided they were going to hold hostage the American Government unless they were able to defund ObamaCare. That was last week. Then more recently, they were going to hold the government hostage unless we made major cuts in Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. That was a few days ago.

So I think what has happened has been incredibly unfortunate for our country. The damage done in terms of our position in the international community will take many years to overcome. What do you think the international community—people in Latin America, people in Europe, people in Asia—believes when they see the United States, the largest economy on Earth, presumably the leader of the free world, government is shut down and this country is debating whether we pay our bills? How does the President of the United States go to the United Nations, go to the world community, and say: Listen. There is an international crisis. You need to follow our lead. And we are the country that cannot even pay its bills or is threatening not to pay its bills for the last couple weeks and has shut down the entire U.S. Government.

So the damage already done by right-wing extremism is irreparable. I think people's confidence in the U.S. Government has been shattered. I am thinking about kids in Wisconsin or kids in Vermont who are now looking at the U.S. Government as some kind of joke, where maybe at some point they were thinking of running for office, getting involved in the political process, and now they say: It is not something I want to do. That is very sad.

I intend to vote for the agreement hammered out by the majority leader and the minority leader. But I wish to make something very clear. If anybody thinks this sequestration budget is a good thing for America, they are very mistaken.

As I understand it, sequestration will be extended until January 15, and we do not know what happens after that. Presumably that is going to be based on negotiations. But according to the CBO, the Congressional Budget Office, if, in fact—and I will do everything in my power to see that does not happen—but if the $988 billion sequestration budget were to go throughout this year, it would cost us some 900,000 jobs.

I have heard many of my Republican friends—and perhaps some Democrats—making the point, and an important point, that we have to do something about the budget deficit and we have to do something about our national debt. I agree with that. I am proud that along with other Members, we have cut the deficit in half from $1.4 trillion to $700 billion. Anyone who does not think that is progress is very wrong. Cutting the budget deficit in half is significant progress.

But let me make a point that is not made terribly often on this floor. Yes, the deficit is a serious problem. Yes, we have to work on it. But every poll I have seen—and in my discussions with people in Vermont—they say: Yes, the deficit is a serious problem. Do something about it. But let me tell you, Senator SANDERS, what is a more serious problem; that is, that the middle class of this country is disappearing. Median family income is lower today than it was 24 years ago. Real unemployment is close to 14 percent. Youth unemployment is somewhere around 20 percent. African-American youth unemployment is somewhere around 40 percent.

The people of America are saying do something about the economy. Make sure that when my kid graduates high school, there will be a job available for him or her. Do something about the high cost of college education because I do not want my son or daughter to be leaving school $25,000 or 50,000 in debt. Make sure, they tell me, that you do not cut Social Security because Social Security is one of the few bedrocks remaining to protect some of the most vulnerable people in this country. Make sure you do not voucherize Medicare, as the Ryan budget in the House proposed, ending Medicare as we know it and giving senior citizens an $8,000 check, and when they get diagnosed with cancer, good luck to them, because that $8,000 will last 2 or 3 days. Make sure you do not slash Medicaid.

The important point that has to be made is deficit reduction is an issue, but the more important issue the American people want us to resolve is to create the millions and millions of jobs this country desperately needs. The sequester budget we are voting on today moves us in exactly the wrong direction.

If that budget were to go on for a year—right now it is scheduled to end January 15. But if that would go on for a year, it would cost us 900,000 jobs rather than growing the many millions of jobs we currently need.

Let me again raise an issue many of my colleagues do not talk about, but I think the American people understand. At a time when we have more income and wealth inequality in this country than since the 1920s, what morality demands, and, in fact, what good economics demands, is you do not balance the budget on the backs of the elderly, the children, working families, the poor. But I do not hear much of that discussion here.

If you have a situation in America where the top 1 percent owns 38 percent of the wealth, and the bottom 60 percent owns 2.3 percent of the wealth, who should have to experience austerity? Should we go to working families who in many cases have seen a decline in their income and say: Guess what. We are going to have to balance the budget on your backs. We are going to have to cut Medicare, cut Medicaid, cut nutrition programs, cut the ability of our kids to go to college, because we need to balance the budget. Guess what. The rich and the powerful have too many lobbyists here, so we are going to have to cut programs that impact you.

I know many people in the Senate want to move in that direction. I do not. Not only do we have an obscene, unfair distribution of wealth, it is as bad when we talk about income inequality.

The Presiding Officer has seen the same studies I have seen which talk about how in the last few years 95 percent of all new income generated in this country went to the top 1 percent—95 percent of all new income went to the top 1 percent, while tens of millions of other Americans saw a decline in their income.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has used 10 minutes.

Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent for 2 additional minutes.

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

Mr. SANDERS. I think if the Presiding Officer had a discussion at some diner in Wisconsin or I did the same in Vermont, and talked to people and said: Look, the wealthiest people are becoming much richer; the middle class is declining; poverty is at an all-time high, how do you think we should deal with deficit reduction? Do you think we should be cutting programs for the elderly, working families, the children, the sick, or the poor, or maybe do we ask the wealthiest people in this country to start paying their fair share of taxes?

Maybe—I know this is a terribly radical idea. Today one out of four major corporations pays zero in Federal income tax, because a lot of these multinational corporations are stashing their money in the Cayman Islands and in Bermuda and in other tax havens. I know it is a very radical idea. I guess I am an extremist to think maybe it is more important for corporate America, which is enjoying record-breaking profits—one out of four major corporations pays nothing in Federal incomes taxes—maybe we might want to ask them to pay something in taxes so we do not cut Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, education and nutrition programs.

I think what goes on around here is our sense of reality is distorted because surrounding this building are not working families—they are too busy back home trying to maintain their family. Not children. We have the highest rate of childhood poverty in the industrialized world. They are not here. But all of the lobbyists from the billionaire organizations and for corporate America are here, telling us what we should be doing.

Well, I think maybe the time is long overdue that we stood for the working families of this country, for the children, and for the elderly, and not move for deficit reduction on the backs of the most vulnerable people.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Ms. AYOTTE. Madam President, I have come to the floor a number of times during this government shutdown to say how absurd this has been for the American people, that we have found ourselves where we are, to have the government shut down, and those who brought forward a strategy to

defund ObamaCare—the exchanges have opened anyway. That is why I never supported this strategy, because I did not think it was smart for the country, or achievable.

We have been coming up against the debt ceiling issue, so I come to the floor today, after having come to the floor on several occasions, expressing my concerns and frustration.

I thank our leader MITCH MCCONNELL and the majority leader HARRY REID for coming together around an agreement ending the shutdown, to address the debt ceiling, even if on a short-term basis, so we can get out of the hole we are in, and start to deal with the big-picture problems facing the Nation.

Around this, I was very heartened that a bipartisan group of Senators came together to solve this problem, led by Senator COLLINS from Maine, and seven Republicans and seven Democrats. Let me say among the 7 Democrats was my colleague from New Hampshire Senator SHAHEEN, who I see in the Chamber. If the Chair would recognize Senator SHAHEEN, I want to thank her, because what we have been able to do in New Hampshire is that she and I, even though we come from opposite sides of the aisle, have been able to find ways to work together on behalf of our State and on behalf of the country.

She was in this group of seven Senators as a Democrat, I was there as a Republican, both representing the State of New Hampshire, ready with an agreement to solve this crisis. So I want to recognize my colleague and thank her for being part of a group that wanted to solve these problems for the Nation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Madam President, I very much appreciate my fellow Senator from New Hampshire Ms. AYOTTE for her remarks. I would echo those. She and I have both been to the floor over the past few weeks to talk about the devastating impacts of this government shutdown. It has been an unnecessary hardship—a very real hardship—placed on so many New Hampshire families, so many New Hampshire businesses, and the challenges it meant for the economy of our State and for the Nation.

I ask my colleague if it would be important, as we think about going forward and trying to deal longer term with the need to come up with a budget for this country, the need to address paying our bills in the long term, if this kind of bipartisanship we tried to exhibit for New Hampshire would be important for all of us to think about as we try to solve those challenges long term and also for us to try to reassure the people of New Hampshire that I believe we are going to be working together to try and do that, and hopefully everyone else here will do the same?

Ms. AYOTTE. Let me say to my colleague from New Hampshire, the senior Senator from New Hampshire, I agree with that. We cannot go through this again. It is incumbent on all of us to work together even though we come from different parties so that we do not go from crisis to crisis in managing this Nation.

I do hope with this agreement we are able to come to a longer term budget for the Nation, a longer term fiscal agreement for the Nation to address our $17 trillion debt, to address the challenges facing our economy, to work together to show people we can solve problems on behalf of this country, and that we can make sure we are not continuing to go from crisis to crisis as we represent New Hampshire and this Nation.

I know both of us joined that group because we had had it with what was happening here and we were ready to solve the problems together.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. I thank my friend and colleague from New Hampshire.

Ms. AYOTTE. Madam President, I want to continue to thank the Senators on both sides of the aisle. We were working together with our leadership. I mentioned this was an effort led by Senator COLLINS, Senator MURKOWSKI from Alaska, Senator MCCAIN, Senator JOHANNS, Senator KIRK, Senator FLAKE, on the Republican side of the aisle, and on the Democratic side of the aisle, Senator MANCHIN, Senator BEGICH, Senator PRYOR, Senator SHAHEEN, Senator KLOBUCHAR, Senator DONNELLY, Senator HEITKAMP, and we were even tripartisan because we had Senator KING with us as well in these efforts.

I think what we demonstrated is we can come together as a core group. When things break down here, there are many of us who desire to solve the problems facing the Nation. We know we cannot do it with one party alone. It took two parties to get us $17 trillion in debt; it is going to take two to get us out of this hole. Just like this fiscal crisis, it takes two parties to get us out and solve the Nation's problems. I think that is what we learned from this experience. I want to thank those who have worked so hard on it.

Let me say: I am blessed to be a mother. My children just turned 6 and 9 years old during this whole crisis situation. It has been hard to get home during this time. My family is still in New Hampshire. I still live in New Hampshire. My daughter Kate asked me: Mom, why can't you just get the government open? What is wrong? Well, why can't you get this solved?

It is a such a commonsense question that I got from her and from our son Jacob. Think about the lessons we try to teach our children. Are we not always trying to teach them that when they get into a conflict, you have to work it out? That, yes, you do not get to get everything your way, that it is not always your way.

Well, those are the lessons I think all of us, regardless if we are Republicans, Democrats, Independents, try to teach our children. So I found myself in a hard position here where she is asking me the tough question. I had to say to her: You are right, Kate, we have to work together; otherwise, we are not going to get this solved.

Even though I feel very strongly about my principles, I know my Democratic colleagues do also. What kind of lesson am I showing if I cannot help get this resolved? That is why I was proud to be part of a bipartisan agreement.

Let me bring us back to why we got into this government shutdown for a moment, because the other thing, being a mother of two children, when something goes wrong, I always ask my children when they make a mistake: What did you learn from this? What was the lesson you learned from the mistake?

I did not believe the defunding ObamaCare strategy was going to succeed from the beginning, not because I am not a strong opponent of ObamaCare. I absolutely am. But the fact of the matter was that the government shut down and the exchanges opened anyway. Yet the government was shut down, and we put all of those people who were worried about whether they were going to get their paychecks, veterans worried about what is going to happen—we can go on and on. I have heard the impact in my State.

By the way, all the flaws those of us believe that do exist in ObamaCare were all overshadowed by the fact that the government was shut down.

I do want to fix this law. I want to repeal it. I want to replace it with commonsense reform. But this was not a strategy to make that happen.

I guess I would ask the question that I ask to my children: What did we learn from all of this? What we learned is this was not a successful strategy from the beginning. That, yes, you can be against ObamaCare, as I am. I am for repealing it and replacing it. But shutting down the government was not a smart strategy and not the right direction. I hope we never do this again. I hope we learned our lessons. I ask my children to do that, I am going to ask myself to do it, and I am going to ask others to do it.

Let's move forward. Let's work together. Let's find ways—as we get to January when the funding for the government expires again, and February, let's take on the big challenges facing this Nation, the $17 trillion in debt.

Let's get a budget for the Nation. Let's move forward from here, learn our lessons, work together, and get it done for the American people.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

Mr. NELSON. I wish to speak about the issue at hand.

Thank the good Lord we are finally having, as the Good Book says, people who will come let us reason together.

I am so grateful, for the hundreds of thousands of people who have been directly hurt by this shutdown. I am very

grateful we will avoid a default that would not only hurt the people of this country but would irreparably damage the financial foundation of this Nation. This should have never happened in the first place.

We have heard the two previous Senators, one a Democrat and one a Republican, say the same—it shouldn't have happened in the first place. One doesn't hold the country hostage and disrupt people's lives to get their particular agenda done, particularly when they are dealing with an existing law that has been upheld as constitutional by the Supreme Court. But that is exactly what has happened.

We are in a situation in the politics of this country where narrow, certain special interests claim their position is the only position and have it reflected in Congress so that the political ideology of a narrow, small group of extremists can direct the affairs of the Congress. This group, especially in the House, can cause the trauma and the turmoil we have been through.

We apparently have an agreement. I assume we are going to vote on it in the Senate, and it should pass overwhelmingly sometime today. Then the question is will it be put in front of the entire House so Republicans and Democrats alike can vote for this and get us over this immediate potential crisis.

December, January, and February are the deadlines set in the agreement we will pass today. The first challenge will be for the Budget Committee—a conference committee from the Senate meeting with a conference committee from the House—to hammer out the differences between the two budgets, as there are substantial differences. We will have our first test shortly when the conference committee is named and goes to work. We will see whether they can start bridging some of those differences.

Simultaneously, there are going to be many Senators meeting to talk about what has been referred to as the grand bargain, which could be under the umbrella of what the budget conference committee does. Since the Budget Committee is talking about top-line numbers of appropriations and the details are left to the individual committees, there need to be many good-will negotiations with respect to each other in order to build consensus. We have not seen a great deal of that around here, but we are starting to see glimmers of it today.

The great test is going to come in the next couple of months by the deadline of December 13 and then, of course, January 15. I don't think anybody with common sense would want to approach this by not getting an agreement before January 15. That is when this next tranche of severe budget cuts, spending cuts across the board, including half of those spending cuts in defense, expires. We have heard defense official after defense official tell us that this is not good for the security of this country.

Hopefully the Budget Committee can achieve an agreement in conference committee that will avoid that sequester. If all of that is done and the wheels are set in motion about the fleshing out of a Budget Committee agreement—for example, tax reform done in the Finance Committee in the Senate and done in the Ways and Means Committee in the House, tax reform such as getting rid of a lot of the loopholes, producing revenue, utilizing, for example, some of the revenue to lower tax rates, some of the revenue to pay down and lower the deficit, and some of that revenue to replace the sequester that is going to have such negative effects on the common security of this country. If all of that is done by January 15, then we won't have a problem February 7, which is the time the artificial, statutorily imposed debt ceiling expires, because that crisis of potential default will have been absolved by virtue of agreements prior to that.

That is a lot of good will that is going to have to take place in the next few months. That is a lot of mutual consideration and respect that is going to have to reign, instead of much of what we have seen here the past few weeks.

I am grateful we have this agreement and that in the next 2 days it can be wrapped up and default can be avoided. I am hopeful, albeit cautious, that we can avoid this again, with good public policy.

I close by saying that a public office is a public trust. We, as public officials, ought to recognize that our responsibility is to represent all of the people, not only some of the narrow interests represented in this country. If we will approach these next 2 days and then the next several months representing and recognizing that a public office is a public trust, then we can get it done. That is my hope, my prayer, and why I am very grateful we have come to this point.

I yield the floor, and 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. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, we are obviously pleased that our Senate leaders, Senators MCCONNELL and REID, have negotiated a bipartisan way to end this crisis. This agreement will open government, will allow us to honor our bills, and it sets up a mechanism, using the regular order of the Senate, to resolve the budget impasse and to hopefully negotiate a budget for this country.

The good news is that in passing this compromise agreement we will end this self-inflicted harm on our country that has been caused by the government shutdown and the threatened failure for us to honor the obligations of this country. Make no mistake about it. We have harmed our country. The shutdown, which started on October 1, has hurt America's economy. The threatened default on our obligations has hurt America's creditworthiness reputation. Consumer confidence has been damaged.

Consumer confidence is important. That is where people are willing to go out and buy or travel or go to restaurants. As a result of the uncertainty caused by this self-inflicted crisis, consumer confidence has fallen dramatically. That has an impact on so many businesses in our communities—so many businesses. Many small businesses have been hurt very badly.

This morning I joined Senator BOXER in bringing some small business owners here to demonstrate the harm that was done. We heard from the operator of Blackwater Paddle and Pedal Adventures, located on the eastern shore of Maryland near the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge. That refuge, as you know, is closed. This company has two locations, one in the very historic part of our State where Harriet Tubman conducted her Underground Railroad, which is right next to the Blackwater Wildlife Refuge. So this is a place people want to go, but they also want to go into the refuge for many reasons. Some get permits to hunt, some fish, some bird watch, some ride bikes, some like to look at the eagles, of which we have an incredible display there. But the fact Blackwater was closed meant this small business owner lost a lot of revenue. She related exactly how much money it was. She said: On Saturdays, I was doing about $1,500, and that went down to about $150.

That is life and death for this small business owner. That is what this shutdown has meant. We can multiply that by hundreds of thousands of small businesses across this country that have been harmed dramatically as a result of the shutdown. All that added together means our economy has been dragged down.

We had a hearing yesterday of the Small Business Committee on which I serve. Senator LANDRIEU conducted the hearing. We had a roundtable with about 8 or 10 people. Some were small business owners, giving very similar stories as to what we heard about Blackwater Paddle and Pedal Adventures. Some represented financial groups that did SBA loans, and they gave specific examples of how the SBA loans could not be processed.

What does that mean? They gave an example of a company located right near me in Owings Mills, MD. They had a loan that was ready to be closed but was not closed. That person is in the process of buying equipment that might have to be foreclosed if they do not get the SBA loan, and they will lose their deposit. The one near my house was opening a new motel-hotel. That could be delayed or jeopardized as a result of this.

We had all types of examples given, putting real faces on those who have been harmed as a result of this shutdown.

Our economy has suffered dramatically. The private contractors who rely upon Federal payments in order to pay their workers laid off thousands of private contract employees in my State and throughout our country. Businesses had to lay off additional people, major damage to our economy.

I take this floor many times to talk about our Federal workforce. I am honored to represent a large number of Federal employees, consisting of about 10 percent of the workforce in the State of Maryland. Over 100,000 of these workers were put on furlough. They had to go through the anxiety of not knowing whether they could pay their bills. We hurt American families and we hurt our economy.

So what do we need to do? How do we move forward? First and foremost, we have to get this agreement to the President and signed as quickly as possible. Every day hurts our economy. I hope we can figure out a way to get it done today and to the President today and signed today and get our economy back on track.

Next we have to deal with the economic problems we have. This agreement gives us a little breathing space. It sets up a way we pay our bills, we keep government open, and we negotiate. But we are going to have to negotiate an agreement. What this country needs more than anything is predictability. We can't keep leapfrogging from crisis to crisis. That is not governing. We have to govern. The American people expect us to govern. They expect us to work out our problems. They do not want to hear the House is under one party and the Senate is under another party and it is tough for us to work these things out. They expect us to get the job done. They expect us to govern, and governing means we need to negotiate a budget that covers more than just a couple of months, but that takes us through the end of the next fiscal year. That is what we need to do. That will put us on a glidepath for economic growth.

Shutting down the Federal Government and teetering on the edge of default killed middle-class jobs, cost our Nation billions of dollars, harmed our economic competitiveness, and severely damaged consumer confidence. We can't go through that again. It worries me that in 1990 we said we wouldn't go through this again—and we did. So we need to establish the right legacy, and that means starting now, with Democrats and Republicans working together on a budget that makes sense for our country. We need to seize this opportunity to bring long-term stability and predictability to our economy.

The world needs to know America is open for business. One of the most damaging editorials I saw during this shutdown appeared in the state newspaper in China on October 13. It read:

> It is perhaps a good time for the befuddled world to start considering building a deAmericanized world.

We need to let the world know that America is open for business and that we have got our house in order and we are not going to continue to govern from crisis to crisis. We need to get that done.

What we need to do is negotiate a budget that makes sense for this country. Get this agreement done, get government open, pay our bills, but then negotiate a budget that allows for economic growth.

The very first thing we need to negotiate? Getting rid of sequestration. Sequestration is mindless across-the-board cuts. It says every priority in government is equally important. That is not true. If you have a problem with your family budget, you don't cut every spending item exactly the same percentage. You will make sure you have shelter for your family, make sure you have food on the table, maybe you will postpone a vacation or something, but everything is not the same priority. Sequestration says everything is the same priority. We need to get rid of sequestration and we need to do that in the context of this budget negotiation.

Yes, we want to make sure we have long-term financial stability and that we pay our bills. I was proud to be part of a Congress that actually balanced the budget when President Clinton was President. I know there are tough decisions. But we know how to do it.

We need to make sure we invest in job growth. We need more jobs in America. So, yes, we need to invest in transportation and roads and transit systems. We need water infrastructure to modernize our water systems in this country to allow for economic growth. We need to invest in education. We need to invest in research——

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has 1 minute remaining.

Mr. CARDIN. I ask unanimous consent to speak for an additional 3 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CARDIN. I thank my colleague from Virginia for that extra time.

We need to end sequestration, we need to invest in job growth, and we need to have a balance between revenue and spending so we have a way in which America can continue to grow.

We need to deal with our Federal workforce. Shutting down the Federal Government was a punch in the gut to Federal workers and contractors. Make no mistake about it. This agreement intends to hold our Federal workers harmless as far as pay, and more particularly it brings them back to work to do the essential work of these agencies.

I have talked before about the important work done by many of these Federal agencies—the Environmental Protection Agency, protecting our public health, protecting our environment; the Small Business Administration, processing loans for small businesses; the National Institutes of Health, doing ground-breaking research to make the next great discovery for America; NIST, working to give us technology so that we are competitive; the FDA's food safety programs; and the list goes on and on and on.

The bottom line is we need to work together. We not only need to open the government and pay our bills, but we need an agreement for a responsible budget that will give us predictability, job growth, and economic competitiveness to meet the world's global economy. I hope we will take advantage of the time this agreement gives us to put our country first and do what is right with America's future.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I thank my colleague for his voice throughout this debate. He and I and a number of other colleagues realized early on this self-inflicted crisis of putting our workforce in jeopardy was bad policy, bad politics, and bad for our country. I am very glad that the resolution it looks like we are approaching is going to make sure our Federal workforce gets back to work and to the job of helping America, and they are going to get compensated for it. But I would add that it is not going to make everybody whole.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, may I ask my colleague to yield?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. I thank my friend from Virginia for yielding.

Through the Chair, I thank Senator WARNER for his help in making sure we do what is right for our Federal workforce. They suffered through furloughs because of sequestration, furloughs because of a government shutdown, freezes in their pay, attacks on their retirement, attacks on their health benefits, and they are asked to do more with fewer people because of freezes in hiring. Yes, we will try to hold them harmless as far as this furlough is concerned, but we have to make sure we attract the very best in public service because of the critical work they do. I thank the Senator very much for his help.

Mr. WARNER. I agree with the Senator from Maryland.

I was in the private sector longer than the public sector, and I have run companies. I have never seen a management style which would say to the workforce, ''We are going to ask you to do more with less money'' and then treat them as poorly as they have been treated repeatedly by some of the attacks the Senator from Maryland has laid out.

I wish to take a moment, as a number of my colleagues have, to state that it looks as if this self-inflicted political crisis may be finally coming to an end.

To paraphrase Charles Dickens, in a way, it may be the best of times and the worst of times.

In a certain sense, it may be the best of times because over the last couple of days we have seen the leaders of the Senate, Leader REID and Leader MCCONNELL, basically say: Let's put away some of the disputes and end this crisis. So I compliment their work and all the bipartisan efforts that have been going on to put this to an end. So in a certain sense perhaps it is the best of times. Yes, we are about to finally do our job. We are about to actually reopen the government and put our workforce back to work, and by a whisker we are avoiding default and the financial calamity which would ensue if we continued down that path.

But it is also the worst of times in that once again we took this conversation to the eleventh hour. We have inflicted damage on our economy and our reputation. And due not to a Republican or Democratic skirmish but really due to a small group of ''our way or the highway'' crowd, we have violated the first principle of governing or medicine, which says: First, do no harm.

Unfortunately, the actions of this self-inflicted crisis have done harm even if we reopen the government and avoid default. Economist Mark Zandi has estimated that the cost to our economy is at least $20 billion. Reopening the government and avoiding default isn't going to erase the $20 billion hit to an economy that has been struggling.

I wish those who advocated for this shutdown, who advocated for this brinkmanship would be willing to come down and explain to folks in my State or, for that matter, in their States—if you happen to be a government contractor and if some of your workforce was deemed essential, they may actually get paid, but for the portion of your workforce deemed nonessential, chances are they won't be paid. One company in Virginia with 5,500 people—30 percent of its workforce was deemed nonessential. The company has tried to pay those people through this period. Some will be paid, some will not. Those individuals, those families will not recover. I would like to have somebody come down and explain what all this was for in terms of the hurt in their personal lives.

I would like for some of the folks who advocated these tactics to come and explain to a restaurant owner in Hampton, VA—where the workforce at NASA Langley, which was 3,500 strong, was reduced through this furlough to 7 people—with the lost receipts for the restaurant over the last 2 weeks, how their tactics somehow improved the fortunes of that private sector business.

I would like for those who advocated that it was smart politics to shut down the government and take us to the verge of default to explain to the motel owner on Skyline Drive in Virginia who lost a couple of weekends of the peak fall foliage season and won't see any of those dollars come back, how it was in their best interest to shut down.

It is not just in Virginia. It is Yosemite in California and national parks in Texas. I would be anxious for some of those who advocated these tactics to explain to those private sector business owners who won't see those dollars come back. They are not going to get recouped.

I would like those who come to this floor and talk about trying to get rid of our debt and deficit and the burdens on the taxpayer to explain how these tactics of shutting down the government and bringing our Nation to the verge of default helps the American taxpayer. The American taxpayer comes out a giant loser from these tactics.

The Federal Government workforce rightfully is going to be repaid, so there is no savings there. As a matter of fact, the cost of starting and stopping any enterprise is enormous. Anyone who has run any kind of business understands that.

So I hope those who have advocated these tactics will come down and explain to the American taxpayers how this created a bigger deficit and explain why this made sense.

I would like for those who advocated these tactics to come down and not just talk to the American people but talk to the world and say how this helped America's national reputation.

America has been ranked by the credit agencies as the most secure credit in the world. That is why, when there are crises around the world, investors buy dollars. It gets into sophisticated finance, but it means everything we do in America is a little bit cheaper because we are viewed—to paraphrase a company term—like the rock.

We have gone through two of these self-inflicted crises. The last two or three of these crises brought us close to the fiscal cliff or close to default, and the last time cost us a downgrade from one of the rating agencies. We saw yesterday the second rating agency, Fitch, put us on negative outlook. As a former Governor of the State of Virginia, where we kept our triple-A bond rating, you don't get back your reputation overnight by saying: Oops. Never mind.

We will be paying the price for these kinds of tactics for months or maybe years to come.

I would like those who advocated these tactics to come down and answer the kinds of headlines we saw in the Financial Times and Wall Street Journal where countries that may or may not be that friendly to us—China and Russia and others around the world—were saying: We need to move away from an American-centered economy around the world, a dollar-centered economy around the world—how this hit to our reputation was somehow in the best interest of our country.

I am glad Leader REID and Leader MCCONNELL worked out what appears to be at least a short-term solution. I am glad many of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle tried to find common ground. It appears we will reopen the government. It appears we will avoid defaulting and going into uncharted territory where we, candidly, don't really know how bad it could have been.

But before we celebrate too much, let's recognize that the reports are true as far as what the avoidance of this catastrophe will mean. It means we have 90 days before the government runs out of money again. We have 113 days until the debt ceiling might have to be raised again.

So my first hope as we move forward is that those who practiced the tactics of shutdown and threatening default will say: Never again will we put the full faith and credit of the United States of America at risk. Never again will we shut down our government, hurt our Federal workforce, hurt taxpayers, and hurt private businesses simply because we didn't get what we wanted in a political dispute.

I hope as well in the coming weeks we will recognize that the people who work for the United States of America, our Federal workers, deserve better; that when we come on the floor of this Senate or the other body and have our policy debates, we don't criticize the workforce the way it was repeatedly criticized; that we recognize that when we want to take a pound of flesh out of some program, we don't start with the Federal workforce because in the tight budget times we will face for the foreseeable future, we are going to have to ask that workforce to do more with less resources. Again, as somebody who has been in business longer than I have been in government, management 101 says that if you want your workforce to do better and do more with less, you start by acknowledging their challenges and rewarding them, not simply bashing them, not simply leaving this overhang of future furloughs or the kind of uncertainty that still seems to be around this place.

The second thing I hope we will go forward on is recognizing that sequestration was set up to be so stupid that no rational group of people would ever let it happen. Well, we have let it happen now for about 8 months so far. As challenging as it has been over the last 8 months, in this next fiscal year, which started on October 1, it is going to get exponentially worse.

I understand the concerns of my colleagues on the other side and my concern as well that we have to find a way to cut back on some of our spending. But there are smarter ways to do it than sequestration. So in this ensuing period, I hope we are able to work through that.

I do believe we need to take these next 90 days—or an even shorter period if we need a report back from the Budget Committee by mid-December—and recognize that this constant—every 3 months, every 6 months—manufactured budget crisis does our country no good.

If both sides will enter this next phase of negotiations with a little more sobriety, a little less willingness to call out each other by name, and actually recognize that we do have to get our balance sheet in order—if we want to avoid a repeat in January and February of these last couple of weeks—we have seen the damage we have done to our country—we are going to have to roll up our sleeves and recognize that we are going to have to deal with our entitlements. That means folks on my side of the aisle are going to have to think about how we preserve Medicare, Social Security, and Medicaid in a way that is affordable over the long haul. My friends on the other side of the aisle will have to realize what kind of government we want and what kind of government we are going to be willing to pay for.

As somebody who has spent the last 4 years combing through these numbers repeatedly, I don't think we can pay for the level of government the American people have expected with our existing Tax Code, so we are going to have to find ways to close down some of these loopholes, make our Tax Code more progrowth, but at the same time generate more revenue than we currently have.

It is never over until it is over, as I have found in the Senate, but my hope and prayer is that we will not do any more damage; that we will put a halt to this hemorrhaging of the $20 billion we have already inflicted on our economy; that we will say to that motel owner that we are not going to be willing to shut down a national park again come January; that we will say to that restaurant worker outside the Federal facility: You are going to be able to predict that the Federal Government isn't going to be laid off willy-nilly; that we will say to our Federal workforce we are going to ask you to do more with less, but we are going to support you in a way we have not done to date; that we will say to the American taxpayer we are not going to deepen the deficit by taking irrational actions by shutting down government; and we will say to the world that once again you can count on the United States of America to pay its bills in an orderly and regular fashion, and never again will we put the full faith and credit of America in jeopardy.

I hope and pray we will use this period to actually put a fix in place. The incremental amount of additional revenues needed to be changed or the incremental amount of changes that need to be made to our entitlement programs are relatively small and can be phased in over a period of a decade or more. I agree with the Senator from Maryland that we also have to invest. But I cannot help but think the best jobs program we can have for an economy that is anxious and ready to recover is to make sure that we in Washington do not create and manufacture another political crisis that puts that recovery in jeopardy.

It is the best of times and the worst of times. I hope we celebrate that we have done our job and avoided this calamity, but let's make sure we never do this again. Let's make sure we take the 90 days before the next CR expires and the 113 days before the debt ceiling comes and really get our fiscal House in order and make sure we give the American public the confidence they need to move forward.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, I rise to say a few words to applaud the Senate bipartisan leadership for the ongoing negotiation to do what the American public wants us to do, to reopen our government, affirm the fiscal soundness of the United States, and finally begin a true dialog of a budget conference to find a path forward for 2014.

This is what America wants us to do. They want us to work together in the Senate—Democrats and Republicans. They want the Senate and the House to work together. They want us to stop the foolish shutdown that has needlessly hurt individuals, our communities, our economy, and our prestige. Now is the time to do that and then begin the repair work that is ahead.

The deal that has been worked on by Senator REID, Senator MCCONNELL, and others is a bipartisan deal. As the Presiding Officer knows, that is necessary. The American public has provided a divided Congress—one House with a Democratic majority and one House with a Republican majority. If we are to get over this short-term hump—and indeed, if we are to get over the next hump through a budget negotiation—it is not going to be just one side dictating the terms. Those who thought they would shut down the government and dictate terms were wrong. Those who thought they could threaten default on the debt and dictate terms were wrong. When the American public has put one party in control of each House, the only way to find an agreement and come forward is for people to listen to each other and find compromise.

Again, we are not there yet. We hope we will be voting later in the day, but I think it is appropriate to say we appreciate the leadership of Senator REID and Senator MCCONNELL and finding—in a very challenging time—a path forward to do what is right for the country. We encourage those efforts and look forward to being on the floor later today to have a vote and send the appropriate signal, that the U.S. Government is open and the full faith and credit of this wonderful Nation stands unblemished.

If we do that today, the real work, in some ways, now begins. This whole exercise in brinkmanship could have been avoided if Congress had, in March, done what we in the Senate have been asking them to do and started a budget conference.

I have spoken about this many times on the floor—probably with a little bit of extra passion because I serve on the Budget Committee. Being on the Budget Committee has been an education for this naive freshman Senator. After working with others to pass a budget at 5 a.m. in the morning on March 23, I sort of believed that somehow government 101 would next say we would then take the Senate budget and the House budget—that indeed were very different documents—and put them immediately into a conference where we could find a compromise and move forward. That is what was contemplated by the 1974 Budget Act under which Congress operates.

What was odd is that after we did all of that work to pass the budget again and again and again, an effort to begin a budget conference was blocked. That was surprising. We would not be in a shutdown if we had done it in March. Nevertheless, we are at a place where we are going to fix the brinkmanship and then engage in the kind of dialog between the House and Senate so we can move forward.

Again, if there is to be a deal—and budget deals have proven to be elusive in this body in recent years—make no mistake. It is going to have to be a bipartisan deal. I feel very strongly about some issues, but the deal will certainly not be to my liking in all particulars. The House may feel strongly about some issues. They can't expect a deal that will be—in all particulars—to their liking. A divided government means we have to listen to each other, negotiate, find common ground, and that is what the American public has sent us to do.

In conclusion, I am proud of the Senate budget. What a budget conference will be is essentially an opportunity for each House to put their best document on the table and say: This is a budget that will be good for America. Having worked with my colleagues on the Senate Budget Committee in January, February, and March, I am proud of the budget we have passed.

I have done a lot of budgets. I did many budgets as a city councilman and a mayor in Richmond. I worked on budgets as the Governor of Virginia. We won some awards in our State for our fiscal acumen, and I think I know something about budgets.

What I know about the Senate budget and believe very strongly is this: If that Senate budget were to be put in place today, without changing one comma, without changing one apostrophe, it would be good for the Nation. The Senate budget we passed—fully aware there would be a conference, fully aware there would be negotiation and compromise—nevertheless, the Senate budget we passed does a lot of good. It is a budget that is focused primarily on economic growth—growing

our economy, adding jobs. The best anti-deficit strategy is a growing economy. In putting our budget together, we focused on issues such as infrastructure and educational investments that would help grow the economy.

We focused on the protection of key services, recognizing we have to deal with expense items. There are key services Americans depend on, so we reject the across-the-board, slash-and-burn of the sequester and instead find targeted ways where we can find savings that would nevertheless protect key services. The budget expresses a willingness to reform—to reform the way we spend, to reform programs such as Medicare, where cost growth has been so significant, to reform Defense spending in smart ways that will keep our Nation safe, as well as, yes, to reform tax policy, the tax expenditures, which is the polite way of saying loopholes, deductions, credits, exemptions—all of those tax expenditures that turn our revenue collection system into a kind of swiss cheese. We need to do tax reforms as well. If we are going to reform on the spending side, we need to reform tax expenditures as well.

Finally, the Senate budget offers us a path forward to credibly reduce the deficit and to replace the foolish, nonstrategic, across-the-board sequester cuts that have harmed Virginia and have harmed the Nation. That is not to say there will not be cuts. But if we are going to have cuts, they should be done with a strategic sense. Any CEO, any Governor would say that cuts should be strategic rather than across the board.

So I am very proud of our Senate budget, and I look forward to having an intense dialogue between Senate and House Members where we put the two budgets on the table, where finally a conference can begin, where the American public can see the different choices the House and Senate make, and thereby be educated about the choices. I think that if we sit in a conference and we have the two budgets on the table, folks will see the many virtues of the Senate approach. But all Senators involved in those discussions—and we don't know yet who they will be—as proud as they are, as proud as I am about the Senate budget—we will have to go into this with the full knowledge that we will not find the kind of deal going forward without being willing to listen, dialogue, and compromise.

I will conclude by saying it seems as though compromise is sort of a dirty word these days. Yet we have to reflect back that our very form of government depends upon it. The three branches, the checks and balances between the branches, assume a degree of dialogue and compromise. The legislative branch itself, with two Houses—it would have been easier with one—but with two Houses, on matters such as these, the need to get bills and legislation and budgets through both Houses requires compromise.

So I am glad we are finally entering that stage of a true budget conference—an opportunity to dialogue and compromise, which we should have done last spring. We can enter into it with pride that the Senate budget is a strong document that will help the economy, but also enter into it fully realizing that this short-term deal is not going to be solved by a House or a Senate plan that just had the support of one party. It had to get solved with a bipartisan deal that originated, thankfully, in the Senate. We will have to be willing, in order to find a long-term budget solution, to bring that same spirit to the table.

With that, Mr. President, I note the absence of a quorum.

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

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Ms. MIKULSKI. I ask unanimous consent to speak for such time as I consume.

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

Ms. MIKULSKI. I come to the floor today with both a great deal of energy and a sense of relief—relief that it appears we have reached a bipartisan agreement to reopen the government, pay America's bills, and give us a path forward to deal with the ability to negotiate on some of our long-term fiscal challenges.

I come with a sense of energy because I think it shows that when there is a will, we find a way. This needs to be a sensible approach. I have a sense of optimism that this spirit of compromise that produced this new agreement will continue in the Senate as we work together.

I am so relieved we are going to extend the debt limit, at least to February 7, 2014. During this entire debate over the last several days, I was so apprehensive that America would become a deadbeat nation.

I was appalled, like so many Americans, that the families of four of our soldiers who had fallen in the line of duty were not going to get their death benefit. The wonderful Fisher family, who has been so kind and so generous to our veterans, paid that. This is the United States of America. We have a duty to our military. We have a duty to our military families. We were not going to be able to do that. That is just one example.

I was concerned about our T-bills, our famous Treasury bills, that have been not only part of the fiscal underpinning of the global economy, but also have given confidence to modest and conservative investors: Well, I will invest in T-bills because nothing will ever happen to our government.

I was concerned that our T-bills would go the way of junk bonds. So now, because we have extended the debt limit, we have agreed to pay the bills on debt we have already incurred. This is an excellent way of moving forward.

I also am pleased we are going to have, as part of this agreement, the reopening of the entire government. This means our government will be on a continuing funding resolution until January 15, 2014. This will enable us to set the framework for what our funding will be for the rest of the fiscal year.

Why are we in a shutdown of our Federal Government? The Presiding Officer is a member of the Appropriations Committee. I chair that committee. That is the committee that actually puts money in the Federal checkbook for the entire fiscal year. However, we are not wild spenders. We have a cap placed on us. That comes from the Budget Committee.

The Budget Committee sets the budget for the entire Federal Government. It sets what the cap should be on discretionary spending, which is the Appropriations Committee, on mandatory spending, which are programs that must be funded, whether it is Social Security, Medicare, veterans' benefits, and others that no matter what, they are to be funded. Then they also set what revenue we should have and where we should get it. The Budget Committee is absolutely crucial for us to do our work.

I am pleased there has been a commitment from the leaders to appoint conferees on the budget resolution so the Budget Committee can do its work and give back to we appropriators no later than December 16 what our cap is for spending for the entire fiscal year. If we can do that, we appropriators can do our job. I will say more about what appropriations are.

This is going to be a very tight schedule. The Budget Committee has been unable to meet because six Senators used their parliamentary tools to block the Budget Committee meeting, even though the Senate passed a budget with over 70 votes on March 23. We have wasted 6 months and we don't want to waste the next 6 weeks.

