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Senate

(Legislative day of Monday, March 7, 2022)

The Senate met at 10:30 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the Honorable TAMMY BALDWIN, a Senator from the State of Wisconsin.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, Your majestic Name fills the Earth. Nature testifies to Your might, wisdom, and love. Lord, Your glory is higher than the Heavens.

As our lawmakers depend upon Your strength to silence the enemies of freedom, deliver us all from evil. Defend the righteous who cry to You even in the night seasons. Send Your angels to protect those who stand up against the fury of their enemies. Arise, O Lord. Wake up, and bring justice to our Nation and world.

We pray in Your powerful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, March 8, 2022.

To the Senate:

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

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

POSTAL SERVICE REFORM ACT OF 2022—Resumed

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3076) to provide stability to and enhance the services of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Schumer (for Peters) amendment No. 4955, to modify the deadline for the initial report on the operations and financial condition of the United States Postal Service.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

EMMETT TILL ANTILYNCHING ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, in 1922, the first robust antilynching bill was successfully passed by the House of Representatives. Once it came to the Senate, a block of Southern segregationists mounted a filibuster to kill it in its tracks.

Over the decades, similar bills met similar fates. Throughout the 20th century, scores of antilynching bills were introduced, only to be promptly buried into obscurity. In 2018, Congress came closer than ever to finally passing antilynching legislation before it was thwarted at the eleventh hour.

But last night, finally—finally—after more than 200 failed attempts to declare lynching a Federal crime, the Senate succeeded in taking long, overdue action by passing the Emmett Till Antilynching Act.

Hallelujah. Congress has finally declared lynching a Federal crime, as it should have done more than a century ago. That it took so long is a permanent, bitter stain on American history; but, finally, a century's worth of efforts has now paid off.

To say this is a historic accomplishment is impossibly inadequate. Generations of civil rights leaders and advocates dedicated their lives to getting Congress to recognize the humane, obvious truth: that lynching was an intolerable injustice inflicted primarily on disenfranchised Black Americans.

Thousands upon thousands of Black Americans have been victims of lynch mobs across the country, and indifferent States have rarely responded, if ever. Many of the sworn officers of these States and localities not only ignored but often participated when these atrocities occurred.

Despicable. Horrible. America should be so ashamed of this chapter in her history. And while no single congressional action can fully erase the injustices committed against victims of lynching, last night was an important step in the never-ending work of perfecting our Union. Only by confronting the darkest elements of our history can we make straight the path toward a brighter and more just future.

I want to really applaud Senator BOOKER. He has been diligent and hardworking and valiant in getting this to happen. He had a great partner in Senator SCOTT—bipartisan. And on the

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

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House side, the person who lit this candle and kept it glowing even in the most disappointing of times was BOBBY RUSH. He never gave up.

Congress has finally taken action, and this bill now heads to President Biden's desk, finally—finally—for signature.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING AND CORONAVIRUS

Madam President, now on COVID, Republicans and Democrats continue making good progress toward reaching a deal to fund the government. We are almost there. We are very, very close, and, hopefully, it will be done in the next few hours.

This bill, the spending bill, comes at a consequential moment. War in Europe has focused the energies of Congress into getting something done and getting it done fast, quickly. But one crucial element of the funding bill is getting less attention, and it is as important as just about anything in this bill. That is approving a new round of COVID preparedness funding.

For all the important priorities we must address in this spending bill, I believe the COVID funding will go down as one of the most important—one of the most important—elements of the omnibus, and I have been pushing really hard to get it done, working across the aisle to convince our Republican colleagues that we need it.

Now that all the Federal COVID aid under the American Rescue Plan has run out, approving new COVID funding is about insurance—far better to prepare for new variants today than to play a frantic game of catchup tomorrow, when it would be too late. We cannot let it be said that America, after the third or fourth variant hits our shores, is unprepared; does not have adequate testing, therapeutics, vaccines. We cannot let that be said again.

The first time it happened, of course, we were unprepared. We didn't know what had happened. But, unfortunately, even in the second and third, President Trump's administration was not very eager to move forward, trying to ignore it, saying it didn't really present a danger, which, of course, it has.

So now Democrats and Republicans, thankfully, have come together, and both sides of the aisle have come to realize that new COVID funding today is about insurance—far better to prepare today than play a frantic game of catchup tomorrow, when it is too late. The funding will support more vaccines, testing, therapeutics, and healthcare workers, and that is why I have been pushing so hard to get it done.

Across the country, life is returning to normal, thankfully. Cases are falling. More people are going about without masks. Restaurants, churches, and stores are filling up. I see that in my hometown of New York. Most importantly, classrooms are full; schools are staying open.

Now that we are turning the corner, now that we are getting back to normal, the last thing we can afford to do is let our guard down, lest a new variant comes back with a vengeance and catapults us all back to square one, a place where we all do not want to be.

Sadly, we know from experience that another variant is a very real possibility. No one can say for certain how the virus will mutate, but today we have the tools and know-how to fight this virus the minute it hits our shores, while preserving as much of normal life as possible.

All that is needed is the Federal funding, and $15 billion of that funding will be in the omnibus bill. So that is why I pushed so hard to get COVID funding into the spending bill. I am encouraged to see that Members have come around to recognize its importance, and I hope we can get it done very, very soon.

Furthermore, I am pleased that we are likewise close—very close—to passing a strong and ample aid package that will help the people of Ukraine fight against Putin's immoral war. They desperately need humanitarian aid, as millions of people are without food, without heat, without shelter, without medicine. They desperately need the arms to defend themselves against brutal Russian aggression, often viciously aimed at civilians who are escaping. We pledged to get something big done, and in the coming hours I expect we will be able to announce that we have followed through.

H.R. 3076

Madam President, on another matter—a lot is going on in the Senate this week—I am pleased to report that as soon as today the Senate is set to deliver for the post office. The post office usually delivers for us, but today we are going to deliver for them.

Every single day, tens of millions of Americans rely on the post office for life's daily essentials. Seniors and veterans rely on it for their medication. Small business owners rely on it to keep their operations going. Small towns and rural Americans use it to stay connected, and every time we receive a wedding invitation, birthday message, or postcard from a relative, it is almost always the post office at work, making us happy, receiving those nice letters and birthday cards from brothers and sisters and relatives and friends from far-flung places.

But we all know the frustrations of waiting on packages that fail to arrive on time. We all know that when the post office is forced to cut hours of operation or delivery routes or lay off workers, the rest of us are worse off.

Thankfully, for the past few months, Democrats and Republicans have been working together in good faith to reform some of the most troubled parts of the Postal Service. Now, we are only one rollcall vote away from sending this bill to the President's desk, and that vote is likely to come today.

After the Senate votes on this bill, we will happily be able to say that, finally, postal reform is signed, sealed, and delivered for the American people. I look forward to getting this done and thank my colleagues, especially Senators PETERS and PORTMAN, for their bipartisan work.

COSTS

Madam President, on costs—the costs that the American people face when they buy things weekly through their daily lives—yesterday, we saw another instance of Republicans going out of the way to show the American people where their priorities lie.

A few months ago, the junior Senator from Florida callously called inflation a ''gold mine'' for the Republican Party. People are suffering and paying more, and the Senator from Florida says it is a ''gold mine'' for the Republicans?

A few weeks ago, we saw what he meant. That same Senator released a party platform that openly called for raising taxes on millions of American families, potentially by more than $1,000 a year.

People can't afford that.

And, yesterday, the junior Senator from Wisconsin called for the GOP to revive their failed efforts to rip away affordable healthcare for tens of millions of Americans—a fresh reminder of an old desire that Republicans have harbored for over a decade.

Cheerleading inflation, raising taxes on working Americans, repealing affordable healthcare: Is that the platform of today's Republican Party? At this point, perhaps the Senator from Wisconsin should join the Senator from Florida in creating a new ''Hurting Working Families Caucus'' so we can more easily track their truly repressive vision for the American people.

Meanwhile, Democrats believe we should be lowering costs for Americans, not raising them. We should be working on a bipartisan basis to fight inflation, not root for it to go up. So, tomorrow, Democrats will hold our annual DPCC retreat to discuss our plan to lower costs, building on historic job growth, and expand opportunity for the middle class.

Over the next few months, my colleagues will be holding hearings and markups on many of our cost-cutting proposals. Among the ideas we are working on are included bills to cap insulin costs at $35 a month, lowering the cost of meat at the grocery store, reforming unfair shipping practices that raise the costs of American goods for everybody, and fixing domestic supply chains.

These are issues that the American people need help with. It is what Democrats will maintain a focus on. And I thank my Republican colleagues for helping us remind the American people which party truly stands in their corner.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Republican leader is recognized.

UKRAINE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, as I mentioned yesterday, Senators had the chance to hear directly from Ukraine's President Zelenskyy over the weekend. He and his constituents—the brave people of Ukraine—have won the hearts and minds of all of us all across the world.

Their pain, of course, is Putin's fault, but as I and others warned for weeks before the invasion, that pain has been compounded by the West's hesitation and sluggishness in helping Ukraine prepare for this onslaught, which we could all see coming. This crisis was not only foreseeable; it was, in fact, foreseen.

Republicans spent months urging President Biden to put more lethal aid in Ukrainian hands before Russian invasion made those deliveries much more difficult. We urged the administration to reinforce our eastern flank NATO partners before Putin escalated his war against Ukraine rather than playing catchup. We called for heavier sanctions before Putin had fully committed his forces and his pride. We warned repeatedly that the Biden administration must not let these actions be slowed down to the speed of bureaucracy. But that is, of course, what happened.

As President Zelenskyy himself said publicly last week, while he appreciates all the Western help, much of it is ultimately arriving ''too late.''

The Biden administration is now finally doing many of the things they slow-walked months ago as too provocative or too escalatory: providing Stingers, sharing intelligence, deploying more forces to NATO's eastern flank, finally, getting out of the way of sanctioning Nord Stream 2.

Now, as supplies dwindle and safe resupply and transit corridors narrow, friends of Ukraine will have to work even harder to help the citizens and their government stay in the fight.

It has been obvious for some time that Ukraine would benefit from receiving Soviet-era aircraft and air defense systems from our eastern flank NATO partners that still maintain inventories of such weapons. The United States can help these allies worried about giving up such capabilities by helping to backfill with American-made and NATO-standard weapons. I understand the administration may be finally coming around to support this but, again, at the stately pace of bureaucracy. This needs to get done and get done yesterday.

(Mr. PADILLA assumed the Chair.)

Meanwhile, the Congress is acting; that includes additional security assistance funding for Ukraine and for our eastern flank NATO allies in the supplemental appropriations bill, along with funding for loan guarantees to help eastern flank countries buy American weapons to shore up our collective defenses.

I appreciate the Democratic leader working in good faith to accommodate my request that the funding bill significantly increase the security assistance drawdown fund available to the President and to backfill our DOD stockpiles that are helping our friends in harm's way. I hope we finalize those steps soon.

This supplemental is urgent, but the fact is, the White House has, thus far, taken steps to limit their own options and made them miss the window to provide impactful assistance. This administration not only reportedly refused a request prior to the conflict to increase the number of U.S. military trainers in the country but moved the advisers we had to the far west of the country and then pulled them from the country entirely, like they also pulled out our entire diplomatic mission.

These noncombat advisers could have helped facilitate more shipments of weapons to the field and more training to teach Ukrainians how to use them. They could have laid important logistical groundwork to ensure weapons could continue to flow through the frontlines after the conflict began.

In area after area, the record shows the Biden administration pulled their punches, even though everyone knew—knew—that the war was coming, and even so, the Ukrainians are mounting an incredible and brave resistance.

Imagine where these brave people might be now if the administration had moved at the speed of necessity rather than the snail's pace of bureaucracy. Now we must commit to keep lethal aid flowing.

We have to continue strengthening NATO and deepening our security partnerships and interoperability with other European partners. We need to encourage more commitments like the German Chancellor's recent announcement that they will massively step up their investment in their own defense and in NATO. And perhaps most important of all, we cannot have Washington politicians in the business of short-changing our own defense spending at the very time when we are pleading with Western Europe to increase theirs.

We have to lead by example and make the kind of robust investments needed for long-term competition with Russia and China.

In the meantime, the sobering reality is that Ukraine is very likely to see more and escalating brutalities in the days and the weeks ahead. The world remembers the butchery in Grozny and the cold-blooded targeting in Aleppo, and the world will remember this moment as Russia sics conscripts on Ukrainian civilians and arrests its own people when they object.

For all of the Kremlin's lies about Ukraine, about how it is supposedly just an extension of Russia and its people are really Russians, we now know for certain that Russians and Ukrainians do have, in fact, at least one thing in common: Vladimir Putin considers their lives equally disposable.

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mr. President, now on a related matter, the price of gas jumped more in the past week than any week on record. This, of course, began long before Russia invaded Ukraine. Even before that, families across America were paying dramatically higher gas prices than they faced when President Biden took office. I expect our Democratic friends will now try to blame the entire increase in prices on our efforts to punish on Russia, but don't be fooled. This is more than a year in the making.

Back in November, President Biden's Secretary of Energy was asked about any efforts—any efforts—to ramp up production of our own abundant American energy, and she literally laughed at the question. ''That is hilarious,'' Secretary Granholm said.

The Secretary suggested that increasing domestic production would be futile because the market for oil is global. Well, it sure is. But right now the free world is considering making this market a little bit less global to punish Russia for its brutal conquests in Ukraine.

So it would sure be nice if America had gone into this crisis with more headroom on supply and on gas prices. Just 3 years ago, under Republican policies, we had become a net oil exporter for the first time since World War II.

But Democrats are completely committed to their ideological holy war on affordable energy. From the campaign trail, then-candidate Biden promised, ''I guarantee you we are going to end fossil fuel.'' And in office, the Biden administration has used its considerable Executive authority to actively target affordable American-made oil and natural gas.

On his first day in office, the President canceled the pipeline project that would have sped the safe transport of reliable fuel. The very next week, he suspended all new Federal leases on oil and natural gas exploration.

So Washington Democrats spent months trying to pass policies that would drive the most affordable, reliable, and abundant forms of America energy—and the jobs they support—literally into extinction.

Just yesterday, as even our Western European friends are realizing that green fantasies can't fuel their countries and are trying to turn back toward nuclear, coal, and domestic natural gas, Biden administration officials gave a press conference where they repeated the same—the very same—platitudes about renewables.

You really can't make this stuff up. The Democrats in charge of the United States of America want us to embrace the same failed strategies from which our European friends are frantically backpedaling as fast as they can.

So while the Ukrainians are fighting Russia, Democrats are trying to fight a war on the law of supply and demand. They only want to have to look at solar panel and windmills here at home. So they want to get our oil and gas from everywhere else, but many of the biggest players in the global market are countries that don't much care for the United States. And now the Biden administration's green hostility to domestic energy production has been going hat in hand begging our antagonists to increase production. After spending a year hammering America's own energy producers, the Biden administration appears to be commencing a world tour to try to buy oil from people who don't like us.

As I mentioned yesterday, the administration appears close to a deal that would help Iran enrich more nuclear material and enrich its economy by lifting oil export sanctions.

Reports also suggest U.S. officials have met with the Maduro regime with the aim of relaxing sanctions on Venezuelan oil as well. This administration wants to ramp up energy imports from Iran and Venezuela? That is the world's largest state sponsor of terror and a thuggish South American dictator, respectively.

So they would rather buy from these people than buy from Texas, Alaska, or Pennsylvania. Just let that sink in.

The administration is also apparently making similar overtures to Saudi Arabia. Obviously, the Saudis are not an adversary like these other countries, but I doubt the American people are thrilled to see President Biden trying to increase our dependence on Middle Eastern oil and OPEC while declaring America's own resources off limits.

A green light for the Arabian Gulf and a red one for the Gulf of Mexico—what sense does that make? The political left thinks that affordable energy is dirty and bad so they are happy to export the dirty work and import the oil. Let's ask our friends in Europe how that plays out.

Outsourcing even more production to dictators and theocrats is not the answer. Dumping more subsidies into solar panels and charging stations, praying everything works out, is not the answer. The answer is to let Americans produce American energy.

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

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

INFLATION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, it took several months and the worst inflation in 40 years, but finally—finally—Democrats are acknowledging that we have an inflation problem.

The President actually acknowledged inflation in the State of the Union last week. But, unfortunately, while Democrats may finally be talking about inflation, they still don't seem to understand how we got here, and they are continuing to push a whole raft of terrible proposals that would hurt working families and make our inflation crisis even worse.

So how did we get here? Why are Americans currently struggling with huge grocery bills and big price increases on essential goods? It is true that supply chain issues and the reopening of economies after COVID shutdowns created certain inflationary pressure, but a big part of the reason things are so bad in the United States right now is because of the American Rescue Plan spending spree the Democrats passed last March.

When Democrats took office last January, inflation was at 1.4 percent, well within the Fed's target inflation rate of 2 percent. And it might have stayed there had Democrats not decided that they needed to pass a massive partisan $1.9 trillion spending spree under the guise of COVID relief—mere weeks, I might add—after Congress had already passed a major COVID bill. That is right. President Biden and congressional Democrats took office right after Congress had approved a fifth—fifth—bipartisan COVID relief bill, and it was abundantly clear that we were not in immediate need of trillions more in government spending.