I am pleased there appears to be the ability for the Budget Committee to meet in conference with the House of Representatives. That means the chair of the Senate Budget Committee, Senator PATTY MURRAY, and the ranking member or vice chairman, Senator JEFF SESSIONS of Alabama, will meet with PAUL RYAN, the Republican chairman in the House Budget Committee, and CHRIS VAN HOLLEN, another Marylander and a very able ranking member.

I wish them well because we need to know how much discretionary spending we are going to have, we need to be able to look at mandatory spending, and we need to look at revenues. If we can pass this agreement reached by our leadership on both sides of the aisle, Democratic leader Senator REID, and Republican leader Senator MCCONNELL,

we can, within hours, reopen our government and pay our bills.

These are our constitutional responsibilities. The American people deserve a government that works as hard as they do. We need to put our Federal Government and our Federal employees back to work. This agreement does that. It says to the American taxpayer and to the entire world, America is not a deadbeat nation. We can work together to enact bipartisan, fiscally responsible legislation to keep our government going. There is no doubt that we have significant fiscal challenges ahead of us.

As we prepare to vote, I would encourage all of us to take stock of what has happened in the Senate the past several days. It is time we take stock of where we are and what it means. The crisis we have just lived through might be very good for TV ratings, but it is lousy for credit ratings. It is good for TV ratings because the Nation was gripped by what they saw. They couldn't believe it. I was in the Senate working, and I couldn't believe it either; that we could not in a straightforward way come to grips with the fact that we needed to reopen government, but we were being held back by those who wanted to defund ObamaCare.

This crisis of the U.S. Government and the fear that the U.S. Government might not pay its bills has created a crisis of confidence. As we work on implementing the deal we are promoting, we also have to work to ensure that we rebuild the confidence of the American people and those who depend on and look to the U.S. Government, those that are treasured allies and emerging nations to whom we would say be a democracy and be like us. We have to use our time not only to get our fiscal act together, but we have to restore the confidence in our ability to govern.

America is a middle-of-the-road nation. We need an environment where the middle speaks, where the middle class now speaks and says: Please represent me, meet our national security needs, make public investments in physical infrastructure and in human infrastructure such as education and access to higher education. Please make public investments in research and development that will create new ideas for the new jobs in the new economy of the 21st century. This is what they want us to be able to do.

For those of us in this great institution called the Senate and the other side of the Capitol, the House of Representatives, we have to be middle-of-the-roaders. It is the middle, maybe a little to the center left or to the center right, but we have to be in the middle. Middle-of-the-roaders are the ones who helped bring us to this deal.

I wish to thank those who put forth some other ideas during this debate, Senator COLLINS, Senator KLOBUCHAR, and the so-called group of 12. They had some very interesting ideas. As we go forward on implementing the deal, we ought to consider some of them. They helped create a climate and a tone where people showed they wanted to be pragmatic and also wanted to be patriotic, which is to make sure that the esteem of the U.S. Government continues to take hold both among our own people and around the world.

I wish to be sure we all work together. I fear the middle-of-the-road legislator could be an endangered species. I hope not. I hope the middle-of-the-roaders don't become roadkill. We can show now it is not only the deal that has been made, but we must vote on the bill, pass the bill, and then we need to implement it.

America and its government cannot go from one crisis to another. We cannot govern by crisis. We cannot govern by one party or the other extorting it from the other—my way or I will shut it down. We have to show that we are a deliberative body. We have to show we are a nation of laws and rules, not of people, personalities, and pundits. We need to demonstrate that.

I compliment those who have been voices of moderation and voices for creating the climate to bring us to this point.

I also wish to thank our leadership for being willing to step to the plate and be leaders. I would also like to thank Senator REID and Senator MCCONNELL for the leadership and statesmanship they possess.

We are on the brink of brinkmanship. We had enough of gamesmanship, and they stepped forward to show us what statesmanship is. I wish to thank them for what they did.

I chair the Appropriations Committee. I am not a solo act. I have 12 wonderful subcommittee chairmen who are eager and itching to go to work. I have an outstanding Republican conservative as my vice chairman, Senator SHELBY of Alabama. We want to work. We want to work together and we want to work with civility, mutual respect, and get the job done.

I say to my friends on the other side of the dome, we want to govern. We want to govern wisely. We want to govern efficiently, and we want to govern respectfully.

I say to my colleagues on my side who have elected me the chair of this committee, they may count on me to do my best.

I say to those on the other side of the aisle, they may count on me to continue to run an inclusive committee of discussion, open debate, amendments, so we can move our process forward. Everybody feels included. Everybody has their say. Everybody has their day. At the end of the day though, we will vote.

To my colleagues on the other side of the dome, let us work together. We have shown in the past we know how to talk to each other, we know how to listen to each other, and we can get the job done. I believe America wants us to get on with the job. Americans want to be able to have a government they can count on. Americans want to be able to have a government that works as hard as they do. They want to have a Congress that acts in the interests of the Nation, of the next generation, and not of the next election.

I am ready to vote for the agreement reached by our leadership, go to work, and do everything I can to make sure we follow the middle of the road—that sensible center—and to make sure the American middle class has their day and their say.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I rise today on a day when we are ever hopeful that we will be able to complete legislation tonight that will remove the threat of a default as well as to open the government and to allow us to go forward now with negotiations on short-term budget issues for the next year and even beyond. I am confident that will happen, that we will be able to complete most or all of the work tonight.

In a larger sense, the reason it is vitally important we get this agreement effectuated is because there are an awful lot of people out there hurting, and hurting for several reasons. We have had a recovering economy, but job growth hasn't moved fast enough. We still have, by way of example in Pennsylvania, over ½ million people out of work—at last count, 501,000 Pennsylvanians out of work. The percentage number really doesn't tell you much. It has been hovering around 7½ percent or a little higher for a long while, but more than ½ million people out of work is devastating.

As the Presiding Officer knows, his State of Ohio and Pennsylvania have a lot of similarities in terms of our workforce. When I go across Pennsylvania, we have sometimes the biggest urban areas, such as Philadelphia, still having high unemployment numbers, and sometimes very small counties having an equally high percentage of people out of work. My home area of northeastern Pennsylvania has still far too many people out of work.

So when you add a tough economy still for a lot of people, plus the impact of the indiscriminate, across-the-board cuts by way of sequestration—which I believe is bad public policy, and we will talk more about that later, and it will be the subject of greater debate than it has been—and, thirdly, you add the impact of the shutdown, and, finally, you add this time of coming perilously close to a default, it has been, for all those reasons, a difficult period for the country and a very difficult period for

those who are trying to make ends meet every day.

We have a chance in the next couple of hours to vote in a manner that will lift some of that anxiety, some of that worry. I was here this past weekend on the floor talking about a letter I had received from a woman in northeastern Pennsylvania. She talked about her circumstance and her husband's circumstance as a result of the government shutdown, but then she talked about her parents, ages 85 and 83. Here is what she said about her parents:

> . . . they should not have this uncertainty. These should be their golden years. It breaks my heart to hear my mother saying she can't sleep and has a stomachache from the worry about where our country is headed. Middle and low income families cannot afford another economic downturn. We are just barely recovering from the last one.

That letter that came from northeastern Pennsylvania I think spoke for people across our State and across our country as to what people have been living through, trying to recover from the recession of several years ago and then being hit with a government shutdown and then our coming to the brink of default.

For all those reasons, we hope the work that is done today with the compromise agreement Majority Leader REID and Republican Leader MCCONNELL have entered into becomes the consensus not only here in the Senate but in the House as well. No legislation can remove all of the anxiety and the worry people have, but certainly it will provide some measure of relief for families.

We had another story that came to us yesterday of a family in Pennsylvania, led by the mother of the family. Kelly Brown is her name. She has four children, and the children's ages are 17, 14, and she has two 9-year-old twins. This story was in the Pottstown Mercury, Tuesday, October 15. Kelly's story is emblematic of the impact of the shutdown—just the shutdown itself—and what that did to her.

Kelly is in an apartment in southeastern Pennsylvania with her four children. She was moving along the path to getting a mortgage and being able to move into a house kind of one county over, not too far from where she was living. In the first couple paragraphs of the story, it says:

> Then the government shutdown froze her mortgage. And over the weekend, the home's seller notified Brown that she couldn't wait any longer.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD this story dated October 15 of this year entitled ''Gov't shutdown could leave single mom, kids, homeless.''

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

[From the Mercury, Oct. 15, 2013]

GOV'T SHUTDOWN COULD LEAVE SINGLE MOM, KIDS, HOMELESS

(By Frank Otto)

BOYERTOWN.—Kelly Brown was all set. With a pre-approved mortgage through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, she had an agreement on a house in Boyertown where she could move with the four children for whom she has full custody.

Currently in an apartment, it would be the first house Brown, 44, would have since she lost her home in a divorce settlement seven years ago.

Then the government shutdown froze her mortgage. And over the weekend, the home's seller notified Brown she couldn't wait any longer.

''Three weeks ago we were celebrating getting my first house,'' Brown said. ''And now we're here.''

With the agreement in place before the shutdown, Brown and her own real estate agent, Jack Dolan, of Keller Williams, began putting money into the home through appraisals, deposits and improvements such as the removal of asbestos.

''We thought, of course the government won't shut down,'' Brown said.

As September ended, the shutdown did indeed occur, which put the pre-approved mortgage through the Department of Agriculture on hold.

Brown continued forward hoping the shutdown wouldn't affect her move out of her apartment in Upper Frederick, where she'd given notice prior to the shutdown.

She'll have to be out of the apartment she shared with her sons, Oliver, 17, Noah, 14, and 9-year-old twins Duncan and Isabella, by Nov. 2.

The settlement on the home in Boyertown was scheduled for Oct. 25.

''We were moving ahead 'thinking the shutdown is going to end. The shutdown is going to end,' '' Brown said.

Then, with the mortgage still frozen and no clear resolution to the shutdown in sight, the seller notified Brown through Zuber Realty, their Realtor, that they couldn't wait any longer and were going to move ahead with attempting to sell the house to someone else.

''Over the weekend, they said they would no longer give us any time,'' Brown said. ''They said they'd sell the house to somebody else, knowing all the money we had already paid and it was through no fault of my own.''

Richard A. Zuber, owner of Zuber Realty, said the seller couldn't hold the house out any longer without getting a return on the property.

Zuber said the decision rested with the seller, who intends to stay open to selling to Brown if no buyer is found once the shutdown ends.

''We definitely have sympathy because it's not their fault,'' Zuber said. ''This all hangs on the federal government.''

Brown said Dolan suggested attempting to rent the house until the shutdown was over but the seller was not in favor of that.

At this point, Brown is concerned that she might not have a place to live with her family come Nov. 2. She has no relatives in the area and now has to brainstorm.

''I work for the (Montgomery County) Office of Children and Youth as a caseworker,'' Brown said. ''It's kind of ironic because this is what I do. I help families that have neglect or abuse of children and help them with services to find housing.''

An additional concern is that her son, Oliver, is applying to colleges now and expecting acceptance letters.

''What's going to happen with that?'' she said. ''Where are we going to have a mailbox?''

Serving as a classroom aide in the Pottstown School District while she got her master's degree to become a social worker, Brown said she's ''devastated'' after all the work she put in.

''We were finally at that point where we could do it,'' Brown said.

Mr. CASEY. My office is working with Kelly now to see if we can't be helpful. But the point is she should never have had to go through that anxiety and worry, and risk not being able to move into that house that she had a chance to move into.

That is what real life is. Real life is trying to complete a mortgage application and moving along to go from an apartment to a home with your four children and being stopped because of a shutdown here. And in the case of the earlier letter I referred to, it is a daughter talking about her parents and the worry they have, and the literally sleepless nights and pain and anxiety because of what is happening or not happening here in Washington.

We hope and pray on days such as this that the actions taken will lift some of that anxiety and provide a measure—and maybe it will only be a very small measure—of comfort and what we hope will be some degree of stability.

I think once we get past this period, we can get back to the work the American people expect us to focus on, which is—if I could put this in a sound bite, what I hear from people in Pennsylvania saying they hope I will do as one of their representatives—that we will work together to create jobs or work together to help the middle class, work together to move the economy forward, or some variation of that, and that is what we hope to get to.

As important as it is to begin the process of talking about and negotiating on a budget for the next year and on the longer term fiscal question, it is very important for both parties to get back to the focus of building a stronger middle class and building a stronger economy.

You don't have to go very far or read the paper for many days to find evidence that the middle class has never been more under siege, never been more undermined or weakened over time than the middle class is today. On September 19 of this year, in The New York Times, there was a graph—I won't put the graph in the record but I will summarize it very briefly—of all kinds of data that indicated what has happened to the middle class in the last generation. The headline over the description of the graphs was ''standing still,'' with a big question mark. The point it makes is that the middle class is virtually where it was many years ago, if not further behind.

I am quoting from some of that summary where it says:

> The costs of maintaining a middle-class life-style have increased.

Then in the middle of the page there is a graph that talks about the middle 20 percent of the country—basically what most would describe as the middle class. And in that 20 percent you can tell, just from a little more than a generation—this graph goes from 1967 to 2012—that the share of total income

of that middle 20 percent of the country has gone from 17.1 percent to 14.8. That is a substantial erosion of income for the middle class. That is a problem and a challenge we should work on in the days ahead, in addition to working on our budget.

I will make one final point about what we should do on the other side of this important work we are going to do today to complete this agreement and to lift the threat of default and to make sure we open the government and move to negotiations.

On July 20 of this year there was a long piece in The New York Times about not just the middle class but also about other measures of how we are doing as a country. Two data points jumped out at me and, frankly, would outrage anyone reading it. They listed the top 20 countries that are our peers. This category was the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, so-called OECD countries—in other words, the 20 countries in the world that are most similar to the United States by way of economies and, to a certain extent, by population. So we are compared to our peers. That is the measurement. If you look at the top 20, under two categories—infant mortality and child poverty—the United States of America ranks 17th in both out of 20. And 17th, obviously, is right near the bottom. Instead of being in the top 3 or top 5 or even the top 10, the United States, when it comes to child poverty and infant mortality, is ranked No. 17 in the world out of 20.

So as we move to focusing on the middle class and focusing on job creation strategies, and even focusing on budgets and whatever else people want to debate and negotiate about around here, I hope we will all feel challenged by the admonition that we cannot lose sight of what is happening to our children. This is the most powerful country in the world. Our economy may not be demonstrating it right now, but we are and we will be, and we can never say we are doing the job we must do if we are not focused on the needs and the challenges faced by our families, especially the most vulnerable member of any family—a child. Infant mortality and child poverty are two indicators where this country is far, far behind, and we all need to do more on those issues.

We are happy we are moving to a resolution of this long nightmare the country has lived through and these families have lived through, but even on the other side we have some major challenges that should be a summons to our conscience to do something about them, and I hope our actions and our work can be commensurate with the challenges faced by families and especially the challenges faced by our children.

With that, Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island is recognized.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I join my colleague from Pennsylvania in expressing relief and optimism that, finally, it looks as though we are rid of the wasteful and useless government shutdown we have been put through for the past 2 weeks; that it looks as though we are rid of the dangerous threat of American default that we have faced for the last few days; and let's hope that together we are also rid of the malicious spirit that led us down this evil path in the first place.

A colleague the other day on the Senate floor used the analogy of a fire in an airplane's cockpit distracting the pilots from flying the aircraft where it needed to go as they had to put out the fire.

That is kind of what we have been through these past 2 weeks. I hope we will have no more of our own countrymen lighting fires in the cockpit just to try to get their way. We need as a nation to get our heads up, fly the plane, and ready ourselves for the weather ahead.

The last 2 weeks have been wasted in this useless artificial crisis and has distracted us from real crises, real problems, undeniable problems—things which the Speaker of the House can't make go away by finally allowing a vote but which will require us to work together to solve them. None is more significant to our children than what our carbon pollution is doing to the Earth's atmosphere and oceans. It is not enough just to put out the fire in the cockpit. We have to wake up to the real problems ahead and around us.

I know the Presiding Officer from Ohio is a keen enthusiast and student of history. I recently saw part of ''The Dust Bowl,'' Ken Burns' documentary series. The Dust Bowl calamity was an economic disaster and a human disaster, but it was also described in the show as having been an economic disaster and a human disaster because it was first and foremost an environmental disaster—indeed, one of the two or three most devastating environmental disasters in the United States.

The Dust Bowl happened, creating such disaster for so many good, hard-working families, because, simply put, we messed with Mother Nature. To plant wheat, we tore up the deep-rooted buffalo grass which had protected the prairies for generations. We ignored the cycles of drought which were the Great Plains' history. The result was tragedy and destruction.

There are obvious parallels from the Dust Bowl experience to where we are now on carbon pollution. Most obviously, lesson No. 1, you mess with Mother Nature at your peril. And are we ever messing with Mother Nature. We just broke through 400 parts per million of CO_2 in the atmosphere after at least 800,000 years—which is longer than homo sapiens have been a species—in the range between 170 and 300. Our whole species has come to the success we have seen on this planet in a safe window of 170 to 300 parts per million of CO_2 in the atmosphere, and we have now broken out of it. And it is not just 400, it is 400 and climbing.

Let's move from our atmosphere to our oceans. Our oceans are acidifying at the fastest rate ever recorded. We have to go millions of years back into the geologic record to find anything comparable. When we go there, what else do we find when we look back to those points in the ancient geologic record? It isn't pretty. In fact, it is downright ominous.

The second lesson is that the cause of such a calamity can be a perfectly normal activity, just at the wrong scale. Look at the Dust Bowl. There is nothing wrong with plowing. Plowing the Earth is probably the single most valuable action humankind has ever learned to do. Plowing is essential to farming. Yet it was that ordinary activity—plowing—which brought on the Dust Bowl and the vast human tragedy that ensued because it was at the wrong scale.

Similarly, there is nothing inherently wrong with burning fossil fuels. We do it when we drive to the market, and we call it up when we flip on the light switch. Yet burning fossil fuels at too great a scale is leading us to the brink of a new disaster.

What changes and makes it no longer perfectly normal and OK is when we know the consequences of the scale of our activity. Once we know the consequences we are causing, that activity is no longer so benign and responsibility cannot be so easily shrugged off. If only the farmers at their plows had listened to the warnings of the cattlemen and Native Americans and not put every corner of every farm to the plow.

There is a third parallel, which is that there is a lot of lying done when there is money to be made. In the Dust Bowl, land dealers and speculators told farm families that plowing the prairies would make more rain fall. Rain follows the plow, they were told. They had nothing to worry about. And the land speculators sold, and they sold a pack of lies. The race to plow created more speculators and more hucksters and more lies.

Today we have the deniers—a sophisticated, well-honed apparatus of institutions and strategies designed to spread lies, designed to sow doubt, designed to delay action. Today it is done on a scale that makes the Dust Bowl hucksters look like piddling amateurs. It is funded by giant corporations such as ExxonMobil and Koch Industries. It uses the slickest Madison Avenue strategies. It maintains a stable of pet scientists willing to be trotted out and to recite from the polluters' playbook. It operates through a network of false front organizations designed to look more independent and credible than their funders are and designed to hide the money flow.

When history looks back and this story is fully told, I believe this apparatus of lies will take its place beside great American scandals such as Teapot Dome and Watergate. But for now it churns merrily on its way, cranking out the propaganda.

Regrettably, this apparatus has captured large segments of the Republican Party and silenced others. The polluters have maneuvered the question of carbon pollution right into the middle of the Republican Party's culture wars. The fossil fuel industry must be really chortling at having pulled off that fete. But it does not bode well for the Republican Party. Lies are ultimately revealed. The choice to make bedfellows of the polluters will soon enough be very damaging to the Republican Party. For the polluters, they have played the Republican Party for suckers, and they will grin all the way to the bank. They won't care.

The last parallel is the lesson that when you are messing big-time with Mother Nature, things can go precipitously wrong. Mother Nature can turn on you very suddenly. Wheat farming on the plains was a bonanza, with bumper crops year after year. Families who had never owned land, who had never before had a place to call their own, saw golden futures as far as the eye could see as the wheat ripened. And within just a few years the devastation was complete and families' dreams were shattered. The Dust Bowl came on fast.

There is a phrase—''a fool's paradise.'' It is called a fool's paradise because it looks like paradise for a while if you don't look ahead and take the precautions to protect paradise and fend off calamity. Not looking ahead is what gets you to the ''fool'' part.

Young people are looking ahead. Voters under 35, by a ratio of 66 to 27—more than 2 to 1—say that climate change is a problem we need to address. And when asked about climate deniers, 74 percent of Independent young voters said they would describe climate deniers as ignorant, out of touch, or crazy. For self-identified Republican young voters under 35, 53 percent identify climate deniers as ignorant, out of touch, or crazy.

I ask unanimous consent to conclude in 1 minute.

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

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. So I ask my Republican friends, how is climate denial a winning strategy when 53 percent of your own young voters think it is ignorant, out of touch, or crazy? How is that looking ahead? We in Congress get elected to look ahead. We don't get elected to put our heads in the sand. We certainly don't get elected to parrot the lies of the special interests.

Well, we are not looking ahead. We are sound asleep here in Congress. We are having a snooze while nature's alarms are ringing all around us. It is time for Congress to wake up. We have a duty. We need to wake up to our duty.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, it now appears that at some point this evening we will reach the end of the latest Washington-manufactured crisis of the month. But, unfortunately, the real crisis facing the country remains, and that real crisis is the growing sense among our people that we are losing the American dream.

Why do people feel this way? Because more than 4 million Americans have been out of work for 6 months or more, because millions more find themselves stuck in jobs that do not pay enough for them to live the way they are used to, and while their paychecks aren't growing, their bills are. Ask the young couples and single parents how much they are spending every month to provide childcare for their children. Ask the students, young Americans who are stuck with thousands of dollars in student loans they are now struggling to pay.

This is the real crisis facing America; that our status as a land of opportunity seems to be eroding and that so many of our political leaders seem oblivious to it. And now, as we emerge from this latest standoff, we have done nothing to address it.

There were two issues at play in this showdown. The press coverage mixes them together, but there are two distinct and separate issues, and they should be examined that way.

It started with ObamaCare—a law that was sold to people as something that would help them get affordable health insurance. But that is not what it is going to be. We have all heard the news of what a fiasco the rollout of the exchanges has been. But as bad as the rollout of the exchanges and the Web site has been, we need to realize that was supposed to be the easy part. The most difficult and disruptive parts of that law are yet to come.

In the months to come, a new insurance fee—a new tax on hard-working Americans—will be added to insurance policies. People will be required to give up existing coverage they are happy with if it doesn't meet the standards created by ObamaCare. And if they don't buy the insurance, they eventually will have to pay a tax that goes up to $695 a year or 2.5 percent of their income. Employers with more than 50 full-time employees will be required to offer a certain type of coverage to their employees. So many of them are moving people to part-time work. And full time, by the way, is no longer defined as 40 hours; it is now 30 hours. So many employers are moving employees to under 30 hours a week.

Today, for many Americans, ObamaCare is just a Web site that doesn't work, but in the months to come this law is going to hurt millions of people. It is going to cost them hours at work and maybe even their job. It is going to cost them the insurance they have now and are happy with. It is going to force them to leave their existing doctor. It is going to raise rates for people who buy insurance for themselves.

What do we tell these people who are being hurt by this law? To deal with it because it is the law of the land? Is it not our job to fight for them? Is it not our job to be their voice and to protect them from the harmful effects of this law? That is why I continue to believe we should not waste a single penny more of taxpayer money on this damaging law.

One of the most important powers and responsibilities that we have as Members of Congress is the power of the purse. It is under our Constitution, which gives the Congress the power to decide what to spend money on and what not to spend taxpayer money on.

I know of no one in my party who supported shutting down the government. On the contrary, we argued that we should fund the entire government except for one thing, ObamaCare. In fact, the House of Representatives passed a law that did just that.

But the Democrats took the position that either we fund ObamaCare or we fund nothing at all. They took the position that funding ObamaCare was more important than funding the government. They were willing to put our country through this government shutdown just to save their pet project. Within days of the showdown, by the way, a second issue was added, the Federal debt limit. The press portrays the debt limit as simply a law that allows us to pay our bills, and therefore they fall for the argument that failing to raise the debt limit equals a default on our debt. But the debt limit is a lot more than simply permission to pay our bills.

Every year, our government is spending more money than it takes in, a lot more money than it takes in. As the years go by, that annual deficit adds up to what we call the national debt. It is growing at an alarming rate. The debt limit is a law that limits the amount of money the government can have as debt at any single time. But we depend on borrowed money to pay our bills. So if we do not raise it again, eventually we will not have enough money to pay all of our bills. That should scare us.

Reaching the debt limit is like this. When the bank calls on you to collect the monthly mortgage payment, if you don't pay them, your home is going to be taken away, your credit is going to be ruined, and your ability to borrow money in the future is going to be hurt. But what if, because you don't make enough money, the only way to pay your mortgage is by using your credit card? You can't do that forever, but you also can figure out what other expenses to cut so you don't have to keep using your credit card to keep paying the mortgage. That is what real people in the real world do.

But that is not what we are asked to do here. They are asking us to just pay the bill and keep using the credit card and let tomorrow worry about tomorrow. We cannot do that forever because at some point even the credit card is going to stop working.

Yet that is what has happened here again. So the debt will keep growing.

With each passing year, we will get closer to the day that we face a real debt crisis—not one caused because the Congress cannot pass a bill, but one caused because no one will lend us money anymore.

That is how we arrived at the point we find ourselves today. We have a President and a majority in the Senate that would rather face a default before seriously dealing with the debt. We have a President and a majority in this Senate that would rather shut down the government before they would shut down ObamaCare or even make any meaningful changes to it.

Tonight the government will be reopened and the debt limit will be lifted, but our real problems are still here. In the months and years to come they are only going to get bigger and harder to solve. For those of us who realize this, who clearly understand that the direction in which we are headed threatens the American dream and all of the things that make our country special, this is the time to reflect on the way forward. Because if we do not figure out how to change course around here, if we do not figure out the way to change the course our Nation is on, we will forever be known as the generation that ushered in America's decline.

History is not going to distinguish between Republicans and Democrats. It will judge us all harshly for our failure to act. To avoid this fate we must once and for all begin to address the national debt, not with accounting gimmicks but with real and measurable steps. It does not have to be solved in one sweeping measure, but we must begin the work of moving toward a sustainable level of spending. This will take time because we are still saddled by too many leaders unwilling to address the issue in a meaningful way.

Let's do what we can while they are still here, and at the same time let's work to replace these irresponsible leaders on the left with leaders who will finally step up and save our Nation from the real debt crisis that awaits us.

As for ObamaCare, it too will be harshly judged by history. That is why I am personally so disappointed that we were not able to achieve any meaningful changes to it. But this fight is not over. It has only just begun. In the months to come, millions of Americans will begin to confront the costs and the consequences of this law. It will be the reason why they are now working part-time. It will be the reason why they lost the insurance they used to have. It will be the reason why they cannot see the doctor they have been seeing for all these years. It will be the reason why their insurance premiums have gone through the roof.

We have been warning people about this for years, and we have done everything we could to keep this harm from reaching our people. But now ObamaCare is going to start hurting real people in real ways, and when it does this there is going to be a mad scramble in this town to fix it or get rid of it.

This has happened before. In June of 1988, Congress passed a bill called the Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act. It promised new medical benefits for the elderly, a cap on hospital and doctor bills, and it provided prescription medicine. Then the true cost of the program began to reach the American people and, as seniors began to learn the true cost of this new program, it fueled a revolt.

At first, the politicians minimized it. They minimized the protests, and they refused to make any changes to it at all. But before long, the onslaught of calls and mail to congressional offices became so much it was impossible to ignore. Before long, Congress was in full retreat, and by 1989 it was fully replaced.

For ObamaCare the day of reckoning is also coming. In the last few days I have been startled by the number of people who have told me they are ready to give up. They are ready to give up on the idea that we can make a difference. They are ready to give up on the idea that things will ever get better. But we cannot give up on America, and we cannot give up on the American dream. We cannot give up, because where are we going to go? If this country declines, if we lose what makes it special, what is going to replace it? So no matter how long it takes, no matter how many disappointments lie ahead, we must never give up, and we must never accept that this life today is the new normal.

For those around the world who look at the events of the last few days and weeks as evidence that America's best days are behind her, you don't understand our people. Our politics does not define our country. We are a unique people, a collection of men and women with sharply different views, with different backgrounds and beliefs. We share a free society, and everyone has a right to express their views, to argue and battle and debate.

Sometimes our differences bring us to points of great conflict, when the Nation appears on the verge of being ripped apart at the seams. Yet for over 200 years we have been held together because, while we are divided by many things, we are united by a powerful and timeless idea.

Before I describe that idea I ask unanimous consent for 1 additional minute to conclude.

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

Mr. RUBIO. For over 200 years we have been held together because, while we are divided by many things, we are united by a powerful and timeless idea, the idea that every single person has the God-given right to determine the course of their own life, the God-given right to go as far as our talent and our work will take us. So we argue about the best way to achieve that, and we have a tendency to put off difficult decisions before we absolutely have to make them.

But we have faced greater tests before. We have not always rushed to meet the challenge, but in the end we have never failed to do so. And let there be no doubt that we will do so again. The day is coming when our people will realize that the time has arrived once again to confront the challenges before us. The day is coming when our people will do what must be done to keep the American dream alive. I know it is hard to see right now, but we are one day closer to the moment when Americans will do what we have always done. We will confront and solve the challenges of our time, and we will make any sacrifice and undertake any task to make sure that we leave for our children what Americans of yesterday left for us: The single greatest nation in the history of the world.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Mississippi is recognized.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I am optimistic that soon we will be able to enact legislation to reopen our government and affirm the world's longstanding confidence in our financial stability and system of democracy. The current situation is an unfortunate byproduct of our sometimes discordant form of government which at this time happens to be divided between our two parties.

Despite the challenges of recent weeks, I hope this experience demonstrates to the Senate, to the other body, and to the administration, that the Nation is best served when we work together. If we allow our current hardships to pass, only to immediately entrench and get ready for the next crisis, we will be wasting an opportunity to extract a positive outcome from these last, difficult weeks.

Under the rules of the Senate, individual Senators are provided with significant power to shape the activity of this body. That is the way the Senate was designed to operate, and it has served this body and the country well. Recognizing that the rights entrusted to each of us can be powerful, we must be judicious in their application. We must always remember that each of us was elected by the people. If we work in cooperation, and even opposition, with a sense of realism and respect for ourselves and our institution, I believe this body can function effectively.

In getting past our current fiscal stalemates, I hope that we can next achieve a long-term agreement that will reduce our debt through structural changes to government spending. As a part of that process, we must talk seriously about the President's health care law, its serious flaws and its impact on families and businesses. I have consistently opposed this law, and one of my goals is seeing that it is repealed, delayed or made voluntary. Achieving that goal may take longer than we

would prefer because we are in the minority, but the law's declining popularity should give Senators from both parties reason to reevaluate it.

As part of a sustainable budget plan, I hope we can reach a long-term agreement on a farm bill to provide producers and consumers with certainty and to preserve the security Americans enjoy by our ability to generate, independently, food and fiber for ourselves and for the world.

The farm bill this body adopted earlier this year would help accomplish those goals and save $23 billion over the next 5 years.

If we can achieve a responsible budget agreement for fiscal year 2014 and beyond, I am confident the Appropriations Committee can produce bipartisan bills to fund the government in a responsible manner. I hope all Members have begun to recognize that our inability to act on individual appropriations bills has reduced each Senator's opportunity to help shape Federal programs and has eliminated a principal means of overseeing the executive branch.

The Appropriations Committee has long been able to produce bills that reflect input from all Members, reflecting their different needs and their different priorities. The committee has continued to do so since passage of the Budget Control Act, which will have the effect of cutting—reducing spending by more than $2 trillion from discretionary accounts over the next 10 years. It is the only significant deficit reduction legislation enacted in recent memory. I supported that act, as did a majority of Senators on both sides of the aisle.

Now we have given ourselves another opportunity to make broader budget reforms. It will be of benefit to the legislative branch and the people who elected us if we can establish a budget framework that will enable us to deal in a more transparent manner with all legislation, including appropriations bills and reform measures to simplify our Tax Code.

I am pleased that we seem close to resolving the current impasse, and I hope that over the coming weeks we can devote ourselves to thoughtful and productive deliberations on the budget.

It is important that we act to restore the confidence of the American people in the Senate. We must take real steps to strengthen our Nation's fiscal foundation so our economy can grow, and American families and businesses can prosper.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, there has been a lot of debate on the floor of the Senate about ObamaCare, which is also called the Affordable Care Act. It passed about 3½ years ago. Why did we do this? Why did we enact this law? It wasn't easy and it took months to achieve. The goal was quite simple: We wanted to make sure 40 to 50 million uninsured Americans would have a chance to have health insurance.

That is a worthy goal because even uninsured people get sick. If you don't have health insurance and get sick and show up at the hospital, they will take care of you, but then when you can't pay the bill, they transfer that obligation to everyone else. It is estimated we spend about $1,000 a year in health insurance premiums to cover the care of uninsured people. Not only do these people without insurance live without the peace of mind of having protection when they get sick, the rest of us with health insurance pay for it. That is not right. In a society such as ours, we should accept responsibility to not only have health insurance but to make it available for everyone.

When we took a look at the health insurance market, here is what we found. There were parts of health insurance that were just plain wrong.

Imagine someone in your family has a preexisting condition. It is not uncommon. Think of the possibilities. There are only a few that come to mind: asthma, diabetes, cancer survivor, women. It turned out that if you had issues such as those in your background, you could be discriminated against and people would not sell you health insurance. ObamaCare eliminated discrimination based on preexisting conditions. When the Republicans come to the floor and say they want to repeal ObamaCare, they are repealing that protection for families who have a child or a member of the family with a preexisting condition. That is what they are saying.

ObamaCare also said that if you have a limit on your policy of how much it will pay in any given year, that is stricken. Why would we do that? Because you never know what could happen. Tomorrow morning a doctor's diagnosis or an accident could result in hundreds of thousands of dollars of medical bills that you could pay because there was a limit on your protection. That limitation was stricken by ObamaCare. Those who want to eliminate ObamaCare would allow the insurance companies to put those restrictions in again.

What about parents who have children fresh out of college and looking for a job? Some of them will be lucky and will get a job with health care benefits. Some won't be so lucky. They may get a job without any benefits or they may not get a job. With ObamaCare, we kept those kids—your sons and daughters—on your family health insurance plan up to age 26. Those who want to eliminate ObamaCare want to eliminate that opportunity for American families to give their kids health care protection while they are looking for a job.

We also basically said that senior citizens under Medicare should not pay out of pocket over $1,000 a year for their prescription drugs. We closed the so-called doughnut hole. Eventually they will not be paying out-of-pocket. We are reducing the financial obligation of seniors to reach into savings accounts for the medicine they need to stay strong, healthy, and independent.

Those who want to abolish ObamaCare—and we heard it a minute or two ago from the Senator from Florida on the Republican side of the aisle, as well as the junior Senator from Texas—are basically saying to seniors: Pay more out of pocket for prescription drugs.

I don't think that is right.

What we are offering with insurance exchanges across America now in 50 States is the same opportunity for uninsured people that Members of Congress have today. Members of Congress are under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, which covers 8 million Federal employees and their families. That means we have an open enrollment period every year, and we can choose—my wife and I—from nine different policies in the State of Illinois. We take the one we want, and we have good coverage. It is not the most expensive or the best, but it is good coverage. We get to shop. It is hard for many Members of Congress to remember or believe that most Americans never have that luxury. They can't shop for health insurance. Some of them are denied any health insurance. Some work for an employer who says ''take it or leave it,'' and some just can't afford to buy anything. The insurance exchanges offer the opportunity for the 40 to 50 million uninsured and those buying in the private insurance market to go shopping for the best policy for themselves and their families.

Competition and shopping in a marketplace is what Americans are looking for, and that is what the Republicans want to close down. They want to close that down. Some would say: Obviously, there is a Republican plan for health insurance. The Republican plan for health insurance—this blank piece of paper. They have no plan. They have no ideas. They are just opposed to ObamaCare, and that is why they initially shut down this government. They wanted to defund ObamaCare.

Two interesting things happened after they made that announcement:

The marketplaces came online and ran into serious problems. They are currently restructuring them because they were not prepared for the overwhelming response to these insurance marketplaces. I am sorry they weren't. I don't know who is responsible for it, but we need to know. In the meantime, we have the insurance marketplaces up and running.

The second thing that happened as the marketplaces went online—after the Republicans announced they wanted to defund ObamaCare and therefore

shut down the government—was the popularity of ObamaCare increased. People across America said: Finally. This is a good idea. Those of us who have access to the marketplace can finally go shopping for health insurance.

Exactly the opposite of what the Republicans thought would happen happened. The American people are open and more receptive to the idea of going to these marketplaces if they don't have health insurance or if they have health insurance they can't afford. The health insurance marketplace is open for business, and people across the Nation have started shopping for it. Many people have waited for years, even decades.

I came to the floor when the junior Senator from Texas was holding the floor for 21 hours and asked him to consider the case of a young—I call her young—lady I met in Illinois named Judy. She is a housekeeper in a motel that I stay in in southern Illinois. She is in her early sixties, worked every day of her life, never had health insurance not even for one day of her life, and she now has diabetes and she is worried. We got some local doctors to see her and give her some recommendations and try to help her, but she has never had health insurance.

I asked Senator CRUZ from Texas: What are we going to do with Judy? If she doesn't have this marketplace where she can go for health insurance for the first time in her life, what is going to happen to her?

He said to me: She needs to get a better job.

Well, it is easy for us to say that, but this poor woman has worked hard all of her life. There is not a lazy bone in her body. She is doing the very best she can. Senators ought to realize that some people—even working as hard as they can—cannot get health insurance unless ObamaCare goes through.

Sixteen States and the District of Columbia have created their own exchanges. Those State-operated exchanges have opened fairly smoothly.

California had 7,700 applications for health insurance on the first day.

Kentucky is a great success story for ObamaCare. More than 5,000 people or families enrolled for health care and there were 10,000 completed applications on the first day. I understand that the number of people who have now enrolled for health care is closer to 10,000. Think about that. There are 10,000 families in the State of Kentucky who now have a chance to get health care. Those who want to defund it and close it down are closing down their opportunity to have protection for their families.

New Mexico is partnering with the Federal Government for individual and family coverage, but it is operating the shop exchange, which allows small businesses to find group coverage for their employees. In the first couple of days, 428 different employers in New Mexico signed up for coverage. They got a better deal in the competitive marketplace than they could find in the private sector beforehand. Republicans want to shut down that opportunity for these businesses. It doesn't make sense.

The Federal Government is managing the marketplace in 34 States, including my home State of Illinois. By Friday of last week there had been 8.6 million unique visitors to the Federal exchange Web sites.

What we are finding across America is that people have been waiting for this chance. I met a lawyer who contacted the insurance exchanges and found that for his business—a small business—it cut the premiums they are going to pay annually by one-third. Six out of every ten people who sign up for health insurance under the ObamaCare insurance exchanges will pay less than $100 a month in premiums. For less than what many of them are paying for cable TV, they will have health insurance coverage they can afford.

When the other side starts talking about closing down ObamaCare and can't come up with any replacement whatsoever, I think we ought to stop and ask whether that is in the best interest of a better America. If you or someone in your family has ever lived with a serious illness and no health insurance, you will never, ever forget it. I have been there. You will never, ever forget it. We ought to offer every American family a chance to get affordable, quality health insurance for the first time in their lives.

The second issue, which relates to this and which I find hard to believe, after trying to defund ObamaCare by closing down the government, they started on a new approach. Senator VITTER of Louisiana had an amendment that would restrict—at least in terms of costs—the availability of health insurance for some Federal employees who work here on Capitol Hill and Members of Congress. I think that is totally unfair, and it troubles me that the Republicans have gone from defunding ObamaCare to defunding the health insurance of their own staff employees. These are hard-working people in my office, and I bet they are hard-working in every Senate and House office. They stay late, answer the phones, and try to help people who are struggling with redtape. When a family is facing difficulties and can't afford a lawyer, our people try to help them out with government agencies as best they can. They answer the mail, they answer the phones, and they answer emails. The notion that we are going to limit or restrict their health insurance is absolutely unacceptable and unfair. These people deserve good health insurance just as every American does.

When Senator VITTER comes to the floor with his amendment which would dramatically increase the cost of their health insurance, it is fundamentally unfair. It is mean. It is small. It is beneath our dignity. We ought to stand behind our employees whom we hire to represent us across the United States of America. If we do, we will defeat this Vitter amendment if it ever comes back for consideration.