But that didn't matter to Democrats. Now that they were in control of Congress and the White House, they wanted to take advantage of the COVID crisis. So in the name of COVID relief, they pushed through a massive partisan piece of legislation filled with unnecessary spending and handouts to Democratic interest groups.

And, of course, the results were predictable. The bill flooded the economy with unnecessary government spending, and the economy overheated as a result. In the words of Jason Furman in a January New York Times article, '' 'The United States has had much more inflation than almost any other advanced economy in the world,' said Jason Furman, an economist at Harvard University and former Obama administration economic adviser. The difference, he said, comes because 'the United States' stimulus is in a category of its own.' ''

Unfortunately, Democrats seem unable—or unwilling—to recognize that it was their policies that helped push us into our current inflation crisis. In fact, the President used his State of the Union Address to push for even more—more—excessive government spending, a sure way of making our inflation crisis even worse—and not just increased in spending but major new entitlements.

Yes, our Nation is massively in debt, inflation is soaring, and Democrats think now is a good time to create major new entitlements, and, of course, to raise taxes to pay for them. The President claims that he won't raise taxes on anyone making less than $400,000, but that is not actually the case. Analysis of Build Back Better proposals reveals more than one tax hike would hit Americans with incomes below $400,000. And then there are the indirect costs.

A centerpiece of the President's tax plans is increasing taxes on corporations. While that may sound like a tax hike on the uber rich, the truth is that the burden of corporate tax hikes would fall heavily on ordinary workers in the form of lower wages, decreased job opportunities and retirement savings, and a less vibrant economy.

The President likes to talk about tax fairness, about hiking taxes on corporations and wealthy Americans so that they pay ''their fair share.'' Of course, he ignores the fact that wealthy Americans pay a disproportionately large share of taxes in this country and that the Federal Government has seen a huge increase in corporate tax receipts, thanks in part to business growth in the wake of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

All that aside, I find the President's call for wealthy Americans to pay their fair share highly ironic considering the Democrats managed to include a tax break for wealthy Americans in their Build Back Better plan. That is right. The Democrats' SALT proposal would overwhelmingly—overwhelmingly—benefit affluent taxpayers in high-tax States. Apparently, making wealthy Americans pay their fair share only applies to wealthy Republican Americans or until wealthy Democrats start asking for tax breaks.

On the corporate tax side, in the State of the Union Address, the President highlighted the corporate minimum tax he is proposing. What he didn't mention was that his corporate minimum tax isn't actually a minimum tax at all. Thanks to the clean energy and affordable housing tax credits the President is advocating, among other credits, companies that take action on Democrats' preferred policies could end up completely evading Biden's so-called minimum tax. So much for making corporations pay their fair share.

In his State of the Union Address, the President highlighted ''the revitalization of American manufacturing.'' He said, ''Companies are choosing to build new factories here when just a few years ago, they would have gone overseas.'' He said that in the State of the Union speech.

The revitalization of American manufacturing is, indeed, something to celebrate. But, unfortunately, President Biden wants to undo the very tax policies that helped create the conditions for this manufacturing renaissance in the first place.

Before Republicans passed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act in 2017, we were experiencing a wave of inversions, which is a wonky way of saying that companies were moving their headquarters overseas. Why were companies moving

overseas? Because of the punishing corporate tax system we had in the United States. Prior to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, the United States had the highest corporate tax rate in the developed world. That put American businesses at a real disadvantage next to their foreign counterparts, and it created a significant incentive for U.S. companies to move jobs or their entire companies overseas. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act addressed this problem by lowering our Nation's massive corporate tax rate and bringing the U.S. international tax system into the 21st century.

How did it work? Well, in the wake of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, inversions stopped—stopped—and as the President pointed out, companies are building here in America. To quote the President of the National Association of Manufacturers:

Reducing tax rates drove historic growth in the manufacturing sector.

Unfortunately, if the President has his way, this manufacturing renaissance would likely drastically slow or come to an end altogether. Hiking taxes on American companies, as the President wants to do, would once again put American companies at a competitive disadvantage next to their foreign counterparts.

If the President hikes corporate taxes, we won't be seeing a surge of new building in America or companies keeping jobs here at home. Instead, we will be seeing fewer American jobs and more jobs and companies heading overseas. Democrats have already wreaked a lot of economic harm on American families with their American Rescue Plan spending spree. And the other policies that they are pushing and the tax hikes and new entitlements the President outlined in his State of the Union Address would prolong our inflation crisis and do further damage to our economy and to American workers and families.

I am glad the Democrats are finally recognizing that inflation is a problem, but it would have been nice if they could also recognize how their spending helped get us into this mess in the first place and how their current tax hike and spending plans would hurt Americans and result in a less prosperous economy in the future.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

IRAN

Mr. HAGERTY. Mr. President, much of the news media today is focused on Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine—and rightfully so—but not enough attention is being paid to negotiations that are happening today and have been happening in Vienna.

The Biden administration seems dead set on reviving, at any cost, the Iran nuclear deal. Worse, President Biden's chief negotiator Rob Malley—who, I observe, is not a Senate-confirmed official—outsourced our negotiations for reviving this flawed Iran deal to the Russians. This is outrageous.

Let me get this straight. We are working hand in glove with Vladimir Putin to reach a deal that will help Russia evade sanctions being imposed for its aggression in Ukraine and work with its ally Iran.

This is not the way to protect the safety and the interest of the American people.

This is what Russia's chief negotiator to the Iran talks had to say about what he has accomplished for the Biden administration:

I am absolutely sincere in this regard when I say that Iran got much more than it could expect, much more.

He recently told reporters, adding:

Realistically speaking, Iran got more than, frankly, I expected or others expected. This is a matter of fact.

Again, this is Russia's chief negotiator making this statement.

Most alarmingly, this revived deal would pave Iran's path to a nuclear weapon. News reports also suggest that the revived deal would quickly unleash $90 billion in frozen funds to Iran—again, the world's biggest state-sponsor of terrorism. Moreover, Iran can expect to earn roughly $50 billion annually in renewed oil exports.

It is unconscionable that the Biden administration appears more eager to unleash the energy production in Venezuela and Iran than right here in America. The Biden administration is so stubborn and blinded by its ideological green energy fantasies that it would rather work with terrorists and dictators—folks with some of the worst human rights records in history—than admit it was a mistake to abandon America's energy independence. This administration would rather work with killers than with American drillers.

As before, the Iranian regime will use this massive windfall of sanctions relief to fund terrorism and aggression against our ally Israel, against our Arab partners, and against Americans serving in the Middle East.

Let me be clear. The Trump administration was right to withdraw us from the Iran nuclear deal in May of 2018. But I am not here today to debate the pros and cons of resurrecting the Iran deal. We will likely have that debate in the days to come, probably sooner than most people think.

Rather, I am here today to argue for preserving the role that Congress—amid concerns that the Biden administration will not submit their new Iran nuclear deal for review and for an up-or-down vote—that Congress must maintain its role as required by U.S. law.

If news reports are to be believed, the Biden administration may be nearing the end of negotiations for an agreement to resuscitate the Iran deal. As Reuters reported recently:

The draft text of the agreement, which is more than 20 pages long, stipulates a sequence of steps to be implemented . . .

In 2014 and 2015, many lawmakers passionately argued that the original Iran deal should have been submitted to the Senate as a treaty, requiring our advice and consent under the U.S. Constitution. But because the Obama administration refused to follow the Constitution, Congress was compelled to enact the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act, or INARA. INARA passed the Senate in a 99-to-1 vote—99 to 1. This is nearly unanimous, a bipartisan vote that reflects how frustrated the Senate is that the executive branch was trying to circumvent Congress on such an important matter. INARA clearly requires that any agreement—I repeat, any agreement—related to the nuclear program of Iran should be submitted to the Senate and to the House for congressional review, including for an up-or-down vote.

It is beyond debate that the Biden administration is required by law to submit any new agreement for reviving the Iran deal to Congress for congressional review, but the Biden administration has not clearly committed that it will submit whatever agreement it is negotiating in Vienna for our review and an up-or-down vote by Congress.

If the Biden administration refuses to submit its new Iran agreement to Congress, it will be ignoring the law and undermining the role of this body in foreign policy.

Last year, I was concerned this might happen. That is why I introduced the Iran Sanctions Relief Review Act of 2020. My bill borrows a provision from the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act, or CAATSA, an act that overwhelmingly passed Congress in 2017.

The CAATSA provision allows for congressional review and an up-or-down vote on any Presidential waiver of Russia's sanctions. My bill takes word-for-word that same provision and applies it to any Presidential waiver of Iran sanctions. This is important because any new agreement to revive the Iran deal will require once again the executive branch to waive Iran sanctions. In other words, my bill protects the role of Congress if the executive branch ignores INARA and refuses to submit the new agreement to the Senate and to the House.

So far, 37 Senators have cosponsored the Iran Sanctions Relief Review Act with me. This number is significant because 37 Senators would be more than enough to deny the Senate's advice and consent if the executive branch actually followed the Constitution and presented a new Iran agreement to the Senate as a treaty.

I urge my colleagues who have not yet cosponsored the Iran Sanctions Relief Review Act to join me and to do so. We must protect the first branch of government from an executive branch that seeks to encroach upon it or even to ignore it.

I also remind the Biden administration, the Iranian regime, and the world of a fact that should be patently obvious by now: Any agreement to revive the Iran nuclear deal that lacks the Senate's advice and consent under the

Constitution—that is, that lacks the support of 67 Senators—will not survive multiple Presidential administrations. It will be ripped up just like it was the last time. And I have zero doubt that, as before, the next Presidential administration will end this deal again and will snap back sanctions—with a vengeance—against the Iranian regime and those countries that were foolish enough to trade with it.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

POSTAL SERVICE REFORM ACT

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I have come to the floor to speak in support of the Postal Service Reform Act, which is now pending before the Senate.

The mission of the U.S. Postal Service since the Continental Congress appointed Benjamin Franklin as our Nation's first Postmaster General in 1775 has been to ''bind the Nation together.''

So it sounds kind of like a pretty quaint, outdated idea, but it is actually serious; it is actually statutory.

And 39 U.S.C. tasks the Postal Service with binding our Nation together by delivering all of our mail to every American promptly, reliably, and efficiently, no matter where we live.

The Postal Service Reform Act will improve the Agency's ability to meet that requirement, including in large, geographically remote places, like Alaska, where it certainly has a significant impact on our lives.

We count on the Postal Service to deliver not only the letters and the magazines and the bills, but also necessities of life: food, medicine, business inventory, spare parts. Just about anything you could possibly think of for daily life comes to us in Alaska through the mail service.

The Postal Service is unique in its universal service obligation and the fact that it delivers both mail and packages to Americans in every community, whether you live in Key West, FL, or Utqiagvik, AK. No other Federal Agency or commercial enterprise does this.

But it is becoming more and more difficult for the Postal Service to accomplish the swift completion of their appointed rounds, as we recall.

And believe me, I certainly hear about the Postal Service's decreasing ability to provide its services promptly, reliably, and efficiently. I hear about it as soon as I get off the airplane when I get back home. I hear from individuals all over the State, telling me the concerns that they have about mail that is late or perhaps not delivered at all.

Our phones ring in our offices around the State because a small post office has been closed for a period of days because the postmaster has left, and there is no replacement available.

I hear about the long lines to pick up mail, the long lines to just even buy a stamp in some of our smaller communities that get inundated by tourists in the summer.

So we know. We hear the strains on our Postal Service. Despite postal workers' dedication, the fact of the matter is that the Agency is in trouble, and it needs the reforms that are contained in the bill that is pending before us.

While many Americans believe the Postal Service is supported by the American taxpayer, that is not the case. Congress only reimburses it for mailing audio books to the blind and ballots to overseas voters. That is it.

The Postal Service has to meet its payroll and fund retiree health benefits; maintain its facilities, equipment, and vehicles; deliver the mail to its destination on time with its own revenue from the sale of postage. But their financial instability is making those responsibilities harder and harder to fulfill.

So we are debating this legislation on the floor today to give the Postal Service the tools that it needs to be successful and to fulfill its essential mission and to hold the USPS accountable for improved performance because we all want to see that.

So this legislation that we will hopefully vote on later today is not without controversy. Reform legislation is never without controversy, but that is why I appreciate the opportunity to outline what I think are some of the positive provisions.

Importantly, the bill increases the Postal Service's accountability for on-time delivery and requires greater transparency in achieving the goal. The bill requires that mail delivery not only be prompt and economical but also consistent and reliable and provided in a manner that increases operational efficiency.

It requires the USPS to develop a new, searchable public performance dashboard that is updated weekly so both Congress and the public can keep a close eye on whether or not they are living up to our expectations.

It also requires new regular reporting to the Postal Regulatory Commission, the PRC, and to Congress on a variety of indicators, including the impacts of price changes and information about reliability, efficiency, and cost effectiveness, Postal workforce recruitment and retention, and how investments in equipment and infrastructure are impacting service.

In addition, the PRC and the Postal Service's inspector general must identify why there are inefficiencies in the collection, sorting, transportation, and delivery of large envelopes, newsletters, and magazines.

These findings will be reported to Congress and the Postmaster General. USPS would then have 6 months to put in place PRC-approved changes that will fix whatever faults may have been found.

The bill will also do what many of us have advocated for, which is reform the cost of healthcare for USPS employees and their retirees.

So it provides needed stabilization for the USPS health benefits system, and, hopefully, it will relieve the pressure on their budget and support sustainable benefits for employees and retirees. This is a key provision.

The bill also codifies an appropriations rider that has long required the USPS to integrate the delivery of letters and packages for 6-day delivery and includes a fair compromise on the attribution of costs for processing and delivering packages.

One of the—I guess—top complaints that I hear from Alaskans is that the cost of shipping via commercial package services is oftentimes more than the price of the item itself. Integrated delivery of mail and packages saves the U.S. Postal Service money by allowing it to be more efficient.

And while UPS and FedEx charge most Alaskans extra for delivering their packages, these companies then drop their packages off in Anchorage at that hub and let the Postal Service take care of what we call last mile delivery. Well, in Alaska, that often means the last several hundred miles.

Now, some are concerned that USPS subsidizes the cost of packages with revenue derived from delivering letters. But in fact, the law that we passed in 2006, the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act, forbids the Postal Service from cross-subsidizing revenue to make sure that it is competing fairly with commercial package carriers.

Current law also requires that package delivery covers all of its attributable costs, and while the Postal Regulatory Commission and the Federal courts have examined and upheld the cost attribution methodology, the Postal Service Reform Act requires yet another look, which I think is probably a fair compromise.

Importantly for Alaskans and for me, this legislation will not result in cost increases for the essential bypass mail program. This is what it says it is. It is essential. It is a program that allows rural Alaskans who live in communities that are not connected by roads—about 80 percent of our communities are in that situation—but allows them to receive pallets of food, whatever necessary mailable matter that comes from stores in Anchorage or Fairbanks, without millions of individual boxes of goods going through Postal facilities. And that benefits the consumer, and it saves the Postal Service tens of millions of dollars a year in operating costs and untold millions in facility costs.

While the Postal Service Reform Act directs the PRC to engage in another review of attributable costs, I have

been assured by both sides of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, by the PRC, and by the Postal Service that this provision will not impact bypass mail, and I certainly intend to hold them to their word.

Another concern that I want to address over this bill is allowing USPS to partner with State, local, and Tribal governments to provide nonpostal services. Now, I understand where this comes from, but this legislation specifically requires that any nonpostal services must cover their own costs without any degradation to regular Postal services.

So, in my view, if the U.S. Postal Service can help deliver additional services to the American public under these two caveats, then they should be allowed to do so.

So H.R. 3076 is a big step forward in helping the Postal Service achieve financial stability. It will enable the Agency to continue to bind the Nation together with efficient and cost-effective universal service and allow postal employees to achieve the swift completion of their appointed rounds. It is supported by a wide array of businesses, both large and small, all who rely on our Postal Service. It is supported by Postal employees, by retired Federal employees, and the Postal Service itself.

It has received overwhelming bipartisan support in the House of Representatives. I certainly hope that it will draw the same here in the Senate, and I want to commend the chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, as well as Ranking Member PORTMAN, for the good work that they have done in bringing this bill to us today.

(Ms. ROSEN assumed the Chair.)

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Madam President, now, while I am still here on the floor, I want to take just a moment and acknowledge that today, March 8, marks International Women's Day.

This is a day for us to recognize the achievements and the contributions that women are making in communities across the globe, and, as an Alaskan, I am going to start local first, because I have got so many, many phenomenal women in my State who are doing incredible things, and I am exceptionally proud of them.

I was home over the weekend. We were celebrating the start of the 50th running of the Iditarod race. This is an extraordinary feat of just strength and grit and determination and resilience.

There were 49 mushers that left Willow on Sunday; 17 of those mushers who will make the trek to Nome are women—17 women. So we have got a very, very strong field, but running a race like this, where it is the musher and your team of dogs going through the wilderness of Alaska—we have got deep snow throughout. The moose are not in a very cooperative mood right now. There are dangers along the trail, and who knows what the conditions are going to be like a week from now. And so it takes an extraordinary individual.

And to know the strength of women, as they have taken on the Iditarod—when award-winning or world-renowned winner Susan Butcher first won that race—she has won that race four times—but when she ran it about three decades ago, there was a popular bumper sticker that was going around the State at the time. It was, ''Alaska, where men are men and women win the Iditarod.'' We were pretty proud of Susan Butcher. We are hoping that our women do well and all of our mushers do well.