ObamaCare has started—and there have been some bumps in the road, that is for sure—and now that we have these marketplaces open, people are going to see what opportunities are available to them. As most people know, Members of Congress and many of their staff members are going to be covered with the same insurance, as everyone is buying in the insurance marketplace. Not all congressional staff members are involved, but many will be. Members of Congress will all be directed to the insurance exchange if that is what they choose to buy for their families. I am prepared to do just that. I think it will be quality health insurance, which is what every American deserves.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BLUMENTHAL). The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I wish to thank Senator DURBIN, the assistant majority leader, for his speech. One of the privileges of this job, as the Senator from Connecticut knows, is the learning experience, if you will, of sitting in the Presiding Officer's chair and listening to Senators speak. We hear a whole range of talks, a whole range of discussions, from a whole range of talents in this body. Sometimes we hear Senators with great charisma delivering very impressive political speeches and appealing to patriotism, and other times we hear Senators who just focus on the substance and the importance of an issue, bringing us down to Earth about what really matters. The speech of Senator DURBIN was exactly that regarding what this health care law means.

We can talk about repealing ObamaCare, and that sounds good to some crowds back home. But think of the tens of millions of Americans who will now have health insurance in Connecticut and in Ohio and Illinois and all over this country, through Medicaid, through joining the exchanges—so many of them have full-time jobs and have never had insurance.

I spoke to a woman in Youngstown who was speaking at a townhall meeting. She said, I am 63 years old, I work two jobs, I have never had insurance. This was before we passed ObamaCare. She said, I just want to stay alive for the next year and a half so I can be on Medicare and have insurance. Imagine that a person's goal in life is to stay alive so they can have health insurance.

This new law, as it is beginning to take effect, as people started signing up 3 weeks ago, means people such as the woman in Youngstown will have insurance—maybe Medicaid or maybe exchanges or some financial assistance. It may mean the $7,000 tax that Senator DURBIN talked about, the $7,000 that all of us pay as a result of those who go to a hospital and can't afford to

pay, get treatment, get care, and somebody has to pay for it and it is spread around to those with insurance.

It means in my State about 100,000 people who are in their late teens and twenties are now able to sign on to their parents' health plan. It means close to a million seniors in Ohio have already gotten preventive care such as osteoporosis testing, diabetes, whatever preventive treatment, with no costs, no copays, no deductibles. It means all of that. It means more of our premium dollars will go to health care, not to executive salaries, not to marketing, not to insurance company profits. All of that is good news.

While it may not sound as exciting as speaking to a Lincoln Day dinner or people at a political rally holding Confederate flags, we do know what it is going to mean to millions of Americans who may not be going to those rallies but who have worked hard all of their lives and are rewarded for it.

I wish to make a couple of comments about how important the news is today that we can finally reopen the government. America is going to honor its debts and pay its bills as we have every day, every week, every month, every year for more than two centuries. We are finally going to do the right thing, and that is good news to people from Gallipolis to Chillicothe to Toledo and all over my State.

It means that after this vote is done this evening in the Senate, and I hope later in the House of Representatives, the President will sign this law to pay our bills and reopen the government.

It means we need to focus on what matters in this country. What matters in this country is jobs, and that means investing in infrastructure, whether that infrastructure is Sinclair Community College in Dayton or Owens Community College in Toledo, or whether that infrastructure is a water and sewer system in Napoleon or Bowling Green, or whether that infrastructure is a health care clinic in Zanesville, or a whole host of things that matter long term to the future of this country.

I was speaking to Senator COONS from Delaware earlier today about the importance of manufacturing. We are working with a number of our colleagues on bipartisan legislation which focuses on manufacturing and infrastructure. Twenty years ago, thirty years ago in this country—these numbers are not precise but estimated—about 25 percent of our GDP was manufacturing. Manufacturing was about 25 percent of our GDP. Financial services was less than 15 percent of our GDP. That has reversed in this country.

We know what it means to cities such as Springfield and Mansfield and Lima in my State where manufacturing jobs have shut down far too often and those jobs have gone overseas. We still give tax breaks in this country, believe it or not, to companies that outsource, that shut down and move overseas. So a company that shuts down in Ravenna or shuts down in Portsmouth and moves to China gets tax incentives to do that. That has to stop. We have to work on that.

We can support a whole host of legislation I have been working on with Senators BLUNT and COLLINS and GRAHAM and SESSIONS and BURR to deal with the issue of the Chinese gaming the currency system. That will mean literally hundreds of thousands of jobs in this country that can return or that will not be lost because they are gaming the currency system.

On job training, the so-called SECTORS Act will match up skills locally determined by workforce investment boards and community colleges and local businesses and local labor unions with the needs of those businesses—match up the job skills with the needs of those businesses.

Last, with Senator BLUNT, I am working on a national network manufacturing proposal that will help companies and universities and technology come together in a way that can spur industries regionally in this country. We know that, for instance, glass in Toledo—the fact that Toledo has been, for decades, a major glass manufacturing center—not just providing a lot of jobs in a variety of different kinds of glass, including everything from plate glass to windshields to drinking glasses, but it also evolved into the job-creating industry of solar panels. We know how that can work. This will be a partnership between Senator BLUNT and myself and others, as well as with the administration, on how, in fact, we can help with manufacturing and continue to lead the world the way we have for the lifetime of myself as well as the lifetime of the Presiding Officer.

We know what we have to do today to pay our bills and reopen the government. We know what we need to do in the weeks and months ahead. I look forward to working on those issues with my colleagues.

I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, since the government shut down about 16 days ago, I have been coming to the floor of the Senate to express my chagrin at this manufactured crisis. Then, of course, the second manufactured crisis, the crisis of perhaps doing the unthinkable: a default, where we would become a nation that did not pay our bills for the first time in our history. I think history is going to analyze this period of time in our Nation's governance and will not look fondly upon what has happened here.

Just this morning, I held a press conference, as I am chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, to talk about what is happening across the country in this shutdown—superfund sites, more than 500 not being cleaned up. We had businesspeople there, small businesspeople who have their businesses near wildlife refuges. This is the season where people go hunting and fishing and spend their dollars to help support the tourist industry in our great Nation. In many States tourism is No. 1, 2, or 3. In my State, California, it is the No. 3 industry. So when a park closes down or the Army Corps recreation land closes down or the refuges close down, this is not just sad because that is not the right thing to do for the environment, it is sad because many people rely on those beautiful areas being open to the public.

We need to keep the doors of the government open to the people. This is a government of, by, and for the people. Our government should never be closed. That does not mean we are going to agree on every law or every regulation or every single thing that happens in government. We are always going to have disagreements.

I have said here quite often, I have served with five Presidents—three Republican Presidents, two Democratic Presidents. I am a Democrat, and there were many times I did not agree with my President, whether he was a Republican or a Democrat. But I knew there were ways to win the day. You have to stick to your principles and fight the battles and do everything you can to win the moment, to change the law, to change the way a law is enforced, to write a new law, to repeal an old law, but you do it within the framework of governance, not within the framework of chaos. There is never a reason—never a reason—to threaten to close the government. There is never a reason to threaten to default on our debt.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that an article that just hit now from Business Insider be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From Business Insider, Oct. 16, 2013]

S&P: THE SHUTDOWN TOOK $24 BILLION OUT OF THE US ECONOMY

(By Steven Perlberg)

The S&P has cut the annualized U.S. growth view closer to 2% from 3%, Bloomberg is reporting. The ratings agency—which recognizes the Senate deal will be approved—says that the shutdown has taken $24 billion out of the economy and cut 0.6% off of yearly fourth quarter GDP growth.

''If people are afraid that the government policy brinkmanship will resurface again, and with it the risk of another shutdown or worse, they'll remain afraid to open up their checkbooks. That points to another Humbug holiday season,'' S&P wrote in a release.

They also said the impact of the debt ceiling is getting worse by the day for the U.S. economy.

Here's the full release:

NEW YORK (STANDARD & POOR'S) OCT. 16, 2013.—The U.S. government has been shut down for more than two weeks. Earlier today, Senate leadership crafted an agreement to end the shutdown and avert a debt

default. However, the deal needs to be voted on by both chambers of Congress.

We believe that to date, the shutdown has shaved at least 0.6% off of annualized fourth-quarter 2013 GDP growth, or taken $24 billion out of the economy. However, the closer we get to breaching the debt ceiling, the higher we expect the economic impact to be.

In the summer of 2011, as we approached the last debt ceiling standoff, consumer confidence plummeted and hit a 31-year low in August when the debt ceiling issue came to a head. Given that this round of debt-ceiling negotiations is occurring after two-plus weeks of a government shutdown, the total impact on the economy will likely be even more severe.

While we believe the Senate deal will be passed and the debt ceiling will be raised, the impact of a default by the U.S. government on its debts would be devastating for markets and the economy and worse than the collapse of Lehman Brothers in 2008.

Should a default occur, the resulting sudden, unplanned contraction of current spending could see government spending cut by about 4% of annualized GDP. That would put the economy in a recession and wipeout much of the economic progress made by the recovery from the Great Recession.

As we've said, we expect the Senate deal to be approved. However, the current chatter coming out of Washington suggests that any continuing resolution will be a temporary one, with an early 2014 timeframe for the next set of Washington deadlines. The short turnaround for politicians to negotiate some sort of lasting deal will likely weigh on consumer confidence, especially among government workers that were furloughed. If people are afraid that the government policy brinkmanship will resurface again, and with it the risk of another shutdown or worse, they'll remain afraid to open up their checkbooks. That points to another Humbug holiday season.

The bottom line is the government shutdown has hurt the U.S. economy. In September, we expected 3% annualized growth in the fourth quarter because we thought politicians would have learned from 2011 and taken steps to avoid things like a government shutdown and the possibility of a sovereign default. Since our forecast didn't hold, we now have to lower our fourth-quarter growth estimate to closer to 2%.

Standard & Poor's Ratings Services, part of McGraw Hill Financial (NYSE: MHFI), is the world's leading provider of independent credit risk research and benchmarks. We publish more than a million credit ratings on debt issued by sovereign, municipal, corporate and financial sector entities. With over 1,400 credit analysts in 23 countries, and more than 150 years' experience of assessing credit risk, we offer a unique combination of global coverage and local insight. Our research and opinions about relative credit risk provide market participants with information and independent benchmarks that help to support the growth of transparent, liquid debt markets worldwide.

Mrs. BOXER. Here is what has happened because of this 16-day shutdown. Here is what has happened because that shutdown was paired with a flirtation with a default.

The S&P has cut the annualized U.S. growth view closer to 2% from 3%. . . .

That is a percentage point off growth. This is what Bloomberg is reporting.

The ratings agency—which recognizes the Senate deal will be approved—

So this is after they recognize the deal will be approved. And thank God it looks as though it will be.

says that the shutdown has taken—

Mr. President, hear this:

$24 billion out of the economy and cut 0.6% off of yearly fourth quarter GDP growth.

This is what is so important, and I hope everyone within the sound of my voice hears this:

''If people are afraid that the government policy brinksmanship will resurface again, and with it the risk of another shutdown or worse, they'll—

The people will—

remain afraid to open up their checkbooks. That points to another Humbug holiday season,'' S&P wrote in a release.

They also said the impact of the debt ceiling is getting worse by the day for the U.S. economy.

There is a full release, and I have put that in the RECORD.

To speak in layman's terms, what the economists are saying is this shutdown and this flirtation with a default has taken a huge bite out of our economy—a huge bite. Why did we face it? Because some folks do not like the health care reform act.

It is their total right not to like it. It is their total right not to love it. It is their total right to try and change it. That is all their total right. But you cannot shut down the government and stamp your feet and say: Because I don't like this and I don't like who is President, I am shutting down the government.

Now here is the good news—and it is good news: Bipartisanship here in the Senate is leading America out of this painful, partisan, self-inflicted crisis. As someone from the largest State in the Union, I can tell you, relief does not even begin to describe how I feel. I am also grateful—grateful—to the two leaders who came together, the Democratic leader and the Republican leader of the Senate, both who have had many disagreements and will continue to in the future about the proper road ahead, but when history called them, they were there. They were able to set aside their differences and reach an agreement to open up this government, to pay our bills, and to set out a path to negotiation on all those differences that we know we have between the two parties—very legitimate differences.

I think what we learned, as we read the S&P comments here, is that this has to end, this brinkmanship has to end. We have to say as Americans: You do not have to shut the government down. You do not have to threaten to default. That is not the way we should proceed. It is too painful for this Nation. It is too costly. Mr. President, $24 billion—that is what S&P puts on it. That is what is taken out of the economy. That does not even include what it costs us as a Federal Government to shut down, to reopen, to start again. But bipartisanship here in the Senate is leading the way forward.

We always are told: If you do not know history, you are doomed to repeat it. That is the reason why I have tried—and many others have on, frankly, both sides—to come down here and talk about the mess we have been in.

I would like to say if you are walking down the street and it is a pretty nice day, and you feel good, and the Sun is a little bit behind the clouds but looks as if it is going to come out, you have a few problems at work you have to work on, you have a couple of kids you are worried about, you are thinking about how you are going to go on that next vacation, but you feel pretty good and optimistic—you have problems but everything is manageable—why would you hit yourself in the head with a brick at that very moment? That is really what this self-inflicted wound on our Nation has been about.

Yes, we have our problems. Yes, we are coming out of the worst recession since the Great Depression. Yes, we have to deal with deficits, debts, with education, with the environment, with climate change. We can go on and on. Yes, America has its issues. Of course, we have. But we do not need self-inflicted wounds. We have enough issues that are critical, including world peace and Iran's nuclear ambitions and Syria's chemical weapons. I serve on the Foreign Relations Committee. Everything has taken a back seat to this situation.

Now I am very happy. I learned that the House is planning—assuming this all goes well tonight and everybody votes to open up this government and pay our bills—that the House is going to take up the Water Resources Development Act next week. That is a bill that passed here by more than 80 votes. It is critical. It addresses flood control. It addresses dredging of our ports. It has a recreation piece. It has a lot of important policy in it to help move our Nation forward. Most important, 500,000 jobs depend on our passing WRDA.

So from what I have read, that WRDA bill is going to come forward, and I am very pleased. Then we will take our bills to conference. That is the way we do things here.

We resolve our differences in a conference. I feel Chairman SHUSTER and I can do that with our colleagues. We will have a vote on something that creates jobs and moves us forward. In the meantime, we have been mired for 2 weeks in a government shutdown and a frightening inching up to the default date. It has taken the wind out of our sails, the winds out of America's sails. It has taken our energy. All of us are very, shall I say, we are still even a little anxious until this is done.

It has been a couple of weeks of anxiety, of great difficulty. Here we are. What about the people out there who have suffered, who have worked without a paycheck—worked without a paycheck—policemen, firemen, all of our workers still working without paychecks.

We are on the verge of correcting that in moments. I can only say I am very thankful to our two leaders. I am very thankful to the bipartisan team. I do not want to start naming names because I am fearful I will forget some.

But I know Senator MCCAIN was part of it, Senator COLLINS, Senator DONNELLY, Senator KLOBUCHAR, Senator HEITKAMP. I know I am leaving people out which I did not want to do. I think Senator JOHANNS was part of the team, Senator FLAKE, Senator MANCHIN, Senator SHAHEEN, Senator KIRK. I am ever so grateful. I just thought of Senators AYOTTE and MURKOWSKI. I think that may cover it—Senator KING—doing this by memory. They got together when things looked grim. They said the Senate is going to lead. I am so grateful to them because even as things faltered, they were still at it, still working.

Senator PRYOR was part of that group. They did not give up. To me, that is so important. We need to talk to each other. We need to work together. How did we get 80-some votes for a WRDA bill? It was bipartisan. How did we get all of those votes we had last time for the highway bill? It was bipartisan. We worked hard. As chairman of that EPW Committee, the things we get done are all bipartisan.

When we get into our corners it is not good. When we try to use as leverage the very government itself or the debt ceiling itself, it does not work. In closing, I am going to say again what this article says from S&P:

> If people are afraid that the government policy brinkmanship will resurface again, and with it the risk of another shut down or worse, they'll remain afraid to open up their checkbooks. That points to another Humbug holiday season.

Meaning the Christmas season, which is so critical to our economy. We need to learn from this sad history of the last few weeks; that, yes, we will have our disagreements. That is the greatness of our Nation; that we do have the freedom of thought, we do have different political parties, we do have different ways of looking at issues. It is fine, but do not ever shut down the government, do not ever play games with the full faith and credit of America. Let's get to the negotiating table and we will be just fine. We will work out those differences.

The last thought is elections have consequences. This is where we battle it out. In the next one we are going to battle this out. That is important. We never said it would be smooth sailing, but we have to keep the government open and we have to pay our bills. I hope that is what we learned.

I am looking forward to the next hour and a half or so. Maybe we will be voting a little sooner. I thank the Presiding Officer for his leadership in all of this darkness of time.

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. MURPHY. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. MURPHY. Sometimes in the Senate we deal with numbers that are a little too big for constituents and even for us to fathom. One number we throw around in Connecticut is the number $50 billion. That is the amount of money we need over the next 20 years to make the necessary improvements along our rail line in order to keep it in a good state of repair, never mind to do the expansions we so badly need to get our economy back and running in Connecticut. It is only basically to do all of the repair work that we need to keep trains running safely from Boston to Washington, DC. We need $50 billion to get that done.

I give you that number because what we have learned today is that S&P estimates that the cost of this 2-week shutdown to the U.S. Government is $24 billion, half of what the northeastern States need to maintain in state of good repair the most important rail line to the Nation for the next decade.

In 2 weeks we lost $24 billion to this economy. This is the same amount of money that it took to do the Big Dig in Boston and half the money that we need to do important improvements along the longest, biggest, most important stretch of rail line in this country—for nothing, for absolutely nothing.

We are hopefully going to consent on a path forward shortly that will allow us to vote on a bill that essentially represents the same offer that has been on the table to both Republicans and Democrats for 2 weeks. This is to reopen the government and to operate until January of next year and to extend the debt ceiling until February of next year.

Of course, the cost is not only in the short-term, not only about all of that money we lost, but $2 billion of that was lost money to the Treasury of the United States. It is also what we lose every single day that we continue forward on this theory that it is somehow best to run this country by manufactured crisis to manufactured crisis.

As the chairman of the European Affairs Subcommittee of the Committee on Foreign Relations, I have been able to hear on a daily and weekly basis European impressions of this country from the outside. They look at this Nation with envy because they see the demographic trends which allow this country to stay relatively young compared to the rest of the world. They see relative economic growth compared to countries in Europe and throughout the industrialized world. They see us on a pathway to energy independence, whereby we are not going to be reliant on oil from the Middle East. We will be able to produce, whether it will be gas or renewables, at home.

They look at our country with wonder because they see all of these trend lines running in favor of the United States, essentially leapfrogging, catapulting the rest of the world with respect to the global recovery. The only thing stopping us from that inevitability, that global economic rebirth for the United States, is government by crisis.

Mark Zandi came to the Joint Economic Committee. He is a bipartisan economist. He has advised Senator MCCAIN and criticized both parties. He says the same thing. He says the only thing stopping a robust recovery in this Nation is the fact that we essentially write budgets and extend debt ceilings for 2, 3, 4 months at a time.

I come to the floor because my only hope, my only vision of a paper-thin silver lining to this fiasco over the past 2 weeks is that the American public has just said definitively that they don't want this to be the way the government runs any longer. If there is one message to this handful of conservatives, mostly in the House of Representatives but a few in the Senate that have caused this shutdown, the message is very simple. They are not going to be able to advance their ideological aims—in this case trying to end, repeal or delay the health care bill—by shutting down the government and threatening default on American debt.

President Obama and our majority leader had to draw a line. They had to draw a line because that is what the American public was demanding, that we put an end to this governance by crisis. If there is a silver lining, it is hopefully—even though we are only extending the continuing resolution and the debt ceiling for a matter of months—that we won't go through this catastrophe again because the American public has said enough is enough.

They know what we should know in the Senate. There is enormous room for compromise moving forward.

Today a group of Senators held a meeting on delivery system reform. There were 18 Senators who came to this meeting to hear a presentation by the Bipartisan Policy Center on a bipartisan proposal to save over $500 billion to the U.S. Treasury simply by reordering the rules of how we run Medicare, not by trimming benefits, not by requiring more in taxes, simply by reordering the way we pay for health care. It was a proposal backed by everyone from Bill Frist to Tom Daschle, and it suggests there is so much room for agreement between Republicans and Democrats if we just decide to set policy for years rather than for months.

I know we walk away from this with a sense of both outrage and hopefulness that we can maybe figure out a way to come together. Although this is my first year in the Senate, I have been in this place for 6 years, between the House and this body—but this feels like ''Groundhog Day'' in the sense that every time we find our way through one of these crises, we all say to each other: This is the last time. We all lock arms and say: Isn't it great that we found bipartisan agreement, and now we can use this momentum moving forward to avoid this kind of crisis in the

future. I have seen this play before. It seems within days or weeks we just fall back to our old habits of digging trenches and fighting each other more than we talk to each other and again governing by crisis.

I think this time is different, just because the depth of the dysfunction was different than ever before, the cries of the American public were greater than ever before. But we should remember, as this report from the Bipartisan Policy Center on delivery system reform tells us, there is still enormous room for the two parties to set out goals we agree on. If we push aside the most strident extremist voices that largely come from the tea party caucus of the House of Representatives, there is so much we can do.

As my European friends remind me on an almost daily basis, the only factor stopping the American economy from powering forward and becoming once again a giant of manufacturing, of global financial services, and of innovation—the only thing stopping us from that leapfrog forward—is figuring out that governance by crisis holds us back.

We made the promise to each other before that when we get through one of these crises it will be our last. I commend our leaders—I commend Leader REID and Senator MURRAY—for setting up a process for the rest of this year where we can come to some resolution on a budget that sets policy for years rather than for months. This time, though, the promise we have made to each other has to stick. It is the only way forward for this place, and it is the only way forward for an economy that is just waiting to be unshackled and to conquer the world again.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, here we are again: Another unnecessary crisis; a proposal that maintains the status quo; very little time to read and evaluate the bill. In fact, we still don't have a final version of the text. No time to explain it to our constituents.

This is Washington at its worst. It is exactly the kind of thing the American people are fed up with and exactly why several colleagues and I began this effort to delay and defund ObamaCare back in July.

It appears this particular fight will end much the same way ObamaCare began: in a last-minute deal, negotiated in back rooms, then forced on Congress and on the American people.

The Washington establishment can't bring itself to believe this is why Congress's approval rating is so low—because Washington doesn't listen to the American people. It ignores them. And when the American people can no longer be ignored, the administration shuts down national parks, blocks veterans from going to their own memorials, uses the IRS to target certain groups, and holds hostage critical funding for cancer research, low-income women and children, veterans' health benefits, border security, and our National Guard. It is shameful how Washington treats the American people, and the people are right to be upset about it.

The media keeps asking, was it worth it? My answer is it is always worth it to do the right thing. Fighting against an abusive government in defense of protecting the individual rights and freedoms of the American people is always the right thing.

Some say we shouldn't have fought because we couldn't win. But this country wasn't built by fighting only when victory was absolutely certain. In fact, some of the most important victories in our history were the result of fighting battles against significant odds. And even if victory seemed difficult or impossible, that wouldn't excuse me or anyone else from doing the right thing. Avoiding difficult battles, after all, is how we ended up in this kind of mess—a government with $17 trillion in debt which we add to at a rate close to $1 trillion a year, out-of-control spending, a broken entitlement system, a Tax Code no one understands—all because Washington is willing to act only when there is guaranteed political gain. When the avoidance of political risk becomes our dominant motivation, only the Washington establishment wins the American people lose.

Furthermore, in Washington, victories are rarely immediate and very few end up being permanent. ObamaCare wasn't enacted overnight and it won't be repealed overnight. We must remind the American people of the harmful effects of this law at every opportunity if we are ever going to see it repealed. We have repeatedly warned the American people will be shocked when they realize the way the President has misled the American people about ObamaCare.

The embarrassing rollout of the exchanges doesn't even begin to scratch the surface. Every day brings a new story of a family whose deductible has doubled or a married couple who can't keep the plan they have or a business that can no longer provide health insurance for its employees or workers who are seeing their hours cut or losing their jobs altogether.

The realization that the administration has either been dishonest or incompetent—or perhaps a combination of both—is just starting to dawn on the American people. Even the President's friends in the media are watching this slow-rolling train wreck and are demanding the President do something to stop it. The Chicago Tribune, the President's own hometown newspaper, puts it this way:

> Last spring, President Barack Obama said, ''there will still be, you know, glitches and bumps'' in the rollout of the new system. But what we're seeing now is no glitch or bump. There is a growing mountain of evidence that Obamacare has fundamental problems in design and implementation.

The Tribune goes on to say:

> We encouraged a one-year delay in the law. We recognize that's not going to happen. Obamacare is here. It's time, though, for the Obama administration to level with Americans about what's happening here. It's time to stop blaming Republicans and start talking about what needs to change.

So it is interesting to see that the Chicago Tribune, the President's own hometown paper, is calling to a significant degree for exactly what I have been calling for since July—for a 1-year halt, a 1-year delay, a 1-year timeout to protect the American people from the harmful effects of this law, a law the President himself has acknowledged isn't ready for prime time, a law the President himself has indicated he is not willing to follow as was written. Incidentally, this again was exactly what we were arguing for all the way back in July and it now appears that the President's hometown paper was with us.

Almost everyone but the President seems to recognize this law is going to be terrible for the American people. It is costing jobs. It is hurting families. It is making people's health care situation worse, and it won't solve the problems in our broken health care system. And let me be clear. There will be very real consequences for people in both parties as a result of the implementation of this law.

Today Washington has the upper hand, but the American people will always have the last word. This is not over. We have an obligation to fight for the American people, and I do not intend to let the American people down.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, today I wish to describe the damaging impacts that the Federal Government shutdown is having on the nine treaty tribes in my home State of South Dakota and across Indian Country. It is my hope that today we can come to solution to this crisis, but I think it is important for my colleagues to understand the impact the shutdown has had so that we can avoid making the same mistakes in the future.

Across the Nation, the Federal Government shutdown is imposing numerous hardships for our citizens, tribal nations, and low-income individuals. Some of the poorest counties in the United States are located within South Dakota reservation borders. Federal assistance payments to the poorest of the poor have been halted for these tribal members needing aid to feed their families and heat their homes.

Any negative changes to Native American program funding will have widespread effects. As the House Republicans continue to prevent the Federal Government from opening, doors will continue to be shut for those needing the most help.

Last week, I met with President Bryan Brewer of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, located on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Federal and tribal employees living on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, where the general unemployment rate is already at 80 percent, are being furloughed or have had their work hours cut in half. This funding lapse almost forced the tribe's Department of Corrections to close, allowing prisoners to be freed. The tribe was given approval to use alternate funding sources; however, they do not know if those funding sources will be replenished when the shutdown ends.

Yesterday, the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation was also forced to close the Emergency Youth Shelter Program that provides a temporary home for 30 tribal youth due to the lapse of Federal funding. The tribe is actively looking for alternate bed space.

I recently heard of a story of a single parent on the Lake Traverse Reservation. The mother recently lost her 3-month-old child and was in need of aid to provide a proper funeral for her child. The Bureau of Indian Affairs provides burial assistance to eligible tribal members; however, due to the shutdown, the Bureau had to turn away the young grieving mother.

Last week, I took to the floor to speak on the significant impact a snow storm had on South Dakota communities. The snowstorm has also served a blow to tribal communities. Chad Morgan, a young Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal rancher, lost 90 percent of his cattle herd and is not able to report the his loss to the Farm Service Agency. Tribes also have spent significant funding to clear roadways of snow for tribal members needing dialysis treatment.

The Rosebud Sioux Tribe also reported to me that the Low Income Heat and Energy Assistance Program has been put on hold. Nearly 75 percent of Rosebud Sioux tribal families rely on this vital funding to heat their homes, especially now that winter snows have started.

Our tribes are facing major setbacks and are forced to find ways to fund programs that have already seen drawbacks due to the budget sequestration cuts.

Tribal communities cannot afford to have the Federal Government shutdown continue. Asking tribes to rob Peter to pay Paul is not a healthy way to run a government. Tribes across Indian Country are continuing to make strides in economic development and self-sufficiency. The United States, however, has a treaty and trust responsibility to our tribes and tribal members. Congress needs to act quickly today in order for the Federal Government to meet these responsibilities and to meet the needs of tribal nations across Indian Country.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, now, more than 2 weeks into the government shutdown and at the brink of default, we are acutely aware of what happens when politicians turn their backs on public policy and, instead, advance partisanship over service to the American people.

Let's be clear about this government shutdown. It is a self-imposed crisis manufactured by a small group of hardline conservatives in the House of Representatives over their opposition to the Affordable Care Act. A dedicated group of public servants, Democrat and Republican, here in the Senate have worked frantically over the past 2½ weeks to find agreement in spite of the obstruction of an extreme minority who put their own ideology above the good of their constituents and the Nation.

Last week, I held a hearing in the Senate Commerce Committee about the impacts of the government shutdown to the public and the U.S. economy. We heard firsthand stories about the damage and disruption caused by the shutdown on our families, our businesses, our government, and our standing in the world.

The message we heard—loud and clear—was that the longer this shutdown continues, the worse things will get. It has never been more apparent just how important the countless services, provided by the Federal Government, are to the economic security of millions of families and the Nation.

In West Virginia, we are keenly aware that the Mine Safety and Health Administration personnel are not able to conduct regular reviews of mine safety. Four miners have died across this country during the shutdown. I am not saying that these accidents would not have happened if the government's doors had been open over the past 3 weeks, but I do believe that we owe it to the hard-working men and women who work in our Nation's mines to make sure that as long as they are on the clock, the government's safety experts are as well.

The shutdown is causing problems above ground too. Federal investments in research and development, for example, have long helped spur innovation in the United States. Just because House Republicans have shuttered the research arm of our government does not mean that overseas competitors such as China are pausing their research as well. Unfortunately, these vital government services are in the spotlight because they are currently not in existence, quite frankly.

To further demonstrate the real-life consequences of the shutdown, I released a report during the hearing that provided a snapshot of the impacts of the government shutdown on the public and the U.S. economy.

Because of the shutdown, experts from the Department of Transportation and the National Transportation Safety Board cannot monitor our highways, railroads, and pipeline networks and study how to make them safer. Scientists and technical experts at NASA, the National Science Foundation, and Department of Defense aren't performing basic research and engineering that private aerospace and technology companies need for commercial success.

Consumer Product Safety Commission officials cannot monitor our ports and stop hazardous products from entering our stores. I am particularly concerned about keeping dangerous imported products off of store shelves and out of the hands of our children, especially with the holiday season approaching.

The fights we continue to have over paying our bills and funding vital government services are a distraction. Congress is no longer doing big things that support families and our communities. It is no longer acting as one body, for the people, but instead as factions pitted bitterly against each other.

I fear that people have lost confidence in their government and confidence in their future. I fear they are asking whether government can even make a difference in their lives anymore.

Last week's hearing in the Commerce Committee proved beyond a shadow of a doubt this shutdown is doing great harm to our country. Sadly, it was totally avoidable. As we move towards an apparent bipartisan agreement that will reopen the government and avoid default, I hope those who so recklessly drove us toward financial catastrophe have learned their lesson.

In a matter of months, we will again have to address questions related to funding the government and the debt limit. The conservative fringe in the House and the so-called leadership there that was held hostage by their threats can force us to repeat these last 3 weeks or they can learn from this great mistake and shift their focus to the larger issues facing our Nation. We may disagree on the best prescription for these ills, but I look forward to participating in a fair and honest debate.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded and that I be allowed to speak as if in morning business

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

DETAINING TERRORISTS

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Madam President, in the words of Yogi Berra, ''It's déjà vu all over again.'' It seems as though every several months this administration manages to repeat the same disturbing pattern of treating captured foreign terrorists first and foremost as ordinary criminals.

Over the past 10 days we have watched this pattern play out with the capture and all-too-brief interrogation of Abu Anas al-Libi, one of the alleged

coconspirators behind the 1998 bombings of the U.S. Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania that killed hundreds of innocent people, including 12 Americans.

Instead of sitting in a cell at Guantanamo Bay where he could be fully interrogated for all the intelligence he likely has from his decades-long association with Al Qaeda terrorists, including a long association with Osama bin Laden, al-Libi is now enjoying the protections of our criminal justice system. Yesterday in the Southern District of New York, he had his initial appearance in Federal court, where he entered a plea of not guilty to the pending indictment. He now has a court-appointed lawyer at his disposal.

From all indications, any interrogation of al-Libi has ended, at least for the time being. If past terrorist cases are any guide, it will take weeks or months of plea negotiations and bargaining with this terrorist before we can even think about once again conducting an intelligence interrogation, and we may never have that opportunity again with this now criminal defendant.

We all remember the case of Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, the 2009 Christmas Day Underwear Bomber, who tried to detonate a suicide bomb in an airplane over the skies of Detroit. Shortly after being taken into custody, Abdulmutallab was read his Miranda warnings, and it took 5 long weeks of plea negotiations before we would again have the opportunity to interrogate him.

Why does this matter? Why do so many of my colleagues and I continually come to this Senate floor to raise this issue? The answer is simple: We have been down this road before of treating terrorists as if they were criminals, sacrificing intelligence for the sake of criminal charges and Miranda rights.

The results on September 11, 2001, were predictable and disastrous. We lost numerous chances to gather intelligence that could have been used to neutralize future threats. We were in a reactive mode, reacting to but not preventing the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, the 2000 attack on the USS Cole, and the 1998 embassy bombings, the same attack involving al-Libi.

It took the reality of the 9/11 attacks to get this trend reversed. Prevention became the norm as criminal and intelligence investigators came together to use all lawful means, including criminal prosecution, to counter the threat of international terrorism.

No one is saying criminal prosecution should not be one tool, but it seems as though now we either just kill terrorists by using drones or give them Miranda warnings. Dead terrorists don't talk and terrorists with lawyers always want something in return if they are going talk. We cannot defeat Al Qaeda, and its growing affiliates, if we don't first have good intelligence on their leadership, intent, networks, and capabilities.

As we have seen in Benghazi, and more recently in Kenya, Al Qaeda and its affiliates continue to carry out terrorist attacks against the United States and its interests. Suspected terrorists were captured in London over the weekend, and we face growing threats in Syria, Libya, and across the globe. Al-Libi, as a long-time member of Al Qaeda and close confident of bin Laden, undoubtedly has valuable intelligence that could be used to foil future plots.

To defeat these terrorists and keep this country and our allies safe demands clear leadership and sound policies from the President. Unfortunately, in this area, we have neither. In the 5 years since this administration summarily dismantled the CIA's detention and interrogation program and ordered the closure of Guantanamo Bay, we still cannot get vital intelligence interrogations prioritized over criminal prosecutions.

Since 2009, we have been asking basic questions of senior administration officials, such as, if we captured Al Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri, where would he go? The only firm answer that has been given is that Guantanamo Bay is off the table.

In the capture of al-Libi, it appears as though this administration has finally settled on its own detention policy. In 2011, al-Shabaab leader Ahmed Abdulkadir Warsame was captured while returning to Somalia from Yemen where he was acting as an intermediary between al-Shabaab and Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula. Because of this administration's perennial resistance to placing more detainees at Guantanamo Bay, Warsame was instead held on a U.S. Navy vessel for 2 months and interrogated by the High Value Detainee Interrogation Group, or the HIG. Predictably, he was then Mirandized and brought to Federal court.

Those who thought the shipboard detention of Warsame was an anomaly, a one-time necessity, have now been proven wrong. Rather than hold detainees at the first-rate facility at Guantanamo Bay that is run by dedicated military personnel who treat the detainees there very humanely, this administration has, with the detention of al-Libi, made it clear that it prefers to use our naval warships as floating prisons. I can't imagine that this is what those who so strongly advocated for the closure of Guantanamo had in mind as a replacement facility.

Over the past week or so some people have raised the point that the restrictions on the fiscal year 2013 National Defense Authorization Act on the administration's ability to transfer detainees from Guantanamo Bay to the United States for trial justified the administration's unwillingness to place any new terrorists there. That argument simply does not withstand scrutiny in the case of al-Libi.

First, those restrictions applied most recently only to fiscal year 2013 and so are no longer in place. Second, as with Warsame, Abdulmutallab, and other terrorists, we cannot even reach the question of where al-Libi may be tried, whether in a Federal court or in a military commission at Guantanamo Bay, because this administration will not even consider designating him as an enemy combatant for interrogation purposes.

If the administration would be willing—in just one case—to allow a full intelligence interrogation at Guantanamo Bay of a high-valued target without Miranda and without rushing to criminal charges, I would welcome the opportunity to work with this administration to ensure that there are no statutory obstacles to the appropriate future prosecution of a terrorist. If this administration also wants to suggest a better—nonfloating—option to Guantanamo Bay outside the United States, I am happy to listen.

But so far they have been unwilling to do that despite their public claims that all options are on the table when it comes to handling terrorists such as al-Libi. They have been unwilling to make it clear that intelligence collection is the first priority; that long-term detention for intelligence purposes is appropriate and necessary; and that all intelligence value of any suspected terrorist will be exhausted before any discussion of potential charges.

Instead, the short-lived, onship interrogation of Abu Anas al-Libi demonstrates that this administration has once again chosen to gamble with our national security for the sake of safeguarding a criminal prosecution. They are taking the gamble that plea negotiations will be quick and effective and that any intelligence could have been gained in the meantime will not be lost. This is a risk none of us should be willing to take.

It is time that we stop needlessly giving this advantage to terrorists. Our intelligence professionals need real-time, actionable intelligence about Al Qaeda and its activities, and the best place to get that is often from captured terrorists without Miranda warnings, defense attorneys or initial appearances in court.

Getting a conviction and lengthy sentence of an avowed terrorist can be a worthy goal, but ultimately that conviction will mean nothing if Americans are harmed because we threw away the opportunity to get intelligence when we needed it most. It is time to end this dangerous pattern and put all lawful options for handling Al Qaeda terrorists back on the table.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I rise in opposition to the deal that the Senate is getting ready to vote on. This is a terrible deal. This deal embodies everything about the Washington establishment that frustrates the American people. This deal kicks the can down the

road. It allows yet more debt, more deficits, more spending, and it does absolutely nothing to provide relief for the millions of Americans who are hurting because of ObamaCare.

To all the young people who are coming out of school right now and can't find a job because of ObamaCare, this deal does nothing for them. To all of the single moms who are struggling and being forced into part-time work, trying to feed their kids on 29 hours a week because of ObamaCare, this deal does nothing for them. To all of the hard-working families who are getting massive premium increases from their health insurance companies right now and trying to figure out how they are going to make ends meet with health insurance costs going up 200 to 300 percent because of ObamaCare, this deal does nothing for them. To all of the seniors and all the people with disabilities who are getting notifications in the mail right now telling them they are losing their health insurance because of ObamaCare, this deal does nothing for them.

This fight was always about the American people who are hurting because of ObamaCare, and unfortunately today the Senate is saying: You don't have a voice in Washington.

This is a terrible deal. I urge my colleagues to oppose it.

None of us should be surprised that when the Senate votes, this deal is going to pass, and it is going to pass by a big margin. None of us should be surprised, but the outcome could have been different.

I ask the Presiding Officer to imagine a different world. We saw in the last 2 months millions of Americans rise up, sign a national petition, light up the phones to the Capitol, and speak up against the enormous harms ObamaCare is visiting upon them. We saw the House of Representatives stand with courage and listen to the American people.

I ask the Presiding Officer to imagine a world in which Senate Republicans united to support House Republicans. Imagine that one piece being different from what we saw. Imagine, after the House Republicans stood together with the American people, if all 46 Senate Republicans had stood together and said: We are united against the train wreck that is ObamaCare. We are united with the American people that if President Obama is going to give an exemption for big business and for Members of Congress, the American people deserve that very same exemption.

I want you to imagine if Senate Republicans stood together and simply supported House Republicans and the American people. I want the Presiding Officer to imagine what would have happened if all 46 Senate Republicans had united and gone together and said: The House of Representatives has passed a bill funding the VA. We should fund the VA.

The majority leader of the Senate refused to allow the Senate to even vote to fund the VA. I want you to imagine all 46 Senate Republicans, if we had stood together and simply supported the House Republicans in saying the House of Representatives has voted to reopen our national parks, to reopen our war memorials, and the majority leader of the Senate refused to allow the Senate to even vote.

I want my colleagues to imagine simply that Senate Republicans stood together and said: We support the House Republicans in standing with the American people. If that had happened, I believe this result would have been very different.

It is heartbreaking to the American people that Senate Republicans divided as they did and decided to direct their criticism, direct their attention, direct their cannon fire at House Republicans and at those standing with the American people. Yet, at the same time, to the millions of Americans who rose up in the last couple of months, I want to give a word of encouragement—a word of encouragement about the path forward.