But like these female mushers who are racing, women leaders are virtually in every field, from healthcare to resource development, to fishing, to our universities, and everything in between, and many of us are very proud to know that they have become somewhat household names, some of them.

This year, we were able to celebrate Emma Broyles, a young woman from Anchorage, 20 years old. She became the first Alaskan and the first Korean American to ever be crowned Miss America in the 100-year history of that event. So we are very proud of her. I was able to celebrate with her this weekend at the Iditarod itself.

Another young woman that we have celebrated this past year is Lydia Jacoby. Lydia is from Seward, AK, and at 17, she competed in her first Olympics. She brought home the gold medal for this country, winning the 100-meter breaststroke race. So we were all eyes on Lydia. So proud of her.

And there are so many who deserve our thanks and our gratitude. I always like to give a shout-out to an exceptional leader in our State, who has provided critical leadership and guidance throughout the pandemic, Dr. Anne Zink.

It is so important to know that it is not necessarily finishing at the end of a race or a crown or a medal. It is just the endurance that goes with the day-to-day completion of your work.

I was on the floor just last month to recognize the work of Native civil rights advocate Elizabeth Peratrovich, who pushed the Territory of Alaska, our legislature at the time, to pass the first antidiscrimination act in the Nation. We did this in 1945. We are so proud of how she, as a Native woman leader, made our State and our Nation a more inclusive and more representative democracy.

So, today, on International Women's Day, it gives us an opportunity to recognize the impressive feats that women have taken on and have accomplished. It is a day to thank women for their daily contributions—again, both big, where they win the awards and they make the headlines, but also for those day-to-day contributions that they make to raising healthy, strong children, to being the fabric in the family, to being that contributor in the workplace.

But this isn't a day that we just look back and recognize those who have made great accomplishments. It is also a day that we look ahead at the work that we have to do to continue to advance equality and justice for all women.

Just down the hallway from here in the Rotunda is the Portrait Monument. We all see it; we walk by it; and maybe we don't even notice it anymore but take a look at it next time. We know the pioneering women who are represented on it: Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Susan B. Anthony.

But we need to look at it more carefully, and we need to remember there is a fourth bust that Adelaide Johnson did not sculpt, and the base of the monument is also unfinished. It is a reflection of the unfinished struggle for women's rights and equality.

So for all the progress that we have made, and we know it has been considerable, Madam President, as you are sitting in that chair and this woman from Alaska is addressing you—we have made great progress, but the struggle is unfinished.

The data documents the gaps in gender equality in our country, and too many women feel it firsthand in their daily lives. So on International Women's Day, I also want to remind the Senate of a couple important ways that we can help further women's rights.

And I am pleased that my colleague Senator CARDIN is on the floor at this moment because we have been working together. We have been working together to try to do this unfinished business when it comes to ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, to ensure women's equality is expressly recognized in our Constitution.

Three-quarters of the States have now ratified that amendment. Alaska did it back in 1972, Virginia most recently in 2020. I am hopeful that its time has come.

And to help facilitate that, Senator CARDIN and I have introduced a resolution to remove the arbitrary ratification deadline from the ERA so it can finally take effect. I think the Senate needs to take this resolution up and pass it like the House of Representatives did last year.

Another step—a critical step—that we must take now is the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act to help ensure that there is a path to justice for survivors of interpersonal violence.

I was very proud to introduce the new VAWA bill with Senator DURBIN, Senator ERNST, and Senator FEINSTEIN last month. I am pleased—so pleased—that we have 22 total cosponsors, 11 from each party.

Our bipartisan bill modernizes the nearly three decades' old Violence Against Women Act, and it reauthorizes important programs that provide services to survivors. It directs resources to prevent further violence and hold perpetrators accountable for their

actions. And it takes needed and important steps to address domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

I mentioned dating violence. We have a provision that I have included and we have named after an Alaskan victim of dating violence, and that is Breanna Moore.

We focused on improving access to medical forensics for victims of violence, including through training for medical professionals that will allow them to provide evidence-based and trauma-informed care.

We have a strong Tribal title in this VAWA bill. It builds on VAWA 2013 by closing the gaps in the law to protect Native people. The Tribal title also includes an Alaska pilot program which provides a targeted solution to help empower Tribes in a way that recognizes the unique and complex jurisdictional landscape that we have in my State. It is a recognition that Tribes are valuable partners. They are critical partners that can play a larger role in providing public safety while reducing the burden on my State.

As I have said many times before, there should be nothing—nothing—partisan about keeping people safe from violence. And our VAWA reauthorization is a result of many years of hard work and negotiations by advocates and stakeholders alike. I hope that we can consider this and pass this very, very soon.

I recognize the great work of Senator ERNST on our side and Senator DURBIN and Senator FEINSTEIN on the other side of the aisle. It has been an effort that is timely, is needed, and is necessary.

So I am happy to be able to recognize, for just a few moments on this International Women's Day—as we celebrate the many, many incredible women in our lives and in our country, we also recognize that our work for true equality remains unfinished, but we have got some good paths forward if we can just try.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, first, let me thank Senator MURKOWSKI for her leadership on behalf of women's issues here in the U.S. Senate. I join her in calling for the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women's Act. I am glad that she mentioned that. I join her as her partner in the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. We have to pass a resolution here extending the date. Senator MURKOWSKI has been a leader on all these issues.

During Women's History Month, I am using this time to point out the progress we have made. Senator MURKOWSKI mentioned that we have made tremendous progress on behalf of gender equality in the United States, but we still have a path in front of us. I was pleased to see Senator MURKOWSKI point out the challenges that still exist and the reason why we need to be active in regard to gender equity issues, including the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act and the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. So I thank her for her leadership, and I am glad to be her partner on many of these issues.

So today, we can celebrate the progress that has been made and call attention to the obstacles that exist. Throughout our Nation's history, generations of women have won hard-fought battles in pushing closer and closer toward securing full citizenship and all that entails.

Our Nation today is stronger from this progress, reaching new milestones in gender equality. President Biden announced earlier this month his historic selection of Judge Jackson to fill the role of the retiring Supreme Court Justice Breyer on the highest Court in our land. Judge Jackson would be the first Black woman to serve on the Court and only the fifth woman to serve as a Justice of the total of 115 who have served on the Supreme Court throughout our history.

I was pleased, along with Senator VAN HOLLEN, to recommend Lydia Griggsby to serve on the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland. She is the first Black female judge to serve in the State of Maryland.

Yes, we have a lot to celebrate during Women's History Month here in March.

During President Biden's recent State of the Union Address, which I attended, I was struck by the image of House Speaker NANCY PELOSI and Vice President KAMALA HARRIS flanking President Biden. Vice President HARRIS is our first woman and first woman of color to hold the second highest office in the land. Though they undoubtedly both experienced significant challenges and obstacles on their career path due to their gender, they are now serving in two of the highest ranking offices in our government.

President Biden has appointed one of the most diverse Cabinets in history, including the first women to serve as Treasury Secretary and Director of National Intelligence.

We have a lot to celebrate on our path for gender equality in America, but we still have more that needs to be done.

At the same time, structural disadvantages and inequalities on account of gender persist across so many areas here in America. As one example, as chair of the Small Business Entrepreneurship Committee, where the Presiding Officer also serves, I have been working over the course of the COVID–19 pandemic to understand the economic effects on small businesses and to help provide needed resources. In this role, I have seen firsthand the structural disadvantages experienced by women-owned small businesses and how they have been compounded by the challenges of this pandemic. We need to take action to help in regard to that issue.

Further, the Supreme Court actions to date in cases related to reproductive freedom indicate an alarming openness to overturning the precedents that have given women control over their own bodies and futures for decades. Among many other very important reasons, full reproductive autonomy is essential in ensuring that women are able to participate fully as citizens in all facets of our democracy.

I am pleased that President Biden established the first Gender Policy Council to advance gender equity across the entire Federal Government and that the Gender Policy Council issued the first-ever national gender strategy to support the full participation of all people, including women and girls in the United States and around the world.

Yes, we have unfinished business in regard to gender equity issues. I am committed to working to advance the Equal Rights Amendment that Senator MURKOWSKI talked about. The two of us are the lead sponsors of the resolution in this body that would remove the arbitrary time limit.

This simple amendment, the Equal Rights Amendment, first written by Alice Paul in 1923, states:

> Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any state on account of sex. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

I can't understand any objection to including that fundamental protection in the Constitution of the United States.

As President Biden stated in his Presidential Proclamation during this Women's History Month, ''But despite the progress being made, women and girls—especially women and girls of color—still face systemic barriers to full participation and wider gaps in opportunity and equality . . . The Congress sent the Equal Rights Amendment to the States for ratification 50 years ago and it is long past time that the principle of women's equality should be enshrined in our Constitution.''

And as Senator MURKOWSKI said, the requisite number of States have ratified the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution. The arbitrary time limit that was put on by Congress is the only reason we haven't had a certification process.

The vast majority of Americans agree with this principle today. A 2020 AP poll found that 74 percent of Americans—74 percent—favor the Equal Rights Amendment. A second spring poll conducted by Pew found that 78 percent of respondents were in support of adding women to the Constitution. In a nation as divided as ours has become, a principle with this level of support on this important topic compels our attention and our action.

Given that so much has changed since this amendment was first written and since it was first proposed by Congress to the States, it is worth explaining some of the practical effects it

could have if formalized today. First, it would expand legal recourse against gender discrimination. Second, it would empower those of us in Congress to enact stronger laws preventing gender discrimination across a wide array of issues. Third, it would require the Supreme Court—or courts—to use a higher standard of review than is currently applied in the cases of gender discrimination.

The ratification of the ERA could be expected to have effects across such diverse areas as pay discrimination, LGBTQ rights, gender-based and domestic violence, sexual harassment, and more. This constitutional amendment would provide a firmer foundation for existing laws and create new authority for Congress to pass laws in areas in which it has historically lacked a constitutional prerogative.

Our Constitution is a framework of, by, and for the people. It must be able to evolve to meet the changing views and beliefs of the people. Already a majority of the U.S. Senate has cosponsored the bipartisan resolution that I referred to, S.J. Res. 1, that Senator MURKOWSKI and I introduced to remove the procedural deadline that Congress once set to honor the clear will of the people and to make the legitimacy of our 28th Amendment clear beyond a doubt.

The House of Representatives has already passed this resolution twice. It is time for us to do the same. I look forward to the opportunity to bring this resolution to the floor in the coming months and would strongly urge every one of my colleagues to support that resolution. Thirty-eight States have already ratified it. Most Americans already think it is in our Constitution. Let's get that job done.

BICENTENNIAL BIRTH OF HARRIET TUBMAN

Madam President, March 8, as has been pointed out, is International Women's Day. It happens during the month of March, which is Women's History Month, here in the United States.

I wish to commemorate the bicentennial birth of one of Maryland's most iconic leaders, a true American hero who has inspired global human rights' defenders, and that is Harriet Tubman.

As we close this year's chapter of Black History Month and ring in Women's History Month, what better way to celebrate these annual observances than by honoring the valor, journey, and life of Harriet Tubman and her fight for freedom, which intersects with our modern-day fight for civil rights, climate action, and environmental justice.

Harriet Tubman was born Araminta Ross in Dorchester County, MD, along our Eastern Shore, around 1822. She was the ''Moses of her people,'' personally leading at least 70 enslaved people to freedom. She is a cherished daughter of Maryland. She did this at great personal sacrifice to her own safety and freedom on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

This year, in 2022, we observe the bicentennial of the start of her life as a key leader in the abolition and women's suffrage movements. She embodied extraordinary courage and took immeasurable risks as a soldier, spy, and conductor on the Underground Railroad, leading her family and communities to freedom. In an unjust country to her race, she was there, working for America's future and helping to liberate the enslaved people.

In Maryland, this year also marks the 5-year anniversary of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Visitor Center, which opened its doors to the public in 2017. In its first year, it drew nearly 100,000 visitors from every State and more than 70 countries, exceeding all expectations. It is inspirational to see this visitor center and to see her journey through life and what she was able to accomplish. One person can make a difference. As Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., told us frequently, ''Each one of us in this world can make a difference.'' Harriet Tubman made such a difference throughout her lifetime.

The visitor center houses exhibit space that shares Tubman's compelling story, surrounded by landscape and waterways preserved to resemble how they would have appeared to her over 200 years ago in her early life as an enslaved child, young woman, and freedom seeker. The Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Monument and National Historical Park preserve these characteristics in her early home on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

The visitor center serves as an orientation center to the national monument and historical park and gateway to the larger Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Scenic Byway, which includes the Brodess Farm, where Harriet Tubman lived as a child; Bucktown General Store, where she first stood up against the oppressors as a young girl; and other places that were part of the Underground Railroad in Dorchester, Talbot, and Caroline Counties.

I recently introduced legislation with my colleagues in the Baltimore congressional delegation, S. 3744, reauthorizing the designations of the Baltimore National Heritage Area, which encompasses listings on the Underground Railroad network.

Harriet Tubman was not only a fierce defender for freedom from slavery but also for the women's rights movement, particularly for Black women. Following her treacherous journey to freedom, Harriet Tubman spoke on the importance of women's suffrage in New York, Washington, and Boston. In 1896, she was one of the first guests to speak at the National Association of Colored Women and was hailed a strong advocate. Women secured the right to vote in 1920 with the 19th Amendment, but it wasn't until 1965 that voting rights became a reality for Black women.

Let me conclude my comments on Women's History Month by once again quoting from President Biden.

As President Biden proclaimed Women's History Month this month, he said:

As we reflect on the achievements of women and girls across the centuries and pay tribute to the pioneers who paved the way, let us recommit to the fight and help realize the deeply American vision of a more equal society where every person has a shot at pursuing the American dream. In doing so, we will advance economic growth, our health and safety, and the security of our Nation and the world.

I yield the floor.

RECESS

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now recess until 2:15 p.m.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 12:19 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. SINEMA).

POSTAL SERVICE REFORM ACT OF 2022—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Arkansas.

HONORING SERGEANT JOSHUA CAUDELL

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I have the privilege of being with my fellow Senator, TOM COTTON, as we rise today to honor two Arkansans who gave their lives in service to others recently.

Arkansas Department of Corrections Officer Sergeant Joshua Caudell was a member of the department's K–9 team who responded to a call to assist his fellow law enforcement officers with a disturbance call.

During the course of searching for a suspect, Sergeant Caudell was shot and later died from his injuries. Born in Little Rock and raised in Redfield and White Hall, Sergeant Caudell was a White Hall High School graduate of the class of 2011.

Service was something that defined his life. In high school, he participated in the school's ROTC program. He then went on to serve in the Army National Guard and is a 10-year veteran of the Arkansas Department of Corrections with a variety of units.

He also served his family with deep care and devotion. As a loving husband and father, Sergeant Caudell put his wife and children above all else. They shared a special bond and never left any doubt about how much they meant to each other.

His friends describe Sergeant Caudell as a kind, generous person who was a real-life hero. He loved to fish and grill, cheer on his daughter's softball team, ride horses with his fellow Department of Corrections field officers, and support the Arkansas Razorbacks.

His sacrifice in the name of protecting the community and enforcing the rule of law will never be forgotten.

We are so grateful for his example and willingness to do the tough and dangerous job of ensuring public safety.

HONORING JASON LANG

Madam President, sadly, the Natural State lost another first responder in

the last few days, West Memphis firefighter Jason Lang.

Lang was traveling to another city for an EMT training class when he stopped to provide assistance to others involved in a traffic accident. He was struck by an 18-wheeler while rendering aid.

Originally from Iowa, Jason Lang was an Eagle Scout and a volunteer firefighter who was just starting his adult life. We were fortunate that his path brought him to Arkansas, where he was eager to begin serving the West Memphis community.

Lang was an enthusiastic and promising young man who, on day one, wanted to be an integral part of the important work that first responders do to help support those in need. He learned that example from his own family, with a father who served as a police officer for decades and a brother who is a volunteer firefighter.

He may have only been with the West Memphis Fire Department for a few months, but his chief recalled viewing him as a future leader in the organization from the first time that they met. His heroic and selfless actions will be admired and appreciated for years to come.

Those who perform such acts do so without regard for their own safety, which is the hallmark of public service. So today, we remember both Sergeant Joshua Caudell and firefighter Jason Lang for what they gave to their respective communities: themselves, totally and unflinchingly.

We regret that their actions were necessary, but we will be forever grateful that these two men did not hesitate to put their own safety aside in the name of protecting and helping others.

I join with Senator COTTON and so many others to share our gratitude and admiration for these heroes, as well as our sorrow that they paid the ultimate price in the line of duty.

We pray for their loved ones and colleagues as they mourn these fallen guardians who served others to the very end.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, today, I stand with a heavy heart, alongside Senator BOOZMAN, to mourn the deaths of two great Arkansans, Arkansas Department of Corrections Sergeant Joshua Caudell and West Memphis firefighter Jason Lang. They both died as they lived: serving their fellow Arkansans.

Like every State, Arkansas is suffering terribly from the crime wave that has crashed across the country in the past 2½ years. Our men and women in law enforcement are on the frontline of this crisis, fighting against the forces of disorder, ridding our streets of poisonous drugs, facing down evil itself.

Sadly, too many in law enforcement have paid the ultimate price while protecting the innocent and fighting the guilty.