A couple of months ago the Washington establishment scoffed at the notion that the American people might rise up. That was viewed as silly, parochial, couldn't happen. A couple of months ago the Washington establishment scoffed at the notion that the House of Representatives would stand strong saying: We should fund every bit of the Federal Government, but we shouldn't fund ObamaCare. Yet what we have seen in the last 2 months has been extraordinary. Millions of Americans are speaking in overwhelming numbers saying ObamaCare isn't working. The unions are jumping ship. Democratic Members of the Senate and the House went to the President and said: We want to be exempted from ObamaCare. This law isn't working. And it is worth reflecting on how extraordinary it is to see the American people rise up in such incredible numbers and to see the House of Representatives engage in what I consider to be a profile in courage, standing with the American people.

Now, a path forward—the way we are going to stop ObamaCare, the way we are going to stop the suffering, the harms being visited on millions of Americans—is the path we have seen these past couple of months—the American people rising up. The answers are not going to come from Washington. Washington is broken. But the answers are going to come from the American people.

So today I am encouraged. I am encouraged by the millions of Americans who want to get back to our free market principles, get back to the Constitution, and stop this train wreck of a law that is the biggest job killer in this country, that is hurting people all across the country. It is sad that today the Senate is telling people all across this country who are struggling, who are trying to provide for their kids, and who are getting notifications in the mail that their health care has been dropped—maybe a person has an elderly parent and that health care policy is providing for the family. Maybe people have children facing debilitating diseases. Yet they are getting a notification in the mail that their health insurance has been dropped because of ObamaCare. It is sad that the Senate says we will do nothing to answer their plight. We created their plight, but we will do nothing. It is sad that when we have James Hoffa, the president of the Teamsters, saying ObamaCare is destroying the health care of millions of working men and women in this country and the families who depend upon them, that the Senate says: We are closed for business. The Washington establishment has exempted itself, so the problems, the suffering of working America is not the concern of the Washington establishment. That is sad.

But at the same time, I am optimistic. I am inspired by the millions of Americans who have risen. And if the American people continue to rise up, I am confident that in time the Senate will follow the lead of the House of Representatives and listen to the American people. That is our job. That is our responsibility.

This is a terrible deal today. It is a terrible deal for the American people. At the same time, the path forward—if the American people continue to rise up, we are going to turn this around. We are going to restore jobs. We are going to restore economic growth. We are going to restore the ability of people who are struggling to climb the economic ladder and to achieve the American dream, and we are going to stop the No. 1 job killer in this country; that is, ObamaCare.

I rise in opposition to this deal that doesn't serve the best interests of the men and women each of us represent.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

Mr. SCHUMER. I know the hour is getting late. The passage of this bill is nigh, and so I will be brief, but I wish to make a few points.

First, this is hardly a day of exultation and happiness. The sad truth is that we have ended just where we started. When we began several weeks ago, our goal was simple: Open the government, pay our bills, and then let's negotiate. The proposal that will be before us shortly does just that and no more. We open the government. We pay our bills. Then we can sit down and negotiate. But along the way, many people have been hurt. Millions of people didn't get paychecks. The economy has been dented, and the civility in Washington—whatever was left of it—evaporated. So to say this is a good day because one party might be doing better than another—no. It is a day that is, in a certain sense, grim. We have finally achieved our goal—the same place where we started—but at a cost. It never should have been this way.

Second, I wish to salute two of our leaders. I salute our Democratic leader

and my dear friend HARRY REID. From the beginning he was stalwart. He led with his strength. He said that we cannot govern in a way where any faction says: Unless we get our way, we will hurt the American people by closing down the government, by letting us default. He said: We cannot stand for that any longer. We have had enough of that in Washington, and we are not going to bend to that type of awful politics.

He stood firm. He stood strong. He didn't waiver. Tonight we are passing the bill that he sought and we sought 3 weeks ago.

I would also like to salute the Republican leader Senator MCCONNELL. We all know he has a difficult political situation. We all know it would have been easier for him to duck. We all know that when it became clear the House of Representatives was so tied in a knot that it couldn't function, it couldn't pass any bill, Leader MCCONNELL stepped up for the good of the Nation and showed courage. He deserves our thanks as well.

Finally, I will make one more point. If there is a silver lining that can come out of this gray cloud, it is that perhaps, moving forward, the politics of brinkmanship, of confrontation has reached its peak in this body and in this country.

We have seen that a small faction in either House, when it says ''my way or no way,'' when it says ''I am going to do such hurt to innocent people that you will have to succumb to me''—we saw they failed, hopefully with large bipartisan votes, certainly in this Chamber and perhaps in the other. And we have seen that many on both sides of the aisle have come together and said: We are not going to go along with this type of politics, from wherever it comes.

Perhaps when January 15 and February 7 come about, we will not see a repeat of what we have seen these last few weeks because it has been repudiated by the vast majority in this body and in the other body and certainly by the American people, a very small percentage of whom supported the politics of brinkmanship—the reckless, irresponsible politics of brinkmanship that some have exercised over the last few weeks.

So that would be the silver lining in this cloud, that we can go back to the old way of legislating where we sit down, we talk over our differences, we negotiate, and we come to a conclusion for the good of America, the way the Founding Fathers envisioned it. They did not envision what happened here in the last 3 weeks, and it was not America's finest moment. But out of this great darkness can come some light—the desire on both sides of the aisle, of the majority of both parties to say: Enough brinkmanship. Let's sit down, let's negotiate, and let's move forward so this great country will be led by its government instead of pulled down by its government. That is my fervent wish.

After these last 3 weeks we are ending where we started, unfortunately, and people have been hurt as that happened. But perhaps the lessons of the last 3 weeks will sink in amongst us all and we will not see a repeat of what has happened.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H. CON. RES. 25

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I am pleased we have reached an agreement that will reopen the government and allow us to pay our bills and provide a path forward now for bipartisan budget negotiations. As part of this bipartisan deal, I will once again tonight ask unanimous consent to begin a bipartisan budget conference.

The budgets that passed the Senate and the House 6 months ago are very different. Nobody thinks it is going to be easy to get to a deal. But I know I would not have fought so hard for so long to begin bipartisan negotiations if I did not think we could find some common ground and work something out.

I do not think there is anyone in Congress who wants to put the country through the last few weeks again, and I am hopeful we can now work together in a budget conference to end these constant crises and work now toward a balanced and bipartisan deal that the American people expect and deserve.

So I tonight ask unanimous consent that if the Senate passes H.R. 2775, as amended, the Senate then proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 33, H. Con. Res. 25; that the amendment at the desk, which is the text of S. Con. Res. 8, the budget resolution agreed to by the Senate, be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that H. Con. Res. 25, as amended, be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that the motion for the Senate to insist on its amendment be agreed to; that the Senate request a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses and authorize the Chair to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate, with a ratio of 12 Democrats and 10 Republicans; that the conferees be instructed to report back a conference report by December 13, 2013; that if the Senate receives from the House a request to go to conference on S. Con. Res. 8, the agreement be modified so that the Senate agree to the request to go to conference on S. Con. Res. 8, with the remaining provisions related to the conference remaining in effect; further, that it not be in order for the Senate to consider a conference report with respect to H. Con. Res. 25 or S. Con. Res. 8 if it includes reconciliation instructions to raise the debt limit; and that all of the above occur with no intervening action or debate; finally, that H. Con. Res. 25, as amended, and agreed to, be held at the desk until a message is received from the House relative to H.R. 2775, and if the House fails to concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 2775, this agreement be vitiated.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. MURRAY. Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 2775

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 193, H.R. 2775; that the substitute amendment which is at the desk be agreed to; that a cloture motion on the bill, as amended, which is at the desk then be read; that the mandatory quorum required under rule XXII be waived; that no other amendments, points of order or motions be in order to the bill; that the Senate then proceed to vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the bill, as amended; that if cloture is invoked, all postcloture time be yielded back, and the bill, as amended, be read a third time and the Senate proceed to vote on passage of the bill, as amended; that if the bill, as amended, is passed, a title amendment which is at the desk be agreed to; finally, that if cloture is not invoked, the action above with respect to the amendment to the bill be vitiated and the bill be returned to the calendar.

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

NO SUBSIDIES WITHOUT VERIFICATION ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of H.R. 2775, which the clerk will report by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2775) to condition the provision of premium and cost-sharing subsidies under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act upon a certification that a program to verify household income and other qualifications for such subsidies is operational, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, Amendment No. 2004 is agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under ''Text of Amendments.'')

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on H.R. 2775, as amended.

Harry Reid, Richard J. Durbin, Patty Murray, Barbara Boxer, Patrick J. Leahy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Debbie Stabenow, Michael F. Bennet, John D. Rockefeller IV, Jon Tester, Jack Reed, Mark R. Warner, Tim Kaine, Benjamin L. Cardin, Charles E. Schumer, Christopher A. Coons.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on H.R. 2775, as amended, should 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. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 83, nays 16, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 218 Leg.]

YEAS—83

Alexander	Fischer	Merkley
Ayotte	Flake	Mikulski
Baldwin	Franken	Moran
Barrasso	Gillibrand	Murkowski
Baucus	Graham	Murphy
Begich	Hagan	Murray
Bennet	Harkin	Nelson
Blumenthal	Hatch	Portman
Blunt	Heinrich	Pryor
Boozman	Heitkamp	Reed
Boxer	Hirono	Reid
Brown	Hoeven	Rockefeller
Burr	Isakson	Sanders
Cantwell	Johanns	Schatz
Cardin	Johnson (SD)	Schumer
Carper	Kaine	Scott
Casey	King	Shaheen
Chambliss	Kirk	Stabenow
Chiesa	Klobuchar	Tester
Coats	Landrieu	Thune
Coburn	Leahy	Udall (CO)
Cochran	Levin	Udall (NM)
Collins	Manchin	Warner
Coons	Markey	Warren
Corker	McCain	Whitehouse
Donnelly	McCaskill	Wicker
Durbin	McConnell	Wyden
Feinstein	Menendez	

NAYS—16

Cornyn	Johnson (WI)	Sessions
Crapo	Lee	Shelby
Cruz	Paul	Toomey
Enzi	Risch	Vitter
Grassley	Roberts	
Heller	Rubio	

NOT VOTING—1

Inhofe

Under the previous order, cloture having been invoked, all time is yielded back.

The bill, as amended, was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the bill, as amended, having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

Mr. CORKER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 81, nays 18, as follows:

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The result was announced—yeas 81, nays 18, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 219 Leg.]

YEAS—81

Alexander	Fischer	Menendez
Ayotte	Flake	Merkley
Baldwin	Franken	Mikulski
Barrasso	Gillibrand	Moran
Baucus	Graham	Murkowski
Begich	Hagan	Murphy
Bennet	Harkin	Murray
Blumenthal	Hatch	Nelson
Blunt	Heinrich	Portman
Boozman	Heitkamp	Pryor
Boxer	Hirono	Reed
Brown	Hoeven	Reid
Burr	Isakson	Rockefeller
Cantwell	Johanns	Sanders
Cardin	Johnson (SD)	Schatz
Carper	Kaine	Schumer
Casey	King	Shaheen
Chambliss	Kirk	Stabenow
Chiesa	Klobuchar	Tester
Coats	Landrieu	Thune
Cochran	Leahy	Udall (CO)
Collins	Levin	Udall (NM)
Coons	Manchin	Warner
Corker	Markey	Warren
Donnelly	McCain	Whitehouse
Durbin	McCaskill	Wicker
Feinstein	McConnell	Wyden

NAYS—18

Coburn	Heller	Rubio
Cornyn	Johnson (WI)	Scott
Crapo	Lee	Sessions
Cruz	Paul	Shelby
Enzi	Risch	Toomey
Grassley	Roberts	Vitter

NOT VOTING—1

Inhofe

The bill (H.R. 2775), as amended, was passed.

The amendment (No. 2005) was agreed to, as follows:

Amend the title to read: ''An Act making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes.''

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mrs. HAGAN. Mr. President, I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

ESTABLISHING THE BUDGET FOR THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 25, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 25) establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, amendment No. 2006 is agreed to, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table; H. Con. Res. 25, as amended, is agreed to; the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the Senate insists on its amendment, requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses, conferees are instructed to report back by December 13, 2013, and the Chair is authorized to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate.

The amendment (No. 2006) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under ''Text of Amendments.'')

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF RICHARD F. GRIFFIN, JR., TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

Mr. REID. I unanimous consent to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 344.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the motion to proceed.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Richard F. Griffin, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board for a term of four years.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Richard F. Griffin, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board.

Harry Reid, Brian Schatz, Barbara Boxer, Carl Levin, Bill Nelson, Jeff Merkley, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Debbie Stabenow, Mark R. Warner, Tammy Baldwin, Jeanne Shaheen, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Mark Udall, Tom Udall, Michael F. Bennet, Amy Klobuchar, Elizabeth Warren, Ron Wyden.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived and that the Senate now resume legislative session.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business and that Senators be allowed to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

RECOGNIZING JANET HINOSTROZA

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues a courageous Ecuadoran journalist who has been recognized by the Committee to Protect Journalists International Press.

Janet Hinostroza has anchored the investigative news show ''30 Plus'' for the past decade and hosted the news program ''La Mañana de 24 Horas,'' both on the private Ecuadoran television channel Teleamazonas. She also hosts a radio program on 98.1 FM Mundo and is the local correspondent for Univision, while managing a production company specializing in journalistic programming and audiovisual products.

Ms. Hinostroza has attracted the wrath of the Ecuadoran authorities for reporting on such important issues as human and arms trafficking, the Ecuadoran police, corruption, and extrajudicial killings. She recently investigated a scandal involving a loan by a state-owned bank to a businessman who defaulted. I am informed that her reporting uncovered irregularities in the loan and connected the businessman to the then-head of Ecuador's central bank, who was President Rafael Correa's cousin. As a result, she received anonymous phone calls threatening her safety and she had to temporarily leave her television news program.

Teleamazonas, like many Ecuadoran news outlets that engage in reporting critical of the government, is regularly targeted with harassment by official censors. Ms. Hinostroza's program is required to designate regular time slots, legally reserved for reporting official information in times of crisis, to present presidential rebuttals to her reports, contrary to Ecuador's broadcast laws.

In recognition of Ms. Hinostroza's brave and important work and commitment to fighting for a free press, next month the Committee to Protect Journalists will award Ms. Hinostroza the International Award for Freedom of the Press.

Unfortunately, the harassment of Ms. Hinostroza is only one example of a steady deterioration of democratic principles in Ecuador. It is the responsibility of democratic governments to foster an environment of pluralism, and nothing is more basic to that than public access to information from a free press. Instead, the Ecuadoran Government has carried out a relentless assault on the media, and recently it went a step further by restricting the autonomy of nongovernmental organizations.

A decree adopted in June creates burdensome new procedures for nongovernmental organizations, both Ecuadoran and international, to obtain legal status to operate in the country. Like a free press, civil society plays a crucial oversight role in any democratic society. The Ecuadoran decree is similar to what we have seen in other countries whose repressive governments are using laws and decrees to silence their critics.

I ask unanimous consent that excerpts from a recent report by Human Rights Watch about the Correa government's latest efforts to consolidate power and silence its critics be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From Human Rights Watch, Aug. 12, 2013]

ECUADOR: CLAMPDOWN ON CIVIL SOCIETY

(WASHINGTON, DC).—Ecuador should revoke a presidential decree that grants far-reaching powers to the government to oversee and dissolve nongovernmental organizations, Human Rights Watch said today.

On June 4, 2013, President Rafael Correa adopted a decree that creates new procedures for Ecuadorean nongovernmental organizations to obtain legal status and requires international organizations to undergo a screening process to seek permission to work in Ecuador. The decree also grants the government broad powers to intervene in groups' operations. It gives the government authority, for example, to dissolve Ecuadorean groups for ''compromis[ing] public peace.''

''The Correa administration has damaged free speech, expending a lot of its energy focusing on the media, and now it's trying to trample on independent groups,'' said Jose Miguel Vivanco, Americas director at Human Rights Watch. ''Officials can now essentially decide what groups may say or do, seriously undermining their role as a check on the government.''

Correa presented a draft proposal of a similar decree in December 2010, but it was shelved after criticism from local and international groups.

Under the decree, the authorities are creating an electronic Unified System of Information of Social Groups, which would store documentation from organizations. Ecuadorean organizations are required to file a series of documents to obtain legal status and approval of their by-laws. Groups have one year from the publication of the decree on June 20 to present the required paperwork.

Government officials from ministries related to the work done by the group—for example, the Health Ministry if the group works on health-related topics—review the documentation and have the authority to grant or deny the group legal status. Once they obtain legal status, groups must inform authorities when they select directors and a legal representative and if they add or remove members. They must also provide the government with information about projects with international funding, and get government authorization to revise their by-laws.

The decree limits groups' ability to choose who can be a member or participant, undermining their right to free assembly, Human Rights Watch said. The decree imposes on Ecuadorean groups an obligation to respect the ''right'' of anyone who ''due to their place of residency or having a specific labor, institutional, union, occupational, or professional qualification directly related to the objective or nature and/or purposes of the organization, is interested in participating in it.'' Groups with certain territorial coverage or those that are ''the only ones in their location'' may not reject people with a ''legitimate interest'' in participating.

The government officials who grant a group legal status have broad monitoring powers to make sure that it only carries out 'authorized' work. Officials may dissolve a group if they consider the organization is ''mov[ing] away from the objectives for which it was created,'' or if it is involved in activities that ''compromise public peace'' or ''interfere with public policies that undermine national or external security of the state.''

International groups seeking to work in Ecuador must request permission from the Technical Secretariat of International Cooperation, providing information on the ''purposes and work they wish to carry out in the country.'' They have to provide documents that ''demonstrate [their] legal existence,'' including their by-laws in Spanish. The government will then ask Ecuadorean embassies and consulates in countries where the international group operates for information about the ''legality, solvency, and seriousness'' of the organization. Based on this information, it will decide whether to sign an agreement with the international group to authorize it to work in Ecuador.

The decree also imposes vaguely defined prohibitions on international groups—for instance, they are not allowed to conduct activities that ''undermine security and public peace.'' It also allows government officials to monitor a group's activities ''to ensure the true fulfillment of its obligations'' and to revoke the international agreement if they decide the group violates it.

On August 7, a lower court judge rejected a constitutional challenge filed by Fundamedios, an organization that monitors freedom of expression, against the decree. The group has filed an appeal, which remains pending before the courts.

Under international law, however, as part of their duty to promote and protect human rights, governments must ensure that human rights defenders are allowed to pursue their activities without reprisals, threats, intimidation, harassment, discrimination, or unnecessary legal obstacles. The Inter-American Court of Human Rights held in 2003 that ''[r]espect for human rights in a democratic state depends largely on human rights defenders enjoying effective and adequate guarantees so as to freely go about their activities, and it is advisable to pay special attention to those actions that limit or hinder the work of human rights defenders.''

The rights to freedom of expression and association may be subject to limitations, but the limitations must adhere to strict standards so that they do not improperly impede the exercise of those rights. Any restrictions should be ''prescribed by law, necessary in a democratic society, and proportionate to the aim pursued'' and should not ''harm the principles of pluralism, tolerance and broadmindedness.''

Article 16 of the American Convention on Human Rights states that the right of freedom of association ''shall be subject only to such restrictions established by law as may be necessary in a democratic society, in the

interest of national security, public safety or public order, or to protect public health or morals or the rights and freedoms of others.''

In 2012, the UN special rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association has called on countries to ensure that these rights ''are enjoyed by everyone and any registered or unregistered entities'' and that no one is subject to ''harassment, persecution, intimidation or reprisals'' for exercising them. Moreover, the rapporteur has stated that, ''[s]uspension or involuntary dissolution of associations should be sanctioned by an impartial and independent court in case of a clear and imminent danger resulting in a flagrant violation of domestic laws, in compliance with international human rights law.''

''Instead of adopting reasonable measures to facilitate the work of nongovernmental organizations, the Correa administration is following the lead of countries such as Russia, Bahrain, Uganda, and Venezuela, which have imposed unjustified restrictions that violate fundamental rights and limit spaces that are critical to democratic society,'' Vivanco said.

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE FUNDING

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about a bill I introduced last week to provide forward funding appropriations for the Indian Health Service. The IHS is charged with delivering health services to American Indians and Alaska Natives as part of our Federal trust responsibility, and I believe that forward funding the IHS is the right thing to do, just like Congress forward funds our VA as part of our obligation to our veterans.

The budget uncertainty we have put our tribal health providers in is shameful. We may not be able to ensure our Nation's indigenous children will receive their immunizations. We might not be able to ensure our elders will be able to receive the care they need. We cannot guarantee basic medical services will be provided, including prenatal and dental for our first Americans, who rely on funding from the Indian Health Service. The situation is disgraceful, and the health statistics of our first Americans reflect that.

Without Federal funding for fiscal year 14, HHS has determined that those receiving care from the Indian Health Service will continue to receive clinical care, but for tribes that operate their own health programs, payments will not be transferred. Yet, just like the Indian Health Service, our tribal health providers must keep providing care. The budget uncertainty we have imposed on those delivering health services is unconscionable.

As I mentioned previously, my bill to forward fund the Indian Health Service makes sense because the IHS is charged with delivering health services to American Indians and Alaska Natives, as promised by the United States for the removal of Indians from their lands. The United States calls this obligation the Federal trust responsibility. This is not a relationship based on race—but a legal and political relationship defined by treaties, Executive orders, the U.S. Constitution, statutes, and Supreme Court decisions.

Health care services are either delivered by the Indian Health Service or by tribal health providers themselves operating under Indian Self-Determination Act agreements. Delayed funding means health care providers cannot budget with certainty, recruit health professionals, retain health professionals, adequately deliver services, nor manage facility maintenance and construction efforts. Late funding for tribal health programs has significantly hampered the delivery of health services for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Let me take this opportunity to remind you of the health status of our Nation's first peoples. For too long in our Nation's history, American Indians and Alaska Natives have experienced severe health disparities compared to other Americans as a result of the poor economic and social conditions. According to the Indian Health Service, American Indians and Alaska Natives die at higher rates compared to other Americans from many causes: alcoholism is 522 percent higher, diabetes is 182 percent higher, unintentional injuries is 138 percent higher, homicide is 83 percent higher, and suicide is 74 percent higher.

We must recognize the historical traumas that played a role in these percentages, including the removal of lands, forced relocation and assimilation of Native communities, new diseases introduced, deaths experienced, and the loss of indigenous cultures. These are wounds that have been internalized and manifest themselves in high rates of alcoholism and substance abuse, driving the statistics of domestic violence, sexual assault, and suicide. And this sadness is passed down from one generation to the next.

Our tribes are working to break this cycle. Under the Federal policy of Indian self-determination we have empowered tribes to address the needs of their tribal members. Yet whether it be the denial of full operational support costs for Indian programs or the ceasing of payment under a government shutdown, we are failing on that promise.

Just as this Nation has made a promise to its veterans for the delivery of health care, we cannot forget the promise made to American Indians and Alaska Natives. In 2010, Congress forward funded the VA. Veterans groups, alarmed by the impact of delayed funding and concerned about the VA's ability to plan and manage its resources, demanded forward funding. Let me tell you our tribal health providers have those same concerns. Our tribal health providers have demanded that Congress forward fund IHS appropriations so they may better manage the health funds for American Indians and Alaska Natives, and I think we should do so.

The present government shutdown demonstrates why this is so important: we have compromised the delivery of health services for our first Americans, especially those who receive care from tribally administered hospitals. Forward funding would allow Indian health programs to more be more effectively managed and improve health outcomes for our first Americans. Tribal administrators would know how many physicians and nurses they could hire without wondering if funding for positions would be available. They would also be able to manage clinics without the uncertainty of shutting them down.

I am proud to introduce this bill to forward fund HIS, and I hope my colleagues support this effort.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SERGEANT BENJAMIN C. EDINGER, USMC

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life and service of Sgt. Benjamin C. Edinger, USMC, on the occasion of the dedication of a city trail in the city of Green Bay, in my home State of Wisconsin.

On Saturday, October 19, 2013, a portion of the Westside Trail in Green Bay will be named in honor of Sgt. Benjamin C. Edinger. Sergeant Edinger grew up in Green Bay, riding his bike across the city and playing ball in the city parks. He graduated in 1999 from West High School, and joined the Marine Corps in 2000.

Sergeant Edinger began his career in the Marine Corps as a small computer systems specialist, later passing through rigorous trials to join Marine Corps Force Reconnaissance, the Marine Corps' most elite unit. He was part of the initial invasion of Iraq, and was on his second tour of duty in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom with the 2nd Force Reconnaissance Company. Sergeant Edinger participated in 61 combat missions as a gunner. On November 14, 2004, in Al Anbar Province, he suffered shrapnel wounds as a result of enemy combat. He later died from his injuries on November 23, 2004.

Sergeant Edinger is remembered by his family, friends, and fellow marines as a kind and considerate person, and a tough and courageous marine.

I am proud that Sergeant Edinger will be honored with this trail dedication in the city he called home, and in the State and country he loved and served.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

• Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, today I wish to mark an important birthday in my hometown of Springfield, MO. This year the Boys & Girls Club of Springfield celebrates its 75th year of operations. These 75 years have been marked by dedication and service to the young people of Springfield and the surrounding area. The club's commitment has helped shape the community,

mold business and civic leaders of tomorrow, and made a lasting impact on the region.

Through the Boys & Girls Club, young people of all backgrounds have a place to build relationships and grow as individuals. With adults from their own community, these children foster relationships not only with each other but also with a set of great role models committed to making each day better for every child.

The Boys & Girls Club of Springfield got its start in 1938 while the country was still in a depression. Mrs. Jennie Lincoln got the idea to launch the group from her husband, Judge A.W. Lincoln, who discussed the need for an organization to serve youngsters with special problems. Without hesitation, the Springfield community joined the effort. The Commercial Street Business Men's Club agreed to the free use of the basement of their building at 219 East Commercial as the first headquarters—they even provided utilities for free. This basement became home to the North Side Boys Club for 11 years. Even as the Depression continued, Mrs. Lincoln enlisted her friends to create the Boys Club Women's Auxiliary to raise funds for programs and essential expenses for the Boys Club. Today, the auxiliary continues to be an important arm of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Springfield, raising thousands of dollars each year for scholarships.

The original Girls Club was established in 1963 by the Community Service League, now known as the Junior League. The Girls Club flourished under the direction of Genevieve Kynion, who served as the group's executive director for 21 years. In 1991, the Boys & Girls Clubs merged.

The Boys & Girls Club of Springfield owes its lasting success to many people—from volunteers, to employees to various charitable and community organizations that have extended financial support. The club continues to grow today, offering multiple locations to provide services to its 600 after school attendees. The club's generosity extends beyond afterschool activities as they serve more than 100,000 meals each year.

Today, many of those kids who spent their early years at the Boys & Girls Clubs are elected leaders, champions of commerce, church elders and business leaders. Their careers are varied but distinguished with alumni ranging from former U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft to famed actor Brad Pitt. The Boys & Girls Club continues to positively influence the city of Springfield in immeasurable ways. I look forward to seeing its ongoing success as the Boys & Girls Club continues to promote their motto that every child can truly ''be great!''●

2 NOT 1

● Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, on Friday, October 19, 2013, the 2 Not 1 Annual Fatherhood Conference is being held in Louisville, KY.

The motto of the non-profit is ''Changing the Lives of Children, One Father at a Time!'' The group's purpose is to educate low-income individuals and communities on the subject of fatherhood and the barriers that impede the successful interaction of father and child.

Shawn Gardner, the President and Founder of 2 Not 1, has put together the conference which is expected to be a big success. Private groups such as 2 Not 1 are doing some excellent work to help disadvantaged kids.

I have been provided the names of the winners to be announced at the event and want to recognize these individuals for their good work. The following people are receiving awards on Friday night:

Ebony O'Rea, Female Supporter of Fatherhood;

John Marshal, Community Dad; and

Mike Warner, Father of the Year.

The mission of the group is to promote the safety and wellbeing of children by implementing strategies to keep fathers involved and families together. Cheers to those receiving awards and to all the good people working to improve the lives of kids who are missing male guidance in their lives.

I share the belief that fathers matter in the lives of their children and am encouraged that this organization is helping to strengthen families by equipping fathers with parenting strategies.

I am grateful to be a parent of three sons. My own family life is pretty challenging right now as I work hard to serve our Nation in Washington and fly home on the weekends to spend time with the boys or answer homework questions over the phone.

We know that life is not perfect, and that some children will still grow up without fathers. Sometimes, our best efforts fall short but with persistence, determination, and grace toward one another, we can make a huge difference in the lives of children by mentoring fathers.●

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 12978 WITH RESPECT TO SIGNIFICANT NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS CENTERED IN COLOMBIA—PM 22

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of The United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1622(d), provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia declared in Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995, is to continue in effect beyond October 21, 2013.

The circumstances that led to the declaration on October 21, 1995, of a national emergency have not been resolved. The actions of significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States and to cause an extreme level of violence, corruption, and harm in the United States and abroad. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12978 with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *October 16, 2013.*

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:05 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the text of the bill (H.R. 2775) to condition the provision of premium and cost-sharing subsidies under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act upon a certification that a program to verify household income and other qualifications for such subsidies is operational, and for other purposes, further, that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the title of the aforementioned bill.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 2775. An act making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. BEGICH).

At 11:27 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House insists upon its amendment to the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 8) setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023, and asks a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints Messrs. RYAN of Wisconsin, COLE, PRICE of Georgia, Mrs. BLACK, Messrs. VAN HOLLEN, CLYBURN, and Mrs. LOWEY as managers of

the conference on the part of the House.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following joint resolution was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.J. Res. 80. Joint resolution making continuing appropriations for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Indian Education, and the Indian Health Service for fiscal year 2014, and for other purposes.

MEASURE HELD AT THE DESK

The following measure was ordered held at the desk, pursuant to the order of October 16, 2013:

H. Con. Res. 25. Concurrent resolution establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. HELLER, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 1573. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the payment of temporary compensation to a surviving spouse of a veteran upon the death of the veteran, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 1574. A bill to amend the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Demonstration Act of 1992 to facilitate the ability of Indian tribes to integrate the employment, training, and related services from diverse Federal sources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. BEGICH (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 1575. A bill to correct inconsistencies in the definitions relating to Native Americans in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. RISCH):

S. Res. 269. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on United States policy regarding possession of enrichment and reprocessing capabilities by the Islamic Republic of Iran; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. KIRK (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. Res. 270. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of World Polio Day and commending the international community and others for their efforts to prevent and eradicate polio; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. GRAHAM:

S. Res. 271. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that United States military assistance for Cambodia should be suspended until an independent and credible investigation occurs into the July 28, 2013, parliamentary elections, and election reforms are being implemented by the Government of Cambodia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. ENZI, and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. Res. 272. A resolution designating the week beginning October 20, 2013, as ''National Character Counts Week''; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. TESTER, and Ms. HEITKAMP):

S. Res. 273. A resolution designating October 26, 2013, as ''Day of the Deployed''; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. Res. 274. A resolution supporting Lights On Afterschool, a national celebration of afterschool programs held on October 17, 2013; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. REID:

S. Con. Res. 24. A concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and an adjournment of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 429

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 429, a bill to enable concrete masonry products manufacturers to establish, finance, and carry out a coordinated program of research, education, and promotion to improve, maintain, and develop markets for concrete masonry products.

S. 541

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 541, a bill to prevent human health threats posed by the consumption of equines raised in the United States.

S. 621

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 621, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to make any substance containing hydrocodone a schedule II drug.

S. 842

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 842, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an extension of the Medicare-dependent hospital (MDH) program and the increased payments under the Medicare low-volume hospital program.

S. 1011

At the request of Mr. JOHANNS, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1011, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of Boys Town, and for other purposes.

S. 1302

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1302, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for cooperative and small employer charity pension plans.

S. 1456

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1456, a bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Shimon Peres.

S. 1500

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1500, a bill to declare the November 5, 2009, attack at Fort Hood, Texas, a terrorist attack, and to ensure that the victims of the attack and their families receive the same honors and benefits as those Americans who have been killed or wounded in a combat zone overseas and their families.

S. 1531

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1531, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the types of wines taxed as hard cider.

S. 1535

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1535, a bill to deter terrorism, provide justice for victims, and for other purposes.

S. 1572

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) were added as cosponsors of S. 1572, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to reimburse States that use State funds to operate National Parks during the Federal Government shutdown, and for other purposes.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 269—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE ON UNITED STATES POLICY REGARDING POSSESSION OF ENRICHMENT AND REPROCESSING CAPABILITIES BY THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. RISCH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.:

S. RES. 269

Whereas diplomats from the Islamic Republic of Iran, the European Union, the

United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, France, China, and Russia continue to discuss the Government of Iran's illicit nuclear weapons program;

Whereas President of Iran Hasan Rouhani has in the past bragged about his success in buying time for Iran to make nuclear advances;

Whereas Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei, who retains control over Iran's nuclear program, recently claimed that Iran did not desire nuclear weapons but said that if Iran ''intended to possess nuclear weapons, no power could stop us'';

Whereas the Government of Iran continues to expand Iran's nuclear and missile programs in violation of multiple United Nations Security Council resolutions;

Whereas the Government of Iran has a decades-long track record of cheating on and violating commitments regarding its nuclear program and has used more than 10 years of diplomatic negotiations to buy more time to expand its nuclear weapons program;

Whereas Iran remains the world's number one exporter of terrorism and as recently as 2011 was plotting to assassinate a foreign official on United States soil;

Whereas, over the last three decades, the Government of Iran and its terrorist proxies have been responsible for the deaths of Americans;

Whereas the Government of Iran and its terrorist proxies continue to provide military and financial support to the regime of Bashar al-Assad in Syria, aiding his regime's mass killing of civilians;

Whereas the Government of Iran continues to sow instability in its region and to threaten its neighbors, including United States allies such as Israel;

Whereas the Government of Iran denies its people their fundamental freedoms, including freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, freedom of religion, and freedom of conscience;

Whereas international and United States sanctions imposed on Iran have assisted in bringing Iran to the negotiating table;

Whereas other countries, such as North Korea, have used diplomatic talks regarding their nuclear programs to allow time for the development of nuclear weapons;

Whereas, based on the Government of Iran's stockpile of low enriched uranium and its plan to continue installing advanced centrifuges, the Government of Iran could agree to suspend all enrichment above 3.5 percent and still be in a position to produce weapons-grade uranium without detection by the middle of next year;

Whereas, if the Government of Iran starts up its heavy water reactor in Arak, it could establish an alternate pathway to a nuclear weapon, producing enough plutonium each year for one or two nuclear weapons;

Whereas 19 other nations currently access peaceful nuclear energy without any enrichment or reprocessing activities on their soil; and

Whereas the Government of Iran could likewise achieve access to peaceful nuclear energy without enrichment or reprocessing activities on its own soil: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) it shall be the policy of the United States that the Government of Iran will not be allowed to develop a nuclear weapon and that all instruments of United States power and influence remain on the table to prevent this outcome;

(2) the Government of Iran does not have an absolute or inherent right to enrichment and reprocessing technologies under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, done at Washington, London, and Moscow July 1, 1968, and entered into force March 5, 1970 (commonly known as the ''Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty'');

(3) relief of sanctions related to Iran's nuclear program imposed upon Iran by the United States should only be provided once Iran has completely abandoned its nuclear weapons program, including any enrichment or reprocessing capability, and has provided complete transparency to the International Atomic Energy Agency regarding its work on weaponization of a nuclear device; and

(4) until the Government of Iran has taken the actions set forth in paragraph (3), Congress should move to pass a new round of additional sanctions without delay.

SENATE RESOLUTION 270—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF WORLD POLIO DAY AND COMMENDING THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND OTHERS FOR THEIR EFFORTS TO PREVENT AND ERADICATE POLIO

Mr. KIRK (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 270

Whereas October 24 of each year is recognized internationally as World Polio Day;

Whereas polio is a highly infectious disease that primarily affects children and for which there is no known cure;

Whereas polio can leave survivors permanently disabled from muscle paralysis of the limbs and occasionally leads to a particularly difficult death through paralysis of respiratory muscles;

Whereas polio was once one of the most dreaded diseases in the United States, killing thousands of people annually in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and leaving thousands more with permanent disabilities, including the 32nd President of the United States, Franklin Delano Roosevelt;

Whereas severe polio outbreaks in the 1940s and 1950s caused panic in the United States, as parents kept children indoors, public health officials quarantined infected individuals, and the Federal Government restricted commerce and travel;

Whereas 1952 was the peak of the polio epidemic in the United States, with more than 57,000 people affected, 21,000 of whom were paralyzed and 3,000 of whom died;

Whereas safe and effective polio vaccines, including the inactivated polio vaccine (commonly known as ''IPV''), developed in 1952 by Jonas Salk, and the oral polio vaccine (commonly known as ''OPV''), developed in 1957 by Albert Sabin, rendered polio preventable and contributed to the rapid decline of the incidence of polio in the United States;

Whereas, although the United States has been free from polio since 1979, this preventable disease still needlessly lays victim to children and adults in several countries where challenges, such as active conflict and lack of infrastructure, impede access to vaccines;

Whereas the Federal Government is the leading public sector donor to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative and provides technical and operational leadership to this global effort through the work of the Centers for Disease Control and the United States Agency for International Development;

Whereas the eradication of polio is the highest priority of Rotary International, a global association founded in 1905 in Chicago, Illinois, that is now headquartered in Evanston, Illinois, and has more than 1,200,000 members in more than 170 countries;

Whereas Rotary International and its members (commonly known as ''Rotarians'') have contributed more than $1,000,000,000 to, and volunteered countless hours in, the global fight against polio;

Whereas Rotary International, the World Health Organization, the United States Government, the United Nations Children's Fund (commonly known as ''UNICEF''), the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and the United Nations Foundation have joined together with national governments to successfully reduce cases of polio by more than 99 percent since 1988, from more than 350,000 reported cases in 1988 to 223 reported cases in 2012;

Whereas polio was recently eliminated in India and is now endemic only in Nigeria, Pakistan, and Afghanistan;

Whereas terrorist and militant groups continue to target and murder health care workers who seek to save the lives of children;

Whereas the sanctity and neutrality of health care workers must be respected, as these workers deliver the most basic of life-saving interventions to children and communities;

Whereas the recent polio outbreak in the Horn of Africa, comprising Somalia, Ethiopia, and Kenya, continues to result in new cases of the disease, exacerbating the protracted humanitarian crisis in the region and highlighting the urgent need to finally eradicate polio before progress is lost;

Whereas countries around the world are placing an unprecedented emphasis on polio eradication, including by implementing Emergency Action Plans to boost vaccination coverage in Nigeria, Pakistan, and Afghanistan;

Whereas the Global Polio Eradication Initiative has developed the Polio Eradication and Endgame Strategic Plan 2013-2018 (referred to in this preamble as the ''Endgame Strategy'') to capitalize on the opportunity to eradicate all polio disease;

Whereas the Endgame Strategy also outlines a legacy planning process to ensure that lessons learned in the effort to eradicate polio, as well as the assets and infrastructure built in support of that effort, are transitioned to benefit other development goals and global health priorities, including the continued delivery of health services to the most vulnerable children in the world;

Whereas the global effort to eradicate polio is the largest internationally coordinated public health effort in history, with a network of over 20,000,000 volunteers worldwide; and

Whereas the eradication of polio is imminently achievable and will be a victory shared by all of humanity: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of World Polio Day;

(2) commends the international community and others for their efforts in vaccinating children around the world against polio and for the tremendous strides made toward eradicating the disease;

(3) encourages and supports the international community of governments and nongovernmental organizations in remaining committed to the eradication of polio;

(4) condemns the deplorable actions of terrorist and militant groups that murder innocent health care workers who are striving to save the lives of children around the world;

(5) urges the international community of governments to strengthen the support and security protection of health care workers who risk their lives to provide polio vaccinations; and

(6) encourages continued commitment and funding by the United States Government and international donors to the global effort to rid the world of polio.