HONORING SERGEANT JOSHUA CAUDELL

Madam President, last Monday, another Arkansan lost his life as an officer in the line of duty.

The other week, Pulaski County Sheriff's deputies were asked to check on a woman who hadn't shown up to work that day. Her friends were concerned about her well-being and wanted to make sure she was safe. When the deputies arrived at the woman's house, an armed assailant opened fire, forcing them to take cover and call backup. The shooter managed to escape, and deputies then called in canine officers to find the would-be cop killer.

One of the officers assigned to this dangerous job was Sergeant Joshua Caudell. Sergeant Caudell helped track the shooter to a trailer not far away. Tragically, unknown to the officers, the shooter was lying in wait underneath the trailer. He once again opened fire on the police, this time hitting Sergeant Caudell and killing him.

Sergeant Caudell was 29 years old. He had a wife and three children. My prayers and Senator BOOZMAN's prayers reflect the prayers of all Arkansans going out to his family. We can only imagine their heartbreak and pain.

The heinous criminal who committed this murder is now in custody. He will face justice—stern, swift, and fair. And he must face the sternest justice possible because an attack on a law enforcement officer is also an attack on the rule of law, on order, on civilization itself.

Sadly, the slaying of Sergeant Caudell was not the only tragedy that befell our State in the last 2 weeks.

HONORING JASON LANG

Madam President, on Saturday, February 26, 20-year-old West Memphis firefighter Jason Lang was on his way to an EMT class when he saw that a stranger had gotten into a car accident. Exactly as you would expect from such a fine public servant, he pulled over, and he tried to help the crash victim. As he was selflessly helping the stranger, Jason was tragically struck by an 18-wheeler and killed.

Jason's death is a heartbreaking loss for our State. When Jason saw a fellow Arkansan in distress, he ran toward the danger. Every young boy and girl should aspire to serve their community with the same sense of bravery.

Today, all of Arkansas weeps red and blue. My heart and Senator BOOZMAN's heart goes out to all Arkansas firefighters and police officers who do so much for our State each and every day.

President Reagan said in his first inaugural address that ''those who say that we're in a time'' without heroes ''just don't know where to look.'' Jason Lang and Joshua Caudell were, indeed, heroes; and we can look to them, and we can honor their legacy. God bless them, God bless their families, and God bless the State of Arkansas.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—AMENDMENT NO. 4936

Mr. LEE. Madam President, the U.S. Postal Service is in dire trouble. The Government Accountability Office has listed its financial viability as high risk, and it has been in that status since 2009.

From 2007 until 2020, the Postal Service had losses of $86 billion and over $188 billion in unfunded liabilities and debt. From October to December of last year alone—just a few months—it lost $1.3 billion.

I think it is a mistake to rush postal reform now, when Congress should instead debate and consider the country's response to and role in the Ukraine-Russia situation. We could be responding to skyrocketing energy prices. Nevertheless, I do very much support dealing with the post office and reforming the post office. We have to do this.

Unfortunately, this bill falls far short in much more than just its timing. It does nearly nothing to make the Postal Service solvent.

I have offered 12 amendments. Sadly, my efforts, along with those of my Republican colleagues, have been blocked. But I can't just step aside without trying to make the bill better.

Today, I would like to briefly speak about just 2 of the 12 amendments I have filed, just two of them in particular, and ask that they be called up and voted on.

The first strikes a provision in the bill that would require the Postal Service to ''maintain an integrated network for the delivery'' of postal products and would require the disclosure of the rates that the USPS charges private companies for the last mile delivery of packages.

The term ''integrated network'' isn't defined in the bill, and it could be easily used to bundle or combine expenses, which would in turn allow the USPS to further disguise serious costs and make a proper accounting of certain products difficult or even impossible.

The simple idea of an ''integrated delivery network'' may seem benign—and the term itself sounds friendly enough—but words do matter. Words in context and their meaning, these are things that matter.

This particular legislative text with no clear definition is ripe for abuse. Because the Postal Service is required to deliver to every American, even on unprofitable routes, the Postal Service may be charging lower than market rates in its service contracts with private companies. This may not only shortchange the Postal Service, making further taxpayer bailouts likely, but it could also distort competition in the package delivery market.

The American public deserves a proper accounting of Postal Service rates, and my amendment will ensure this disclosure is provided in a fully transparent manner.

My second amendment prohibits the Postal Service from shipping any ''abortion inducing drug.'' Chemical

abortions have four times the complication rate of surgical abortions and are far more likely to send women to the emergency room. Unfortunately, in December of 2021—just a few months ago—the Food and Drug Administration permanently rescinded a long-standing regulation that required healthcare professionals to dispense chemical abortion pills to patients in person, allowing them to be sent through the mail without even basic precautions to protect the life and health of the mother.

Not only does this policy change threaten the lives and the health of women, but it raises the disturbing possibility that perpetrators of sexual abuse may be further enabled to hide their crimes from legal authorities and health professionals through mail-order abortion.

Furthermore, because taxpayer dollars—particularly, over the last few years—have funded the Postal Service's operations, American taxpayer resources are funding abortion and putting women at risk. Congress must put an end to this and exercise its authority to ensure that the U.S. Government does not encourage or facilitate the use of these dangerous and lethal abortion drugs.

I also support the efforts of my many colleagues. Senator SCOTT's amendment would alleviate some of the financial burdens that this bill would impose on taxpayers and the Medicare Program by forcing the Postal Service to reimburse Medicare for all of the additional costs that would be created by requiring future postal retirees to enroll in Medicare.

Congress and the Postal Service have historically made bad policy and business decisions, and now, instead of fixing those or otherwise meaningfully addressing them, it is simply shifting millions of workers from coverage historically provided by an independent Federal Agency onto taxpayers more broadly.

The Postal Service and the American people deserve a thoughtful bill, one that reforms its key challenges, setting the Agency up for long-term success.

But without any amendments to change the trajectory, this bill only kicks the can down the road without making the serious changes that are needed today.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to set aside the pending amendment and call up my amendment No. 4936. Further, I ask that the amendment be reported by number, that there be 2 minutes of debate equally divided on the amendment, and that the Senate then vote on adoption of the amendment with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, the Postal Service Reform Act before us here today represents consensus on essential reforms for the U.S. Postal Service, overdue for over a decade.

This legislation will ensure the Postal Service can provide long-term, reliable, 6-day-a-week service across the country, and put it on stable financial footing.

This amendment changes key service protections in the bill and adds new harmful provisions tailored to special interests of Postal Service competitors.

Our bill requires the Postal Service to maintain its current standard of delivery at least 6 days per week. It is absolutely essential to protect 6-day delivery so the Postal Service can continue serving as a critical lifeline for countless communities that rely on the mail for medications, for rent payments, for critical supplies, for Social Security checks, and so much more.

This amendment would change how the Postal Service operates today by altering their integrated network that allows mail and packages to be delivered together. This is more efficient for both the Postal Service and for their customers.

Instead, this amendment seeks to undermine the Postal Service's ability to compete against private carriers that do not have the same requirements to deliver to every single community in the United States of America.

The amendment would also force publication of contract information to Postal Service competitors. This would give away commercially sensitive information to private carriers and provide an unfair advantage, when the Postal Regulatory Commission already reviews every Postal Service contract to ensure both compliance as well as fairness.

I appreciated Senator PORTMAN's thoughtful comments against changing the key service protections in this bill. It is time to pass this bipartisan legislation as drafted and getting it signed into law.

I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Madam President, it is unfortunate that we are not able to vote on this. It is a simple measure, and contrary to the characterization by my friend and distinguished colleague, the Senator from Michigan, this is a simple transparency measure.

Look, the fact that there are people within the Postal Service reviewing the contracts doesn't solve the underlying problem. What we want is transparency. What we want to know is that the Postal Service isn't setting up contracts that are sweetheart deals to some companies, allowing them to be enriched on the backs of the American taxpayer and the consumer who uses the Postal Service. It is not too much to ask.

So it is unfortunate that we can't. All I want is a vote on that. We ought to be able to vote on it. It makes me wonder: What are they afraid of? What is the Postal Service so afraid of? What is the harm that can come from the American people knowing how these things operate? What is the harm that can come from striking a provision that is vague and ripe with opportunities for abuse—strike that and replace it with transparency provisions? We would all be better off. So that is unfortunate.

I do think we ought to consider that and also another amendment.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—AMENDMENT NO. 4937

Madam President, to that end, I ask unanimous consent to set aside the pending amendment and call up amendment No. 4937; further, that the amendment be reported by number, that there be 2 minutes of debate equally divided on the amendment, and that the Senate then vote on adoption of the amendment with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, this bill is limited to absolutely essential, consensus, bipartisan reforms that are necessary to ensure that the Postal Service can survive and can continue delivering for the American people.

Everything in this bill has bipartisan agreement. This bill passed the House by a vote of 342 to 92. It has broad support from the public, from the business community, and other stakeholders.

In contrast, this amendment is inflammatory and unnecessary to the postal bill. It is meant to be a poison pill. It would add abortion-inducing drugs to the list of nonmailable matter under postal law.

Under current law, the list of nonmailable matter includes items ranging from grenades to explosives, to controlled substances and narcotics.

However, the Postal Service is free to mail any FDA-approved drugs that are prescribed by healthcare providers and sent by either a pharmacy or a doctor.

There are no other FDA-approved medications that are prohibited from being mailed to patients in need.

This amendment is an attack on reproductive rights that would make it more difficult for women and families to safely access critical medical care, and it imposes an unnecessary hardship on women and families who are accessing their care using telemedicine, especially during a pandemic.

This amendment simply has no place in a bipartisan postal reform bill.

Madam President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Madam President, here again is an amendment. The Senate has to get back to the practice of amending bills. I understand not everybody is inclined to agree on it. I understand the abortion issue is tough for a

lot of people. They don't want to talk about it. But, look, until a few months ago, these weren't available through the mail system anyway. They still shouldn't be. I believe those who made that decision to allow that over the last few months were overlooking the health and safety concerns that had previously prohibited those things from happening.

Regardless, it really is unfortunate we can't even vote on this. I understand not everybody agrees on the substance of the amendment, but what previously made the Senate the world's greatest deliberative legislative body was the ability of any one Member to bring up an amendment and have it voted on. I think that is unfortunate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—AMENDMENT NO. 4933

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Madam President, first, I want to thank my colleague Senator LEE from Utah for his leadership on these issues, trying to make sure that the legislation we pass is legislation that we all have the opportunity to participate in.

I have been disappointed that I am on the committee that deals with the Postal Service and we didn't even have a vote on this. I didn't have any opportunity in the committee to propose an amendment. It doesn't look like I am going to have an opportunity here to have my colleagues vote on an amendment, and I don't think that is right.

The amendment I am going to talk about today is cosponsored by Senators JOHNSON, GRASSLEY, BRAUN, and LANKFORD, and I want to thank them for their support.

I absolutely support getting something done to reform the Postal Service and ensure more accountability to taxpayers. Unfortunately, the bill before us doesn't do that.

This legislation would add at least $6 billion in new costs to Medicare without any plan to pay for it—$6 billion and no plan to pay for it—and at least $5 billion to our Federal debt, a debt that is already surging above $30 trillion. I think we all should say that is unacceptable.

This bill doesn't reduce costs; it just shifts them from one unfunded government program to another unfunded government program.

Let's remember, Medicare costs are already skyrocketing. Further jeopardizing Medicare is a disservice to the 60 million Americans, including 4.5 million Floridians, who rely on it. My amendment would fix this. It would just require the Postal Service to pay for any new costs to Medicare that this bill will bring. This would ensure that Medicare isn't used like a piggy bank and that the taxpayer and future nonpostal retirees aren't forced to bear the burden of this postal bailout. And the Postal Service should pay their fair share.

I want to make this next point very clear. My amendment is germane. It deserves a simple majority vote. It deserves a vote. I am thankful I have the support of groups like 60 Plus and the Association of Mature American Citizens that represent the interests of America's seniors.

I urge my colleagues to support this.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to set aside the pending amendment and call up amendment No. 4933; further, that the amendment be reported by number, that there be 2 minutes of debate equally divided on the amendment, and that the Senate vote on adoption of the amendment with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, I oppose the Scott amendment, which would gut the bipartisan Postal Service Reform Act by nullifying the Medicare integration proposal.

Medicare integration is an absolutely key part of this bipartisan bill to provide long-term financial stability for the Postal Service. My colleague Senator PORTMAN spoke recently about why these criticisms of Medicare integration are simply unfounded.

This bill simply provides for future postal retirees, who have already paid into Medicare throughout their entire careers, to enroll in Part B and Part D. Roughly a quarter of postal retirees do not enroll in Medicare even though they are eligible. This means the Postal Service is stuck paying higher premiums.

This bill simply allows the Postal Service to do what other businesses and employers already do all across our country by integrating these retirees into Medicare. This saves the Postal Service money and saves taxpayer money. This bill reduces the deficit over 10 years by nearly $1.5 billion.

CBO has also made clear that the bill does not affect the Part A trust fund and will not have any effect on Medicare Part B or Part D premiums.

Postal workers are already eligible for Part A, and the number of new postal workers going into Part B will be fewer than 40,000 individuals, and that compares to 62 million people currently in the program.

The Postal Service Reform Act does not harm Medicare. It provides savings to the Postal Service and to taxpayers. It allows the Postal Service to survive, regain stable financial footing, and keep delivering for every single American. We need to stop delaying this bill. We need to pass the bill.

I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Florida.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Madam President, reserving the right to object, here is what I believe: We need to do everything possible to protect Medicare recipients and stop bankrupting our essential programs.

Senator JOHNSON has told me repeatedly that he has been asking for years. The Postal Service says they are putting all this money into Medicare, and he has had a simple request: How much money is the Postal Service paying for Medicare, and what are the recipients at the Postal Service receiving in benefits? No one can ever give an answer.

I asked for a CBO score. They said this is going to cost at least $6 billion, and it is going to increase our deficit by at least $5 billion.

So we have an unfunded program in the Postal Service, and we are going to move it and hurt our Medicare recipients.

My amendment—and I was told that this would not cost Medicare anything, so my amendment is pretty simple: whatever the incremental costs to Medicare are should be paid by the Postal Service. I mean, it is the Postal Service retirees; they are the ones who ought to pay for it.

So I don't understand why we wouldn't want to do this. I was told it was not going to cost anything.

By the way, the CBO score that is out there already says it is going to increase our deficit, and it is going to put our Medicare Program in worse shape. They can only give us numbers for the first 10 years. After 10 years, the numbers are going to be worse than the numbers I told you about.

So what I don't get is, one, why didn't we vote on this in the committee? Why didn't we have an opportunity to do an amendment there? Why don't we have an amendment vote on this on the floor? It is common sense.

I would think all of us would want to make sure we are not going to bankrupt Medicare, and all of us want to make sure that if it is going to cost Medicare anything, the Postal Service should pay for it.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

NOMINATION OF KETANJI BROWN JACKSON

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, late last month, President Biden announced the nomination of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson, the next Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.

As I said the day her nomination was announced, it is hard to think of a better jurist to replace highly regarded Justice Stephen Breyer. Over the past 10 days, we have all had a chance to learn about her record, and last week I met with her in my office. I would like to share what impressed me the most about her.

First is her breadth of experience. A graduate of Harvard Law School, she has worked in private legal practice. She served as a Federal public defender and served on the U.S. Sentencing Commission. She has clerked at every level of the Federal judiciary: for Judge Patti Saris on the District of Massachusetts, Judge Bruce Selya on the First Circuit, and Justice Breyer on the Supreme Court. That is an amazing resume.

She went on to serve as a Federal district court judge. Currently, she sits on the DC Circuit, often regarded as the second highest court in the land. And once confirmed, she will be only the second current Supreme Court Justice with experience as a trial court judge.

That means Judge Jackson will bring to the Court insights into the issues confronting Federal district courts every single day. And these same questions often make it to the Supreme Court for final review.

Second, I was impressed with her character and temperament. They are unimpeachable. During our conversation last week, we spoke about her family, her daughters, her upbringing, and the highlights of her career. I particularly enjoyed one story, which she has told before, about a letter that her daughter wrote to President Obama a few years ago. In it, she asked the President to appoint her mother to the Supreme Court. Well, it may have taken a bit longer than Judge Jackson's daughter anticipated, I can only imagine how proud she is today.

My conversation with Judge Jackson also made clear that she has the exact temperament we need on the Court. She is personable, humble, approachable. That last attribute is particularly important for a Supreme Court Justice.

The Supreme Court should not be shrouded in secrecy and mystery. Its process and its decisions should be clear and easily understood for the people in the Court as well as for the American public. With Judge Jackson on the Court, we can trust that will be true.

Third, Judge Jackson is clearly—clearly—within the judicial mainstream. She has a record of evenhandedness and impartiality, guided by the Constitution, the law, and the facts of the case. She is not a partisan or an ideologue. She is independent in her thinking, and she will maintain the Court's proper role.

Don't take my word for it. Judges and lawyers from across the political spectrum have said the same thing. Consider the support Judge Jackson enjoys from David Levi, who was appointed by President George H. W. Bush to serve on the Eastern District of California.

He wrote to the committee, and he said a Supreme Court nominee ''must be neutral, nonpartisan, exercise self-restraint, model civility, and approach each case with an open mind and with a determination to reach as just, wise, and correct a result as possible.''