SENATE RESOLUTION 271—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT UNITED STATES MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR CAMBODIA SHOULD BE SUSPENDED UNTIL AN INDEPENDENT AND CREDIBLE INVESTIGATION OCCURS INTO THE JULY 28, 2013, PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS, AND ELECTION REFORMS ARE BEING IMPLEMENTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CAMBODIA

Mr. GRAHAM submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 271

Whereas independent domestic and international organizations have raised serious concerns regarding the integrity of the parliamentary elections held in Cambodia on July 28, 2013;

Whereas, according to Human Rights Watch, ''the Cambodian government-controlled National Election Committee (NEC) has failed to address credible allegations of voter fraud and other irregularities or systematic unfairness in the election process'';

Whereas opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP) leader Sam Rainsy noted in an October 7, 2013, Cambodia Daily op-ed article that the inaugural meeting of the newly formed government was boycotted by 55 CNRP-elected parliamentarians as a result of the refusal of the ruling Cambodian People's Party to address ''shocking election irregularities'' that allegedly denied CNRP additional parliamentary seats;

Whereas United Nations' Special Rapporteur for Human Rights in Cambodia Surya P. Subedi noted that ''it is critical for the new National Assembly to be represented by the two key parties, for the National Assembly to be truly representative of the whole of the Cambodian people and for it to be concluded that the right to vote was effectively exercised on 28 July'';

Whereas in a September 23, 2013, statement, the United States Embassy in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, called for ''a transparent review of irregularities in the July 28 national elections which would help efforts to assess and address flaws in the electoral process and give the Cambodian people greater confidence in the electoral system'';

Whereas the CNRP boycott calls into question the legitimacy of the Cambodian National Assembly and government; and

Whereas the policy of the Administration of a strategic rebalance toward the Asia Pacific Region should include support for democracy, human rights, and justice in Cambodia: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the United States should suspend military assistance for Cambodia until—

(1) an independent and credible investigation occurs into the July 28, 2013, parliamentary elections in Cambodia, and any recommendations arising out of such investigation are fully implemented; and

(2) the Government of Cambodia, in consultation with civil society and political parties in Cambodia, is implementing election reforms to prevent incidents of fraud and abuse in subsequent national and local elections in Cambodia.

SENATE RESOLUTION 272—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING OCTOBER 20, 2013, AS ''NATIONAL CHARACTER COUNTS WEEK''

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. ENZI, and Ms. LANDRIEU) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 272

Whereas the well-being of the United States requires that the young people of the United States become an involved, caring citizenry of good character;

Whereas the character education of children has become more urgent, as violence by and against youth increasingly threatens the physical and psychological well-being of the people of the United States;

Whereas, more than ever, children need strong and constructive guidance from their families and their communities, including schools, youth organizations, religious institutions, and civic groups;

Whereas the character of a nation is only as strong as the character of its individual citizens;

Whereas the public good is advanced when young people are taught the importance of good character and the positive effects that good character can have in personal relationships, in school, and in the workplace;

Whereas scholars and educators agree that people do not automatically develop good character and that, therefore, conscientious efforts must be made by institutions and individuals that influence youth to help young people develop the essential traits and characteristics that comprise good character;

Whereas, although character development is, first and foremost, an obligation of families, the efforts of faith communities, schools, and youth, civic, and human service organizations also play an important role in fostering and promoting good character;

Whereas Congress encourages students, teachers, parents, youth, and community leaders to recognize the importance of character education in preparing young people to play a role in determining the future of the United States;

Whereas effective character education is based on core ethical values, which form the foundation of a democratic society;

Whereas examples of character are trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, citizenship, and honesty;

Whereas elements of character transcend cultural, religious, and socioeconomic differences;

Whereas the character and conduct of our youth reflect the character and conduct of society, and, therefore, every adult has the responsibility to teach and model ethical values and every social institution has the responsibility to promote the development of good character;

Whereas Congress encourages individuals and organizations, especially those that have an interest in the education and training of the young people of the United States, to adopt the elements of character as intrinsic to the well-being of individuals, communities, and society;

Whereas many schools in the United States recognize the need, and have taken steps, to integrate the values of their communities into their teaching activities; and

Whereas the establishment of ''National Character Counts Week'', during which individuals, families, schools, youth organizations, religious institutions, civic groups, and other organizations focus on character education, is of great benefit to the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning October 20, 2013, as ''National Character Counts Week''; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States and interested groups—

(A) to embrace the elements of character identified by local schools and communities, such as trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship; and

(B) to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 273—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 26, 2013, AS ''DAY OF THE DEPLOYED''

Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. TESTER, and Ms. HEITKAMP) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 273

Whereas more than 2,500,000 individuals serve as members of the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas several hundred thousand members of the Armed Forces rotate each year through deployments to over 150 countries in every region of the world;

Whereas more than 2,300,000 members of the Armed Forces have deployed to the area of operations of the United States Central Command since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks;

Whereas the United States is kept strong and free by the loyal military personnel from the active, National Guard, and Reserve components, who protect the precious heritage of the country through their positive declaration and actions;

Whereas members of the Armed Forces serving at home and abroad have courageously answered the call to duty to defend the ideals of the United States and to preserve peace and freedom around the world;

Whereas members of the Armed Forces personify the virtues of patriotism, service, duty, courage, and sacrifice;

Whereas the families of members of the Armed Forces make important and significant sacrifices for the United States;

Whereas the Senate designated October 26 as ''Day of the Deployed'' in 2011 and 2012; and

Whereas all 50 States designated October 26 as ''Day of the Deployed'' in 2012: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 26, 2013, as ''Day of the Deployed'';

(2) honors the deployed members of the United States Armed Forces and their families;

(3) calls on the people of the United States to reflect on the service of those members of the Armed Forces, wherever they serve, past, present, and future; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States to observe Day of the Deployed with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 274—SUPPORTING LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL, A NATIONAL CELEBRATION OF AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS HELD ON OCTOBER 17, 2013

Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 274

Whereas more than 28,000,000 children in the United States have parents who work outside the home and approximately 15,100,000 children in the United States have no place to go after school;

Whereas high-quality programs that expand learning opportunities for children, such as afterschool, before-school, summer, and expanded learning programs, provide safe, challenging, engaging, and fun learning experiences that help children and youth develop social, emotional, physical, cultural, and academic skills;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs and high-quality expanded learning programs provide students with hands-on, engaging lessons that are aligned with the school day;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs complement regular and expanded school days, and support working families by ensuring that the children of those families are safe and productive during the hours parents are working;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs engage families, schools, and diverse community partners in advancing the well-being of children and youth in the United States;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs that partner with high-quality community-based organizations build stronger communities by integrating the school with the larger community;

Whereas Lights On Afterschool, a national celebration of afterschool, before-school, summer, and expanded learning programs held on October 17, 2013, highlights the critical importance of these high-quality programs in the lives of children, their families, and their communities; and

Whereas nearly 2 in 5 afterschool programs report that their budgets are in worse condition today than at the height of the recession in 2008, and more than 3 in 5 afterschool programs report that their level of funding is lower than it was 3 years ago, making it difficult for afterschool programs across the United States to keep their doors open and their lights on: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports Lights On Afterschool, a national celebration of afterschool programs held on October 17, 2013.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 24—PROVIDING FOR A CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE SENATE AND AN ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. REID of Nevada submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 24

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That when the Senate recesses or adjourns on any day from Wednesday, October 16, 2013, through Friday, October 25, 2013, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until 12:00 noon on Monday, October 28, 2013, or such other time on that day as may be specified by its Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the House adjourns on any legislative day from Wednesday, October 16, 2013, through Monday, October 21, 2013, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 22, 2013, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, or their respective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the House, shall notify the Members of the Senate and House, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate if, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2004. Mr. REID (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2775, making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes.

SA 2005. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2775, supra.

SA 2006. Mrs. MURRAY proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution H. Con. Res. 25, establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2004. Mr. REID (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2775, making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

The following sums are hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and out of applicable corporate or other revenues, receipts, and funds, for the several departments, agencies, corporations, and other organizational units of Government for fiscal year 2014, and for other purposes, namely:

DIVISION A—CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014

SEC. 101. (a) Such amounts as may be necessary, at a rate for operations as provided in the applicable appropriations Acts for fiscal year 2013 and under the authority and conditions provided in such Acts, for continuing projects or activities (including the costs of direct loans and loan guarantees) that are not otherwise specifically provided for in this joint resolution, that were conducted in fiscal year 2013, and for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were made available in the following appropriations Acts:

(1) The Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2013 (division A of Public Law 113–6), except section 735.

(2) The Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2013 (division B of Public Law 113–6).

(3) The Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2013 (division C of Public Law 113–6).

(4) The Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2013 (division D of Public Law 113–6).

(5) The Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2013 (division E of Public Law 113–6).

(6) The Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013 (division F of Public Law 113–6).

(b) The rate for operations provided by subsection (a) for each account shall be calculated to reflect the full amount of any reduction required in fiscal year 2013 pursuant to—

(1) any provision of division G of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013 (Public Law 113–6), including section 3004; and

(2) the Presidential sequestration order dated March 1, 2013, except as attributable to budget authority made available by—

(A) sections 140(b) or 141(b) of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013 (Public Law 112–175); or

(B) the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013 (Public Law 113–2).

SEC. 102. (a) No appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 for the Department of Defense shall be used for: (1) the new production of items not funded for production in fiscal year 2013 or prior years; (2) the increase in production rates above those sustained with fiscal year 2013 funds; or (3) the initiation, resumption, or continuation of any project, activity, operation, or organization (defined as any project, subproject, activity, budget activity, program element, and subprogram within a program element, and for any investment items defined as a P–1 line item in a budget activity within an appropriation account and an R–1 line item that includes a program element and subprogram element within an appropriation account) for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were not available during fiscal year 2013.

(b) No appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 for the Department of Defense shall be used to initiate multi-year procurements utilizing advance procurement funding for economic order quantity procurement unless specifically appropriated later.

SEC. 103. Appropriations made by section 101 shall be available to the extent and in the manner that would be provided by the pertinent appropriations Act.

SEC. 104. Except as otherwise provided in section 102, no appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 shall be used to initiate or resume any project or activity for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were not available during fiscal year 2013.

SEC. 105. Appropriations made and authority granted pursuant to this joint resolution shall cover all obligations or expenditures incurred for any project or activity during the period for which funds or authority for such project or activity are available under this joint resolution.

SEC. 106. Unless otherwise provided for in this joint resolution or in the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2014, appropriations and funds made available and authority granted pursuant to this joint resolution shall be available until whichever of the following first occurs: (1) the enactment into law of an appropriation for any project or activity provided for in this joint resolution; (2) the enactment into law of the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2014 without any provision for such project or activity; or (3) January 15, 2014.

SEC. 107. Expenditures made pursuant to this joint resolution shall be charged to the applicable appropriation, fund, or authorization whenever a bill in which such applicable appropriation, fund, or authorization is contained is enacted into law.

SEC. 108. Appropriations made and funds made available by or authority granted pursuant to this joint resolution may be used without regard to the time limitations for submission and approval of apportionments set forth in section 1513 of title 31, United

States Code, but nothing in this joint resolution may be construed to waive any other provision of law governing the apportionment of funds.

SEC. 109. Notwithstanding any other provision of this joint resolution, except section 106, for those programs that would otherwise have high initial rates of operation or complete distribution of appropriations at the beginning of fiscal year 2014 because of distributions of funding to States, foreign countries, grantees, or others, such high initial rates of operation or complete distribution shall not be made, and no grants shall be awarded for such programs funded by this joint resolution that would impinge on final funding prerogatives.

SEC. 110. This joint resolution shall be implemented so that only the most limited funding action of that permitted in the joint resolution shall be taken in order to provide for continuation of projects and activities.

SEC. 111. (a) For entitlements and other mandatory payments whose budget authority was provided in appropriations Acts for fiscal year 2013, and for activities under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, activities shall be continued at the rate to maintain program levels under current law, under the authority and conditions provided in the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2013, to be continued through the date specified in section 106(3).

(b) Notwithstanding section 106, obligations for mandatory payments due on or about the first day of any month that begins after October 2013 but not later than 30 days after the date specified in section 106(3) may continue to be made, and funds shall be available for such payments.

SEC. 112. Amounts made available under section 101 for civilian personnel compensation and benefits in each department and agency may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to avoid furloughs within such department or agency, consistent with the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2013, except that such authority provided under this section shall not be used until after the department or agency has taken all necessary actions to reduce or defer non-personnel-related administrative expenses.

SEC. 113. Funds appropriated by this joint resolution may be obligated and expended notwithstanding section 10 of Public Law 91–672 (22 U.S.C. 2412), section 15 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2680), section 313 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995 (22 U.S.C. 6212), and section 504(a)(1) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3094(a)(1)).

SEC. 114. (a) Each amount incorporated by reference in this joint resolution that was previously designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 or as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of such Act is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of such Act or as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of such Act, respectively.

(b) Of the amounts made available by section 101 for ''Social Security Administration, Limitation on Administrative Expenses'' for the cost associated with continuing disability reviews under titles II and XVI of the Social Security Act and for the cost associated with conducting redeterminations of eligibility under title XVI of the Social Security Act, $273,000,000 is provided to meet the terms of section 251(b)(2)(B)(ii)(III) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, and $469,639,000 is additional new budget authority specified for purposes of section 251(b)(2)(B) of such Act.

(c) Section 5 of Public Law 113–6 shall apply to amounts designated in subsection (a) for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism.

SEC. 115. (a) Employees furloughed as a result of any lapse in appropriations which begins on or about October 1, 2013, shall be compensated at their standard rate of compensation, for the period of such lapse in appropriations, as soon as practicable after such lapse in appropriations ends.

(b) For purposes of this section, ''employee'' means:

(1) a federal employee;

(2) an employee of the District of Columbia Courts;

(3) an employee of the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia; or

(4) a District of Columbia Government employee.

(c) All obligations incurred in anticipation of the appropriations made and authority granted by this joint resolution for the purposes of maintaining the essential level of activity to protect life and property and bringing about orderly termination of Government functions, and for purposes as otherwise authorized by law, are hereby ratified and approved if otherwise in accord with the provisions of this joint resolution.

SEC. 116. (a) If a State (or another Federal grantee) used State funds (or the grantee's non-Federal funds) to continue carrying out a Federal program or furloughed State employees (or the grantee's employees) whose compensation is advanced or reimbursed in whole or in part by the Federal Government—

(1) such furloughed employees shall be compensated at their standard rate of compensation for such period;

(2) the State (or such other grantee) shall be reimbursed for expenses that would have been paid by the Federal Government during such period had appropriations been available, including the cost of compensating such furloughed employees, together with interest thereon calculated under section 6503(d) of title 31, United States Code; and

(3) the State (or such other grantee) may use funds available to the State (or the grantee) under such Federal program to reimburse such State (or the grantee), together with interest thereon calculated under section 6503(d) of title 31, United States Code.

(b) For purposes of this section, the term ''State'' and the term ''grantee'' shall have the meaning as such term is defined under the applicable Federal program under subsection (a). In addition, ''to continue carrying out a Federal program'' means the continued performance by a State or other Federal grantee, during the period of a lapse in appropriations, of a Federal program that the State or such other grantee had been carrying out prior to the period of the lapse in appropriations.

(c) The authority under this section applies with respect to any period in fiscal year 2014 (not limited to periods beginning or ending after the date of the enactment of this joint resolution) during which there occurs a lapse in appropriations with respect to any department or agency of the Federal Government which, but for such lapse in appropriations, would have paid, or made reimbursement relating to, any of the expenses referred to in this section with respect to the program involved. Payments and reimbursements under this authority shall be made only to the extent and in amounts provided in advance in appropriations Acts.

SEC. 117. Expenditures made pursuant to the Pay Our Military Act (Public Law 113–39) shall be charged to the applicable appropriation, fund, or authorization provided in this joint resolution.

SEC. 118. For the purposes of this joint resolution, the time covered by this joint resolution shall be considered to have begun on October 1, 2013.

SEC. 119. Section 3003 of division G of Public Law 113–6 shall be applied to funds appropriated by this joint resolution by substituting ''fiscal year 2014'' for ''fiscal year 2013'' each place it appears.

SEC. 120. Section 408 of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1736b) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution for ''December 31, 2012''.

SEC. 121. Amounts made available under section 101 for ''Department of Commerce—National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—Procurement, Acquisition and Construction'' may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to maintain the planned launch schedules for the Joint Polar Satellite System and the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite system.

SEC. 122. The authority provided by sections 1205 and 1206 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (Public Law 112–81) shall continue in effect, notwithstanding subsection (h) of section 1206, through the earlier of the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution or the date of the enactment of an Act authorizing appropriations for fiscal year 2014 for military activities of the Department of Defense.

SEC. 123. Section 3(a)(6) of Public Law 100–676 is amended by striking both occurrences of ''$775,000,000'' and inserting in lieu thereof, ''$2,918,000,000''.

SEC. 124. Section 14704 of title 40, United States Code, shall be applied to amounts made available by this joint resolution by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution for ''October 1, 2012''.

SEC. 125. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for ''The Judiciary—Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services—Salaries and Expenses'' at a rate of operations of $4,820,181,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 302 of Division C, of Public Law 112–74 as continued by Public Law 113–6, not to exceed $25,000,000 shall be available for transfer between accounts to maintain minimum operating levels.

SEC. 126. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for ''The Judiciary—Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services—Defender Services'' at a rate for operations of $1,012,000,000.

SEC. 127. Notwithstanding any other provision of this joint resolution, the District of Columbia may expend local funds under the heading ''District of Columbia Funds'' for such programs and activities under title IV of H.R. 2786 (113th Congress), as reported by the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, at the rate set forth under ''District of Columbia Funds—Summary of Expenses'' as included in the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Request Act of 2013 (D.C. Act 20–127), as modified as of the date of the enactment of this joint resolution.

SEC. 128. Section 302 of the Universal Service Anti-deficiency Temporary Suspension Act is amended by striking ''December 31, 2013'', each place it appears and inserting ''January 15, 2014''.

SEC. 129. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for the ''Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board'' at a rate for operations of $3,100,000.

SEC. 130. For the period covered by this joint resolution, section 550(b) of Public Law 109–295 (6 U.S.C. 121 note) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution for ''October 4, 2013''.

SEC. 131. The authority provided by section 532 of Public Law 109–295 shall continue in effect through the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution.

SEC. 132. The authority provided by section 831 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 391) shall continue in effect through the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution.

SEC. 133. (a) Any amounts made available pursuant to section 101 for ''Department of Homeland Security—U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Salaries and Expenses'', ''Department of Homeland Security—U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Border Security Fencing, Infrastructure, and Technology'', ''Department of Homeland Security—U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Air and Marine Operations'', and ''Department of Homeland Security—U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Salaries and Expenses'' shall be obligated at a rate for operations as necessary to respectively—

(1) sustain the staffing levels of U.S. Customs and Border Protection Officers, equivalent to the staffing levels achieved on September 30, 2013, and comply with the last proviso under the heading ''Department of Homeland Security—U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Salaries and Expenses'' in division D of Public Law 113–6;

(2) sustain border security operations, including sustaining the operation of Tethered Aerostat Radar Systems;

(3) sustain necessary Air and Marine operations; and

(4) sustain the staffing levels of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents, equivalent to the staffing levels achieved on September 30, 2013, and comply with the sixth proviso under the heading ''Department of Homeland Security—U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Salaries and Expenses'' in division D of Public Law 113–6.

(b) The Secretary of Homeland Security shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on each use of the authority provided in this section.

SEC. 134. Section 810 of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6809) shall be applied by substituting ''11 years'' for ''10 years''.

SEC. 135. In addition to the amount otherwise provided by section 101 for ''Department of the Interior—Department-wide Programs—Wildland Fire Management'', there is appropriated $36,000,000 for an additional amount for fiscal year 2014, to remain available until expended, for urgent wildland fire suppression activities: *Provided*, That of the funds provided, $15,000,000 is for burned area rehabilitation: *Provided further*, That such funds shall only become available if funds previously provided for wildland fire suppression will be exhausted imminently and the Secretary of the Interior notifies the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate in writing of the need for these additional funds: *Provided further*, That such funds are also available for transfer to other appropriations accounts to repay amounts previously transferred for wildfire suppression.

SEC. 136. In addition to the amount otherwise provided by section 101 for ''Department of Agriculture—Forest Service—Wildland Fire Management'', there is appropriated $600,000,000 for an additional amount for fiscal year 2014, to remain available until expended, for urgent wildland fire suppression activities: *Provided*, That such funds shall only become available if funds previously provided for wildland fire suppression will be exhausted imminently and the Secretary of Agriculture notifies the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate in writing of the need for these additional funds: *Provided further*, That such funds are also available for transfer to other appropriations accounts to repay amounts previously transferred for wildfire suppression.

SEC. 137. The authority provided by section 347 of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (as contained in section 101(e) of division A of Public Law 105–277; 16 U.S.C. 2104 note) shall continue in effect through the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution.

SEC. 138. (a) The authority provided by subsection (m)(3) of section 8162 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2000 (40 U.S.C. 8903 note; Public Law 106–79), as amended, shall continue in effect through the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution.

(b) For the period covered by this joint resolution, the authority provided by the provisos under the heading ''Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission—Capital Construction'' in division E of Public Law 112–74 shall not be in effect.

SEC. 139. Activities authorized under part A of title IV and section 1108(b) of the Social Security Act (except for activities authorized in section 403(b)) shall continue through the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution in the manner authorized for fiscal year 2013, and out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are hereby appropriated such sums as may be necessary for such purpose.

SEC. 140. Notwithstanding section 101, the matter under the heading ''Department of Labor—Mine Safety and Health Administration—Salaries and Expenses'' in division F of Public Law 112–74 shall be applied to funds appropriated by this joint resolution by substituting ''is authorized to collect and retain up to $2,499,000'' for ''may retain up to $1,499,000''.

SEC. 141. The first proviso under the heading ''Department of Health and Human Services—Administration for Children and Families—Low Income Home Energy Assistance'' in division F of Public Law 112–74 shall be applied to amounts made available by this joint resolution by substituting ''2014'' for ''2012''.

SEC. 142. Amounts provided by section 101 for ''Department of Health and Human Services—Administration for Children and Families—Refugee and Entrant Assistance'' may be obligated up to a rate for operations necessary to maintain program operations at the level provided in fiscal year 2013, as necessary to accommodate increased demand.

SEC. 143. During the period covered by this joint resolution, amounts provided under section 101 for ''Department of Health and Human Services—Office of the Secretary—Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund'' may be obligated at a rate necessary to assure timely execution of planned advanced research and development contracts pursuant to section 319L of the Public Health Service Act, to remain available until expended, for expenses necessary to support advanced research and development pursuant to section 319L of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d–7e) and other administrative expenses of the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority.

SEC. 144. Subsection (b) of section 163 of Public Law 111–242, as amended, is further amended by striking ''2013–2014'' and inserting ''2015–2016''.

SEC. 145. Notwithstanding any other provision of this joint resolution, there is appropriated for payment to Bonnie Englebardt Lautenberg, widow of Frank R. Lautenberg, late a Senator from New Jersey, $174,000.

SEC. 146. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no adjustment shall be made under section 610(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 31) (relating to cost of living adjustments for Members of Congress) during fiscal year 2014.

SEC. 147. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for ''Department of Veterans Affairs—Departmental Administration—General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration'' at a rate for operations of $2,455,490,000.

SEC. 148. The authority provided by the penultimate proviso under the heading ''Department of Housing and Urban Development—Rental Assistance Demonstration'' in division C of Public Law 112–55 shall continue in effect through the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution.

SEC. 149. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for ''Department of Transportation—Federal Aviation Administration—Operations'', at a rate for operations of $9,248,418,000.

SEC. 150. Section 601(e)(1)(B) of division B of Public Law 110–432 shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) for ''4 years after such date''.

SEC. 151. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for ''Maritime Administration—Maritime Security Program'', at a rate for operations of $186,000,000.

SEC. 152. Section 44302 of title 49, United States Code, is amended in paragraph (f) by deleting ''September 30, 2013, and may extend through December 31, 2013'' and inserting ''the date specified in section 106(3) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014'' in lieu thereof.

SEC. 153. Section 44303 of title 49, United States Code, is amended in paragraph (b) by deleting ''December 31, 2013'' and inserting ''the date specified in section 106(3) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014'' in lieu thereof.

SEC. 154. Section 44310 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by deleting ''December 31, 2013'' and inserting ''the date specified in section 106(3) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014'' in lieu thereof.

SEC. 155. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Transportation may obligate not more than $450,000,000 of the amounts made available to carry out section 125 of title 23, United States Code, under chapter 9 of title X of division A of the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013 (Public Law 113–2; 127 Stat. 34) under the heading ''EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAM'' under the heading ''FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS'' under the heading ''FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION'' for emergency relief projects in the State of Colorado arising from damage caused by flooding events in that State in calendar year 2013: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 156. Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, any reference in this division to ''this joint resolution'' shall be deemed a reference to ''this Act''.

SEC. 157. Fourteen days after the Department of Homeland Security submits a report or expenditure plan required under this division to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and House of Representatives, the Secretary shall submit a copy of that report to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

DIVISION B—OTHER MATTERS

VERIFICATION OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND OTHER QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE PROVISION OF ACA PREMIUM AND COST-SHARING SUBSIDIES

SEC. 1001. (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this section as the ''Secretary'') shall ensure that American Health Benefit Exchanges verify that individuals applying for premium tax credits under section 36B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and reductions in cost-sharing under section 1402 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 18071) are eligible for such credits and cost sharing reductions consistent with the requirements of section 1411 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 18081), and, prior to making such credits and reductions available, the Secretary shall certify to the Congress that the Exchanges verify such eligibility consistent with the requirements of such Act.

(b) REPORT BY SECRETARY.—Not later than January 1, 2014, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress that details the procedures employed by American Health Benefit Exchanges to verify eligibility for credits and cost-sharing reductions described in subsection (a).

(c) REPORT BY INSPECTOR GENERAL.—Not later than July 1, 2014, the Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services shall submit to the Congress a report regarding the effectiveness of the procedures and safeguards provided under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act for preventing the submission of inaccurate or fraudulent information by applicants for enrollment in a qualified health plan offered through an American Health Benefit Exchange.

DEFAULT PREVENTION

SEC. 1002. (a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''Default Prevention Act of 2013''.

(b) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than 3 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President may submit to Congress a written certification that absent a suspension of the limit under section 3101(b) of title 31, United States Code, the Secretary of the Treasury would be unable to issue debt to meet existing commitments.

(c) SUSPENSION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3101(b) of title 31, United States Code, shall not apply for the period beginning on the date on which the President submits to Congress a certification under subsection (b) and ending on February 7, 2014.

(2) SPECIAL RULE RELATING TO OBLIGATIONS ISSUED DURING SUSPENSION PERIOD.—Effective February 8, 2014, the limitation in section 3101(b) of title 31, United States Code, as increased by section 3101A of such title and section 2 of the No Budget, No Pay Act of 2013 (31 U.S.C. 3101 note), is increased to the extent that—

(A) the face amount of obligations issued under chapter 31 of such title and the face amount of obligations whose principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States Government (except guaranteed obligations held by the Secretary of the Treasury) outstanding on February 8, 2014, exceeds

(B) the face amount of such obligations outstanding on the date of enactment of this Act.

An obligation shall not be taken into account under subparagraph (A) unless the issuance of such obligation was necessary to fund a commitment incurred by the Federal Government that required payment before February 8, 2014.

(d) DISAPPROVAL.—If there is enacted into law within 22 calendar days after Congress receives a written certification by the President under subsection (b) a joint resolution disapproving the President's exercise of authority to suspend the debt ceiling under subsection (e), effective on the date of enactment of the joint resolution, subsection (c) is amended to read as follows:

''(c) SUSPENSION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3101(b) of title 31, United States Code, shall not apply for the period beginning on the date on which the President submits to Congress a certification under subsection (b) and ending on the date of enactment of the joint resolution pursuant to section 1002(e) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014.

''(2) SPECIAL RULE RELATING TO OBLIGATIONS ISSUED DURING SUSPENSION PERIOD.—Effective on the day after the date of enactment of the joint resolution pursuant to section 1002(e) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014, the limitation in section 3101(b) of title 31, United States Code, as increased by section 3101A of such title and section 2 of the No Budget, No Pay Act of 2013 (31 U.S.C. 3101 note), is increased to the extent that—

''(A) the face amount of obligations issued under chapter 31 of such title and the face amount of obligations whose principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States Government (except guaranteed obligations held by the Secretary of the Treasury) outstanding on the day after the date of enactment of the joint resolution pursuant to section 1002(e) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014, exceeds

''(B) the face amount of such obligations outstanding on the date of enactment of this Act.

An obligation shall not be taken into account under subparagraph (A) unless the issuance of such obligation was necessary to fund a commitment incurred by the Federal Government that required payment before the day after the date of enactment of the joint resolution pursuant to section 1002(e) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014.''.

(e) DISAPPROVAL PROCESS.—

(1) CONTENTS OF JOINT RESOLUTION.—For the purpose of this subsection, the term ''joint resolution'' means only a joint resolution—

(A) disapproving the President's exercise of authority to suspend the debt limit that is introduced within 14 calendar days after the date on which the President submits to Congress the certification under subsection (b);

(B) which does not have a preamble;

(C) the title of which is only as follows: ''Joint resolution relating to the disapproval of the President's exercise of authority to suspend the debt limit, as submitted under section 1002(b) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014 on _____'' (with the blank containing the date of such submission); and

(D) the matter after the resolving clause of which is only as follows: ''That Congress disapproves of the President's exercise of authority to suspend the debt limit, as exercised pursuant to the certification under section 1002(b) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014.''.

(2) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

(A) REPORTING AND DISCHARGE.—Any committee of the House of Representatives to which a joint resolution is referred shall report it to the House of Representatives without amendment not later than 5 calendar days after the date of introduction of a joint resolution described in paragraph (1). If a committee fails to report the joint resolution within that period, the committee shall be discharged from further consideration of the joint resolution and the joint resolution shall be referred to the appropriate calendar.

(B) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—After each committee authorized to consider a joint resolution reports it to the House of Representatives or has been discharged from its consideration, it shall be in order, not later than the sixth day after introduction of a joint resolution under paragraph (1), to move to proceed to consider the joint resolution in the House of Representatives. All points of order against the motion are waived. Such a motion shall not be in order after the House of Representatives has disposed of a motion to proceed on a joint resolution. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion. The motion shall not be debatable. A motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is disposed of shall not be in order.

(C) CONSIDERATION.—The joint resolution shall be considered as read. All points of order against the joint resolution and against its consideration are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to its passage without intervening motion except 2 hours of debate equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent. A motion to reconsider the vote on passage of the joint resolution shall not be in order.

(3) EXPEDITED PROCEDURE IN SENATE.—

(A) RECONVENING.—Upon receipt of a certification under subsection (b), if the Senate would otherwise be adjourned, the majority leader of the Senate, after consultation with the minority leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the Senate that, pursuant to this subsection, the Senate shall convene not later than the thirteenth calendar day after receipt of such certification.

(B) PLACEMENT ON CALENDAR.—Upon introduction in the Senate, the joint resolution shall be immediately placed on the calendar.

(C) FLOOR CONSIDERATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, it is in order at any time during the period beginning on the day after the date on which Congress receives a certification under subsection (b) and ending on the 6th day after the date of introduction of a joint resolution under paragraph (1) (even if a previous motion to the same effect has been disagreed to) to move to proceed to the consideration of the joint resolution, and all points of order against the joint resolution (and against consideration of the joint resolution) are waived. The motion to proceed is not debatable. The motion is not subject to a motion to postpone. A motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is agreed to or disagreed to shall not be in order. If a motion to proceed to the consideration of the joint resolution is agreed to, the joint resolution shall remain the unfinished business until disposed of.

(ii) CONSIDERATION.—Consideration of the joint resolution, and on all debatable motions and appeals in connection therewith, shall be limited to not more than 10 hours, which shall be divided equally between the majority and minority leaders or their designees. A motion further to limit debate is in order and not debatable. An amendment to, or a motion to postpone, or a motion to proceed to the consideration of other business, or a motion to recommit the joint resolution is not in order.

(iii) VOTE ON PASSAGE.—If the Senate has voted to proceed to a joint resolution, the vote on passage of the joint resolution shall occur immediately following the conclusion of consideration of the joint resolution, and a single quorum call at the conclusion of the debate if requested in accordance with the rules of the Senate.

(iv) RULINGS OF THE CHAIR ON PROCEDURE.—Appeals from the decisions of the Chair relating to the application of the rules of the Senate, as the case may be, to the procedure relating to a joint resolution shall be decided without debate.

(4) AMENDMENT NOT IN ORDER.—A joint resolution of disapproval considered pursuant to this subsection shall not be subject to amendment in either the House of Representatives or the Senate.

(5) COORDINATION WITH ACTION BY OTHER HOUSE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If, before passing the joint resolution, one House receives from the other a joint resolution—

(i) the joint resolution of the other House shall not be referred to a committee; and

(ii) the procedure in the receiving House shall be the same as if no joint resolution had been received from the other House, except that the vote on passage shall be on the joint resolution of the other House.

(B) TREATMENT OF JOINT RESOLUTION OF OTHER HOUSE.—If the Senate fails to introduce or consider a joint resolution under this subsection, the joint resolution of the House of Representatives shall be entitled to expedited floor procedures under this subsection.

(C) TREATMENT OF COMPANION MEASURES.—If, following passage of the joint resolution in the Senate, the Senate then receives the companion measure from the House of Representatives, the companion measure shall not be debatable.

(D) CONSIDERATION AFTER PASSAGE.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—If Congress passes a joint resolution, the period beginning on the date the President is presented with the joint resolution and ending on the date the President signs, allows to become law without his signature, or vetoes and returns the joint resolution (but excluding days when either House is not in session) shall be disregarded in computing the calendar day period described in subsection (d).

(ii) DEBATE ON A VETO MESSAGE.—Debate on a veto message in the Senate under this subsection shall be 1 hour equally divided between the majority and minority leaders or their designees.

(6) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE.—This subsection is enacted by Congress—

(A) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate and House of Representatives, respectively, and as such it is deemed a part of the rules of each House, respectively, but applicable only with respect to the procedure to be followed in that House in the case of a joint resolution, and it supersedes other rules only to the extent that it is inconsistent with such rules; and

(B) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change the rules (so far as relating to the procedure of that House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of that House.

This Act may be cited as the ''Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014''.

SA 2005. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2775, making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; as follows:

Amend the title to read: ''An Act making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes.''

SA 2006. Mrs. MURRAY proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution H. Con. Res. 25, establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023; as follows:

Strike all after the resolving clause, and insert the following:

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

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

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

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

TITLE I—RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS

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

TITLE II—RECONCILIATION

Sec. 201. Reconciliation in the Senate.

TITLE III—RESERVE FUNDS

Sec. 301. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to replace sequestration.
Sec. 302. Deficit-neutral reserve funds to promote employment and job growth.
Sec. 303. Deficit-neutral reserve funds to assist working families and children.
Sec. 304. Deficit-neutral reserve funds for early childhood education.
Sec. 305. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for tax relief.
Sec. 306. Reserve fund for tax reform.
Sec. 307. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to invest in clean energy and preserve the environment.
Sec. 308. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for investments in America's infrastructure.
Sec. 309. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for America's servicemembers and veterans.
Sec. 310. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for higher education.
Sec. 311. Deficit-neutral reserve funds for health care.
Sec. 312. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for investments in our Nation's counties and schools.
Sec. 313. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for a farm bill.
Sec. 314. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for investments in water infrastructure and resources.
Sec. 315. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for pension reform.
Sec. 316. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for housing finance reform.
Sec. 317. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for national security.
Sec. 318. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for overseas contingency operations.
Sec. 319. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for terrorism risk insurance.
Sec. 320. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for postal reform.
Sec. 321. Deficit-reduction reserve fund for Government reform and efficiency.
Sec. 322. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve Federal benefit processing.
Sec. 323. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for legislation to improve voter registration and the voting experience in Federal elections.
Sec. 324. Deficit-reduction reserve fund to promote corporate tax fairness.
Sec. 325. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for improving Federal forest management.
Sec. 326. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for financial transparency.
Sec. 327. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to promote manufacturing in the United States.
Sec. 328. Deficit-reduction reserve fund for report elimination or modification.
Sec. 329. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for the minimum wage.
Sec. 330. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve health outcomes and lower costs for children in Medicaid.
Sec. 331. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve Federal workforce development, job training, and reemployment programs.
Sec. 332. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for repeal of medical device tax.
Sec. 333. Deficit-neutral reserve fund prohibiting Medicare vouchers.
Sec. 334. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for equal pay for equal work.
Sec. 335. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to women's health care.
Sec. 336. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to require State-wide budget neutrality in the calculation of the Medicare hospital wage index floor.
Sec. 337. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for the promotion of investment and job growth in United States manufacturing, oil and gas production, and refining sectors.
Sec. 338. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to allow States to enforce State and local use tax laws.
Sec. 339. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to the definition of full-time employee.
Sec. 340. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to the labeling of genetically engineered fish.
Sec. 341. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for the families of America's servicemembers and veterans.
Sec. 342. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to establishing a biennial budget and appropriations process.
Sec. 343. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to the repeal or reduction of the estate tax.
Sec. 344. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for disabled veterans and their survivors.
Sec. 345. Deficit reduction fund for no budget, no OMB pay.
Sec. 346. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating hardrock mining reform.
Sec. 347. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to end ''too big to fail'' subsidies or funding advantage for wall street mega-banks (over $500,000,000,000 in total assets).
Sec. 348. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to authorizing children eligible for health care under laws administered by Secretary of Veterans Affairs to retain such eligibility until age 26.
Sec. 349. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for State and local law enforcement.
Sec. 350. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to establish a national network for manufacturing innovation.

Sec. 351. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to ensure that any carbon emissions standards must be cost effective, based on the best available science, and benefit low-income and middle class families.
Sec. 352. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to address the eligibility criteria for certain unlawful immigrant individuals with respect to certain health insurance plans.
Sec. 353. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to ensure no financial institution is above the law regardless of size.
Sec. 354. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to helping homeowners and small businesses mitigate against flood loss.
Sec. 355. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to restore family health care flexibility by repealing the health savings account and flexible spending account restrictions in the health care law.
Sec. 356. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for BARDA and the BioShield Special Reserve Fund.
Sec. 357. Deficit-reduction reserve fund for postal reform.
Sec. 358. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to broaden the effects of the sequester, including allowing Members of Congress to donate a portion of their salaries to charity or to the Department of the Treasury during sequestration.
Sec. 359. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to ensure the Bureau of Land Management collaborates with western states to prevent the listing of the sage-grouse.
Sec. 360. Deficit-Reduction Reserve Fund for Eminent Domain Abuse Prevention.
Sec. 361. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for export promotion.
Sec. 362. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for the prohibition on funding of the Medium Extended Air Defense System.
Sec. 363. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to increase the capacity of agencies to ensure effective contract management and contract oversight.
Sec. 364. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for investments in air traffic control services.
Sec. 365. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to address prescription drug abuse in the United States.
Sec. 366. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to support rural schools and districts.
Sec. 367. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to strengthen enforcement of free trade agreement provisions relating to textile and apparel articles.
Sec. 368. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to assist low-income seniors.
Sec. 369. Reserve fund to end offshore tax abuses by large corporations.
Sec. 370. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to ensure that domestic energy sources can meet emissions rules.
Sec. 371. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to increasing funding for the inland waterways system.
Sec. 372. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for achieving full auditability of the financial statements of the Department of Defense by 2017.
Sec. 373. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to sanctions with respect to Iran.
Sec. 374. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to prevent restrictions to public access to fishing downstream of dams owned by the Corps of Engineers.
Sec. 375. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to address the disproportionate regulatory burdens on community banks.
Sec. 376. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to authorize provision of per diem payments for provision of services to dependents of homeless veterans under laws administered by Secretary of Veterans Affairs.
Sec. 377. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to support programs related to the nuclear missions of the Department of Defense and the National Nuclear Security Administration.
Sec. 378. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to phase-in any changes to individual or corporate tax systems.
Sec. 379. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to increases in aid for tribal education programs.
Sec. 380. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to expedite exports from the United States.
Sec. 381. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to supporting the reauthorization of the payments in lieu of taxes program at levels roughly equivalent to property tax revenues lost due to the presence of Federal land.
Sec. 382. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to ensure that the United States will not negotiate or support treaties that violate Americans' Second Amendment rights under the Constitution of the United States.
Sec. 383. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to increase funding for Federal investments in biomedical research.
Sec. 384. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to uphold Second Amendment rights and prevent the United States from entering into the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty.

TITLE IV—BUDGET PROCESS

Subtitle A—Budget Enforcement

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

Subtitle B—Other Provisions

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

TITLE V—OTHER MATTERS

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

TITLE I—RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS

SEC. 101. RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Fiscal year 2013: $917,984,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $706,952,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015: $435,783,000,000.

Fiscal year 2016: $406,486,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017: $409,137,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018: $431,136,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019: $504,680,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020: $526,674,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: $511,283,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: $522,724,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: $459,672,000,000.

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

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

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

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

SEC. 102. SOCIAL SECURITY.

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

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

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

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

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

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

SEC. 103. POSTAL SERVICE DISCRETIONARY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.