And he concluded that ''[b]ased on what I know of Judge Jackson . . . I believe she has been that kind of a judge and will be that kind of a Justice.''

I could not agree more. Often, I have seen my colleagues on the other side of the aisle in their initial reaction to the judge—Judge Jackson—have said, well, I want to know more about her judicial philosophy. Certainly, they can draw their own conclusions, but I hope that they will read what David Levi had to say as well as other conservative jurists.

Sadly, Judge Jackson has already been subject to a number of baseless attacks so let's set the record straight. First, she has drawn criticism for refusing to comment when asked whether the Supreme Court should remain at its current size. Well, Judge Jackson's exactly right not to offer an opinion. As a nominee to the Supreme Court and a sitting judge on the DC Circuit, it would be totally inappropriate for her to opine on a public policy decision that only we can make in Congress.

Indeed, Judge Jackson's handling of this question mirrors the approach taken by Justice Amy Coney Barrett just a few months back when she was nominated to the Court.

At her hearing, when then-Judge Barrett was asked about the size of the Court, she then responded, it is ''a question left open to Congress'' and that if there were a ''specific constitutional question'' about the Court's size, she ''could not opine on it.''

Judge Jackson also has faced offensive questions from figures on the far right about her qualifications. This past Wednesday, FOX News talking head Tucker Carlson demanded that President Biden produce Judge Jackson's score on the LSAT exam.

Mr. Carlson said he wanted to see Judge Jackson's LSAT score to gauge if she was, in fact, ''a once in a generation legal mind.''

Isn't it interesting that Mr. Tucker Carlson never once asked for LSAT scores of President Trump's nominees to the Court: Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh, or Amy Coney Barrett. He never once questioned their qualifications to sit on the Court or their academic credentials.

Let's be clear: Judge Jackson graduated magna cum laude from Harvard University and cum laude from Harvard Law School. Not bad. As an undergrad, she received the Harvard College Scholarship for Academic Achievement. Let me repeat that—academic achievement. And she served as supervising editor on the Harvard Law Review.

Mr. Carlson, of course, is notorious for his outrageous comments. I don't expect he is going to offer any apology to Judge Jackson, but I would urge all my Republican colleagues to disavow his remarks and disassociate themselves from the innuendo.

We also continue to hear false allegations that Judge Jackson was handpicked by so-called liberal dark money groups. Once again, that claim is completely divorced from reality. The truth is this: President Biden undertook a rigorous process to select Justice Breyer's successor, seeking the advice of a bipartisan group of Senators. And after weeks of consideration, he, and he alone, chose Judge Jackson.

President Biden's selection process was deliberative, collaborative, and it took seriously the Senate's advice and consent role. It did not involve dark money groups. I can't help but note the irony of this line of attack coming from the other side of the aisle.

After all, it was President Donald Trump who bragged—bragged—that groups like the Federalist Society and Heritage Foundation actually drove his selection process for the Supreme Court.

As a candidate, Trump said:

> We're going to have great judges, conservative, all picked by the Federalist Society.

Trump, never at a loss for words, made it very clear where he went to find his nominee.

And Don McGahn, the Trump administration's first White House Counsel, said about the Federalist Society in judicial selection:

> I've been a member of the Federalist Society since law school. Still am. So, frankly, it seems like it has been insourced.

''Insourced'' was his word.

And it is worth adding that Republicans, including Senator MCCONNELL, have blocked every single effort to address the presence of hard money—dark money in our political system. We should have full disclosure. I support that. We are ready to vote on the floor. The leader on the Republican side resists.

Judge Jackson also has faced baseless claims that she is a partisan Democrat just nominated to rubberstamp the Biden agenda. These claims have no basis in fact. She is evenhanded and impartial, confirmed by the Senate on a bipartisan basis three different times, including last year.

If Judge Jackson were such a partisan, why would so many prominent conservatives be supporting her? The short answer is they wouldn't.

But she has that support and plenty of it, including from former Republican Speaker of the House Paul Ryan; retired DC Circuit Judge Thomas Griffith, a George W. Bush retiree; retired Fourth Circuit Judge Michael Luttig, a George H. W. Bush appointee; Bill Burck, a prominent Republican attorney who worked in the George W. Bush administration; Charles Fried, who served as Solicitor General during the Reagan administration, and many more.

These conservative jurists and attorneys have endorsed her precisely because she is independent and fair-minded. She will not rubberstamp any President's agenda. These conservative leaders know that on the Court, Judge Jackson will be faithful to the Constitution and the rule of law.

Finally, we hear the false allegation that Judge Jackson will be ''soft on crime.'' Look at her life, look at her record and at the support she now has from the law enforcement community.

As Judge Jackson noted in accepting the President's nomination, she has two uncles and a brother who serve as police officers. One of her uncles was chief of police in Miami.

On the bench, she has approached each criminal case in a manner that we

would ask of every judge. Look at the law; look at the facts.

It is not surprising that she has garnered the support of multiple law enforcement groups. This nominee, who is attributed as being soft on crime, has the endorsement of the Fraternal Order of Police. They wrote the following about her:

> We are reassured that, should she be confirmed, she would approach her future cases with an open mind and treat issues related to law enforcement fairly and justly.

Wouldn't we all be proud to have that endorsement for our pursuits?

Superintendent David Brown of the Chicago Police Department wrote:

> I have no doubt that if confirmed, Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's appointment will make history by adding a powerful, moderate, and informed voice to the highest court in the land.

As Senators and the American people continue to learn more about Judge Jackson and her amazing record, I hope and expect they will reach the same conclusion that leaders have reached all across America's political spectrum. Judge Jackson will be a strong, fair, principled, evenhanded, and impartial Supreme Court Justice.

In closing, let me say that we have scheduled the hearings of the Judiciary Committee to begin on March 21. That is 24 days after President Biden announced his nominee.

The previous Justice nominated for the Supreme Court, Amy Coney Barrett, under President Trump, was brought to the committee for a hearing in 16 days. So we are certainly within the window and beyond it in producing Judge Jackson on the 24th day.

We are also providing materials that have been requested, including documents from the U.S. Sentencing Commission, of which Judge Jackson was a member.

She will produce 12,000 pages of documents that are going to chronicle what happened in the Commission while she was serving. They include minutes and the Board's discussions of the important issues that are before us.

Lucky for all of us, it is a very transparent Agency, and they have lived up to that transparency with this disclosure.

In the meantime, the judge is going to do her best to meet with as many Senators as possible. She has prioritized those members of the Senate Judiciary Committee on the right and on the left, Democrats and Republicans, as well as other leaders in the U.S. Senate.

She is available, and I am certain that if my colleagues are fair in their appraisal, they will come to the same conclusion that I have come to. She is an excellent choice to be Justice Breyer's successor on the Supreme Court.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

ENERGY

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, over the last few decades, globalization has completely reshaped the international economic order. Economies around the world have become interconnected, relying on one another from agricultural products to energy, to manufacturing capabilities.

It seemed to be the rule of thumb that whoever could produce a product at the lowest price got the business and the jobs that went along with it.

But we are increasingly seeing vulnerabilities that this interdependence creates with some of the clearest examples surfacing during the COVID–19 pandemic.

The United States, for example, leans heavily on China for masks, gloves, and gowns, personal protective equipment, and for ventilators—all of which were absolutely necessary during the beginning of the pandemic and continuing on until today. But for a long time, that wasn't a problem, until COVID–19 showed up.

I still remember the phone call I had with the Governor of Texas, my friend Greg Abbott. At the beginning of the pandemic, I said, ''Governor, what do you need?'' He said, ''We need testing and we need PPE,'' personal protective equipment, almost all of which is made overseas in China.

China, as it turns out, held on to most of the supply for its own hospitals and healthcare workers, leaving the rest of the world to compete for the limited supply that remained.

Suddenly, we were unable to provide our healthcare providers with the personal protective equipment they needed to protect themselves while they served others—namely, the rest of us, their patients.

As supply chain struggles grew and expanded, it wasn't just medical equipment that proved to be a problem. Everything from cleaning products to automobiles were impacted.

We began to realize that one of the biggest vulnerabilities is semiconductors, which are critical components for our most used products: things like smart phones, computers, televisions, cars, airplanes, cell towers, and just about everything else with an off-and-on switch.

Again, the source of our chip supply didn't used to be a problem. About three decades ago, the United States manufactured 37 percent of the world's semiconductors. But as our reliance on these chips has gone up, our production has gone down; and today, instead of 37 percent of the world's semiconductors, the United States produces only 12 percent of the global share.

Again, these microcircuits have become invaluable in this technological age because, literally, everything with an off-and-on switch requires semiconductors—and I mean everything.

The lion's share of semiconductor manufacturing—more than 60 percent of the world's supply—is in Taiwan, which, as we know, is being threatened with invasion by the People's Republic of China. But it is not just the threat of armed invasion that risks that supply chain; it is also the possibility of another pandemic or a natural disaster.

This flashing red light has prompted the Senate to take action by passing the CHIPS for America Act, which I introduced along with the senior Senator from Virginia, Mr. WARNER, which was designed to incentivize U.S. semiconductor manufacturing.

And in the coming weeks, I hope we can finally get a bill to the President's desk that funds these critical programs and puts us on a path to more domestic semiconductor manufacturing because of those risks to the supply chain.

In short, a crisis hit, it exposed our vulnerabilities, and we acted.

That is exactly what we need to do now regarding energy security. Let me explain.

In many ways, the risks we are seeing with the global energy supply today are similar to those risks we experienced with critical components like semiconductors. Much of the world relies on a single country for a critical product, and decisions made by a dictator could lead to that supply being cut off at a moment's notice.

When our allies are looking to adversaries for our most basic needs like heating, electricity, fuel, it creates huge vulnerabilities and sky-high prices at the same time.

This was underscored in January of 2009, when Russia effectively turned the gas off to Ukraine for almost 3 weeks. This affected at least 10 countries in Europe whose natural gas traveled through Ukraine. Russia is still the dominant gas supplier for Europe, including Ukraine. Last year, Russia supplied 40 percent of Europe's natural gas.

In 2020, Russia was the third largest producer of petroleum and other liquid fuels and the second largest producer of natural gas. This gives Vladimir Putin a tremendous amount of not only power but ready cash. And as we are seeing on our TV screens, that money is being used for the most nefarious of purposes: to kill innocent Ukrainian civilians.

After coming under intense pressure by both Democrats and Republicans, I am glad that the administration has finally announced a ban on Russian oil imports into the United States.

We know exactly where the money they get from selling this commodity is going, and we cannot continue to supply Putin with blood money.

I am disappointed it did take a while for the President to see the merits of this action and only after it was clear that Congress, on a bipartisan basis, was prepared to act.

Our colleagues in both Chambers have produced numerous proposals to ban Russian imports, while pushing the administration to take action.

Over the weekend, Democrats on the House Ways and Means Committee announced a bipartisan bill to do just that, but the press release, once posted on the website, was quickly taken

down, strangely enough. Reporting indicates that the White House intervened to get that press release taken down off the House Ways and Means website because it didn't want to look like it was being boxed into taking action on Russian oil imports.

But to his credit, once the President saw the writing on the wall, he decided to take action, but he made it seem like it was his idea, even though we all know his hand was forced by bipartisan support in the Congress.

There has never been a more critical moment to reevaluate our reliance on rogue regimes for our energy supply. If we want to protect ourselves and our allies from the whims of a power-hungry dictator, we need to get serious about energy security.

In recent years, conversations about energy policy have been consumed by debates about the environmental impact of fossil fuels, which are important, but often, they are not well informed.

Some of our colleagues have proposed everything from fracking bans in the Green New Deal to net-zero carbon deadlines.

Well, those efforts may bring down America's share of global emissions, but it would come at a grave cost to global energy security. And the truth is, whether it is the Russians or the Chinese or India, developing nations with growing economies, they may pay lip service to some of the goals of a carbon-free future; but this is at the same time that China is building more coal-fired powerplants than any other nation on Earth.

So they really say one thing and do another, for fairly obvious reasons. They understand that constraining your own energy supply will have a negative impact on their economy and job growth and stability in each of those countries.

But I want to be clear: I support efforts to diversify our energy sources and reduce emissions. That is why in Texas we embraced what is called ''all of the above'' as an energy strategy that includes oil and gas, nuclear, wind, solar, you name it. We embrace all of it.

But we have learned a long time ago that solar and wind energy are dependent on the weather, for example, or the time of day, because the Sun doesn't always shine and the wind doesn't always blow. That is why you need a reliable base load of electricity and energy, primarily fuel from natural gas, some from nuclear and the like.

On top of that diversification of your energy supply which has proven to be so important and so successful in reducing emissions yet maintaining energy security, Texas companies are also making serious strides in energy innovation. We are finding new ways to sequester carbon emissions, for example, and other ways to make our most available and affordable energy sources cleaner.

I believe we need to do more to encourage innovation and diversification of our energy sources, but those efforts must not come at the cost of security.

Our top priority must be to ensure that the United States and our allies have reliable access to energy needed to keep the lights on and their economy running. And we need to stop Putin and other dictators from getting rich off of our dependence and holding democracies like Ukraine hostage.

Suffice it to say that the Biden administration has not addressed a plan to do that. From day one, the administration has taken actions that undermine America's energy security and send even more business to Russia and Saudi Arabia.

Only hours after being sworn in, President Biden cancelled the permit to the Keystone XL Pipeline and halted all new energy leasing and permitting on public lands and waters.

His administration has effectively discouraged investments in new production here at home, and the U.S. is producing significantly less oil. It is now down by 1.2 million barrels per day from pre-Biden administration days.

Without question, the most logical response to the current global energy crisis is to boost production of U.S. energy sources. We can reap the economic benefits of strong production here at home and supply our friends and allies with reliable energy around the world and, in the process, enhancing their energy security, making them less dependent on people like Vladimir Putin.

But producers aren't able to turn on a dime. They are not able to increase their capacity overnight; but it is important for us to begin to take the steps now to strengthen our domestic energy production in light of the developments in Ukraine and in Europe.

The sooner the Biden administration views oil and gas producers as necessary rather than expendable, the better off we will all be.

That is not what the White House has suggested, by the way. In fact, they seem to be suggesting a completely different route.

The Biden administration doesn't want to supply Europe with more American energy; he wants to help them shift their reliance from one oil-rich dictator to another. Good-bye, Russia; hello, Iran; hello, Venezuela. The administration is looking to other rogue regimes to supply the energy that should be produced here in America.

The White House is trying to revive the ill-considered Iran nuclear deal, and the White House press secretary acknowledged that a new deal would mean more oil from Iran for global markets.

It is reportedly considering a trip to Saudi Arabia to ask the Kingdom to pump more oil—not here in America, but go to Saudi Arabia, hat in hand, and say: Will you please produce more oil to help us bring down the price of gasoline?

We even hear that the Biden administration is trying to ease sanctions on Venezuela and funnel Putin's profits to Maduro.

The fact the Biden administration is beating down the doors of the Ayatollah, the Crown Prince, and Maduro rather than easing burdens on American producers is a bad joke. It is absurd. It makes no sense whatsoever.

Now, ideologues may oppose American fossil fuels, but the administration's reflexive opposition to U.S. producers is creating serious risks for our security, not to mention the high prices that consumers pay at the pump.

We are blessed to live in a resource-rich country, and there is no reason to put the energy security of the United States and our allies at risk because President Biden worries about angering the progressive radical left of his own political party.

If the Biden administration continues to wage war on American fossil fuels, it will create huge vulnerabilities for the United States and our allies.

Now, I am not suggesting we revive the 1970s oil export ban and implement isolationist energy policies, but we do need to take decisive action to reduce the world's reliance on authoritarian regimes.

Just as the pandemic led us to reevaluate vulnerable supply chains, this war in Ukraine has opened our eyes and, hopefully, given us the opportunity to reevaluate global energy security.

I hope this crisis will serve as a reset button for those energy security efforts, and I hope we can find some common ground between Democrats and Republicans to reconsider the ideological and reflexive opposition to American fossil fuels because the consequences in terms of world peace and energy security are too serious not to revisit those preconceived notions before the Ukrainian invasion.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I come to the floor first to associate myself with the remarks of the distinguished senior Senator from Texas, and I agree completely with his comments regarding what is happening right now in Ukraine on the ground and what is happening with energy in America and our need to become energy independent again. To go from this current position of what had previously been energy dominance to now energy dependence—we need to return to the days of energy dominance for the United States because it is not just about our national security, it is about security for our friends and allies around the world so they don't have to be dependent on the likes of the killer and the thug Vladimir Putin.

So I come to the floor today to talk about what is going on in Ukraine and the war in Ukraine and the global implications thereof.

Right now, the world is watching in horror as Vladimir Putin continues

with his onslaught. Russia has now shelled two nuclear facilities. Russia continues to attack civilian targets. Russia has allegedly used cluster bombs near schools and hospitals. We know that dozens of children have been killed. Russian troops have even attacked an orphanage and a kindergarten. It is heartbreaking, and it is also barbarism straight out of Hell.

The world is right to be outraged by these vicious attacks, and we know how these attacks have been paid for. We know how Vladimir Putin has funded his aggression. These atrocities were all paid for through Russian energy. Energy is the reason that Vladimir Putin can afford to invade Ukraine. It is the cash cow that drives his military—oil and gas from Russia. Half of Russia's economy is based on energy, and nearly half of Europe's imports of energy come from Russia. So, as I said, energy is the cash cow that has funded the war.

Russia is the No. 2 producer of crude oil in the world, and Putin is the No. 1 rival to the United States in terms of energy production. Well, under Joe Biden as President, there has been a lot less competition for Vladimir Putin. It is not for lack of American energy resources, and it certainly is not for lack of American energy workers. No, it is because of the reckless policies of President Joe Biden and this administration.

On Friday last week, I was in Cheyenne, WY, at the State capital, where I spent 5 years as a State senator prior to coming to the U.S. Senate. Every member of the Wyoming Legislature, Republican and Democrat alike, understands fully that the resources we need to power our country are here in the United States. We have the energy in the ground. Yet this administration is not allowing us to use it. We have the workers ready to go, plenty in Wyoming and around the country. The Biden administration continues to block us from producing more American energy.

Those legislators I talked to on Friday—they know. Every one of them knows that on Joe Biden's first day in office, he killed the Keystone XL Pipeline. They know because they follow the news, and they know because Joe Biden bragged about it. He said: Look at me, I am going to kill the Keystone XL Pipeline. And he did with an Executive order on day No. 1.

Since then, he has blocked oil and gas leases on public land. Quarter after quarter after quarter—we are now in the fifth quarter in a row where he has blocked all oil and gas leases on public land. No auctions for those leases have been held.

He also stopped exploration in the Arctic. The Russians are exploring for energy in the Arctic, but, no, not Joe Biden. Nope. After you, Mr. Putin. You go get it and sell it. And we know how he is using the money. So Joe Biden decides he wants to handcuff America from doing the same thing—exploring for energy in the Arctic.

At the same time, it has become nearly impossible to build a natural gas pipeline in the United States. You say: No, it can't be possible. Well, the President's lackeys—lackeys—on the Federal Regulatory Commission recently decided to change their approval process for natural gas pipelines. As Putin's army surrounded Ukraine, Joe Biden's lackeys on the FERC changed the way they approved pipelines. They did it as inflation hit record-high numbers, with war looming in Europe. It is astonishing. JOE MANCHIN called them, as did I, as the chairman and ranking member of the Senate Energy Committee—called them in front of the committee last week, a hearing last Thursday—and asked them to explain themselves, why this attack on American energy.

You know, our country produced lots of oil before COVID. We are producing some now, but we are still a million barrels a day below where we were during the peak prior to COVID. So when supply and production at home is down, prices go up.

Earlier today, gasoline prices hit the highest price ever—ever—but prices were way up even before Russia invaded Ukraine. The day Joe Biden took office, gas prices were $2.38 per gallon nationwide. Today, the average is $4.17. It cost more than $5 a gallon in left-wing California. They may be happy to pay the price. People in Wyoming are not, where they drive lots of miles to and from work. In Wyoming, the number of miles driven is the highest per capita anywhere in the country.

We know what happens to families when gas prices go up and they have to put more money in the tank that could have otherwise been used for food, for clothing, for school supplies for the kids.

I understand that a gallon of gas in Los Angeles now is at $7.

Last year, a typical working family paid about $1,000 more to fill their tank over the course of the year than they did the year before Joe Biden became President. It is a direct result of the policies of this administration. And this year, it is likely to be a lot higher because this administration's policies, environmental-extremist driven, are making energy at home much more expensive.

So today, after 2 weeks into the war, Joe Biden has announced a ban on Russian oil. It is about time.

On Saturday, a number of us were in a Zoom call with President Zelenskyy, the brave, heroic, courageous President of Ukraine. He said:

> If [we] had started sanctions months ago, there would not have been a war.

Now the question is, What is going to replace the Russian oil? Because up until today, Joe Biden was eager to buy Russian oil—eager. So the question is, What is going to replace the Russian oil? Well, it darn well ought to be American oil. Democrats have basically floated a couple of proposals. Buy it from Iran, they say; buy it from Venezuela, they say; or don't buy any at all.

On Thursday, the Secretary of Transportation said a possibility was ''working out something with Iran.'' Remember those people? They are the ones who every Friday have a demonstration where they chant ''death to America'' and burn the American flag. He wants to work something out with them.

Let me remind the people who are watching that Iran is the No. 1 state sponsor of global terrorism. Iran is on the verge of a nuclear weapon. Now Democrats want to give Iran a windfall of American dollars.

The last time Democrats bribed Iran, the Secretary of State was John Kerry. He admitted right out that some of the money would go to terrorists, and we know that some of it did. Democrats signed the check anyway. Pallets of cash were delivered to Tehran. Now Democrats are talking about doing it all over again.

Oh, and think about John Kerry. What did he say in an interview with the BBC just a week and a half ago, as Russian troops were on the border surrounding Ukraine? He said he hoped that what was happening there ''did not distract''—''did not distract''—from the climate agenda. Oh yeah, we wouldn't want the death of all those people to distract from your agenda, Mr. Kerry, former Senator Kerry, former Secretary of State. But he is not just the former, he is the current climate spokesman for this administration. He is the voice of climate in this administration. So that must mean that Joe Biden doesn't want it to distract from his climate agenda either.

It is time to wake up.

Over the weekend, the Biden administration officials went to Venezuela. According to media reports, they discussed easing sanctions on Venezuelan oil.

Nicolas Maduro is one of the world's biggest cheerleaders for you know who? Vladimir Putin. He supports Russia's war in Ukraine. He apparently called the Kremlin to say that just this past week.

This means that the Biden administration is actually actively considering and pursuing, as they were on Saturday, replacing oil from Russia with oil from a Russian client state in our own hemisphere. It is bad energy policy. It is bad foreign policy. It almost seems to be something out of ''Alice in Wonderland.'' Yet, it still makes more sense than the third idea that Democrats are floating: Let's just let energy prices go higher and higher.

The White House Press Secretary said that we should just stop using oil altogether. She says the solution to high gas prices and war in Europe is just stop using gas. This is delusional. The idea that we can immediately transition away from oil and gas is a fairy tale. It is a dangerous fairy tale at that.

None of these three solutions proposed by the Democrats is in the best

interest of our Nation, our Nation's energy security, or our Nation's national security. Oil from Iran and oil from Venezuela is just as dangerous as oil from Russia. Changing our entire economy overnight is not an option in the real world.

There is only one answer that works, and that is the answer that the American people are pleading for. The solution to Russian oil is more American oil. We must replace Russian oil with American energy. To do that, we need to produce more. We have the resources. We have the workers. We have the expertise. What we need is the leadership out of the White House in Washington, DC, and we are not getting it.

We ought to produce enough American energy to supply our allies and, above all, to bring down prices for people here at home. That is why I have introduced legislation called the ESCAPE Act, to escape what is happening with this control of our energy and the increase in prices. It stands for Energy Security Cooperation With Allied Partners in Europe. This bill expedites the sale of American natural gas to our NATO allies.

I also led a letter with every Republican on the Energy Committee and sent it to President Biden the morning after his State of the Union Address. Our letter details 10 specific plans, 10 specific actions the President can take today to produce more American energy.

We are much better off producing and selling energy to our friends than being forced to buy it from our enemies.

What President Biden and the Democrats don't seem to believe is the undeniable truth that energy security is national security. For ourselves and for our allies, we need more American energy.

I yield the floor.

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

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

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that, at 4:50 p.m. today, all postcloture time be considered expired on H.R. 3076; that amendment No. 4955 be withdrawn; that the bill be considered read a third time; that if a budget point of order is raised and a motion to waive made, the Senate vote on the motion to waive; that if waived, the Senate vote on the passage of the bill; further, that upon disposition of H.R. 3076 that, notwithstanding rule XXII, the Senate proceed to executive session and vote on the motions to invoke cloture on Calendar Nos. 547 and 719; that if cloture is invoked on any of these nominations, the Senate vote on confirmation of the nominations at a time to be determined by the majority leader or his designee following consultation with the Republican leader; finally, that there be 2 minutes for debate, equally divided in the usual form, prior to each vote, all without further intervening action or debate.

Also, in an effort to speed up the votes, I ask unanimous consent that all votes after the first vote be 10-minute votes. Members should be notified to get here and to stay around so we can get this done.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor to the Senator from Iowa.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG COSTS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, many Iowans rely on pharmacists who operate independently or as part of a small community pharmacy chain. This is especially true in rural Iowa, but I will bet it is true in a lot of other rural States as well. In Iowa, we have over 300 independent pharmacists, and many work in multiple rural communities. These pharmacies are small businesses serving Iowa communities like Muscatine and Sioux City.

These pharmacies want a level playing field to compete with anyone whether that is a big chain or whether it is another independent pharmacy. Yet the pharmacists I hear from are being hurt by retroactive direct and indirect remunerations. I am going to refer to them as ''DIR'' fees. They have to work with pharmaceutical benefit managers in regard to those fees, and there are conflicts between them that I hear about all the time. This all deals with Part D Medicare plans. What I am talking about with regard to direct and indirect remunerations and these negotiated fees with PBMs are what are sometimes known as clawbacks.

Every day, seniors go to the drug store, and they probably always pay a copay. These seniors then rightfully believe that they are paying the lowest amount possible, but that is not always the case. After the patient pays and leaves the pharmacy, the Part D Medicare plan or a PBM, a pharmacy benefit manager, contacts the local pharmacist to claw back a certain amount paid. That is where this DIR fee comes in. This action actually lowers the cost of the drug, but the patient doesn't know it. Because of these DIR fees, seniors pay a lot more than they need to for the pills they get at the pharmacy.

One Iowa rural pharmacist told me that DIR fees, clawbacks, are not only costing the patient more in the form of a higher copay, they are also costing that local pharmacy. From 2010 to 2020, Part D Medicare plans and the PBMs increased the DIR fees by over—can you believe this?—104,000 percent. DIR fees now total over $9 billion a year. Pharmacists, especially those operating independently in rural areas but particularly in rural Iowa, whom I hear about, have told me, if DIR fee clawbacks do not get under control, pharmacists will not survive. Of course, we hear—maybe not every day, but we hear quite often—about those small pharmacists going out of business, and these DIR fees are often cited to us as one of the reasons. This will then leave Iowans without access to the local pharmacy for medication therapy management and for other care.

I have a bipartisan solution to solve this problem that ends DIR fee clawbacks.

In 2019, the senior Senator from Oregon and I negotiated and introduced a bill that we entitled the ''Prescription Drug Pricing Reduction Act,'' also known as Grassley-Wyden. I don't even care if it is known as Wyden-Grassley. The Grassley-Wyden ends DIR fee clawbacks. This will reduce out-of-pocket expenses and provide pharmacies with financial predictability. This move may even keep rural pharmacies viable.

On top of my legislative efforts in Grassley-Wyden, I commend the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for issuing a proposed rule to end DIR fee clawbacks. I am not sure that that proposed rule exactly does what the Grassley-Wyden bill does, but it is still a step in the right direction, and I welcome that. In welcoming it, I have submitted comments, asking the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to strengthen the proposed provision as much as the existing statute allows. Of course, we ought to finalize that proposed rule without delay.

In addition to ending DIR fee clawbacks, I am committed to passing Grassley-Wyden. I hope, now that Democrats worked on Build Back Better last year with provisions that they thought would reduce pharmaceutical drugs—and it doesn't seem to be moving—that, instead of going the partisan way, they would take a look at a bipartisan way of trying to get something done on prescription drugs and, at the same time, end the DIR fee clawback.

This bill, as a whole, besides dealing with the clawbacks, will lower prescription drug costs in a comprehensive manner. It actually takes on Big Pharma. You probably know that, in this body, there are some people who say we should just leave Big Pharma alone, but I know that they do wonderful work. I know they have to have their money for research, and I know they have to be able to market their products in a free market way, but when you have these big pharmaceutical price increases maybe a couple of times a year, it is time we do something about it.

Besides this clawback provision, Grassley-Wyden caps out-of-pocket expenses, eliminates the doughnut hole, and in dealing with these price increases every year, it caps rising prices at the inflation price index. It also

brings more sunshine and accountability, particularly to the pharmacy benefit managers.

Nobody seems to be able to tell us anything as to what goes on between the health insurance companies, the pharmaceutical companies, the PBMs, and the local pharmacists and then how that affects the consumer. We ought to know exactly where those moneys go and what those negotiations are, and Grassley-Wyden does something about that.

So I urge my colleagues to join Wyden and me in that effort.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

H.R. 3076

Mr. MORAN. Madam President, I have taken the opportunity—well, all the time I have been in Congress—to speak in support of Congress acting to reform and improve the Postal Service. I am here again today, and I am pleased with what I think is going to transpire here within the next hour. I again express my strong support for the Postal Service Reform Act, and I urge my colleagues to support this critical, important piece of legislation.

The U.S. Postal Service is an indispensable piece of American infrastructure nationwide. Back in my home State of Kansas, the rural communities are especially reliant on the Postal Service for the essential public services the Agency and its employees provide.

However, due to the closure of numerous rural processing facilities in Kansas and post office consolidations and closures, the quality of service and efficiency of the Postal Service has significantly declined. The reduced effectiveness of the Postal Service hurts Americans across the board, but it has the most detrimental impact on rural places like Kansas.

For as long as I have served in Congress, Kansans have detailed to me the adverse impact the declining quality of the U.S. Postal Service has had on their lives and have expressed the need for reforms to improve its efficacy.

The concerns I hear from Kansans are characteristic of the larger picture. The Postal Service is struggling to keep up with its service commitments while still maintaining fiscal stability. Over the past decade, the Postal Service has slowly—and sometimes quickly—eliminated services; and in that elimination of services, it created what I call a death spiral: shorter hours, fewer post offices, mail processing facilities further away and fewer of them.

This makes life extremely difficult for Kansans, especially rural and highly rural Kansans who rely upon the Postal Service to deliver essential items like medications because there simply isn't a pharmacy for pickup delivery nearby. And the customer looks for delivery services outside the U.S. Postal Service when the service is insufficient, and the Postal Service continues then to lose more revenue.

For as long as I have been in Congress, I think I have met with every Postmaster General, and I have really delivered two messages—one related to this point I am making right now, which is the solution to the Postal Service's financial condition can't simply be reducing the services. I have also suggested that instead of hiring high-priced consultants, the Postmaster General and the Postal Service should consult with their own employees about suggestions of how to deliver better service in a more effective and efficient way and save revenue.

Serving rural States like my own, I understand well the crippling impact that losing postal service would have on rural communities across the country; that is why I have repeatedly acted on my conversations with Kansans by encouraging congressional focus on Postal Service issues and have worked to get postal reform legislation passed for nearly a decade.

My colleague on the Senate floor with me this afternoon, Senator Tom Carper of Delaware, I have joined him on many occasions in the past several sessions of Congress. We are cosponsors—lead Republican and lead Democrat—in reform legislation, and I have met with him and the Postmaster General of the U.S. Postal Service numerous times. We recognize that smart reforms were needed to make certain the Postal Service could compete in this digital age, increase revenue, and not become a taxpayer liability.

Several provisions of the legislation that Senator CARPER and I have introduced are included in the Postal Service Reform Act we are considering today: the elimination of the prefunding requirements of retiree health benefits, allowing the Postal Service to enter into agreements with other governmental entities for new avenues of revenue, and making 6-day delivery permanent by law.

In so many instances in my conversations with Kansans at a townhall meeting or on the street or talking to the newspaper editor, the lack of timely delivery of the mail has become increasingly a problem; and what would one expect when the Postal Service is closing post offices, shortening its hours and, most importantly, closing processing facilities?

I hope to make the case to the U.S. Postal Service after passage of this legislation that the postal processing facilities that have been closed in Kansas should be considered for reopening—in fact, should be reopened. Today, the mail will leave a rural community, go to some neighboring State—Nebraska or Texas or Missouri—only to be returned to the postal patron who lives a block from the person who mailed the letter to begin with. We need the return of those postal processing facilities, and their departure had dramatic and consequential effects upon the Postal Service.

I am pleased that the efforts of my colleagues and I have culminated now in the Postal Service Reform Act. From listening to Kansans, I have recognized for years that Congress must act with the Postal Service on a more sustainable path, and this week, the Senate will finally address this longstanding issue—address it in a way that a bill will become law.

Congressional action on postal reform will allow the Postal Service to continue serving rural America without the possibility of imminent service reductions and the uncertainty of the future of the Agency.

From the veterans waiting on critical medications to be delivered from the VA, to the farmer in rural Kansas needing a part for his or her machinery, to the grandparent just waiting to send a birthday card to a grandchild, this legislation puts us on a path to making certain the Postal Service can continue to be relied on to deliver when it matters most.

I thank those who work in the post office and the Postal Service in my home State of Kansas, many of whom I know, and—despite the challenges presented because of the U.S. Postal Service's decisions over the past decade—have worked hard to make sure that the mail is delivered and delivered on time and make sure that their customer, the postal patron, is cared for.

To ensure the Postal Service maintains its vital public services, I urge my colleagues in the Senate to support the Postal Service Reform Act when it arrives on the Senate floor shortly for a vote.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, I stand in solidarity with my friend from Kansas. I say to Senator MORAN: Thank you for your great leadership and for allowing me to be your wingman as we do our best, not just to save the Postal Service, but to make sure that they are robust and germane to the futures—germane to the future and integral to the future of our country as they have been for the last 200-plus years.