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

Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $255,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $255,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $262,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $262,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $272,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $272,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $284,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $283,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $295,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $294,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $308,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $307,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $319,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $318,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $332,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $331,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $345,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $344,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $357,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $356,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $371,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $370,000,000.

SEC. 104. MAJOR FUNCTIONAL CATEGORIES.

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

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

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

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

(4) Energy (270):

Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $6,243,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $9,122,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $4,465,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $5,270,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $4,061,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,078,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $4,185,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $3,563,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $4,309,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $3,822,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $4,489,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,105,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $4,622,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,316,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $4,803,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,538,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $4,875,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,696,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $5,000,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,862,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $5,072,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,913,000,000.
(5) Natural Resources and Environment (300):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $44,150,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $41,682,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $43,019,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $43,121,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $42,872,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $43,165,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $44,055,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $44,394,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $45,500,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $45,681,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $47,245,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $47,014,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $48,036,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $48,112,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $49,596,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $49,435,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $50,174,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $50,074,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $51,331,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $50,862,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $52,759,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $51,703,000,000.
(6) Agriculture (350):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $22,373,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $28,777,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $22,550,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $21,136,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $20,180,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,909,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $19,717,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,283,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $19,780,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,289,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $19,613,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,087,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $19,908,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,301,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $20,379,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,878,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $20,588,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $20,116,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $21,105,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $20,626,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $21,421,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $20,959,000,000.
(7) Commerce and Housing Credit (370):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $−30,498,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−24,504,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $16,201,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,408,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $10,733,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−2,394,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $11,112,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−4,110,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $11,827,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−5,624,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $14,224,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−3,938,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $16,885,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−6,483,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $16,984,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−6,238,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $17,099,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−981,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $17,226,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−2,004,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $17,334,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−3,032,000,000.
(8) Transportation (400):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $100,501,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $93,656,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $88,556,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $94,621,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $88,419,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $95,092,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $89,319,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $95,855,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $90,186,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $96,577,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $91,115,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $96,478,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $91,977,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $97,757,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $93,143,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $99,308,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $94,330,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $101,593,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $95,586,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $103,395,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $96,864,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $105,364,000,000.
(9) Community and Regional Development (450):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $51,911,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $38,409,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $24,995,500,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,779,500,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $25,362,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $31,033,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $25,808,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,233,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $26,360,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,216,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $26,442,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,660,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $26,610,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,831,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $27,212,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,873,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $27,828,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,154,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $28,461,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,487,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $29,098,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,953,000,000.
(10) Education, Training, Employment, and Social Services (500):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $77,536,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $82,279,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $78,349,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $86,546,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $89,537,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $96,269,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $106,927,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $98,922,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $117,961,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $111,494,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $123,744,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $122,679,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $119,139,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $117,997,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $120,411,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $119,806,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $122,546,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $121,459,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $124,565,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $123,422,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $126,825,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $125,845,000,000.
(11) Health (550):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $365,206,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $361,960,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $420,326,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $415,573,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $500,356,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $493,639,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $554,680,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $560,173,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $611,908,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $614,248,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $648,773,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $648,945,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $685,879,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $684,985,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $732,529,000,000.

(B) Outlays, $721,193,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $764,934,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $763,469,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $808,026,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $806,172,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $852,829,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $851,028,000,000.
(12) Medicare (570):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $511,692,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $511,240,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $535,596,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $535,067,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $540,503,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $540,205,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $586,873,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $586,662,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $602,495,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $602,085,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $626,619,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $626,319,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $687,071,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $686,851,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $734,468,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $734,051,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $782,452,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $782,386,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $855,410,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $855,061,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $883,491,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $883,062,000,000.
(13) Income Security (600):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $544,094,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $542,998,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $530,103,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $526,954,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $528,197,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $524,043,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $537,117,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $536,196,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $536,006,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $531,153,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $538,914,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $529,716,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $565,188,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $560,677,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $578,159,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $573,775,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $592,348,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $587,965,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $611,644,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $612,070,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $619,422,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $614,921,000,000.
(14) Social Security (650):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $52,803,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $52,883,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $27,506,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,616,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $30,233,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $30,308,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $33,369,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $33,407,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $36,691,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $36,691,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $40,005,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $40,005,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $43,421,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $43,421,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $46,954,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $46,954,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $50,474,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $50,474,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $54,235,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $54,235,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $58,441,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $58,441,000,000.
(15) Veterans Benefits and Services (700):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $140,646,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $138,860,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $145,488,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $145,254,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $150,218,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $149,672,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $162,493,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $161,876,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $161,405,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $160,549,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $159,902,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $159,031,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $171,529,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $170,622,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $176,188,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $175,286,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $180,118,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $179,169,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $191,846,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $190,875,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $188,517,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $187,433,000,000.
(16) Administration of Justice (750):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $53,094,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $57,120,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $66,526,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $55,445,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $56,476,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $57,912,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $59,937,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $62,665,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $59,940,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $65,090,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $61,751,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $63,405,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $63,708,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $63,959,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $65,672,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $65,153,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $67,840,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $67,246,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $70,695,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $70,066,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $76,218,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $75,564,000,000.
(17) General Government (800):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $24,000,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,263,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $23,616,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,527,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $24,258,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,540,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $24,995,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,616,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $25,640,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $25,247,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $26,497,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,039,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $27,377,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,724,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $28,210,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,520,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $29,089,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $28,437,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $29,996,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,353,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $30,900,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $30,304,000,000.
(18) Net Interest (900):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $331,271,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $331,271,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $342,703,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $342,703,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $370,274,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $370,274,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $419,485,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $419,485,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $506,103,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $506,103,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $608,623,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $608,623,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $683,623,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $683,623,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $752,067,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $752,067,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $806,870,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $806,870,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $859,077,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $859,077,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $905,971,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $905,971,000,000.
(19) Allowances (920):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $99,868,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $3,853,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $31,869,500,000.
(B) Outlays, $39,233,500,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $1,469,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $32,941,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $−35,734,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $2,211,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $−42,592,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−20,253,000,000.

Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $−51,675,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−36,471,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $−61,088,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−48,910,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $−68,207,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−61,194,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $−76,108,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−70,697,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $−84,378,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−80,463,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $−92,680,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−89,556,000,000.
(20) Undistributed Offsetting Receipts (950):
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $−76,489,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−76,489,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $−75,946,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−75,946,000,000.
Fiscal year 2015:
(A) New budget authority, $−80,864,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−80,864,000,000.
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, $−86,391,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−86,391,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, $−90,137,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−90,137,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $−90,503,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−90,503,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $−97,574,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−97,574,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $−98,916,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−98,916,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $−103,177,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−103,177,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $−105,117,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−105,117,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $−108,885,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $−108,885,000,000.

TITLE II—RECONCILIATION

SEC. 201. RECONCILIATION IN THE SENATE.

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

TITLE III—RESERVE FUNDS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that provide tax relief, including extensions of expiring tax relief or refundable

tax relief, relief that supports innovation by United States enterprises, relief for low and middle income families or relief that expands the ability of startup companies to benefit from the credit for research and experimentation expenses, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that the provisions in such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

SEC. 306. RESERVE FUND FOR TAX REFORM.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(6) greenhouse gas emissions levels;

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

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

(9) wildland fire management activities;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

the reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–393) or make changes to chapter 69 of title 31, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Payments in Lieu of Taxes Act of 1976''), or both, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that make changes to or provide for the reauthorization of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act (Public Law 107–297; 116 Stat. 2322), by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may reduce the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to corporate income taxes, which may include measures addressing loopholes used by large profitable corporations that pay no Federal income tax and use

such savings to reduce the deficit. The Chairman may also make adjustment to the Senate's pay-as-you-go ledger over 6 and 11 years to ensure that the deficit reduction achieved is used for deficit reduction only. The adjustments authorized under this section shall be of the amount of deficit reduction achieved.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(b) MEDICALLY COMPLEX CHILDREN.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that improve the health outcomes and lowers costs for medically complex children in Medicaid, which may include creating or expanding integrated delivery models or improving care coordination, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this

resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would adjust Medicare outlays, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(1) expanding educational opportunities;

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

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

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

(5) improving military housing;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to authorizing children who are eligible to receive health care furnished under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to retain such eligibility until

age 26, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to providing better coordination among flood mitigation programs to meet the unmet mitigation needs of homeowners and small businesses, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget shall reduce allocations, pursuant to section 302(a) of the Congressional

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to the establishment of the Office of Rural Education Policy within the Department of Education, which could include a clearinghouse for information related to the challenges of rural schools and districts or providing technical assistance within the Department of Education on rules and regulations that impact rural schools and districts, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to achieving full auditability of the financial statements Department of Defense

by 2017, without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports relating to the phase-in of any changes to the individual or corporate tax systems, including any changes to individual or corporate income tax exclusions, exemptions, deductions, or credits, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Amendment rights, which shall include preventing the United States from entering into the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit or revenues over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2018 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

TITLE IV— BUDGET PROCESS

Subtitle A—Budget Enforcement

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

(a) SENATE POINT OF ORDER.—

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

(2) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEALS.—

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

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

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

(1) for fiscal year 2013—

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

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

(2) for fiscal year 2014—

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

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

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

(c) ADJUSTMENTS IN THE SENATE.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(3) ADJUSTMENTS FOR OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS.—

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

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

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

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

(iv) conference reports;

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

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

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

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

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

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

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

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

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

SEC. 402. POINT OF ORDER AGAINST ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

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

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

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

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

(2) for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting; and

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

(c) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—

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

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

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

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

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

SEC. 403. ADJUSTMENTS FOR SEQUESTRATION OR SEQUESTRATION REPLACEMENT.

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

(b) ADJUSTMENTS IF AMENDED.—If a measure becomes law that amends the discretionary spending limits established under section 251(c) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the adjustments to discretionary spending limits under section 251(b) of that Act, or the enforcement procedures established under section 251A of that Act or section 901(e) of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may adjust the allocation called

for in section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633(a)) to the appropriate committee or committees of the Senate, and may adjust all other budgetary aggregates, allocations, levels, and limits contained in this resolution, as necessary, consistent with such measure.

SEC. 404. SENATE POINT OF ORDER AGAINST PROVISIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS LEGISLATION THAT CONSTITUTE CHANGES IN MANDATORY PROGRAMS AFFECTING THE CRIME VICTIMS FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the Senate, it shall not be in order to consider any appropriations legislation, including any amendment thereto, motion in relation thereto, or conference report thereon, that includes any provision or provisions affecting the Crime Victims Fund (as established by section 1402 of Public Law 98–473 (42 U.S.C. 10601)) which constitutes a change in a mandatory program that would have been estimated as affecting direct spending or receipts under section 252 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (as in effect prior to September 30, 2002) were they included in legislation other than appropriations legislation. A point of order pursuant to this section shall be raised against such provision or provisions as described in subsections (d) and (e).

(b) DETERMINATION.—The determination of whether a provision is subject to a point of order pursuant to this section shall be made by the Committee on the Budget of the Senate.

(c) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—This section may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn. An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

(d) GENERAL POINT OF ORDER.—It shall be in order for a Senator to raise a single point of order that several provisions of a bill, resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report violate this section. The Presiding Officer may sustain the point of order as to some or all of the provisions against which the Senator raised the point of order. If the Presiding Officer so sustains the point of order as to some of the provisions (including provisions of an amendment, motion, or conference report) against which the Senator raised the point of order, then only those provisions (including provision of an amendment, motion, or conference report) against which the Presiding Officer sustains the point of order shall be deemed stricken pursuant to this section. Before the Presiding Officer rules on such a point of order, any Senator may move to waive such a point of order as it applies to some or all of the provisions against which the point of order was raised. Such a motion to waive is amendable in accordance with rules and precedents of the Senate. After the Presiding Officer rules on such a point of order, any Senator may appeal the ruling of the Presiding Officer on such a point of order as it applies to some or all of the provisions on which the Presiding Officer ruled.

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

SEC. 405. SUPERMAJORITY ENFORCEMENT.

Section 425(a)(1) and (2) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 shall be subject to the waiver and appeal requirements of subsections (c)(2) and (d)(3) of section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

SEC. 406. PROHIBITING THE USE OF GUARANTEE FEES AS AN OFFSET.

(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to ensure that increases in guarantee fees charged by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac shall not be used to offset provisions that increase the deficit.

(b) BUDGETARY RULE.—In the Senate, for purposes of determining budgetary impacts to evaluate points of order under this resolution and the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, this resolution, any previous resolution, and any subsequent budget resolution, provisions contained in any bill, resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that increases any guarantee fees of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac shall not be scored with respect to the level of budget authority, outlays, or revenues contained in such legislation.

Subtitle B—Other Provisions

SEC. 411. OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE.

In the Senate, all committees are directed to review programs and tax expenditures within their jurisdiction to identify waste, fraud, abuse, or duplication, and increase the use of performance data to inform committee work. Committees are also directed to review the matters for congressional consideration identified on the Government Accountability Office's High Risk list and the annual report to reduce program duplication. Based on these oversight efforts and performance reviews of programs within their jurisdiction, committees are directed to include recommendations for improved governmental performance in their annual views and estimates reports required under section 301(d) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to the Committees on the Budget.

SEC. 412. BUDGETARY TREATMENT OF CERTAIN DISCRETIONARY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.

In the Senate, notwithstanding section 302(a)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, section 13301 of the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990, and section 2009a of title 39, United States Code, the joint explanatory statement accompanying the conference report on any concurrent resolution on the budget shall include in its allocations under section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to the Committees on Appropriations amounts for the discretionary administrative expenses of the Social Security Administration and of the Postal Service.

SEC. 413. APPLICATION AND EFFECT OF CHANGES IN ALLOCATIONS AND AGGREGATES.

(a) APPLICATION.—Any adjustments of allocations and aggregates made pursuant to this resolution shall—

(1) apply while that measure is under consideration;

(2) take effect upon the enactment of that measure; and

(3) be published in the Congressional Record as soon as practicable.

(b) EFFECT OF CHANGED ALLOCATIONS AND AGGREGATES.—Revised allocations and aggregates resulting from these adjustments shall be considered for the purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 as allocations and aggregates contained in this resolution.

(c) BUDGET COMMITTEE DETERMINATIONS.—For purposes of this resolution the levels of new budget authority, outlays, direct spending, new entitlement authority, revenues, deficits, and surpluses for a fiscal year or period of fiscal years shall be determined on the basis of estimates made by the Committee on the Budget of the Senate.

SEC. 414. ADJUSTMENTS TO REFLECT CHANGES IN CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS.

Upon the enactment of a bill or joint resolution providing for a change in concepts or definitions, the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may make adjustments to the levels and allocations in this resolution in accordance with section 251(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 415. EXERCISE OF RULEMAKING POWERS.

Congress adopts the provisions of this title—

(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate, and as such they shall be considered as part of the rules of the Senate and such rules shall supersede other rules only to the extent that they are inconsistent with such other rules; and

(2) with full recognition of the constitutional right of the Senate to change those rules at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as is the case of any other rule of the Senate.

SEC. 416. CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE ESTIMATES.

(a) REQUEST FOR SUPPLEMENTAL ESTIMATES.—In the case of any legislative provision to which this section applies, the Congressional Budget Office, with the assistance of the Joint Committee on Taxation, shall prepare, to the extent practicable, as a supplement to the cost estimate for legislation affecting revenues, an estimate of the revenue changes in connection with such provision that incorporates the macroeconomic effects of the policy being analyzed. Any macroeconomic impact statement under the preceding sentence shall be accompanied by a written statement fully disclosing the economic, technical, and behavioral assumptions that were made in producing—

(1) such estimate; and

(2) the conventional estimate in connection with such provision.

(b) LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS TO WHICH THIS SECTION APPLIES.—This section shall apply to any legislative provision—

(1) which proposes a change or changes to law that the Congressional Budget Office determines, pursuant to a conventional fiscal estimate, has a revenue impact in excess of $5,000,000,000 in any fiscal year; or

(2) with respect to which the chair or ranking member of the Committee on the Budget of either the Senate or the House of Representatives has requested an estimate described in subsection (a).

TITLE V—OTHER MATTERS

SEC. 501. TO REQUIRE TRANSPARENT REPORTING ON THE ONGOING COSTS TO TAXPAYERS OF OBAMACARE.

When the Congressional Budget Office releases its annual Update to the Budget and Economic Outlook, the Congressional Budget Office shall report changes in direct spending and revenue associated with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111–148) and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–152), including the net impact on deficit, both with on-budget and off-budget

effects. The information shall be similar to that provided in Table 2 of the Congressional Budget Office's March 20, 2010 estimate of the budgetary effects of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), as passed by the Senate.

SEC. 502. TO REQUIRE FULLER REPORTING ON POSSIBLE COSTS TO TAXPAYERS OF OBAMACARE.

When the Congressional Budget Office releases its annual update to the Budget and Economic Outlook, the Congressional Budget Office shall provide an analysis of the budgetary effects of 30 percent, 50 percent, and 100 percent of Americans losing employer sponsored health insurance and accessing coverage through Federal or State exchanges.

SEC. 503. TO REQUIRE FULLER REPORTING ON POSSIBLE COSTS TO TAXPAYERS OF ANY BUDGET SUBMITTED BY THE PRESIDENT.

When the Congressional Budget Office submits its report to Congress relating to a budget submitted by the President for a fiscal year under section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, such report shall contain—

(1) an estimate of the pro rata cost for taxpayers who will file individual income tax returns for taxable years ending during such fiscal year of any deficit that would result from the budget; and

(2) an analysis of the budgetary effects described in paragraph (1).

SEC. 504. SENSE OF SENATE ON UNDERUTILIZED FACILITIES OF THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION AND THEIR POTENTIAL USE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds the following:

(1) The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is the ninth largest real property holder of the Federal Government, with more than 124,000 acres and more than 4,900 buildings and other structures with a replacement value of more than $30,000,000,000.

(2) The annual operation and maintenance costs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration have increased steadily, and, as of 2012, the Administration has more than $2,300,000,000 in annual deferred maintenance costs.

(3) According to Office of Inspector General (OIG) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Administration continues to retain real property that is underutilized, does not have identified future mission uses, or is duplicative of other assets in its real property inventory.

(4) The Office of Inspector General, the Government Accountability Office (GAO), and Congress have identified the aging and duplicative infrastructure of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration as a high priority and longstanding management challenge.

(5) In the NASA Authorization Act of 2010, Congress directed the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to examine its real property assets and downsize to fit current and future missions and expected funding levels, paying particular attention to identifying and removing unneeded or duplicative infrastructure.

(6) The Office of Inspector General found at least 33 facilities, including wind tunnels, test stands, airfields, and launch infrastructure, that were underutilized or for which National Aeronautics and Space Administration managers could not identify a future mission use and that the need for these facilities have declined in recent years as a result of changes in the mission focus of the Administration, the condition and obsolescence of some facilities, and the advent of alternative testing methods.

(7) The Office of Inspector General found that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration has taken steps to minimize the costs of continuing to maintain some of these facilities by placing them in an inactive state or leasing them to other parties.

(8) The National Aeronautics and Space Administration has a series of initiatives underway that, in the judgment of the Office of Inspector General, are ''positive steps towards 'rightsizing' its real property footprint'', and the Office of Inspector General has concluded that ''it is imperative that NASA move forward aggressively with its infrastructure reduction efforts''.

(9) Existing and emerging United States commercial launch and exploration capabilities are providing cargo transportation to the International Space Station and offer the potential for providing crew support, access to the International Space Station, and missions to low Earth orbit while the National Aeronautics and Space Administration focuses its efforts on heavy-lift capabilities and deep space missions.

(10) National Aeronautics and Space Administration facilities and property that are underutilized, duplicative, or no longer needed for Administration requirements could be utilized by commercial users and State and local entities, resulting in savings for the Administration and a reduction in the burden of the Federal Government to fund space operations.

(b) SENSE OF SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the levels in this concurrent resolution assume—

(1) the National Aeronautics and Space Administration should move forward with plans to reduce its infrastructure and, to the greatest extent practicable, make property available for lease to a government or private tenant or report the property to the General Services Administration (GSA) for sale or transfer to another entity;

(2) the National Aeronautics and Space Administration should pursue opportunities for streamlined sale or lease of property and facilities, including for exclusive use, to a private entity, or expedited conveyance or transfer to a State or political subdivision, municipality, instrumentality of a State, or Department of Transportation-licensed launch site operators for the promotion of commercial or scientific space activity and for developing and operating space launch facilities; and

(3) leasing or transferring underutilized facilities and properties to commercial space entities or State or local governments will reduce operation and maintenance costs for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, save money for the Federal Government, and promote commercial space and the exploration goals of the Administration and the United States.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 16, 2013, at 5:30 p.m.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar No. 248, 331, 332, 333, 342, 345, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 360, 363, 364, 365, 366, 368, 369, 370, 373, 374, 375, and 376; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; that 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 to any of the nominations; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Stephen Woolman Preston, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Defense.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

Ranee Ramaswamy, of Minnesota, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2018.

Rick Lowe, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2018.

Olga Viso, of Minnesota, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2018.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Nisha Desai Biswal, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs.

OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

Roberto R. Herencia, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation for a term expiring December 17.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Gregory Dainard Winfree, of New York to be Administrator of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, Department of Transportation.

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Christopher A. Hart, of Colorado, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term expiring December 31, 2017.

Deborah A. P. Hersman, of Virginia, to be Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term of two years.

Deborah A. P. Hersman, of Virginia, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term expiring December 31, 2018.

THE JUDICIARY

Kevin A. Ohlson, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces for the term of fifteen years to expire on the date prescribed by law.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Zachary Thomas Fardon, of Illinois, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois for the term of four years.

FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY

Carol Waller Pope, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years expiring July 1, 2014.

Ernest W. Dubester, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years expiring July 29, 2017.

Patrick Pizzella, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years expiring July 1, 2015.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Steven Eaton Bunnell, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Julia Frifield, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs).

Caroline Kennedy, of New York, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Japan.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Beth F. Cobert, of California, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Scott S. Dahl, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of Labor.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Sylvia I. Garcia, of Michigan, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Transportation.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Bradley Crowell, of Nevada, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs.)

NATIONAL CONSUMER COOPERATIVE BANK

Andrea Levere, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Consumer Cooperative Bank for a term of three years.

CONFIRMATION OF ZACH FARDON

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I am pleased that the Senate has just confirmed Zach Fardon to serve as the next U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois.

Mr. Fardon is going to be an outstanding U.S. Attorney. He has a superb résumé. He served for six years as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in Chicago, where he worked on one of the highest-profile prosecutions in our state's history, the prosecution of Governor George Ryan. He also served for several years as a First Assistant U.S. Attorney in Nashville, which was the number 2 position in that office. Additionally, he has experience working as a public defender in Nashville, which has given him perspective from both sides of the courtroom.

It is hard to imagine a more bipartisan nominee. Senator MARK KIRK and I worked together every step of the way in identifying our next U.S. Attorney. We established a blue-ribbon, bipartisan screening committee to evaluate candidates for this job. Our screening committee highly recommended Mr. Fardon, and Senator KIRK and I agree that Mr. Fardon is an outstanding pick.

Former U.S. Attorney Patrick Fitzgerald, the man whose shoes Mr. Fardon will fill, agrees that he is up to the task. When Mr. Fardon was nominated, Pat Fitzgerald said ''Zach is a wonderful person, a great lawyer and a natural leader.''

I want to commend and thank Gary Shapiro, who has served as Acting U.S. Attorney for over a year, for his service and his excellent work. He has been a tremendous asset to the Northern District of Illinois. But it is important to get Senate-confirmed leadership in place in this office, and I believe Zach Fardon will do an outstanding job.

Now that the Senate has confirmed Mr. Fardon, he can get to work addressing the urgent problems of gang and gun crime in the Northern District of Illinois. I have talked with Mr. Fardon about the need for the U.S. Attorney's office to take a leading role in this fight, and he agrees.

I am glad that the Senate has taken this step today, and I wish Mr. Fardon well as he takes on this new role. I look forward to working with him.

NOMINATION DISCHARGED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Commerce Committee be discharged from further consideration of PN799, Michael P. O'Rielly, and that the nomination be placed on the Executive Calendar.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The nomination is discharged. The nomination is placed on the calendar.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consider the following nomination under the Privileged section of the Executive Calendar: PN131; that the nomination be confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid on the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any related statements be printed in the Record; that President Obama be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The nomination considered and confirmed is as follows:

Michael Wayne Hail, of Kentucky, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation for a term expiring December 10, 2017.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration en bloc of the following resolutions, which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 272, S. Res. 273, and S. Res. 274.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table on each of these three matters, with no intervening action or debate on any of them.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

PROVIDING FOR A CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE SENATE AND AN ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to S. Con. Res. 24.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 24), providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and an adjournment of the House of Representatives.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consideration of the concurrent resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, with no intervening action or debate.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 24) was agreed to, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 24

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That when the Senate recesses or adjourns on any day from Wednesday, October 16, 2013, through Friday, October 25, 2013, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until 12:00 noon on Monday, October 28, 2013, or such other time on that day as may be specified by its Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the House adjourns on any legislative day from Wednesday, October 16, 2013, through Monday, October 21, 2013, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 22, 2013, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, or their respective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the House, shall notify the Members of the Senate and House, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate if, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.J. RES. 80

Mr. REID. Mr. President, H.J. Res. 80, to my understanding, is due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct. The clerk will read the joint resolution by title for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 80) making continuing appropriations for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Indian Education, and the Indian Health Service for fiscal year 2014, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. I object to any further proceedings at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The joint resolution will be placed on the calendar.

SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that during the adjournment or recess of the Senate from Wednesday, October 16, through Monday, October 28, the majority leader and Senators KAINE and ROCKEFELLER be authorized to sign bills or joint resolutions.

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

APPOINTMENTS AUTHORITY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the upcoming recess or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses or by order of the Senate.

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

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to the provisions of 2 U.S.C. 1151, as amended, appoints the following individual to the Board of Trustees of the Open World Leadership Center: The Honorable MARTIN HEINRICH of New Mexico, vice the Honorable CARL LEVIN of Michigan.

Mr. REID. I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order of the quorum call be rescinded.

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

RECESS SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 9:54 p.m., recessed subject to the call of the Chair and reassembled at 11:16 p.m. when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. MURPHY).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that on Wednesday, October 16, Senator BEGICH be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions.

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

RECESS SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 11:16 p.m., recessed subject to the call of the Chair and reassembled at 11:34 p.m. when called to order by the Presiding Officer.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES—S. CON. RES. 8

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate, having received a message from the House with respect to S. Con. Res. 8, agrees to the request for a conference, and the chair appoints Senators MURRAY, WYDEN, NELSON, STABENOW, SANDERS, WHITEHOUSE, WARNER, MERKLEY, COONS, BALDWIN, KAINE, KING, SESSIONS, GRASSLEY, ENZI, CRAPO, GRAHAM, PORTMAN, TOOMEY, JOHNSON of Wisconsin, AYOTTE, and WICKER as conferees on the part of the Senate.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2013, THROUGH MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2013

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn and convene for pro forma sessions only with no business conducted on the following dates and times and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Thursday, October 17, at 12:15 p.m.; Monday, October 21, at 1:30 p.m.; and Thursday, October 24 at 12 noon; that the Senate adjourn on Thursday, October 24, until 2:00 p.m. on Monday, October 28, 2013, unless the Senate receives a message from the House that it has adopted S. Con. Res. 24, the adjournment resolution; that if the Senate receives such a message, the Senate adjourn until 2:00 p.m. on Monday, October 28, 2013; that on Monday, 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 4:30 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each; that following morning business the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 344, Richard Griffin, Jr., to be General Counsel of the NLRB, with up to 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled in the usual form prior to the cloture vote with respect to the Griffin nomination.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, the next rollcall vote will be at 5:30 p.m. on Monday October 28.

CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT UNTIL THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2013, AT 12:15 P.M.

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 11:36 p.m., conditionally adjourned until Thursday, October 17, 2013, at 12:15 p.m.

DISCHARGED NOMINATION

The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of the following nomination by unanimous consent and the nomination was placed on the Executive Calendar:

*MICHAEL P. O'RIELLY, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2014.

*Nominee has committed to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate October 16, 2013:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

STEPHEN WOOLMAN PRESTON, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

RANEE RAMASWAMY, OF MINNESOTA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 3, 2018.

RICK LOWE, OF TEXAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 3, 2018.

OLGA VISO, OF MINNESOTA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 3, 2018.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

NISHA DESAI BISWAL, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SOUTH ASIAN AFFAIRS.

OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

ROBERTO R. HERENCIA, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 17, 2015.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

GREGORY DAINARD WINFREE, OF NEW YORK, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE RESEARCH AND INNOVATIVE

TECHNOLOGY ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

CHRISTOPHER A. HART, OF COLORADO, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2017.

DEBORAH A. P. HERSMAN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS.

DEBORAH A. P. HERSMAN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2018.

THE JUDICIARY

KEVIN A. OHLSON, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE ARMED FORCES FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS TO EXPIRE ON THE DATE PRESCRIBED BY LAW.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ZACHARY THOMAS FARDON, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY

CAROL WALLER POPE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS EXPIRING JULY 1, 2014.

ERNEST W. DUBESTER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS EXPIRING JULY 29, 2017.

PATRICK PIZZELLA, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS EXPIRING JULY 1, 2015.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

STEVAN EATON BUNNELL, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JULIA FRIFIELD, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS).

CAROLINE KENNEDY, OF NEW YORK, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO JAPAN.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

BETH F. COBERT, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR MANAGEMENT, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

SCOTT S. DAHL, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SYLVIA I. GARCIA, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

BRADLEY CROWELL, OF NEVADA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF ENERGY (CONGRESSIONAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS).

NATIONAL CONSUMER COOPERATIVE BANK

ANDREA LEVERE, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL CONSUMER COOPERATIVE BANK FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS.

HARRY S TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

MICHAEL WAYNE HAIL, OF KENTUCKY, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE HARRY S TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 10, 2017.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING JENELL SULLIVAN

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jenell Sullivan for her outstanding dedication and service to the State of Ohio.

Jenell has proudly served the Republican Caucus in the Ohio House of Representatives for over 25 years. She consistently displays high ethics and standards in her job and acts as a role model and counselor for her fellow colleagues. One of Jenell's outstanding achievements has been managing the Page Program, where she has developed many of our young professionals into the leaders they are today. Additionally, Jenell has served as a Fiscal Assistant in the Administrative Office, and she administered the Employee of the Quarter and Take Our Children to Work Day Programs.

I am extremely honored to play a small role in recognizing the career of such as well-respected and appreciated public servant. It is only fitting that her friends and colleagues recognize Jenell's impact on the Ohio House by naming a new award after her: The Jenell Sullivan Page of Distinction Award. This prestigious award will honor pages who meet the highest quality standards that Jenell has displayed throughout her tenure in the Ohio House.

On behalf of the citizens of Ohio's 12th Congressional District, I thank Jenell Sullivan for her spirit and unrelenting service to our community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF DR. J. EUGENE GRIGSBY, JR.

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and contributions of the legendary Phoenix artist, community activist, and my personal friend, J. Eugene Grigsby, Jr. He passed from this life on June 9, 2013 and will be remembered at a memorial service on October 19th at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Phoenix. Dr. Grigsby was an African American artist recognized nationally and internationally as one of America's premier art educators. He was a friend and supporter who spent his life painting, educating, and working as a tireless advocate for community based art programs and social justice.

Dr. Grigsby served on the faculty of Arizona State University (ASU) for 22 years, from 1966–1988. Prior to accepting that post, he had a long history in the Phoenix public school system. He was recruited to Phoenix in 1946 to establish an Art Department at the segregated Carver High School, which closed following the 1954 Brown vs. Board of Education landmark decision. Dr. Grigsby then went to Phoenix Union High School where he again taught Art and served as Chair of the Art Department. He would often let his students pile into his old blue station wagon and take them on field trips to Native American reservations, galleries and even to the home of Frank Lloyd Wright.

Jefferson Eugene Grigsby, Jr., was born in Greensboro, NC, on October 17, 1918. His family settled in Charlotte, NC, when he was 12 years old. Upon graduation from Morehouse College in Atlanta, GA, in 1938, Eugene attended the American Artists School in New York City. Thereafter, Eugene graduated with a Master's degree in Art Education from Ohio State University in 1940.

While teaching at Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, he met and married Rosalyn Thomasena Marshall. In 1942, Eugene volunteered for service in World War II, serving in the European Theater under the 3rd Army's General George Patton. In 1963, Dr. Grigsby received his Ph.D. from New York University.

In 1966, he was awarded the National Gallery of Art's 25th Anniversary Medallion of Merit and in 1992 was inducted into the Arizona History Makers the first year the award was presented. Dr. Grigsby was a prominent member of the National Art Education Association and was a co-founder of its Committee on Multicultural Concerns-which established the J. Eugene Grigsby, Jr. Award for Service to Education in his honor.

Dr. Grigsby also served on numerous boards and professional organizations in the Phoenix community; including, the Arizona Art Education Association; President, Booker T. Washington Child Development Center; Founder and Chair, Coalition of Black Artists and Others for the Arts (COBA); Chair, ABC/Az-Artists of the Black Community; Arizona Opportunities Industrialization Center; Neighborhood Housing Services of Phoenix; the Garfield Neighborhood Association; and the ASU Performing Arts Board.

Eugene Grigsby's art can be seen in private and public collections around the world, including the Library of Congress, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Phoenix Art Museum, and Arizona State University. In December 2012, Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton presented the inaugural Mayor's Arts Award for outstanding visual artist to Dr. Grigsby. After his death, the Award was named in his honor.

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply honored to have known Eugene Grigsby and to have had some of his artwork hang in my congressional district office. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing his many contributions to Phoenix and the global community. We have lost a great artist, teacher, mentor, community activist, and friend. I extend my condolences to his siblings, his sons, his extended family and to all in the Phoenix arts community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, on October 14, 2013, I missed three recorded votes on the House floor. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 547, "yea" on rollcall 548, and "nay" on rollcall 549.

HONORING BILL ROSENDAHL

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Bill Rosendahl, a tireless advocate for the City of Los Angeles and a deserving recipient of the Valley Democrats United Badge of Courage Award.

From 2005 until 2013, Bill was a public servant in the City of Los Angeles and demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the priorities of the city and its people.

Bill has always been a champion of the issues that matter most in his community. Serving the areas of Pacific Palisades, Playa Del Rey, Playa Vista, Venice, Mar Vista, Brentwood, Del Rey, West Los Angeles and Westchester, he has been instrumental in providing affordable housing, supporting neighborhood empowerment initiatives, finding innovative solutions to remedy the city's traffic problems, and was always a champion of government transparency.

During his term as District 11 Councilmember, Bill always ensured that he pushed for projects and investments that truly helped the communities he served. In Del Rey, he helped to restore the USPS mail delivery service to Mar Vista Gardens and worked with Caltrans to address residents' concerns with highway widening plans. In West Los Angeles, Bill's commitment to keep kids out of gangs resulted in the establishment of a youth intervention program at Stoner Recreation Center. Bill also supported a community-friendly modernization of Los Angeles International Airport (LAX).

As a veteran himself, Bill has advocated for and championed numerous projects that serve veterans in the region. Most notably, he supported the construction of the Fisher House in Brentwood to serve families of wounded veterans. Bill also took on the challenge of providing sustainable housing and resources for the thousands of homeless veterans.

During the course of his career, Bill has helped his constituency with the installation of countless stop signs and traffic signals and the repavement of dozens of roads and streets. Additionally, he oversaw the completion of several large city projects and secured

funding to help the city and residents of Los Angeles.

His career and life have always been centered on the ideals of positive change for Los Angeles. As the first openly gay man elected to the Los Angeles City Council, he serves as an inspiration to others and has set an important precedent for other gay leaders to run for office.

I have personally known Bill for many years and I can say that he is an individual who exemplifies compassion, optimism and dedication to public service. His leadership and charisma have created a needed forum for public dialogue and community exchange for which Angelinos will be forever grateful.

Valley Democrats United is honoring Bill for his ''conviction, courage, and integrity'' as an advocate for the homeless, tenants, LGBT rights, and innovative transit solutions. He is also being recognized for his public service and for empowering people through the media. I am pleased to join with the Valley Democrats United in honoring, my friend, Bill Rosendahl.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF BEULAH FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the 75th anniversary of Beulah First Baptist Church and its service to the Northwest Florida community.

Beulah First Baptist Church is the second oldest church in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. Originally known as the First Community Church and then later as the Colored Community Baptist Church, Beulah First Baptist's founding began when its first members were inspired by the desire to learn and heed the Lord's Word. Beginning in 1938, its service to its congregation grew from Bible Study and adult veterans classes held in member homes to an expanded Bible Study and Sunday Church School under the leadership of Reverend O.R. Robinson in 1943. Both the Bible Study and the Sunday Church School are still active today.

Throughout its 75 years, Beulah First Baptist Church has been blessed with the leadership of nine pastors, including: Reverends W. Garrett (1938); H. McNeil (1938); O.R. Robinson (1943); E.W. Thomson (1945); Fitzchew (1952); A.D. Bell, Sr. (1953); David Savage (1969); Matthew Payne, Jr. (1970); and Scottie L. Thigpen (1981 to present).

A true testament to God's work through His people, the Church has experienced much growth over the years, particularly in 1988. This year not only marked the Church's Golden Anniversary, but also a year of many firsts: the Church formed the Women's Fellowship Luncheon, the Church Banquet, and the Intermediate Women's Prayer Breakfast. Additionally, the Church began contributing ten percent of its tithes and offering to local and foreign missions. In recent years, the Church established a singles ministry in 1993 and a Children's Church in 1994. In 1998, Beulah Christian Academy opened its doors as did the Mission Outreach Ministry and the McGriff Office Facility in 2005.

Since its founding, members of Beulah First Baptist Church have helped build God's Kingdom here on earth through their outreach to the citizens of Fort Walton Beach and the surrounding area, and I would like to thank them for their service to Northwest Florida.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pleasure to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Beulah First Baptist Church. My wife Vicki joins me in wishing the Church all the best for continued success. May the Spirit of the Lord continue to bless this Church and its congregation.

TRIBUTE TO HARDEEVILLE-RIDGELAND MIDDLE SCHOOL INCENTIVE PROGRAM

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an innovative program taking place to incentivize students at a Jasper County, South Carolina middle school. Hardeeville-Ridgeland Middle School is in a rural, persistent poverty county where more than 20 percent of its population has lived below the poverty line for the last 30 years. Eighty-eight percent of the students who attend Hardeeville-Ridgeland Middle School qualify for free or reduced lunch. Yet the Jasper County School Superintendent Vashti Washington is working hard to encourage students in this school to focus on their academics raise their self esteem and dream of better of futures.

I am pleased the James E. Clyburn Research and Scholarship Foundation is underwriting the cost of Dr. Washington's program to provide school letters and pins to students at Hardeeville-Ridgeland Middle who meet certain criteria established by the school. Students will be awarded letters and pins for certain levels of achievements in the classroom, on PASS tests, and several other extracurricular activities, just as many schools do for athletics. These letters and pins are intended to set up healthy competition among students and to recognize and incentivize their achievements and performances.

I want to highlight four of the students who have demonstrated the drive and dedication needed to earn this recognition. All four of these students have received ''exemplary'' in at least four areas of PASS testing, which assesses the knowledge of students in the core academic areas of writing, English, math, science, and social studies.

Amber Crosby is an eighth grader who scored exemplary in all five areas of the PASS test. She is an award-winning artist who attended a Visual Arts Summer Academy, and she is also working on her first novel. She is on the principal's honor roll and attributes much of her success to the values instilled in her by her parents who taught her the importance of her diverse heritage, which includes Polish, Russian, Irish, British and Native American descendants. Amber aspires to be an artist or work in veterinary medicine.

Lorena Escobar is an eighth grader from Hardeeville who takes her academics very seriously. An honor roll student, she is currently enrolled in Algebra I Honors, English I Honors and Spanish I. She enjoys drawing and music, and spending time with her parents and her younger sister. Lorena is passionate about eliminating bullying.

Kaleb Frazier is a seventh grade honors student. His favorite subjects are writing and math. He is also very athletic and plays linebacker for the school football team. In his spare time he writes rap music and spends time with his family. Kaleb hopes one day to be an attorney or a computer engineer.

Cynthia Simental-Parra is a seventh grade student from Hardeeville. She loves math and history and describes herself as ''artsy.'' She enjoys singing, drawing and sewing, and is a member of band and chorus. She is also active in track and soccer. Cynthia would like to become a singer, but if that doesn't work out she would consider running for President of the United States.