When folks in Delaware gathered—we had about 25 men who gathered in a place called Dover, DE, on December 7, 1787. We voted, after debating for 3 days a draft Constitution. We adopted it unanimously and sent it off to the other 12 Colonies.

One element in the Constitution that was sent to us from Philadelphia by our Founding Fathers was the creation of a Postal Service—a Postal Service. It has been mentioned before that the first Postmaster General was Ben Franklin, of all people. What the Founding Fathers had in mind was a way to bind us together as a country—to bind us together as a country. The idea of being able to communicate through the mail, that was important; the idea of fostering greater economic growth, that was important. But they also were looking for a way to pull us together as a new nation, and the Postal Service was integral to doing that.

Over the years, the Postal Service has changed. For the most part, I think it has changed in good ways. It used to be people got their mail by going to post offices that were maybe in the community where they lived or close to the community where they lived, but they had to go to the post office to get it.

Eventually, the mail was delivered to farms and to homes and to businesses across the country, and people didn't have to leave their homes to get the mail. There was a time, not that long ago, when we didn't have the internet, and if we wanted to communicate—we wanted to send letters to people or cards to people, a lot of gifts to people—we would use the Postal Service.

Today, we can use the internet. The internet doth taketh from the Postal Service—taketh and giveth away. A lot of folks, well, they just hit a ''send'' button for a birthday card or a Christmas card or any kind of holiday card. They used to send the actual cards; a lot of people don't do that anymore.

If you look at the financial condition of the Postal Service, one of the things that has happened most noticeably in the last 10, 15, 20 years is a drop in first class mail, and a large part of that is from the internet. I would like to say again the internet taketh and it giveth away.

One of the great things that comes out of the internet is that a lot of people are ordering items over the internet for purchase. A lot of people order food, but a lot of people order clothes; they order shoes; they order all kinds of things. And you know who has a chance to deliver it? The Postal Service. The Postal Service delivers, not just 1 day a week, but 7 days a week. They are omnipresent.

And as we hear Johnny Cash—every time I turn on my TV, I hear Johnny Cash singing ''I've Been Everywhere, Man,'' and the Postal Service still goes everywhere, man.

They also have a great partnership with—believe it or not—UPS and a great partnership with FedEx. FedEx and UPS, they don't want to go to every mailbox in the country every day. The Postal Service does it at least 6 days a week. And what the Postal Service does in a partnership with UPS and FedEx is take a handoff and deliver the last mile, last 5 miles, last 10 miles to the places that the Postal Service is going to go to anyway.

I mean, one of the challenges that the Postal Service has had to try to balance their books, their finances, comes—I remember when I was Governor of Delaware and going to the rating agencies, and the rating agencies said to us—before they lowered our credit rating a long time ago—they said: You don't have a pension fund. You haven't funded your pension costs for your pensioners. And so we created a pension fund fully funded.

After we had done that—later on, we finally got a AAA credit rating years later. One of the things they said is: You still haven't fully offset the healthcare costs for your pensioners. For us, that was a concern, but not an enormous concern, because our pensioners had access—they were covered under Medicare.

Unfortunately, for the Postal Service—the Postal Service has paid into Medicare for years for their employees. Unfortunately, when those retirees reach the age of 65, they don't have full access to the full benefits of Medicare. That is not right. These are benefits paid for by the employee of the Postal Service, and this legislation fixes that to make sure that the right thing is done. The benefits that have been paid for through Medicare are actually inured to and flow to the pensioners of the Postal Service.

The other thing that I would mention is 6-day service. I used to see—good service by the Postal Service would be maybe 1-day service for local maybe in the same city, 2-day service maybe to other parts of the State, 3-day service coast-to-coast; and the legislation that is before us today calls for delivery within 6 days. For me, that is not good enough, and my hope is we can come back and somehow better replace or better restore the term service.

Having said that, the Postal Service has a Board of Governors; and every now and then, Presidents have the opportunity to nominate people to serve on the Board of Governors. We have the opportunity to vote them up or down. We need people on the Board of Governors who are very good at figuring out: How do we help the Postal Service monetize the burden of going to every single mailbox in the country 6 days a week? How do we do that? How do we help the Postal Service turn that into financial opportunity, much as they have with UPS and FedEx? And are there other ways, as well? Delivering medicines is a great example there, and there are other examples—vote by mail. I think we are only scratching the surface on vote by mail. Those are all ideas that help the Postal Service monetize and realize revenue from this responsibility to go to every mailbox in the country.

One last thing I would mention that is not in this legislation is postal vehicles—postal vehicles. There are a bunch of them—I think well over 150,000 across the country. Almost every one is gas- and diesel-driven.

You have seen others—UPS, FedEx, Amazon, others with big fleets—are transitioning away from gas and diesel, and they are doing it rather quickly. We are seeing the same kind of transformation in the vehicles that we drive. Why is it important? Because we have way, way, way too much carbon dioxide in the air. It is creating not just climate change, but it is creating a climate crisis.

My State—we are the lowest lying State in the country. My State is sinking. The seas around us are rising. Down in Louisiana, every 100 minutes, they lose a piece of land to the ocean the size of a football field—every 100 minutes. If you go out on the West Coast, you had wildfires each year—last year bigger than my State. Temperatures in the Arctic Circle reached, I think, last year, 90 degrees—90 degrees. There were more named hurricanes in the last year than any year in history. The hottest summers on record.

Something is going on here, and what it is, is way too much carbon in the air. A lot of that carbon is coming from mobile sources, including the vehicles we drive, including the fleets like the Postal fleet. The Postal Service's fleet is about 25 years old on average. They have the opportunity here to update that. The cost of moving to electric vehicles and having charging stations is a cost that the Postal Service says—I think somewhat generously—that we, as taxpayers, need to help underwrite that cost.

Having said that, the Postal Service and their calculation for buying gas and diesel-fired vehicles to replace their fleet, I believe—my understanding is they are using, as an assumption for the cost of gas and diesel fleet, $2 a gallon charge for gas and diesel going forward—$2. We would like to see $2, wouldn't we? That is just basically understating by half the cost of gas and diesel for future of the fleet, and that needs to be fixed.

We have a great opportunity to make sure that the Postal Service is not just delivering the mail rain, snow, or shine, but they are also doing so in a way that helps us on the climate crisis side. We can do both, and we need to do both.

I will close by saying this: I want to thank and applaud the leadership of our chair and ranking member of the committee of jurisdiction here—our chair, GARY PETERS, and ranking member, ROB PORTMAN. Thank you and your staffs for your work on this and for a lot of other folks who have worked on this before—most certainly, JERRY MORAN and his team.

I especially want to thank the members of my staff who have worked on these issues forever.

And my friend SUSAN COLLINS—SUSAN is not on the floor right now, our Senator from Maine—but she has spent, God knows, plenty of time and effort working with me and others on these issues.

This is not the end. This is not the end in terms of what we need to do on Postal. This is maybe the beginning of the end; this the end of the beginning, but it is a good end of the beginning. We need to build on this and go forward on this, and I hope and pray that that is exactly what we do.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MURPHY). The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I notice the arrival of Senator HAWLEY. I think we are both prepared at this point for me to make a unanimous consent request, and I would like to do so now.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 599, 477, and 472; that the nominations be confirmed; 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 the nominations; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I want to say at the outset that it is always a privilege to work with Senator REED on the Armed Services Committee in every capacity we get to work together, and I look forward to that going forward.

What we are being asked to do—the Senate is being asked to do today, however, is to fast-track nominees for leadership positions in the Department of Defense to carry out a foreign policy that is manifestly failing. This administration is careening from one crisis to another, endangering the security of the American people, endangering the security of the world.

When the Senator mentioned just a moment ago the situation in Ukraine, you don't have to look any further than there to see the crisis—the latest crisis that the Biden administration has led this Nation into.

To begin with, the administration failed to deter Vladimir Putin and his Russian invasion before it happened. They failed to actually check Putin when it would have really mattered.

How did they do this? Well, for starters, when President Biden came to office, he opened up Russia's pipelines, and then he shut down America's pipelines. He handed our energy independence that the Senator was just mentioning—he handed our energy independence away. He gave it away. And who stepped in to fill the void? The Russians.

What is Russia? It is not so much a country as it is a gas station, and Putin is pumping and pumping and pumping. What is financing his war in Ukraine? It is not least our energy policies that are giving away our energy independence, giving away our energy dominance, and green-lighting his energy production. That is what Joe Biden did when he first came to office—green-lighting his production, shutting down our production.

But what else? President Biden had the opportunity to provide lethal military aid to Ukraine last spring when the Ukrainians first requested it. He said no. In fact, I believe he said no repeatedly for much of the year last year. That turns out to have been a very poor decision.

Now, today, deterrence having failed, the Russians engaged in an illegal invasion of a sovereign nation, threatening the stability of Europe, the security of Europe, and, of course, endangering our own national security, what is the President doing? What is President Biden doing? Is he turning back on American energy production? Is he sanctioning the Russian energy sector? No.

Just today, finally, he was dragged kicking and screaming to finally agree that this country will no longer import Russia's blood oil. Remember, he had us importing over 670,000 barrels of Russian oil every single day. Today, he announced finally, belatedly, we won't do that anymore. But what is he doing instead? He is going to every petty dictator on the face of the map and begging them to make up the difference. We learned that the President's team has been in touch with Maduro's regime—the murderous Maduro regime—in Venezuela and is preparing to offer them a special package that will ease the restrictions, ease the sanctions, ease the punishment on that outlaw regime and get them to make up the difference in oil production from Russia.

We learned that the President is potentially planning a trip to Saudi Arabia to ask the Saudis to increase their oil production to make up the difference from the Russians. I wonder if the topic of Jamal Khashoggi will come up in those meetings. I certainly hope it will.

President Biden once said that he would make Saudi Arabia ''pay the price, and make them in fact the pariah that they are.'' I guess that is no longer the policy of the U.S. Government because here is what we are reduced to under this administration: We are reduced to begging our enemies—our enemies, the dictators of the world—we are reduced to begging them to bail out a foreign policy that is failing, not least because this administration will not allow American workers to turn on American energy.

I take it from the President's remarks and from the President's policy that he has no objection in principle to pumping more oil and gas. Apparently he doesn't, so this can't be about climate change. He is fine with more oil production but not in this country, not by American workers. Heaven forbid American workers be put back to work. Heaven forbid American workers actually earn more. Heaven forbid the American people be able to pay less at the pump, as Joe Biden's prices drive gas prices through the roof. No, this is the policy of weakness, fecklessness that this President has given us.

Let's not forget where it began. It began with Afghanistan. And that is the reason I am here on the floor today in particular.

It has been months now—months—since the fall of Afghanistan. This administration has lost two nations in the space of barely 6 months. The Afghanistan debacle is the worst foreign policy debacle in this country's history since Vietnam—although stay tuned, the way this administration is going—and what has this Congress done about it? Who has been held accountable for it?

I have come to this floor over and over and over to ask for accountability. Has someone been fired? No. Has someone been relieved of duty? No.

I was here just a few weeks ago after the Washington Post reported on a 2,000-page investigation done by Central Command into the fall of Afghanistan. Since that time, my team and I have been through all 2,000-plus pages.

I would just like to point out that we learned about this investigative report not from a hearing conducted by this body but from an investigative report by a newspaper. I am glad somebody has some interest in what happened in Afghanistan. Sadly, it seems not to be this Chamber.

Here are some of the things that we learned in this 2,000-page investigative report about Afghanistan:

We learned from GEN Scott Miller, who was the commander of U.S. forces in Afghanistan in early 2021, that he was extremely worried from May 2 onward as he saw key districts fall. In fact, General Miller testified to us that he warned Secretary Austin and General Milley, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, as early as March or April that the Afghan security forces might collapse rapidly once we withdrew forces.

Now this report documents it and says, indeed, there is evidence that he was very worried, that he was warning that the collapse of Afghanistan would come quickly, he was warning that it would be imminent. But what did the Biden administration do? Did they order the evacuation of our civilians? Did they plan for the possible fall of the Afghan Government? No. The report goes on to detail that the National Security Council and the State Department showed a total lack of urgency right up until the final hours before the fall of Kabul.

We learned that RDML Peter Vasely, who took over for General Miller last spring and commanded U.S. forces in Afghanistan during the final stages of the withdrawal, provided assessments weeks before the fall of Kabul that the trajectory of Afghanistan was in a downward spiral—this is a quote from the report—and was likely not recoverable.

The report goes on to say this: Rear Admiral Vasely ''was trying to get the Ambassador to see the security threat for what it really was.'' There were as many as 10 districts falling every day, getting closer and closer to Kabul. ''The embassy needed to position for withdrawal, but the Ambassador didn't get it.''

These are just a few of the details in this 2,000-page report showing that our military commanders warned over and over and over that Kabul was on the

verge of collapse, that the security dangers were mounting, that civilians needed to be evacuated, and that we needed to change course, and this administration did nothing. What happened as a result? Thirteen servicemembers are dead, including one from my own State.

I will never forget talking to his family, his father, less than 48 hours after this young man, LCpl Jared Schmitz, lost his life, along with 12 others who bravely served this country, giving the uttermost of their devotion. But it didn't have to be that way.

Here is my point: This body should be hearing from these commanders, from these men and women who have testified in this report, who have given evidence about what happened in Afghanistan. We should be hearing from them in public, under oath—no more private briefings; no more closed-session briefings. We should hear from Secretary Austin. We should hear from General Milley. We should hear from the commanders—General Miller—under oath. They should come and testify about this report.

We should do our job, and until we do, I will not consent to allow the Senate to bypass regular order and fast-track the nominations of yet more leadership positions to continue carrying on a failed policy. I will not do it.

There is a crisis in Ukraine. There is a crisis in Afghanistan. Crises multiply across the world at the hands of this administration, and still, this Congress refuses to reverse course and refuses to provide the most basic oversight that it is charged with providing.

I don't think it is too much to ask, in the face of this, in the face of these disasters, that we have the curiosity to at least have an open hearing, to at least ask who should be accountable and what should be done.

So I want to say again, I appreciate Senator REED's earnestness on this issue. I appreciate the fact that he doesn't control the floor.

My final point, I would note, as I look toward the clock here, last week, if my memory serves, of the 4 days we were in session, we took a total of four votes in the U.S. Senate last week. If these nominees were as important as they say they are, we could have voted last week. We could have voted earlier today.

Now, Senator REED doesn't control the floor, but I might just note to the majority leader that maybe instead of taking a vacation tomorrow, which I gather is the plan, that maybe the Senate ought to be here and working, and maybe we ought to be here and voting, because until there is some accountability for what happened in Afghanistan, for what is happening with this administration's foreign policy, I am going to ask the Senate to observe regular order and do its job and to vote.

With that, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I think one of the messages that the Senator from Missouri was trying to convey is ''do our job.'' One of our fundamental jobs is to review, vote on, and confirm or not confirm nominees to critical positions in the Department of Defense, and this effort has completely frustrated that goal of doing our job.

We have seen repeated blockage of nominees who are fully qualified, forcing votes—and the gentleman from Missouri is talking about we should have had votes this week—forcing votes because one or two people object. And, of course, the final outcome is 90 votes, 85 votes in favor of the nominee.

The will of the Senate was very clear: These people should be in their office, doing their jobs, helping us maintain our security, not subject to the whims and the will of one or two people.

The nominees I just referred to are three individuals nominated to critical positions within the Department of Defense. The Armed Services Committee held hearings on all three of these nominations months ago, and all three were reported out of the committee by voice vote. I am unaware of any objections to these nominees relating to their qualifications for the positions for which they have been nominated.

I need not remind my colleagues that with Russia's invasion of Ukraine, a war of choice against a modern, functioning democracy, how critical it is to have people in place in the Department of Defense.

It is very difficult to complain about the policy of the administration when there has been a deliberate attempt for more than a year to delay critical nominees from taking their position in that Department.

And, more importantly, I think this is a trend that was observed by the Commission on the National Defense Strategy under President Trump. It said:

> The implementation of the National Defense Strategy must feature empowered civilians fulfilling their statutory responsibilities, particularly regarding issues of force management. . . . Strong civilian oversight is an essential hallmark of civil-military relations codified in the Constitution and embraced throughout the nation's history.

What is frustrating that principle? Actions like today, where fully qualified individuals who pass by voice vote through the committee are held up. If there is a weakness—that has been identified by other sources in the National Defense Strategy at the Department of Defense—it is in one case the lack of sufficient civilian leadership and continuity, and that is exactly what this action today will continue to foster.

For example, Mr. Ashish Vazirani was reported out of committee on December 8 and would become the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, the No. 2 official in the Department in charge of military and civilian policy and the readiness of our Armed Forces.

Mr. Alex Wagner was reported out of the committee in October of last year, and he would become the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, the senior official within the Department of the Air Force with responsibility for military and civilian personnel policy and the readiness of Air Force and Space Force personnel.

Ms. Rachel Jacobson was reported out of the committee in October of last year, and she would become the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Energy, Installation, and the Environment. She will be responsible for managing the Army's physical footprint and, particularly, she will oversee contracts that would increase installation resilience and the modernization of Army infrastructure, particularly with regard to energy, which is one of the issues that we are talking about with great emphasis today and in the proceeding several weeks.

All of these positions are critically important to the Department of Defense. And I am unaware of any substantive objection to these nominees on the basis of their qualifications. The sooner they assume their offices, the better for the Department's ability to tackle the challenges on behalf of servicemembers and their families.