These are just four of the outstanding students that will be recognized with a school letter from Hardeeville-Ridgeland Middle. It is my sincere hope that they will continue to be wonderful examples to their classmates and that they encourage others to earn their letters as well.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my great appreciation to Superintendent Washington for implementing this visionary program at Hardeeville-Ridgeland Middle School. It is my hope that through such positive reinforcement these and other students will work hard and attain their dreams.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to have it noted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that I was not able to be in Washington on October 14, 2013 for votes because of events in the district.

If I had been here, I would have voted as follows:

On the motion to table the appeal of the ruling of the Chair, roll No. 547, I would have voted ''no.''

On the passage of H.J. Res. 80, roll No. 548, I would have voted ''no.''

On agreeing to the Grayson amendment, roll No. 549, I would have voted ''yes.''

HONORING MIKKI BELVEDERE

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Coconut Creek Commissioner and Vice Mayor, Mikki Belvedere. Mikki's professional achievements and volunteer work have touched countless individuals and organizations throughout our community, and I want to recognize her for her amazing record of service in South Florida.

Mikki has been a visible fixture in South Florida business community for over three decades, having served as President of Belvedere Insurance and Financial Services since

1980. She is also a board member for the Saw Grass Association for Insurance and Financial Advisors. In addition to her successful career in finance, Mikki has been actively involved in local government and was elected to the Coconut Creek Commission as Vice Mayor, where she will serve until 2017. Her record of public and political service extends into her Wynmoor Village and Coconut Creek community, where she serves as President and Program Chair of the Wynmoor Democratic Club and is a member of the Wynmoor Hurricane Emergency Network. Mikki is also a member of the Women's Club of Coconut Creek. Adding to her track record, Mikki chairs several boards in the area, including the Environmental Board of Coconut Creek, the Affordable Housing Committee, and the Coconut Creek Planning and Zoning Board.

In addition to her private sector career and public service, Mikki has dedicated a generous portion of her time to South Florida's Jewish community. Mikki serves as Board Member and Trustee of the Liberal Jewish Temple, where she has helped 10 women become Bat-Mitzvah. She is the founder of the Hebrew Movie Club, and is currently the President of the Yiddish Club in Township. She currently holds membership with the National Council of Jewish Women, Hadassah, Holocaust Survivors' Club, and the Sisterhood of the Beth Shalom Temple, among many others.

I join today with Mikki's family, including her three daughters, five grandchildren and one great grandchild, in honoring Mikki's incredible contributions to our community. I wish her many more years of success in all of her future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. HOWARD JACOBSON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Dr. Howard Jacobson, who passed away on October 9, 2013 at the age of 88. Howard was an incredible man who loved his family and dedicated his life to strengthening the relationship between the public and its media.

Born on August 22, 1925 in Worcester, Massachusetts, Howard learned the value of hard work through selling ice boxes in his father's appliance store. He went on to earn his undergraduate degree at the University of New Mexico, then his graduate degree at the Missouri School of Journalism. Following graduation, Howard worked as a stringer for the Associated Press during World War II and later began a 36-year career as a teaching professor at the University of Bridgeport.

Between his time as a professor and Chair of the Journalism Department at the University of Bridgeport and a professor at Columbia University, Howard encouraged students to expand beyond their traditional means of communication to reach new audiences. His students thrived in this interactive environment that culminated in the circulation of a community newspaper that focused on local issues. Howard reveled in the special relationship between communities and their news, and he passed this enthusiasm onto his students. Testimonies from former students emphasize that Howard always took the time to focus on each and every student, and that his guidance, largely influenced by study of the behavioral sciences, continues to have a powerful impact on their careers today.

Outside of the classroom, Howard participated on the New England Cable Advisory Council for 30 years. He also founded the first Center for the Development for Community Media, which built on the lessons he taught in the classroom. Through the Center, Howard experimented with different means of communicating with the public in the urban media environment and encouraged his students to do the same. Finally, he co-authored several books that focused on the intersection of mass communications theory and technology, and how that connection would shape the future of journalism. All of Howard's work reinforced his belief that the public access to news depended on fiercely protecting first amendment rights and making the most of all available means of dissemination.

Howard leaves behind his wife, Dr. Dana Raphael, and his children Brett, Seth, and Jessa. Full of love and memories, Howard and Dana recently celebrated 60 wonderful years of marriage.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the life of Howard Jacobson, a beloved husband, father, professor, journalist, and friend.

CONGRATULATING DR. ELIAS A. ZERHOUNI

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Elias A. Zerhouni of Fort Lauderdale for his induction into the National Academy of Engineering, an honor he received for his outstanding work on new MRI methods and his national leadership in translational medical research.

Dr. Zerhouni is a prolific researcher and scientist, and his long career illustrates his passion for public service and saving lives.

His story exemplifies the American dream: he came to this country almost 40 years ago from a small village in Algeria, with only $369 in his pocket. Having graduated from medical school in Algeria, he started as a radiology resident at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and rose to the position of Executive Vice Dean of the School of Medicine and the Chair of the Radiology and Radiological Sciences Department at Johns Hopkins University Hospital. After leaving Johns Hopkins, he served as the 15th Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), a position he held from 2002–2008.

His research has led to major advances in CAT Scan and MRI technology. These developments include innovative imaging methods used to diagnose cancer, cardiovascular disease, and pulmonary disease. His accomplishments also include authoring over 200 publications, holding eight patents, and co-founding five companies.

In honor of his induction into the National Academy of Engineering and all his important contributions to public health, I am pleased to recognize Dr. Zerhouni and to thank him for his service to our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, on October 7, 2013, I missed rollcall vote Nos. 527 and 528 for district business. Had I been present I would have voted "no" on both.

HONORING ED HAMM, JR. ON RECEIVING THE HOMETOWN HERO AWARD FROM THE MODERN WOODMEN OF AMERICA

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend, Ed Hamm, Jr. of East Millinocket, Maine, on receiving the Hometown Hero award from the Modern Woodmen of America.

The Hometown Hero award is given to individuals and groups who selflessly commit themselves to their communities, asking for nothing in return. As a coach, business owner, and member of several recreational and fraternal organizations, Ed is truly a renaissance man when it comes to community engagement, and to those who know Ed, it is no mystery why he has been selected to receive this award.

Few people can claim involvement in as many different aspects of their community as Ed. He has served as a basketball coach at the Junior Varsity, Junior High School and Pee Wee levels, including traveling all-star teams. He is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Shriners International, the Masonic Society, and the East Millinocket Recreation Committee. Perhaps most famously, Ed owned and operated the Hamlet Motel, later known as the Hamlet Pub, from 1976 to 2011. The Hamlet served as a home base and meeting point for many in the community, especially the athletes of Schenck High School who frequently enjoyed meals there before major competitions. The Hamlet's slogan, "you are a stranger here but once," truly exemplifies Ed's attitude towards those in his community.

On Thursday, October 17, 2013, at Medway Middle School, Ed Hamm, Jr. will be recognized for his extraordinary record in community service during a dinner and awards ceremony.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in recognizing East Millinocket's Hometown Hero, Ed Hamm, Jr., for his outstanding community service.

RECOGNIZING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF PENSACOLA

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the 80th anniversary of the First Pentecostal Church of Pensacola and its service to Florida's Gulf Coast.

The First Pentecostal Church of Pensacola traces its roots back to the Great Depression and its founder, Pastor David Lamar ''D.L.'' Welch, who preached and established churches across the Nation from California to Florida. His travels eventually brought him to Pensacola in 1933, where he erected a tent revival on ''O'' Street between Strong and DeSoto Streets and baptized 75 members of the Northwest Florida community.

Pastor Welch served the church for two years before embarking again on the evangelistic trail. Reverend Oliver Fauss took over as Pastor until Pastor Welch's return in 1939. In addition to serving the church, Brother Welch played an active role in the community as a District Superintendent and a member of the Florida District Board, as well as, the Chaplain of the Florida Senate under Florida Governor Fuller Warren.

Brother Welch and his wife of seventy years, the former Lottie Mae Holloway, brought up their children in the Pentecostal faith. Their son Paul eventually became Pastor in 1975. Brother Paul, with the help of his wife, Sister Shirley, oversaw the construction of the church and helped expand it into what it has become today.

In 1999, Brian Kinsey was elected Pastor of the First Pentecostal Church and in 2007, Senior Pastor of the church. Today, he and his wife, Lanette, continue to inspire those around them and are committed to bettering the local community.

Throughout its eighty year history, the First Pentecostal Church of Pensacola has held on to the strong, moral framework and religious convictions of its original founders. The church continues to share the word of God with His people. I would like to thank its members and pastoral leadership for their service to Northwest Florida.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pleasure to commemorate the 80th anniversary of First Pentecostal Church of Pensacola. My wife Vicki joins me in wishing the members of the church all the best for continued success. May the Spirit of the Lord continue to bless them.

WORLD FOOD DAY RECOGNITION

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to on behalf of millions of children and families worldwide in danger of starvation.

Each year, malnourishment accounts for almost half of the 6.9 million deaths among children under the age of five. The first 1,000 days between the start of a woman's pregnancy and her child's second birthday are critical to the long term survival of these children. As we recognize World Food Day today, we must do more to support ending maternal and child malnutrition.

That's why I introduced H. Res. 254 with my colleague, Representative MARIO DIAZ-BALART. This resolution raises awareness of the critical 1,000-day window and encourages relevant federal agencies to better coordinate and track nutrition outcomes.

As a mother, it pains me to think of a child dying because he or she doesn't have enough food to eat, especially when our planet produces enough food to feed every man, woman, and child.

I urge my colleagues to join us in cosponsoring H. Res. 254 and give a voice to the millions of vulnerable and hungry children around the world.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS BY THE FOLKS OF THE EATON COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AND THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2013 ALVIN WHITFIELD COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

HON. TIM WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize the contributions made to Mid-Michigan by the folks of the Eaton County Parks and Recreation Commission and to recognize their recipients of the 2013 Alvin Whitfield Community Service Awards.

The Eaton County Parks and Recreation Commission has provided quality recreational activities to the citizens of Eaton County, Michigan since 1970, and are enabled by the help of many individuals, service clubs, and businesses.

The Parks Commission recently acknowledged the service of key contributors by awarding them with the Alvin Whitfield Community Service Award. These individuals exemplify the spirit of service displayed by Alvin Whitfield, a long time Parks Commissioner who has served Eaton County for many years. I am pleased to join the Parks Commission in recognizing the awardees:

Shelli Smith, Jill Sambour, Christine Heverly and Patrick Sustrich for their outstanding volunteer service and commitment to improving the quality of life in Eaton County;

Jill Russell, Joe Bristol, Chuck Pantera, John Hanieski and Rob Piercefield for their leadership role in support of Parks programs, special events and projects;

Aric Prudden, Jeff Smith, Wayne Curtis, Pat Harrington and Sherriff Tom Reich for their energy and leadership in sponsoring and administering unique participatory events to serve children of all ages;

And Valerie Glesnes-Anderson, Julie Powers, Terry VanDoren, Gerald Jaloszynski and Willis Bennett for providing valuable technical assistance, advice and financial support for the operation and management of the Parks.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Alvin Whitfield 2013 Community Service Award nominees and thank them for their efforts that have greatly benefited Eaton County.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HONEY MILLER

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues, Congresswoman GRACE MENG and Congressman STEVE ISRAEL, to commemorate the life and service of Honey Miller. Ms. Miller passed away in her 95th year.

Honey Miller was a loyal and proud Democrat who dedicated her life to strengthening the party and serving her community. Honey began her distinguished career by working on Democratic Leader Louis Wallach's campaign for the State Assembly. When recalling the experience and her introduction to politics, she once said, ''a neighbor asked me to help out on the campaign and I never got out of it.''

She went on to work with the Queens Borough President's office for 17 years and then as a Coordinator for Community Board 11. She was promoted to Deputy Director of Community Boards for the Queens Borough and served as Chair of the Women's Division of the New York State Democratic Party for two years.

In 1972, she was elected as a Democratic Party official as the Queens Democratic District leader for the 24th Assembly District, where she was consistently reelected until her retirement in 2011. Honey was a tireless public servant for the Democratic Party in Queens. As District Leader she was responsible for selecting candidates, working closely with the Queens County Democratic Organization, and strengthening the Democratic Party. Honey founded the Eleanor Roosevelt Democratic Club to increase the Democratic Party's involvement in the community.

Mr. Speaker, Honey was an indispensable asset to Queens. She's been described by others as the ''bedrock of the Democratic Party'' and the ''grand dame of northeast Queens politics.'' With a career that spanned four decades, she truly exemplified the meaning of a public servant.

The legacy that she leaves not only reflects her love for the Democratic Party, but also the admiration she had for the residents of Queens.

Mr. Speaker, for her service to the people of New York and devotion to her family and friends, we ask all of our colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Honey Miller.

HONORING VIRGINIA GALLUP LARSEN, M. ED., M.A./CAGS

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the outstanding contributions made by Virginia Gallup Larsen, M. Ed., M.A./CAGS in improving the lives of children and families across the City of Alexandria and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Ms. Larsen is a 17-year resident of Arlington and a Nationally Certified School Psychologist

with 20 years of experience working with diverse populations in the Washington, DC, metropolitan region. She was recently named 2013 Virginia School Psychologist of the Year by the National Association of School Psychologists. Ms. Larsen is the first school psychologist from the City of Alexandria, where she is in her 13th year with Alexandria City Public Schools.

Ms. Larsen's wide area of expertise allows her to offer a host of comprehensive services to a diverse student population. Areas of expertise include: conducting psychological and educational evaluations, functional behavior assessments, pre-referral intervention consultations, and treatment assessments. She is deeply admired by her colleagues and the families she works with for her dedication and expertise.

After personally observing persistent problems caused by bullying, Ms. Larsen responded by securing a grant to implement the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program. She launched the program in a single school before advocating for its expansion to serve all Alexandria's students. She is now a bullying and violence prevention consultant across the Alexandria school system, providing dozens of free bullying prevention workshops.

Ms. Larsen, in conjunction with physical education teacher Kathy Chmura, worked to establish the Run for Fun program at James K. Polk Elementary School to address the problem of childhood obesity. The program creates an enjoyable physical activity that encourages children to establish healthy lifestyles, set personal goals, increase stamina, and form friendships outside of school.

Ms. Larsen directed and managed the Alexandria City division of the National High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area research project, where she facilitated the treatment component of an intensive outpatient treatment program. She provided therapy to clients and served as a program link to more and less restrictive services.

I am deeply proud of the lasting contributions made by Virginia Gallup Larsen, along with the other hard-working and dedicated Alexandria City Public Schools employees. She is representative of what those working in this under recognized, yet truly essential profession, should strive to attain.

HONORING THE VETERANS OF THE OCTOBER 16, 2013 EASTERN IOWA HONOR FLIGHT

HON. DAVID LOEBSACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, today, over eighty Iowa veterans of World War II and the Korean War have traveled to our nation's capital. Together, they will visit the monuments that were built in their honor by a grateful nation. At a time of great division in our capital, our veterans of the World War II and Korean War generations remind us not only of the best of our great nation but also the unity with which our nation responded to great challenges.

For many of these heroes, today will be the first time they will see the National World War II Memorial and the Korean War Veterans Memorial. I am humbled to have the opportunity to personally thank these heroes on behalf of every Iowan I represent for their service to our nation and to pay tribute to the incredible sacrifice they made for our country.

We owe these heroes a debt of gratitude and the Honor Flight demonstrates that we will never forget the debt we owe those who have worn our nation's uniform. Our World War II and Korean War veterans rose to defend not just our nation, but the freedoms, democracy, and values that make our country the greatest nation on earth. They did so as one people and one country.

The sheer magnitude of what the Greatest Generation accomplished, not just in war but in the peace that followed, continues to inspire us today. Their generation and our country did not seek to be tested but when called upon to do so, they defended and then rebuilt our nation to make it even stronger. Their patriotism, service, and sacrifice not only defined their generation—they stand as a testament to the fortitude of our nation and the American people. Their legacy endures today.

I am tremendously proud to welcome the Eastern Iowa Honor Flight and Iowa's veterans of the Second World War and the Korean War to our nation's capital today. On behalf of every Iowan I represent, I thank them for their service to our country.

RECOGNIZING WOODLAWN CEMETERY AND CELEBRATING CLEAN-UP OUR HISTORY DAY AT WOODLAWN CEMETERY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the historic Woodlawn Cemetery and in celebrating Clean-up our History Day at Woodlawn Cemetery in the District of Columbia on Saturday, October 19, 2013, at 10 a.m.

Woodlawn Cemetery is the final resting place for many prominent African Americans, among them, Blanche K. Bruce, the first African American U.S. Senator; Mercer Langston, the first African American President of Virginia State University, the first dean of Howard University Law School and the first African American Member of Congress from the State of Virginia; and John Willis Menard, the first African American elected to Congress. There are 36,000 African Americans buried at Woodlawn, including ordinary citizens but also many of the most distinguished African Americans of the 19th and the early 20th centuries.

Located in Southeast Washington, DC, Woodlawn Cemetery, for good reasons, has been on both the District of Columbia's Inventory of Historic Sites and the National Register of Historic Places since the early 1990s. The daily operations of the cemetery are entrusted to the Woodlawn Cemetery Perpetual Care Association, but most who work with the association as volunteers have loved ones buried there. The main focus of the association is to preserve the cemetery and to raise funds to renovate and restore prominence to this sacred site.

This treasured site needs our help in the same way that a congressional resolution aided in getting assistance from citizens and from volunteers from the armed forces for the Congressional Cemetery two decades ago. The Woodlawn Cemetery Perpetual Care Association, along with DC National Guard volunteers, has developed a cleanup plan to restore this historic site. On Saturday, October 19, 2013, we will celebrate the first Clean-up our History Day at Woodlawn Cemetery, 3900 Benning Road, SE, at 10 a.m. Joining us for the clean-up will be Yvette Alexander, Ward 7 Councilmember; Major General Errol R. Schwartz, Commanding General of the District of Columbia National Guard; Lonnie Bunch, Founding Director of the National Museum of African American History and Culture; Dr. Vincent Hill, University of the District of Columbia Mortuary Science Program Director; and supporting organizations and residents from all over the city.

I ask the House to join me as we recognize the volunteers from the District of Columbia National Guard, Woodlawn Cemetery Perpetual Care Association, and families of loved ones interred at Woodlawn for their participation in the kickoff of the cleanup of historic Woodlawn Cemetery as we begin an effort to restore the cemetery to its rightful place on the historical map for the benefit of families, historians, scholars and visitors, and cast light on one of the most important periods in African American history.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR. ANTHONY J. DELMONTE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Anthony J. Delmonte, who passed away on October 12, 2013 at the age of 88.

A resident of the Town of Orchard Park, he and his brothers built many of their homes and worked at the New York Central Railroad for twenty years. In 1963, Mr. Delmonte began working for Bethlehem Steel where he was employed for nineteen years. In addition, he helped build and operate the Burmon Inn, owned by his brother John, and owned and operated the Round-Up Hot Dog Stand in Lackawanna.

Mr. Delmonte was a proud American, who honorably served his nation. Immediately after graduating from Lackawanna High School in 1941, he served as Private First Class for the United States Marine Corps in World War II. His Marine unit was deployed to Nagasaki, Japan shortly after the atomic bomb was dropped in 1945. Mr. Delmonte was honorably discharged in 1946.

Mr. Delmonte was an active member of his community. He was involved in Orchard Park politics for many years. He was also President of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Senior Citizens and a member of the Buffalo Raceway Horseman's Association.

Mr. Delmonte was a devoted, loving family man. He leaves behind his wife of sixty-three years, Ethel, two children, Anthony and Denise, grandchildren, Lisa and Samantha, and great-grandchildren Jeffrey and Giada.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in expressing our deepest condolences to

the family of the late Anthony J. Delmonte, and join with me in honoring his life and legacy.

HONORING CHRIS LOWERY

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chris Lowery of Batesville, Indiana on being selected by Governor Mike Pence to chair the Indiana Region 9 Works Council.

Chris has worked at Hillenbrand, Inc. for 19 years, currently as the Director of Public Policy and Engagement. A graduate of Indiana University, Chris previously was the Executive Director of the Association of Indiana Counties as well as an aide to former Indiana Governor Robert Orr and Senator Dan Quayle. Chris has also dedicated his time to education serving on the Batesville Community School Corporation's Board of Trustees as President and founding the Batesville Community Education Foundation.

Chris' leadership in business and education will greatly benefit Hoosiers as he serves as Chair of the Indiana Region 9 Works Council. The Indiana Works Council, created by Governor Pence, is responsible for submitting evaluations of the career, technical and vocational education opportunities that will be used to better prepare high school students for entering the workforce.

I ask the entire 6th Congressional District to join me in congratulating Chris Lowery on having been selected to serve the State of Indiana as Chair of the Indiana Region 9 Works Council.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 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 $16,747,370,534,090.62. We've added $6,120,493,485,177.54 to our debt in 4 years. This is $6.1 trillion in debt our Nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR FLIGHT OF OREGON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 50 World War II veterans from Oregon who will be visiting their memorial this Saturday in Washington, DC through Honor Flight of Oregon. On behalf of a grateful State and country, we welcome these heroes to the Nation's Capital.

The veterans on this flight from Oregon are as follows: Kenneth W. Jacobsen, U.S. Army Air Force; Raymond Smith, U.S. Army Air Force; Virgil E. Trick, U.S. Army Air Force; Charles Williamson, U.S. Army Air Force; Victor H. Banke, U.S. Army; David G. Blattner, U.S. Army; Merle L. Brandsrud, U.S. Army; Gerald J. Broadhurst, U.S. Army; Homer P. Farley, U.S. Army; Donald P. Hancock, U.S. Army; Donald E. Hill, U.S. Army; Arnold J. Jensen, U.S. Army; Ralph E. Johnson, U.S. Army; Jack P. Mills, U.S. Army; William E. Thompson, U.S. Army; William C. Upham, U.S. Army; William A. Vorisek, U.S. Army; Loyd A. Wiltermood, U.S. Army; Vincent R. Gersch, U.S. Marines; Richard R. Harlow, U.S. Marines; Edward L. Killeen, U.S. Marines; Robert J. Klink, U.S. Marines; Robert J. Pattock, U.S. Marines; Benjamin Asquith, Jr., U.S. Navy; Bruce Bennett, U.S. Navy; Louis W. Boesel, U.S. Navy; Eugene S. Clift, U.S. Navy; Rodney L. Downey, U.S. Navy; John B. Dowty, U.S. Navy; Warren J. Dunn, U.S. Navy; Joyce L. Evans, U.S. Navy; Ross H. Flintjer, U.S. Navy; Victor B. Fryer, U.S. Navy; Leonard S. Gisler, U.S. Navy; B. Bruce Huffman, U.S. Navy; Robert L. Jensen, U.S. Navy; Howard D. Kyle, U.S. Navy; Arthur E. Mosher, U.S. Navy; Theodore M. Phillips, U.S. Navy; Richard B. Royse, U.S. Navy; Willard G. Scott, U.S. Navy; Glenndon L. Stam, U.S. Navy; Raymond L. Tompkins, U.S. Navy; Richard H. Wemhoener, U.S. Navy; Charles R. Westerberg, U.S. Navy; Robert C. White, U.S. Navy; Frank L. Woodrum, U.S. Navy; Henry C. Zweigart, U.S. Navy; Richard W. Miller, U.S. Navy Reserves; Cherri P. Gregory, U.S. Navy—WAVES.

These 50 heroes join more than 98,000 veterans from across the country who, since 2005, have journeyed from their home States to Washington, DC to reflect at the memorials built in honor of our Nation's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, each of us is humbled by the courage of these soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who put themselves in harm's way for our country and way of life. As a nation, we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude owed to them for their honor, commitment, and sacrifice in defense of the freedoms we have today.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their exemplary dedication and service to this great country. I especially want to recognize and thank Gail Yakopatz for her tireless work as president of Honor Flight of Oregon.

HONORING THE GRAND OPENING OF THE FRESNO VETERANS HOME OF CALIFORNIA

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate the Central California Veterans Home Support Foundation and the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) upon the grand opening of the California Veterans Home in Fresno. This veterans' home is not simply a brick and mortar building. This home is a promise we have made to the veterans of the San Joaquin Valley, and at long last we are keeping our promise.

Veterans in the San Joaquin Valley face great challenges every day. Tragically, more than 600 veterans in Fresno and Madera Counties go to sleep every night without a roof over their head. Guided by the belief that no man or woman who wore the uniform of the United States military should ever experience the scourge of homelessness, we set a goal of building a home to serve the needs of the veterans in the San Joaquin Valley.

Over the years, I have worked closely with the Central California Veterans Home Foundation (CCVHF), local veteran Charlie Waters and countless other volunteers and veteran advocates to plan, strategize, obtain funds and jump hurdles to be where we are today. Throughout the years, I have had many conversations with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to keep the funding in place for this home and with Cal Vet to break ground and begin construction.

This gorgeous home at 2811 West California Avenue is located in my 16th Congressional District in Southwest Fresno and is a 300 bed facility with state-of-the art design and architecture. The facility is bringing employment to people in the Central Valley and security to our veterans who desire to live out the rest of their life with great honor and pride.

In May 2010 we were all at the future site of the home breaking ground on this beautiful piece of property. We shoveled dirt and we anxiously looked forward to this day with a great desire to quickly help the many veterans who would benefit from this home. However as we celebrate this grand occasion, we should pause to remember three dedicated veteran leaders from the foundation who were with us from the beginning and have since passed away. During the fight for the home, we lost George Sinopoli in 2006, Charles ''Chuck'' Parnell just a few months after we broke ground in 2010, and Bill Dietzel earlier this year. These great veterans worked closely with me and fought the great fight for this home. Their hard work and dedication will not be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, the opening of the California Veterans Home in Fresno is truly a long-awaited and special event. I rise today to commend and congratulate CalVet, the VA, the Central California Veterans Home Foundation and all the organizations and individuals that have made this the opening possible. I invite my colleagues to join in wishing the home and its future residents great success.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF TEÓFILO ''AARÓN'' VARGAS SEÍN

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize the life and service of Teófilo ''Aarón'' Vargas Seín, Spiritual Leader and President of the church Congregación Mita, Inc.

Aarón was born on October 23, 1921 in Hatillo, Puerto Rico. Before his birth, his mother, Concepción Seín, suffered from a difficult

pregnancy. She promised God that if he would grant her a good delivery and a healthy child, she would dedicate him entirely to His service. Later, her only son was born, healthy and strong, and she named him Teófilo, which means, ''Loved by God.''

Teófilo and his parents were part of the first group of eleven members who alongside Juanita García Peraza ''Mita'' founded the Congregación Mita Church in Arecibo, Puerto Rico. He began his Ministry at the age of 15 and Mita later changed his name to Aarón. Aarón managed the administration of the church's assets and was also the first preacher, the senior guard, and the lead percussionist of the church's band.

In 1970, when Juanita García Peraza passed away, AAarón accepted the leadership of the Congregation. Under his direction, there has been great expansion of Mita's work in Puerto Rico and in the United States, including New York, Florida, Texas, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Illinois, and North Carolina. Internationally, the church is established in Spain, the Dominican Republic, Canada, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Panama, El Salvador, and Mexico. In Florida, there are congregations in Orlando, Ocala, Miami, and Tampa.

In addition to the spiritual work carried out by AAarón, under his leadership, the church carries out many other social missions. AAarón founded several institutions and entities to provide assistance to members and non-members in every location where the church is established, including Orlando, FL. Among them are: the Colegio Congregación Mita, an elementary through high school established in Puerto Rico; El Paraíso Nursing Home, a center for seniors who are unable to care for themselves; and the Office for Counseling and Social Work.

I am happy to honor Teófilo ''Aarón'' Vargas Seín, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his dedication to the service of others.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MAURICE FERRE

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize Maurice Ferre, a great Floridian.

Maurice A. Ferre was born on June 23, 1935, in Ponce, Puerto Rico. He was the son of businessman José Ferré and the nephew of the legendary Luis Ferre, Puerto Rico's Governor and recipient of the Presidential Medal of Honor.

Mr. Ferre served in the Florida House of Representatives from 1967–68 where he was a strong voice for Hispanics and helped create an ever-lasting legacy as a pioneer for the middle class. Maurice Ferre is the highly regarded former Mayor of Miami, where he was elected to six terms serving from 1973–1985. As Mayor, he led Miami through some of its most tumultuous and prosperous times. As the first Puerto Rican born mayor of a U.S. city and the first Hispanic Mayor of Miami, he helped build a world class city and international destination.

From 1993 to 1996, Mr. Ferre was Vice-Chairman of the Dade County Board of Commissioners. He has been active in national political campaigns and was a member of several presidential advisory boards.

Mr. Ferre is currently a Fellow at Princeton University and is writing a book about Hispanic contributions to American culture. Mr. Ferre is one of the driving forces behind the international-domestic, or ''intermestic,'' dialogue, attempting to reach a consensus regarding Puerto Rico's political status from an ''international'' as well as ''domestic'' point of view.

I am happy to honor Maurice Ferre, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his visionary leadership and his contributions to the state of Florida and the United States.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ALEX RIVERA

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize the important contributions of Alex Rivera, a Walmart worker who has made huge sacrifices to help working families in Central Florida. Alex Rivera is a 30-year-old former Walmart worker. He is married with two children, Leah and Alexa.

Alex began working for Walmart in Orlando, Florida, on October 28, 2008. It was only part time, but he was very excited to be working for a major company that promised its employees a great future. He began working in the grocery department for $7.50 an hour. He was happy the first year and learned a lot. His wife also worked at Walmart part time as a Customer Service Manager. During his first evaluation he received a $.50 cent raise and was eventually offered a full-time position.

When Walmart began to drastically cut workers' hours, Alex found it hard to provide for his family. He picked up a second job at a local 7–11 and had to work 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Walmart and then 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. at his second job. His increased hours conflicted with his Walmart schedule, and his manager told him his Walmart job came first.

Alex and his wife had to apply for food stamps and Medicaid due to the low pay and limited hours offered at Walmart. Alex began searching online for other workers that shared these same difficulties. He found OUR Walmart and was connected with OUR Walmart leaders. Alex became a member of OUR Walmart and participated in an event at his store in July 2012.

He began organizing in the store and educating workers on their rights. Management spoke to him and told Alex he was not allowed to do this. Alex felt he was being harassed for his organizing efforts.

In September 2012, Walmart fired Alex in retaliation for his activism. Since then, Alex continues to stand up for Walmart workers. He knows the struggles workers face and wants to ensure that Walmart makes the positive changes needed for current and future workers.

I am happy to honor Alex Rivera, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his sacrifice on behalf of those workers who still struggle for their rights.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF THE BORIQUENEERS

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize the 65th Infantry Regiment of the Third Division in the United States Army, ''the Boriqueneers.'' This all-volunteer Puerto Rican unit was nicknamed ''the Borinqueneers,'' from the name Borinquen given to Puerto Rico by its original inhabitants, the Taino Indians.

Puerto Ricans have fought for the United States as far back as the American Revolution. When Puerto Rico became a U.S. Territory after the 1898 Treaty of Paris, a military governor was appointed and soon the United States Army established itself in San Juan. The first body of native troops was authorized in 1898 and on June 30, 1901, the Porto Rico Provisional Regiment of Infantry was organized.

After their return from duty in Panama in March 1919, the Porto Rico Regiment of Infantry was renamed ''the 65th Infantry Regiment.'' During this period, the first Puerto Rican to graduate from the United States Military Academy at West Point, Major Luis R. Esteves, was sent to Camp Las Casas to train Puerto Rican officers.

Over 62,000 Puerto Ricans joined the military during World War II, and over 43,000 Puerto Ricans served in the Korean War. Perhaps the Borinqueneers most noteworthy moment was during the Korean War. In August, 1950, the Boriqueneers landed in the port city of Pusan on the southeastern tip of Korea. They were sent into action immediately and joined U.S. forces holding a perimeter against the Communist North Korean invaders. The Boriqueneers played an active role in the U.S. breakout and drive to the north.

While in Korea, the Borinqueneers served in nine separate military campaigns, with hundreds of men giving their lives to serve their country. Once back home, the regiment won four Distinguished Service Crosses, 125 Silver Stars, and was awarded the Presidential Unit Citations and the Greek Gold Medal for Bravery.

Yet, while the Third Division received a presidential citation, the 65th Infantry Regiment did not, and none of its members were awarded the Medal of Honor. In 2013, two bills have been introduced, in the House of Representatives, that would confer the Congressional Gold Medal on the 65th Infantry Regiment.

I am happy to honor the 65th Infantry Regiment, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for its historic service to our nation.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF ROBERTO CLEMENTE

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage month, to recognize Roberto Clemente for his outstanding athletic achievements and humanitarian contributions.

As the first Puerto Rican to achieve baseball stardom, Clemente worked hard at the game. In his 18 seasons with the Pittsburgh Pirates, ''The Great One'' proved to be an all-around outstanding player, winning four National League batting titles and leading National League outfielders in assists for four seasons. He was awarded 12 Gold Gloves, selected as the 1966 National League MVP, and named the 1971 World Series MVP. Clemente was also the 11th Major League player to record 3,000 hits.

Clemente's accomplishments raised him to stardom, yet he never forgot his heritage and the prejudice he had faced. He fought for the recognition of his fellow Latino ballplayers, becoming a union leader for the baseball players association and speaking out about civil injustices. He was also involved in many community outreach programs to help inner city kids in Pittsburg, and in the off season, he held free baseball clinics for kids in his home town.

Clemente began managing a Puerto Rican all-star team in Managua, Nicaragua. When an earthquake struck, he began organizing aid and supplies. He died at the age of 37 in a plane crash delivering relief supplies to Nicaragua. Roberto Clemente was posthumously presented the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Roberto Clemente Walker Congressional Gold Medal, and the first Presidential Citizen's Medal. Each year, Major League Baseball gives out the Roberto Clemente Award to a

player that demonstrates the humanitarian spirit embodied by Roberto Clemente.

I am happy to honor Roberto Clemente, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his achievements on and off the baseball field.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF SONIA SOTOMAYOR

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize the achievements of the first Latina Supreme Court Justice, Sonia Sotomayor.

Justice Sotomayor graduated summa cum laude from Princeton University in 1976. While she was at Princeton she received the Pyne Prize, the highest academic award given to an undergraduate at the University. She continued on to Yale Law School where she was the editor of the Yale Law Journal. Sotomayor graduated from Yale Law School in 1979 and passed the bar in 1980. She immediately began working as the Assistant District Attorney in Manhattan.

In 1984, Sotomayor entered private practice, making partner in 1988 at a firm that specialized in intellectual property litigation. While working at the firm she also served on the board of the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund, the New York City Campaign Finance Board, and the State of New York Mortgage Agency.

Her pro bono work at the agencies caught the attention of New York Senator Moynihan who recommended her for a seat on the New York district court. In 1992, President George H.W. Bush nominated her for a seat on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York and she was unanimously confirmed by the Senate. In June of 1997, President Clinton nominated Sotomayor for a seat on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and she was confirmed to that seat in 1998. While serving in the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, Sotomayor began teaching as an adjunct professor of law at New York University and Columbia Law School, while also serving on the Board of Trustees for Princeton University.

On May 26, 2009, President Obama nominated Sonia Sotomayor for appointment to the U.S. Supreme Court. Her confirmation by the Senate in August of 2009 made Sonia Sotomayor the first Latina Supreme Court Justice.

As our country continues to become more diverse, Justice Sotomayor serves as a powerful role model for women and Latinos in the U.S. I am happy to honor Sonia Sotomayor, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for her many outstanding achievements.

HONORING THE HISTORIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF JUAN PONCE DE LEON

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize the extraordinary life of Juan Ponce de Leon, Spanish explorer, first Governor of Puerto Rico and discoverer of the great state of Florida.

Ponce de Leon grew up in a small provincial town in Spain. Seeking adventure, he became a member of Christopher Columbus' second voyage to the New World. During that expedition, Ponce de Leon rose quickly in prominence and was soon commissioned by the Spanish King as the First Governor of the newly discovered Puerto Rico. As Governor, he helped to nurture the new and growing island that is now home to so many hard-working Americans.

The adventurous spirit of Ponce de Leon did not die with his appointment as Governor to Puerto Rico. In 1513 he set out on what was to be his most important journey. Traveling with a crew of 200, Ponce de Leon arrived at and named Florida on April 2, 1513. As he continued his journey, Ponce de Leon became the first European to have extensive contact and knowledge of the Floridian peninsula and discovered many of the sights and wonders that Floridians treasure to this day. The discoveries and numerous accomplishments of Ponce de Leon laid the foundation for both my great state of Florida as well as the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

I am pleased to honor Juan Ponce de Leon, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his historic contributions to the state of Florida.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF RITA MORENO

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the inspiring career and numerous accomplishments or Rita Moreno.

Rita Moreno has broken new ground for Latinos in the field of entertainment throughout her career. In 1961, she became the first Hispanic actress to win the Oscar for Best Supporting Actress for her role in the movie West Side Story. Ms. Moreno is also one of only eleven entertainers in Hollywood to have received all four major entertainment honors: Emmy, Oscar, Tony and Grammy awards.

In addition to film, stage, television and concert commitments, Ms. Moreno fills her spare time by lecturing to various organizations and university audiences on such topics as The Value of Diversity to our Culture, The Power of Language, and A History of the Arts in Film, TV and Theatre. She is also involved with a number of civic and charitable organizations.

Ms. Moreno has served on The National Endowment for the Arts and as a Commissioner on The President's Commission on White House Fellowships. She has also served as a member of The President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities.

In June 2004, Ms. Moreno was awarded The Presidential Medal of Freedom by President George W. Bush. In 2007, Ms. Moreno was inducted into the California Hall of Fame by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. In 2010, she was awarded The National Medal of Arts by President Obama, as well as the Here I Stand Award for activism in the arts, and the Hispanic Organization of Latin Actresses (HOLA) Lifetime Achievement Award.

I am happy to honor Rita Moreno, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for her numerous contributions to the performing arts.

IN RECOGNITION OF MISS AUBURN TARA JONES

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to honor a special young lady in my district, Tara Jones, who is serving as Miss Auburn at Auburn University.

Miss Jones grew up in Kennesaw, Georgia and was crowned as Miss Auburn in February 2013. She ran her campaign on a platform for clean water for third-world nations and was elected to serve in this position by the student body. Tara also had fun with her campaign by doing the "Harlem Shake" to help spread her message. Jones is in her senior year.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating Tara Jones being named Miss Auburn. Her dedication to those less fortunate should be an example to us all, and I am honored today to help pay recognition to it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, on October 8, 2013, I missed rollcall vote Nos. 531 and 532. I was organizing voters on immigration reform. Had I been present I would have voted "no" on both.

TRIBUTE TO DONALD G. "IKE" McLEESE

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a tremendous leader in South Carolina's capital city as he prepares to step down as president and CEO of the Greater Columbia Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce. Donald G. "Ike" McLeese has led the Columbia Chamber for 19 years, and has done a remarkable job encouraging cooperation among business, civic, and governmental leaders. His service is greatly appreciated and will be sorely missed.

Ike McLeese is a native of Anderson, South Carolina and earned an associate's degree from Anderson University in 1964 and a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of South Carolina in 1967.

He began his career in the political arena working on the staff of the venerable U.S. Senator Fritz Hollings. I got to know Ike when we were both young men working for South Carolina Governor John West in the early 1970s. He was the governor's Commissioner of Narcotics and Controlled Substances, and was one of the youngest commissioners in the State's history, and I was the first African American to serve as an aide to a sitting South Carolina governor. We were idealists hoping to make our mark on the world, and I am pleased to say that Ike did just that.

As a government insider, his knowledge was in demand. After the West administration ended he served as vice president for Marketing and Government Relations for the architectural and engineering firm LBC&W. Ike then worked for two Columbia public relations firms: Cook & Ruef, Inc. and Newman Saylor & Gregory, and ran political campaigns locally and around the country.

In September 1994, he was tapped to lead the Greater Columbia Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce. At the time, the chamber was $3.2 million in debt. He turned the organization around and made it a vital part of the capital city's power structure.

Ike played a key role in protecting Fort Jackson, McEntire Air National Guard Base and Shaw Air Force Base from the base realignment taking place in Congress, and instead helped those bases grow as other military installations were closing. He cites those

successes as his proudest professional accomplishments.

He has shared his expertise as a lecturer at the University of South Carolina's College of Journalism and Mass Communications and at the Strom Thurmond Institute of Government at Clemson University. He is also a recipient of the Order of the Palmetto, from two different governors, which is the highest civilian honor that can be awarded by the State of South Carolina.

Ike is married to the lovely Sue Smith Curran. They have a blended family of five children and four grandchildren. Having spent his entire career in Columbia, he is also a diehard Southeastern Conference (SEC) sports fan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in recognizing the extraordinary contributions of Ike McLeese. I, like so many others in the greater Columbia, South Carolina area, are proud to call him a friend. He has dedicated his career to serving this community and our state's capital is a much better place because of his service. I wish him well as he steps down from the chamber's helm, but know that his pride and passion of and for South Carolina and Columbia will allow him to continue being a powerful force in Columbia.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE RELATING TO CROP INSURANCE

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2013

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of this Sense of the House that the Durbin-Coburn amendment on crop insurance should be included in a farm bill conference report. This measure limits crop insurance premium subsidies for the wealthiest producers, saving more than $900 million over ten years. The bipartisan amendment was adopted in the Senate by a 59–33 vote, and enjoys bipartisan House support as well. As we look to trim spending in all areas of the budget, limiting taxpayer handouts to farmers making over $750,000 is a sensible place to start. Currently there are no limits to crop insurance premium subsidies or payments. This proposal doesn't eliminate assistance for those well-off producers, but simply limits it. In fact, I supported an amendment last June—offered by my colleague Congressman RON KIND—which would have shrunk taxpayer subsidies for crop insurance even further than the measure being considered today. I look forward to working with other Members of the House, and our colleagues in the Senate, to reform the nation's agriculture safety net in a way that provides security to our farmers while reducing the deficit.

INTRODUCTION OF H. RES. 327, EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD VOTE AGAINST CHINA REGAINING UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL (UNHRC) MEMBERSHIP AND ENCOURAGE OTHER MEMBERS TO VOTE AGAINST ITS ELECTION, AND ENCOURAGE ANOTHER MEMBER TO STAND FOR ELECTION AS AN ALTERNATE CANDIDATE FROM THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I wish to make a few remarks regarding ongoing human rights and religious freedom abuses in China, and my related resolution, House Resolution 327.

China's suppression of its people's rights is an atrocious affair. With the recent change in leadership, some had held hope that there would be progress, but it seems that the new premier, Xi Jinping, has continued to take things in the other direction—suppression of religious and ethnic minorities is getting worse, the right to free speech is being eroded, and more people are being subjected to harsh treatment by their government.

China's claim that economic modernization would lead to increased protection of civil liberties has not proven true. Economic advances seem to come at the cost of those who are most vulnerable. Rather than securing liberty for its people, China has continued to vastly fund programs that serve to monitor and harass civilians.

There are many people who have been fighting to obtain for China the level of freedom we enjoy in the United States and other countries around the world. These are people who I believe many Americans identify with, because we can empathize with those who are beaten down in noble, selfless struggles for dignity and liberty.

Wang Bingzhang struggled to find a path towards freedom in China—a burden that I'm sure was overwhelming at times. His advocacy and his message ultimately cost him what he was fighting for—freedom. Dr. Wang was abducted in 2002, along with his colleagues, in Vietnam and taken back to China, where he faced a secret trial. In a one day trial, in which no evidence or witnesses were presented, Dr. Wang was sentenced to life imprisonment in solitary confinement on charges of espionage and terrorism. His physical and mental health has deteriorated to the point where continued imprisonment is inhumane. This case has begun to attract more international recognition.

Li Huanjun, whom I had the pleasure of meeting, was arrested on July 12, 2013, on ''suspicion of gathering a crowd to disturb social order.'' Ms. Li is a housing rights activist who advocates against the forced evictions that are occurring in China. She lost her home in just this manner as community leaders decided to sell her home to developers without consulting her. Her arrest is worrying, because many of the people who are arrested for protesting this kind of state action are subject to torture, beatings, and harsh sentences for alleged crimes. She is a mother whose fate is yet to be seen.

Though the previous two activists are not mentioned in the legislation, they are both activists for whom I have advocated. The specific cases and people mentioned in the legislation are equally important. The persecution of individuals and entire groups of people in China is staggering, and much of this abuse is covered in H. Res. 327.

Uyghurs in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region are facing increased pressure and persecution from Beijing. Hundreds of people have also been arrested in Xinjiang for spreading ''online rumors,'' and for expressing dissatisfaction with the Chinese government. Chinese authorities claim that they grant wide-ranging freedoms to people in this region, but religious persecution, suppression of dissent, and monitoring and harassment prove otherwise.

Mongolians continue to face harsh government oppression, as well. An example is Mr. Hada, who served a 15 year prison sentence for ''subversion,'' who continues to face detention after his release from prison, and whose wife and son have recently ''disappeared''. Dissidents are not the only ones who face persecution—their families are often targeted by authorities, as well. Inner Mongolia continues to struggle to keep a grasp on their culture and language while Beijing attempts to erode it. As a result of Chinese expansion into Inner Mongolia, the land and ecosystem is deteriorating—the Mongolian culture and way of life is in danger of deteriorating with it.

The oppression of Tibetans has caused concern around the world. In acts of desperation, many Tibetan monks have self-immolated. They want greater religious freedom, and the return from exile of Tibetan spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama. But, Beijing continues to maintain strict control over the Tibetan Autonomous Region, even going as far as maintaining police presence in monasteries. Tenzin Delek Rinpoche, who was sentenced to death in 2002, along with his assistant who was almost immediately executed, but had his sentence commuted to life imprisonment after human rights groups and experts claimed he did not receive a fair trial and that he faced harsh treatment in detention.

Falun Gong practitioners have also faced serious persecution from Chinese authorities. China's efforts to eradicate this religion can be particularly severe. Long imprisonment, torture, and inhumane treatment of practitioners can often lead to death. The adherence to a belief system in China, like Falun Gong, is often a dangerous attribute. Many Falun Gong practitioners are often subject to the China's ''Reeducation Through Labor'' program, black prisons, and arbitrary detention. Hundreds of thousands of people are sentenced to serve time in these ''Reeducation Through Labor'' prisons.

The list of human rights abuses, violations, and religious and ethnic persecution is almost innumerable. During China's previous membership on the Council, they greatly expanded their ''Weiwen'' program, used to monitor and harass civilians. This program is currently being funded at higher levels than their national defense budget. Many of the most famous cases of violations occurred while China sat as a member on the Council. Liu Xiaobo

was arrested in 2009 on charges of ''inciting subversion of state power,'' and was sentenced to 11 years in prison. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2010, making him the only Nobel Peace Prize winner in prison. His wife, Liu Xia, continues to face harassment is currently under house arrest.

For these reasons, the United States government and our representative in the United Nations should vote against China regaining membership on the United Nations Human Rights Council. This Council was designed to help protect people from the kinds of persecution that they suffer at the hands of the Chinese government. The effort to keep China off of the Council has a strong coalition, including Tibetans, Uyghurs, Mongols, Han Chinese, Christians, Muslims, and Falun Gong, along with many human rights lawyers and advocates.

I would urge my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join in this effort by cosponsoring H. Res. 327 to keep China off of the United Nations Human Rights Council and encourage another suitably qualified member from the Asia-Pacific region to stand for election as an alternate candidate.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, once again, this year, we observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 1 to October 15 and celebrate the rich history, culture and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. The observation began in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan twenty years later as a month-long celebration and enacted into law August 17, 1988. Our leaders, then and now, recognize this nation was founded and built through the hard work and sacrifices of immigrants from around the world and so we honor Hispanic-Americans whose past and future contributions have added to the strength and endurance of American society. The shared goal of a prosperous, greater America is further enhanced by their ongoing participation and recognized during National Hispanic Heritage Month.

SUPPORT OF FARMINGTON AREA REPUBLICANS

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Farmington Area Republicans of Michigan, who like so many organizations throughout our country have diligently educated our citizens on various public issues facing us today. Exercising their Constitutional right to peacefully assemble and in many cases petition their government for a redress of grievances in support of the restoration of liberty, not in restricting it; shrinking our bloated government, not expanding it; who want to reduce taxes, not raise them; abolish costly government programs, not create them; expose the abuses and oppressions of tyrannical dictates; and promote the freedom and independence of our citizens, not the interference of government in their lives; and observe the limited, enumerated powers of our Constitution, not ignore them.

Mr. Speaker, these truly American patriots of every cultural, religious and ethnic background have found a common cause in fighting back today's proliferating big government rules and regulations imposed by costly bloated government bureaucracies who are accountable to no one at the expense of individual rights.

They are God-fearing, freedom-loving Americans who desire nothing more than to rein in big government's tendency toward excessive coercion and the insidious spread of government overreach. They question when the validity of laws and morality contradict each other. They desire nothing more than the extension of individual freedom in a Democracy that attaches all possible value to citizens rather than making each citizen a mere agent, a mere number; a Democracy that seeks equality in Liberty rather than in restraint and servitude.

Mr. Speaker, there is a great political awakening taking place in our country today. The roots of which are solid stock and American made, they are visionary individuals who understand the moral foundations of a Constitutional Republic, the benefits of free markets, and individual liberty. May they continue to strive valiantly and dare greatly.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few short minutes to give this testimony in support of a truly American organization.

HONORING JAY KAPITZ

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Jay Kapitz, who will be honored by the Los Angeles Democratic Party as a 2013 Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt Democrat of the Year.

Jay is a community activist who possesses a vested interest in the social, economic and political well-being of Ventura County. He has always gone above the call of duty to explain the political nuances that will impact our community.

His insight and knowledge about the political process are invaluable. As a community volunteer, member of the Ventura County Democratic Party Communications Committee, and Election Strategy Chair of the Democratic Club of the Conejo Valley, Jay is a committed advocate of progressive issues and has long supported the priorities of the Democratic Party.

Jay has always taken his passion, charisma, and expertise in political organizing into the community. As a champion for environmental sustainability, he was involved in raising awareness over the Santa Susana Field Laboratory superfund site clean-up and Ventura County's Save Open-Space and Agricultural Resources (SOAR) initiative in the Conejo Valley. He is dedicated to the protection of open space and stands against further development of the hillsides around Oak Park, the Conejo Valley and all of Ventura County.

For being an exemplary grassroots activist who is consistently on the frontline for Democratic candidates and important statewide propositions, I extend my sincere congratulations and join the Los Angeles Democratic Party in honoring Jay Kapitz.

SUPPORT OF THE WESTERN WASHTENAW TEA PARTY

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Western Washtenaw Tea Party of Michigan, who like so many grassroots organizations throughout our country have diligently educated our citizens on various public issues facing us today. Exercising their Constitutional right to peacefully assemble and in many cases petition their government for a redress of grievances in support of the restoration of liberty, not in restricting it; shrinking our bloated government, not expanding it; who want to reduce taxes, not raise them; abolish costly government programs, not create them; expose the abuses and oppressions of tyrannical dictates; and promote the freedom and independence of our citizens, not the interference of government in their lives; and observe the limited, enumerated powers of our Constitution, not ignore them.

Mr. Speaker, these truly American patriots of every cultural, religious and ethnic background have found a common cause in fighting back today's proliferating big government rules and regulations imposed by costly bloated government bureaucracies who are accountable to no one at the expense of individual rights.

They are God-fearing, freedom-loving Americans who desire nothing more than to rein in big government's tendency toward excessive coercion and the insidious spread of government overreach. They question when the validity of laws and morality contradict each other. They desire nothing more than the extension of individual freedom in a Democracy that attaches all possible value to citizens rather than making each citizen a mere agent, a mere number; a Democracy that seeks equality in Liberty rather than in restraint and servitude.

Mr. Speaker, there is a great political awakening taking place in our country today. The roots of which are solid stock and American made, they are visionary individuals who understand the moral foundations of a Constitutional Republic, the benefits of free markets, and individual liberty. May they continue to strive valiantly and dare greatly.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few short minutes to give this testimony in support of a truly American grassroots organization.

TRIBUTE TO PEYTON ROBERTSON

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Peyton Robertson, who is America's 2013 Top Young Scientist in the ''Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Challenge.''

Peyton, a 5th grade student, created an innovative sandbag designed that is reusable and easy to transport. After seeing the destruction caused by Hurricane Sandy and from experiencing hurricanes in South Florida, Peyton wanted to help protect folks in Florida.

This is not the first time that Peyton has worked to improve the lives of those around him with inventions. When he discovered that the golf balls he loved to hit didn't go as far when they were cold, he created a golf ball warmer. Peyton also invented retractable training wheels to help his sister learn how to ride a bike. When he grows up, Peyton would like to be an inventor, scientist, or engineer.

Peyton, congratulations again on being named America's Top Young Scientist for 2013. Your innovative spirit and desire to improve the world is an inspiration to us all!

SUPPORT OF THE WAYNE COUNTY CAMPAIGN FOR LIBERTY

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Wayne County Campaign for Liberty of the Great State of Michigan who like so many grassroots organizations throughout our country have diligently educated our citizens on various public issues facing us today. Exercising their Constitutional right to peacefully assemble and in many cases petition their government for a redress of grievances in support of the restoration of liberty, not in restricting it; shrinking our bloated government, not expanding it; who want to reduce taxes, not raise them; abolish costly government programs, not create them; expose the abuses and oppressions of tyrannical dictates; Wayne County's Campaign for Liberty promote the freedom and independence of our citizens, not the interference of government in their lives; and observe the limited, enumerated powers of our Constitution, not ignore them.

Mr. Speaker, these truly American patriots of every cultural, religious and ethnic background have found a common cause in fighting back today's proliferating big government rules and regulations imposed by costly bloated government bureaucracies who are accountable to no one at the expense of individual rights.

They are God-fearing, freedom-loving Americans who desire nothing more than to rein in big government's tendency toward excessive coercion and the insidious spread of government overreach. They question when the validity of laws and morality contradict each other. They desire nothing more than the extension of individual freedom in a Constitutional Republic that attaches all possible value to citizens rather than making each citizen a mere agent, a mere number of the state; a Constitutional Republic that seeks equality in Liberty rather than in restraint and servitude.

Mr. Speaker, there is a great political awakening taking place in our country today. The roots of which are solid stock and American made, they are a visionary group of individuals who understand the moral foundations of a Constitutional Republic, the benefits of free markets, and the Blessings of individual liberty. May they continue to strive valiantly and dare greatly.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few short minutes to give this testimony in support of a truly American grassroots organization.

IN HONOR OF U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE RICHARD A. SCHELL

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 25th year that United States District Judge Richard A. Schell has served with distinction on the Federal bench of the Eastern District of Texas. It is a privilege to recognize and pay tribute to him, along with members of the Eastern District of Texas Bar Association who will honor him at their 17th Annual Eastern District Bench Bar Conference October 30, November 1 in Plano, Texas.

Judge Schell was nominated by President Ronald Reagan on April 13, 1988, to a seat vacated by the late Judge William M. Steger. He was confirmed by the Senate on May 27, 1988, and received his commission on June 6, 1988. Judge Schell served as Chief Judge of the Eastern District from 1994 2001 and also served on the U.S. Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules as well as the Board of the Federal Judges Association. During his tenure as Chief Judge he also supported the effort to create the Eastern District of Texas Bar Association, which today is recognized as one of the preeminent Federal bar associations in the United States.

A native Texan, Judge Schell was raised in a family whose community involvement in Plano, Texas, stretches back over 130 years. His maternal great-grandfather served as mayor of Plano, and his paternal grandfather was the longest serving mayor in the City's history, serving more than 16 years. His father was the longest appointed official in Piano's history, serving as its representative on the North Texas Municipal Water District for 45 years.

Judge Schell received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Southern Methodist University in 1972 and his Juris Doctorate from SMU's School of Law in 1975. He served as an instructor at the Law School from 1975–1976, then became Assistant District Attorney for Collin County in 1976. He practiced law in the private sector in McKinney from 1977–1982, then returned to public service as Judge, Collin County Court-at-Law, from 1982–1986. From 1986–1988 he presided as Judge of Collin County's 219th District Court before assuming the bench as U.S. District Judge. Since 2010 he also has served as a Visiting Professor at SMU's Dedman School of Law, which awarded him the Distinguished Alumni Award for Judicial Service in 2005. His law clerks and staff have established a programmatic endowment at the law school in his honor.

During his tenure on the bench, Judge Schell presided over the Norplant MDL, several complex civil matters and a number of environmental issues. He is currently responsible for the continued oversight and enforcement of a consent decree that resolved a class action between the State of Texas and children who receive Medicaid benefits. As Resident Judge in Plano with a higher-than-average docket, Judge Schell spent 683 hours in the courtroom in the past year alone. This is 247 percent above the circuit median and 243 percent above the circuit average. Judge Schell is universally recognized for his excellent judicial temperament, work ethic, integrity, and fairness.

Judge Schell has the support of a wonderful family—his wife, Janice, and sons Christopher and Ben. Christopher serves as the Legislative Director in my Washington, DC office, while attending law school in the evening at American University. Ben previously worked on the Space Subcommittee of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology during my tenure as Chairman.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation is fortunate to have a Judge with as much integrity and commitment to justice as Judge Schell possesses. I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this outstanding American and esteemed United States District Judge, Richard A. Schell, for his 25 years of distinguished service on behalf of our Nation.

SUPPORT OF THE OAKLAND COUNTY CAMPAIGN FOR LIBERTY

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Oakland County Campaign for Liberty of the Great State of Michigan who like so many grassroots organizations throughout our country have diligently educated our citizens on various public issues facing us today. Exercising their Constitutional right to peacefully assemble and in many cases petition their government for a redress of grievances in support of the restoration of liberty, not in restricting it; shrinking our bloated government, not expanding it; who want to reduce taxes, not raise them; abolish costly government programs, not create them; expose the abuses and oppressions of tyrannical dictates; Oakland County's Campaign for Liberty promote the freedom and independence of our citizens, not the interference of government in their lives; and observe the limited, enumerated powers of our Constitution, not ignore them.

Mr. Speaker, these truly American patriots of every cultural, religious and ethnic background have found a common cause in fighting back today's proliferating big government rules and regulations imposed by costly bloated government bureaucracies who are accountable to no one at the expense of individual rights.

They are God-fearing, freedom-loving Americans who desire nothing more than to rein in big government's tendency toward excessive coercion and the insidious spread of government overreach. They question when the validity of laws and morality contradict each other. They desire nothing more than the extension of individual freedom in a Constitutional Republic that attaches all possible value to citizens rather than making each citizen a mere agent, a mere number of the state; a Constitutional Republic that seeks equality in Liberty rather than in restraint and servitude.

Mr. Speaker, there is a great political awakening taking place in our country today. The roots of which are solid stock and American made, they are a visionary group of individuals who understand the moral foundations of a Constitutional Republic, the benefits of free markets, and the Blessings of individual liberty. May they continue to strive valiantly and dare greatly.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few short minutes to give this testimony in support of a truly American grassroots organization.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the sixteenth day of the federal government shutdown to submit for the record a satire sent to me by my constituent, Donna Rusinski of Huntington New York. Donna's satire perfectly portrays the current state of affairs in our nation's capital and I am pleased I can share her short story with you today.

So, imagine that the company you work for held a poll, and asked everyone if they thought it would be a good idea to put a soda machine in the break room. The poll came back, and the majority of your colleagues said ''Yes,'' indicating that they would like a soda machine. Some said no, but the majority said yes. So, a week later, there's a soda machine.

Now imagine that Bill in accounting voted against the soda machine. He has a strong hatred for caffeinated soft drinks, thinks they are bad for you, whatever. He campaigns throughout the office to get the machine removed.

Well, management decides ''OK, we'll ask again'' and again, the majority of people say ''Yes, let's keep the soda machine.''

Bill continues to campaign, and management continues to ask the employees, and every time, the answer is in favor of the soda machine. This happens, let's say 35 times. Eventually, Bill says ''OK, I'm not processing payroll anymore until the soday machine is removed,'' so nobody will get paid unless management removes the machine.

What should we do?

Answer: Fire Bill and get someone who will do the darn job.

Bonus: Bill tells everyone that he was willing to ''Negotiate,'' to come to a solution where everyone got their payroll checks, but only so long as that negotiation capitulated to his demand to remove the soda machine.

Bill is a dope.

BRIGHTON TEA PARTY OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Brighton Tea Party of Livingston County, Michigan, who like so many grassroot organizations throughout our country have diligently educated our citizens on various public issues facing us today. Exercising their constitutional right to peacefully assemble and in many cases petition their government for a redress of grievances in support of the restoration of liberty, not in restricting it; shrinking our bloated government, not expanding it; who want to reduce taxes, not raise them; abolish costly government programs, not create them; expose the abuses and oppressions of tyrannical dictates; and promote the freedom and independence of our citizens, not the interference of government in their lives; and observe the limited, enumerated powers of our Constitution, not ignore them.

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Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to give this testimony in support of a truly American grassroots organization.

IN TRIBUTE TO JOHN W. OLSEN

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to pay tribute to a friend, a leader, and a living legend in Connecticut politics and the labor movement, John W. Olsen. After 25 years at the helm of the Connecticut AFL-CIO, John retired as President on September 25. John leaves a deep and enduring mark on the State of Connecticut after a quarter century of extraordinary leadership and dedication.

A plumber by trade, John joined the Plumbers and Pipefitters union 44 years ago. He served as President of the United Association of Plumbers, Pipefitters and Steamfitters, Local 133, and a former Secretary-Treasurer of the Connecticut State Building and Construction Trades Council.

In 1988, at the age of 38, John was elected President of the Connecticut AFL-CIO, representing 220,000 union members across the state. His 25 years as President of the AFL-CIO represents the longest tenure in the federation's history.

John provided the leading public voice for organized labor for 25 years. He also presided over—and kept united—a diverse union umbrella in Connecticut. During an era where friction grew nationally between industrial and service unions and ruptured decades-old alliances, John's assiduous and fair leadership kept Connecticut's unions unified and strong and maintained labor's collective potency to advocate on behalf of working families in our state.

In the political arena, John has been a force on the national, state, and local level for four decades. He pulled an upset to win a contest to become Chairman of the State Democratic Party from 2000 to 2002. He served as a member of the Democratic State Central Committee from 1982 to 1995, as Co-Chair of the State Central Platform Committee, and on the Democratic National Committee since 1996. Even in the Town of Clinton in my Congressional District, John served one term as Chair and one as Treasurer and on his hometown Democratic Town Committee.

I will always be grateful for John's support and counsel for my three campaigns as a challenger, in unsuccessful efforts for Lieutenant Governor and the U.S. House in 1998 and 2002, respectively, and for my successful effort for the House in 2006. John loved an underdog, and there was never a more fierce or loyal ally to have at your side for a political fight.

John's remarkable legacy at the center of Connecticut's political and policy debate for a quarter of century is a story of keen instincts, dogged determination, and ardent honesty. John's fidelity was never to his ego or personal standing but always to the cause and a positive outcome. His service will be missed, but I have no doubts that he will be as active in his ''retirement'' as he was during his sterling career.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my colleagues in the Connecticut delegation, John's wife Janeen, three children, Amy, Elizabeth and Christopher, and grandson, Hunter, to honor a true Connecticut patriot, John Olsen.

SUPPORT OF THE RIVER CITY PATRIOTS OF GRAND RAPIDS

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the River City Patriots of Grand Rapids, Michigan who like so many grassroot organizations throughout our country have diligently educated our citizens on various public issues facing us today. Exercising their Constitutional right to peacefully assemble and in many cases petition their government for a

redress of grievances in support of the restoration of liberty, not in restricting it; shrinking our bloated government, not expanding it; who want to reduce taxes, not raise them; abolish costly government programs, not create them; expose the abuses and oppressions of tyrannical dictates; River City Patriots promote the freedom and independence of our citizens, not the interference of government in their lives; and observe the limited, enumerated powers of our Constitution, not ignore them.

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HONORING LORI DEMERSSEMAN

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Ms. BROWNLEY. Mr. Speaker, Today, I rise to recognize Lori DeMersseman, who will be honored by the Los Angeles Democratic Party as a 2013 Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt Democrat of the Year.

Lori is a political leader whose tireless efforts can be seen in her important contribution to our community. As a founder and the current President of the Democratic Singles of Ventura County, Lori created an organization for like-minded individuals who are passionate about the economic, social and environmental issues facing our nation. The DSVC is a welcoming club for individuals to volunteer and socialize with other Democrats while participating in the political process.

Lori has always been engaged in improving our community. She is a committed advocate for equality and has long supported the priorities of the Democratic Party.

For being an exemplary grassroots activist who is consistently helping Democratic candidates and important statewide propositions, I extend my sincere congratulations and join the Los Angeles Democratic Party in honoring Lori DeMersseman.

SUPPORT OF BLOOMFIELD REPUBLICAN WOMEN'S CLUB

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Bloomfield Republican Women's Club of Michigan, who like so many grassroot organizations throughout our country have diligently educated our citizens on various public issues facing us today. Exercising their Constitutional right to peacefully assemble and in many cases petition their government for a redress of grievances in support of the restoration of liberty, not in restricting it; shrinking our bloated government, not expanding it; who want to reduce taxes, not raise them; abolish costly government programs, not create them; expose the abuses and oppressions of tyrannical dictates; and promote the freedom and independence of our citizens, not the interference of government in their lives; and observe the limited, enumerated powers of our Constitution, not ignore them.

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HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF LORIE GRINNAN

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a dear friend of mine, Lorie Grinnan, on her retirement as the County Commissioner of Precinct 2 in Rockwall County. Lorie has served as Commissioner for eight years, and was the first woman to be re-elected to that position. During that time, she has been dedicated to serving the community of Rockwall, TX.

I have known Lorie for many years, and her commitment to implementing sound policies that benefit the citizens of Rockwall County is unparalleled. She has served in public office for 17 years, and during that time has undertaken many projects from transportation to emergency services.

Besides serving as County Commissioner, Lorie was also a member of the Rockwall Independent School District Board for nine years, and served as a member of the Juvenile Services Board as Commissioner and school board member. She also currently presides as the president of the Emergency Services Board. In addition to her roles as a public servant, she is a member of many community organizations including the Rockwall Noon Rotary, First United Methodist Church, Chamber of Congress, and city councils of Rockwall, Heath, Rowlett, and McLendon-Chisolm.

Some of her active projects as County Commissioner include a $100 million road bond, infrastructure improvements to various roads in the area, and work to maintain quick ambulance response time despite construction.

Among one of her greatest undertakings was spearheading the Veterans Advisory Committee to help oversee the construction of the Veterans Memorial. Over 2,000 citizens attended the opening ceremony which was held on November 11, 2011.

Commissioner Grinnan, as well as her husband Jeff, and their two children Nicholas and Kimberley, all attended Texas A&M University. Kimberley is also seeking a law degree from Texas Tech University.

Upon her retirement, Lorie will leave behind a distinguished legacy and her influence will be felt throughout Rockwall County for many years to come. I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Lorie Grinnan, and wishing her the best of luck on her future opportunities.

SUPPORT OF THE BIRMINGHAM REPUBLICAN WOMEN'S CLUB

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Birmingham Republican Women's Club of Michigan, who like so many organizations throughout our country have diligently educated our citizens on various public issues facing us today. Exercising their Constitutional right to peacefully assemble and in many cases petition their government for a redress of grievances in support of the restoration of liberty, not in restricting it; shrinking our bloated government, not expanding it; who want to reduce taxes, not raise them; abolish costly government programs, not create them; expose the abuses and oppressions of tyrannical dictates; and promote the freedom and independence of our citizens, not the interference of government in their lives; and observe the limited, enumerated powers of our Constitution, not ignore them.

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Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few short minutes to give this testimony in support of a truly American organization.

HONORING MY FRIEND AND HERO, MRS. JEAN CLELAND

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and hero, Mrs. Jean Cleland, who passed away on September 9th, 2013. Jean Cleland was the happiest, most gallant and giving hands-on social justice advocate I have encountered. Jean was committed to all aspects of her life from advocating for social justice, to her family, and her faith.

She was a devoted and loving wife, mother and grandmother to her 6 children and 3 grandchildren. The Cleland home was open to all the neighborhood children where they enjoyed playing on a zip line 30 years ago and had frequent backyard barbeques. She and her husband Robert refused to get a television in their home until the mid-60's because they felt time was better spend reading, playing and enjoying family time together. Jean and Bob were happily married for 65 years at the time of his death in 2010.

A role model and friend, Jean worked at the North Shore Senior Center as a Case Manager and Director of Community Education for 35 years, until early 2013. In the '50's and '60's Jean became one of the founders of the Wilmette Human Relations Committee and the North Shore Summer Project. Those programs were essential for ending north suburban housing discrimination. The North Shore Summer Project organized Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s 1965 speech on the Winnetka Village Green, and Jean had the honor of pinning an ''Equal Housing'' button on Dr. King's lapel the day he gave that famous speech to more than 8,000 people. Jean often said it was the highlight of her life.

As a strong and independent family, Jean and Robert belonged to Wilmette's First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, for 54 years. They were leaders in opposing the Vietnam War and the Iraq War, and persistent voices for peace and nuclear disarmament. Jean was a firm believer in justice and the notion that justice is intentional; she once said that ''Justice doesn't happen accidentally, it takes hard work and strong beliefs.''

Jean was the Chair of the Wilmette Housing Commission and effectively advocated for three low-income senior buildings in the village. Jean concentrated her volunteer efforts around open housing for more than 60 years. Jean was also a founding board member of the North Shore Interfaith Council, now called Open Communities and served on its board for over 30 years.

A committed and hard working citizen, Jean not only gave back to her community, she served as a powerful and compassionate advocate beyond its borders. I am honored to call her a dear friend and to be among the legions of people, young and old, who relied on her as a role model and example for living a meaningful and giving life. Her work has made this world a better place for countless people, and her name will live on in the hearts and minds of those she helped. May she Rest in Peace.

A TRIBUTE TO ALVISO ADOBE COMMUNITY PARK

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the fifth anniversary of the opening of Alviso Adobe Community Park in Pleasanton, California.

A collaborative historical project between the City of Pleasanton and the Museum on Main, Alviso Adobe Community Park is home to the Alviso Adobe, the first adobe building in the Amador Valley and a California Historical Landmark.

The park serves as a valuable resource for students and visitors interested in the economic, social and political life in California from the establishment of the Bear Flag Republic, through the Mexican-American War, the Gold Rush, and the granting of statehood.

A re-creation of the historic Meadowlark Dairy milking barn and bunk house now features indoor interpretive displays that tell the story of California from its earliest Native American beginnings.

Demonstration areas give visitors a hands-on experience in the activities of the past, such as making adobe bricks, ice cream, and learning how plants were used by the Ohlone people. The park grounds also have been carefully landscaped with native plants and fruit and nut trees amidst ancient Heritage oak trees and a seasonal creek.

I again join with the community of Pleasanton in congratulating Alviso Adobe Community Park on five years of celebrating our rich history. I look forward to the park serving as a valuable education resource for many more years to come.

THE BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD REPUBLICAN CLUB

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

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Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 2775, Continuing Appropriations Act, as amended.
Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 25, Budget Resolution, as amended.
Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 24, Adjournment Resolution.
The House agreed to S. Con. Res. 24, Adjournment Resolution.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S7503–S7561

Measures Introduced: Three bills and seven resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1573–1575, S. Res. 269–274, and S. Con. Res. 24. **Page S7536**

Measures Passed:

Continuing Appropriations Act: By 81 yeas to 18 nays (Vote No. 219), Senate passed H.R. 2775, making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30 2014, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S7531–32**

Adopted:

Reid/Mikulski Amendment No. 2004, to provide continuing appropriations. **Page S7531**

Reid Amendment No. 2005, to amend the title. **Page S7532**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 83 yeas to 16 nays (Vote No. 218), 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 bill. **Pages S7531–32**

***Budget Resolution*:** Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 25, establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023, after taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S7532**

Adopted:

Murray Amendment No. 2006, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S7532**

Senate insisted on its amendment, and requested a conference with the House thereon. **Page S7532**

Budget Resolution: Senate disagreed to the House Amendment to S. Con. Res. 8, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023, agreed to conference with the House thereon, the Chair appointed the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators Murray, Wyden, Nelson, Stabenow, Sanders, Whitehouse, Warner, Merkley, Coons, Baldwin, Kaine, King, Sessions, Grassley, Enzi, Crapo, Graham, Portman, Toomey, Johnson (WI), Ayotte, and Wicker, and the conferees were instructed to report back a conference report by December 13, 2013. **Page S7560**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that it not be in order for the Senate to consider a conference report with respect to H. Con. Res. 25, or S. Con. Res. 8, if it includes reconciliation instructions to raise the debt limit; that all of the above occur with no intervening action or debate; and that H. Con. Res. 25, as amended, and agreed to, be held at the desk until a message is received from the House relative to H.R. 2775, making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30 2014, and if the House fails to concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 2775, this agreement be vitiated. **Page S7531**

National Character Counts Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 272, designating the week beginning October 20, 2013, as ''National Character Counts Week''. **Page S7559**

Day of the Deployed: Senate agreed to S. Res. 273, designating October 26, 2013, as ''Day of the Deployed''. **Page S7559**

Lights On Afterschool: Senate agreed to S. Res. 274, supporting Lights On Afterschool, a national celebration of afterschool programs held on October 17, 2013. **Page S7559**

Adjournment Resolution: Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 24, providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and an adjournment of the House of Representatives. **Page S7559**

Measures Considered:

Default Prevention Act: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1569, to ensure the complete and timely payment of the obligations of the United States Government until December 31, 2014. **Pages S7503–31**

Appointments:

Board of Trustees of the Open World Leadership Center: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to the provisions of 2 U.S.C. 1151, as amended, appointed the following individual to the Board of Trustees of the Open World Leadership Center: Senator Heinrich of New Mexico vice Senator Levin of Michigan. **Page S7560**

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that during the adjournment or recess of the Senate from Wednesday, October 16, 2013, through Monday, October 28, 2013, the Majority Leader and Senators Kaine and Rockefeller be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions. **Page S7560**

Authorizing Leadership To Make Appointments—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding the upcoming recess or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President Pro Tempore, and the Majority and Minority Leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate. **Page S7560**

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that on Wednesday, October 16, 2013, Senator Begich be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions. **Page S7560**

Pro Formas—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that when the Senate completes its business, it adjourn and convene for pro forma sessions only with no business conducted on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Thursday, October 17, 2013 at 12:15 p.m.; Monday, October 21, 2013 at 1:30 p.m., and Thursday, October 24, 2013 at 12:00 noon; and that the Senate adjourn on Thursday, October 24, 2013, until 2:00 p.m. on Monday, October 28, 2013, unless the Senate receives a message from the House that it has adopted S. Con. Res. 24, the adjournment resolution. **Page S7560**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12978 with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–22) **Page S7535**

Griffin Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Richard F. Griffin, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board. **Page S7532**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Wednesday, October 16, 2013, a vote on cloture will occur at approximately 5:30 p.m., on Monday, October, 28, 2013. **Page S7532**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 4:30 p.m., on Monday, October 28, 2013, Senate resume consideration of the nomination, with up to one hour of debate, equally divided and controlled in the usual form, prior to the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination. **Page S7560**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Carol Waller Pope, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years expiring July 1, 2014.

Michael Wayne Hail, of Kentucky, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation for a term expiring December 10, 2017. **Page S7959**

Ernest W. Dubester, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years expiring July 29, 2017.

Olga Viso, of Minnesota, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2018.

Kevin A. Ohlson, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces for the term of fifteen years to expire on the date prescribed by law.

Ranee Ramaswamy, of Minnesota, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2018.

Rick Lowe, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2018.

Andrea Levere, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Consumer Cooperative Bank for a term of three years.

Roberto R. Herencia, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation for a term expiring December 17, 2015.

Zachary Thomas Fardon, of Illinois, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois for the term of four years.

Stephen Woolman Preston, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Defense.

Gregory Dainard Winfree, of New York, to be Administrator of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, Department of Transportation.

Nisha Desai Biswal, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs.

Scott S. Dahl, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of Labor.

Julia Frifield, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs).

Caroline Kennedy, of New York, to be Ambassador to Japan.

Sylvia I. Garcia, of Michigan, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Transportation.

Christopher A. Hart, of Colorado, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term expiring December 31, 2017.

Deborah A. P. Hersman, of Virginia, to be Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term of two years.

Deborah A. P. Hersman, of Virginia, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term expiring December 31, 2018.

Stevan Eaton Bunnell, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security.

Patrick Pizzella, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years expiring July 1, 2015.

Bradley Crowell, of Nevada, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs).

Beth F. Cobert, of California, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget. **Pages S7558–59, S7560–61**

Nomination Discharged: The following nomination were discharged from further committee consideration and placed on the Executive Calendar:

Michael P. O'Rielly, of New York, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission for the remainder of the term expiring June 30, 2014, which was sent to the Senate on August 1, 2013, from the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. **Pages S7559, S7560**

Messages from the House: **Pages S7535–36**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Pages S7536, S7559–60**

Measures Held at the Desk: **Page S7536**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S7536**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S7536–39**

Additional Statements: **Pages S7534–35**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S7539–58**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S7558**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—219) **Page S7532**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 11:36 p.m., until 12:15 p.m. on Thursday, October 17, 2013. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S7560.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 5 public bills, H.R. 3295–3299 were introduced. **Page H6643**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H6643**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 2072, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the accountability of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to the Inspector General of the Department of Veterans Affairs, with an amendment (H. Rept. 113–245). **Page H6643**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Harper to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H6607**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:43 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H6611**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Reverend Dr. Kurt Gerhard, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, Washington, DC. **Pages H6611–12**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote. **Pages H6612, H6626**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:34 p.m. and reconvened at 9:20 p.m. **Page H6616**

Report Filing: Agreed by unanimous consent that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure have until 5 p.m. on Monday, October 21, 2013 to file a report to accompany H.R. 3080. **Page H6616**

No Subsidies Without Verification Act—Order of Business: Agreed by unanimous consent that it be in order at any time to take from the Speaker's table H.R. 2775, with the Senate amendments thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a single motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendments; that the Senate amendments and the motion be considered as read; that the motion be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations; and that the previous question be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question. **Page H6616**

No Subsidies Without Verification Act: The House agreed to the Rogers (KY) motion to concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 2775, to condition the provision of premium and cost-sharing subsidies under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act upon a certification that a program to verify household income and other qualifications for such subsidies is operational, by a yea-and-nay vote of 285 yeas to 144 nays, Roll No. 550. **Pages H6616–26**

The motion to concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 2775 was considered pursuant to a previous special order of the House.

Setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023—Order of Business: Agreed by unanimous consent that (1) the House be considered to have taken from the Speaker's table S. Con. Res. 8; adopted an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of H. Con. Res. 25, as adopted by the House; adopted such concurrent resolution, as amended; insisted on its amendment; and requested a conference with the Senate thereon; and (2) during the remainder of the 113th Congress, it shall not be in order to offer a motion under clause 7(c) of rule 22 with respect to S. Con. Res. 8. **Pages H6626–42**

The Chair appointed the following conferees on S. Con. Res. 8: Representatives Ryan (WI), Cole, Price (GA), Black, Van Hollen, Clyburn, and Lowey. **Pages H6641–42**

Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the need for the continued availability of religious services to members of the Armed Forces and their families during a lapse in appropriations: The House agreed to take from the Speaker's table and agree to H. Con. Res. 58, as amended, to express the sense of Congress regarding the need for the continued availability of religious services to members of the Armed Forces and their families during a lapse in appropriations. **Page H6642**

Adjournment Resolution: The House agreed to S. Con. Res. 24, providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and an adjournment of the House of Representatives. **Page H6642**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency declared with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia is to continue in effect beyond October 21, 2013—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 113–66). **Pages H6615–16**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today and a message received from the Senate today appear on pages H6616, H6642.

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H6625–26. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and at 10:55 p.m., pursuant to S. Con. Res. 24, the House stands adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, October 22, 2013.

Committee Meetings

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE'S IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee and Committee on Natural Resources held a joint hearing entitled ''As Difficult As Possible: The National Park Service's Implementation of the Government Shutdown''. Testimony was heard from Jonathan B. Jarvis, Director, National Park Service, Department of Interior; Greg Bryan, Mayor of the Town of Tusayan, Arizona; and public witnesses.

BUSINESS MEETING

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a meeting on Member Access Requests. This was a closed hearing.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, *p. D991)*

H.R. 3095, to ensure that any new or revised requirement providing for the screening, testing, or treatment of individuals operating commercial motor vehicles for sleep disorders is adopted pursuant to a rulemaking proceeding. Signed on October 15, 2013. (Public Law 113–45)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2013

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to receive a closed briefing on United States military operations in Libya and Somalia, 9:30 a.m., SVC–217.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH–219.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

12:15 p.m., Thursday, October 17

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

(If the Senate receives a message that the House of Representatives has agreed to S. Con. Res. 24, Adjournment Resolution, Senate will next meet at 2 p.m., on Monday, October 28, 2013.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 p.m., Tuesday, October 22

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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