I also think it is important to recognize some of that discussion about the situation in Ukraine. The Biden administration sent $650 million in aid—military assistance and aid—to the Ukrainian Government in the last year, far surpassing anything that was done in the Trump administration. In fact, we spent many hours here on the floor of the U.S. Senate in an impeachment proceeding based on what many of us thought was the attempt by then-President Trump to use military aid to extract a political concession from President Zelenskyy. That is quite a stark difference than what President Biden's administration has been doing for the last year.

There was a reference made to dealing with Saudi Arabia. Well, President Trump's first trip overseas was to Saudi Arabia to cavort with his friends, the Kings and Princes of Saudi Arabia. His son-in-law made multiple trips over there, and it wasn't in the spirit of condemnation; it was in the spirit of businesslike behavior, I would say. Khashoggi was killed by agents of MBS, the Crown Prince, but the details of the report were never released by the Trump administration. President Biden released those details, earning, I think, the enmity of the Crown Prince. So this story of the ineffectuality of the Biden administration is completely, in my view, without basis.

What we have seen—and I think the Presiding Officer recognizes it as a member of the Foreign Relations Committee—is probably the most sophisticated development of an alliance to oppose tyranny that we have seen in many, many years.

When the whole world is united by the diplomacy of this administration to stand up against Vladimir Putin—

and I must say practically the whole world. That is an amazing demonstration of diplomacy and statesmanship. And it happened because of the leadership of the President, the leadership of Secretary Blinken, the leadership of Secretary Austin. And, again, when you have Switzerland joining in sanctioning a country—the greatest neutral nation in the world—that is a remarkable accomplishment.

We still have a long way to go. The outcome is still very much uncertain, but to date, the President and his administration has done an extraordinary job.

Afghanistan is an issue that we have dealt with for 20 years. One of the first things we did was to ensure that in the National Defense Authorization Act, there was an independent study which will be conducted, but it is not going to focus on the last 2 weeks; it is going to focus on 20 years. It is going to assess whether the decision to invade Iraq was a critical strategic mistake—which I think it was. That is why I opposed it originally.

It is going to look at the Doha agreement, in which the Trump administration basically said, ''We are leaving,'' which gave the Taliban one of their greatest psychological and, indeed, in a way, military weapons because they went from village to village and said: Here it is, signed, sealed, and delivered. They are going. And when they go, who are you going to be with, Ghani or us?

So in any way to estimate the culpability, the responsibility of our role in Afghanistan, it will take that kind of 20-year look by independent experts who are concerned to find the truth, not to find a political argument.

I am just very disappointed that we are going to continue to avoid our duty to ensure that there are civilians in the Department of Defense who are able to carry out the policy of the United States, which is the basic principle of civil and military relations in the United States and in the Constitution of the United States.

ENERGY

Mr. President, retaining my time, I would now like to resume my comments with respect to the energy situation and the United States.

As I indicated previously, the invasion of Ukraine has revealed the vulnerability that our dependence on oil creates for our economy and for average Americans trying to fill up their cars and pay their heating bills.

The fact is, the United States has sufficient domestic production to meet our energy needs today. We are producing more oil and refined product than ever before. Oil production was up more than half a million barrels a day from January to December of last year and is expected to rise even more this year, which I would assume would mean that more and more Americans are working in the oilfields and elsewhere. In fact, I believe, last year, the workforce grew about 6.6 million jobs, which we hadn't seen in the last year or two of the Trump administration.

Unemployment now is hovering around 4 percent. Gross domestic product has been significant and much more so than the preceding several years. But we do have problems economically, and some of those problems are related to the international oil supply. Now, we certainly don't need Russian oil and I have said we should stop importing it and I am glad that this morning the President announced the United States will officially ban the importation of oil from Russia, denying Putin a key revenue source for his illegal war. This is something both Democrats and Republicans have called for, and the American people should know this policy choice will likely affect the price of gasoline.

But even if we don't use Russian oil, everyone needs to know that petroleum is traded on the world market, and the United States is part of that world market. The chaos Putin is sowing in Europe will continue to have an effect here regardless of where we get our oil. Our energy policy of overreliance on fossil fuels is a matter of national security, and it is time we embrace all that it entails.

The reality of a world market, combined with the impact on regular Americans who need to fill up their cars, means the United States will have to make some tough choices on whom we buy from if we are not buying from Russia. We will have to more carefully consider what we are exporting, how we will prevent profiteering, and what pain people should expect at the pump.

If the climate crisis, raging fires, historic droughts, and flooding aren't enough to convince our colleagues on the other side of the aisle of the need to kick our oil addiction, I hope the national security and economic vulnerabilities exposed by Russia's invasion of Ukraine will be enough. As long as we base our energy future on oil, we choose to make ourselves vulnerable.

Unfortunately, many of my Republican colleagues don't seem to recognize that reality. Instead, they focus on never-built pipelines geared toward exporting our oil, not using it here in the United States. Most of the oil that was going through the pipeline that President Biden—I think, because of many, many considerations—decided against was destined for exportation, not for use here in the United States, or they make claims about energy production under Democratic Presidents that either contort or suspend reality. It is time—to borrow the phrase from my Rhode Island colleague, Senator WHITEHOUSE—it is time to wake up. Indeed, their solution to higher gas prices is more oil dependency.

The bottom line is that we need to accelerate the transition to clean, renewable energy sources that aren't subject to worldwide scarcity and manipulation by our adversary. There are, however, things we should do in the short term to help consumers.

Again, the advocates for the oil companies, the advocates for special tax arrangements, the advocates to continue to pump oil and pump oil and pump oil are playing right, in my sense, into the hands of Putin because if our world economy is based on hydrocarbons, then Russia is going to make some money. If our world economy is based on other sources of power—alternative sources of power—then his cash register is going to ring close to zero.

I am pleased that President Biden listened to me and others in Congress and decided to tap into the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to help bring down the price of oil. He wisely coordinated the release of 60 million barrels with our international partners. The action sends a reassuring signal to markets, but we may need to release more to tamp down prices. We also need to insist that our Middle East partners do more to increase production to help stabilize prices and meet demand in Europe.

We should also ask domestic oil and gas producers to pitch in. Despite the other side of the aisle's claims about the economy, Big Oil is earning some of its highest profits in years. They are not simply passing on the cost—additional cost—to the consumer reluctantly and grudgingly and sadly. ExxonMobil and Chevron, for example, reported a combined net annual profit of nearly $38.6 billion in 2021, but are they investing those profits in new production, particularly when they have 14 million acres in unused leases? No. Instead, they are issuing higher dividends and buying back stock to boost share prices. These windfall profits should be used to help consumers, not their billionaire investors.

Of course, the easiest way to insulate ourselves from higher costs is to become more energy efficient. When we consume less, we pay less. That is why I have long advocated better fuel economy standards for cars and trucks, something that the last administration worked against. Yes, the Trump administration tried to derail an increase in gas mileage that the automobile companies were in favor of. Even when automakers said we should keep the tougher standards, Trump said no. Why? Let's be more dependent on gasoline. It is not only to this country's oil-producing benefit. Guess what. Putin benefits and others benefit.

Fortunately, the Biden administration has a broader vision for a clean energy future that eases the burden on consumers.

While there is much more to do, the bipartisan infrastructure law took important steps on this front. It invested $7.5 billion to build out a national network of electric vehicle charges, $5 billion for electric buses, and $90 billion to improve public transit systems.

It also includes $65 billion to upgrade our power infrastructure, including by building thousands of miles of new, resilient transmission lines to facilitate the expansion of renewable energy. And

we can't just look at transportation because consumers are also facing the pinch on home energy prices.

Now, last year, I worked to secure $4.5 billion in the American Rescue Plan for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program to help consumers pay their energy bills. In the coming days, we will pass an omnibus appropriations bill to provide base funding for that program, which still lacks the resources to help all who qualify for assistance. But we need to do more.

We also need to make other long-term investments. In his State of the Union Address last week, President Biden emphasized the need to weatherize homes and businesses to be more energy efficient, which in turn lowers energy costs and reduces greenhouse gases and emissions, and I cannot agree more.

It is why I have led the fight to fund the Weatherization Assistance Program, which received $3.5 billion in the bipartisan infrastructure law. This program has helped more than 7 million low-income families reduce their energy bills by making their homes more energy efficient.

It saves participants nearly $300 in energy bills a year, and a Department of Energy study found that in 1 year, it reduced carbon emissions by more than 2.2 million metric tons, the equivalent to taking more than a half a million cars off the road.

To make the most of this investment, this week, I introduced the Weatherization Assistance Program Improvement Act along with Senators COLLINS, COONS, and SHAHEEN. Our bill would make critical updates, including increasing eligibility, raising the per unit funding level for weatherization projects, and setting aside funding to make critical health and safety repairs in conjunction with weatherization projects. Together, these reforms will make the program more effective and will help it serve even more households across the country.

These are significant steps, but we need the full package of climate energy reforms that the President has been calling for, including tax credits and grants that would make clean energy, clean vehicles, and other clean technologies more affordable and better.

If we do these things, we will make a huge difference in the lives of Americans today and for generations to come.

Just a final thought, I think one of the greatest nightmares that Vladimir Putin has is a world that is powered by electricity, not generated by hydrocarbons, a world in which the gasoline and oil that he has in Russia is not worth $150 a barrel but $1.50 a barrel.

We can do it, and it will be one of the most significant national security endeavors when we accomplish that.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

H.R. 3076

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I appreciate the comments from my colleague from Rhode Island. I would say ''all of the above'' energy, so I do support the energy efficiency he was talking about and other opportunities to ensure we have the ability to be energy independent. But at a time when the price per gallon is over $4, on average, we also need to produce more in this country.

And here we are at a time where we have an Executive order from the President, saying we are going to freeze all leases on public lands and waters. We have an Executive order from the President, obviously, stopping Keystone XL Pipeline.

We have an Executive action by the President to rewrite the policies with regard to permitting that are in the waters of the United States that are very important to energy projects. So we have got to do it all because, otherwise, without certainty, we are not going to get the oil and gas production we should have here to be able to substitute what we are getting from places like Russia.

The President did the right thing by banning the Russian oil, but we ought to also be doing the right thing with regard to North American production.

I stand today to support the Postal Service bill that is before us. We are nearing the end of a long journey to help the Postal Service and to help the Postmaster General to be able to implement needed reforms.

Last year, Senator PETERS—who I see is on the floor here—and I introduced the Senate version of the Postal Reform Act. We had 28 cosponsors, equally divided between Republicans and Democrats.

Why? Because the Postal Service is not a partisan issue. It is something that all of us should agree on. We need to save our Postal Service; otherwise, we are going to be in big trouble. In the next few years, I believe it would go insolvent otherwise. I believe we would be here talking about a big bailout. This is not a bailout. In fact, there is no appropriation in this legislation.

The post office is really important to my constituents—young, old, rural, urban, everybody. That is why we have seen such strong bipartisan support when this bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 342 to 92—that rarely happens in the House—and strong bipartisan support last night when the Senate cloture vote was 74 to 17.

Saving the post office is the right thing to do. Let's face it. The fact of the matter is, the Postal Service is delivering less and less more profitable first-class mail to more and more places. That economic model just does not work, and that is a recipe for ruin if we don't adjust to this new reality and make some necessary changes.

Is it hard to make changes? Of course, it is, but it is the right thing to do. We have talked about it for years here. Finally, we came together, Republican and Democrat, neither of us got exactly what we wanted, both had to make concessions, but we were actually doing the right thing for the country here in saving the post office.

And I regularly hear about this from my constituents across Ohio; I am sure you hear the same. You hear it from your veterans. You hear it from some of your rural residents who depend on the post office for a lot, including their lifesaving medications. Families rely on the post office to deliver their rent checks on time, to pay their utility bills, to get their Social Security checks.

In Ohio, we have got no-excuse absentee voting. That has worked really well for over a decade now. But if you are a voter in Ohio, you want to get your application in time, and you want to get your ballot in, in time. That all depends on the post office. Small businesses in Ohio reach their customers primarily through direct mail now; that is through the post office.

So this is really important that we put the post office on a sound financial footing. And, by the way, it can't be done just with an act of Congress.

What we are doing is complementing what the Postmaster General and the postal Board is doing in terms of serious reforms at the post office. They work together. In fact, the Postmaster General said this bill he strongly supports because it gives him the headroom he needs, the financial breathing room he needs to make the other important reforms to save the post office.

What do we do? First, we eliminate a very burdensome prefunding requirement for retiree health benefits. Congress mandated this a decade or so ago. Regardless of age, current employees have to be prefunded. This has crippled the post office financially. By the way, no other Federal Agency has to do this, and private sector companies don't do this. This is prefunding. The money will be there, but it is a matter of having to prefund it that is crippling the post office financially.

Second, we require the post office employees who are retiring, who have been paying into Medicare their entire careers, to enroll in Medicare Part B and to access Part D—something, by the way, that almost every private sector employer does. They are already in Part A.

Third, we require the Postal Service to maintain its current standard of a 6-day-a-week delivery through an integrated delivery network of mail and packages together so that those who rely on the Postal Service for their medications and other important needs are properly served. That 6-day-a-week delivery, by the way, is really important to my constituents and to a lot of your constituents if you talk to them about it, particularly in the rural areas.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that after all of this, this bill will result in a savings to the taxpayer. The savings over the next 10 years is $1.5 billion.

I would also like to note what this bill does not do because there has been

some misinformation out there. One, it does not appropriate new funds to the post office, period. Two, it does not change the accounting or costing structure for packages and letters so it does not disadvantage private-sector carriers. That is very important to me. This is the status quo that we are putting in place here. It does not change the accounting or costing structure for packages and letters.

Third, it does not allow the Postal Service to enter into new commercial services like postal banking. That is also very important to me.

And contrary to the claims of this bill's opponents, this bill does not impact the solvency of the Medicare hospital trust fund. That is the trust fund we all talk about. It is going belly-up in 2026. It does not affect it, period. CBO has actually written us something saying that, but it just makes sense. People are already in Part A. And this bill does not increase the Medicare Part B and Part D premiums based on the CBO analysis. Why? Partly because it is such a small number of people. Only 25 percent of postal employees were not already in Part B and Part D, so additional ones make very little difference. But part of it is they are paying their premiums.

So let's pass this bill. We also have a budget point of order before us that is coming up next. I want to be clear, again, CBO's estimated $1.5 billion savings over the 10-year budget window that we have to use around here. However, CBO has estimated that this legislation would likely increase on budget deficits by $5 billion or more in at least one of the four 10-year periods beginning in 2032.

I would like to make three quick points: First, none of this deficit is related to the Medicare hospital insurance trust fund for Part A. Again, that is the trust fund that we talk about a lot here because we are concerned about it, and it could be exhausted as early as 2026. CBO has said that trust fund will not be affected. Second, CBO's deficit only addresses on-budget direct spending. It actually excludes all future savings to the post office, which are off-budget.

Let me give you an example of that. The premiums that Postal Service employees are going to pay, that is not part of the calculation.

Third, and finally, this budget point of order ignores that postal workers are entitled to Medicare Part B and Part D like any other eligible American worker. The bill simply requires future Postal Service retirees to access these benefits; the 25 percent that don't already do it. Private-sector employers require their retirees to do the same thing. Of course, no one raises these budget points of orders on them.

Right now, the post office is in trouble, folks, and if we don't do something and do something significant, working with the post office to make their own internal reforms, we are going to be in big trouble as I said earlier.

Let's move forward on this bill. Let's make sure the post office is healthy going forward for all of our constituents.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to be recognized for 5 minutes of remarks.

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

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, in just a few moments, each of our colleagues will have the opportunity to cast a historic vote to pass groundbreaking legislation that will ensure that the U.S. Postal Service can continue its nearly 250-year tradition of delivering service to the American people.

The Postal Service is one of our Nation's most trusted and storied institutions. Since the founding of the United States, the Postal Service has become a vital part of the fabric of our Nation for generations.

It has served as an indispensable public service that not only delivers critical mail, like medications and financial documents, but also helps families all across the country stay connected with each other.

The Postal Service is the only mail carrier that delivers to every community across our Nation and serves more than 160 million households—no matter how remote.

However, in recent years, we have seen how burdensome financial requirements drove the Postal Service to use cost-cutting measures that compromised delivery services. And that is why this bipartisan bicameral bill is so vital. It will help the Postal Service overcome unfair policies that threaten its ability to effectively service the American people.

Since introducing this bill, I have worked closely with my ranking member, ROB PORTMAN, and our 26 other Senate cosponsors from both sides of the aisle, as well as Chairwoman MALONEY and Ranking Member COMER on the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, to craft these consensus reforms and secure the strong bipartisan support we have seen in both the House and, hopefully soon, in the Senate.

I am grateful to each of my colleagues for their hard work and for their cooperation and their willingness to compromise during this process.

Our legislation, which it has been 15 years in the making, will eliminate the unnecessary requirement for the Postal Service to prefund the cost of retiree health benefits and will integrate postal retirees healthcare with Medicare.

Together, these reforms will save the Postal Service more than $49 billion and ensure this essential public service, which is dependent on revenues from products and service fees to fund its operations, is set on a path for long-term financial stability.

This historic legislation will also ensure every American knows what is going on with the mail in their community by requiring the Postal Service to post weekly local performance data online.

It will also ensure this vital institution continues to deliver mail at least 6 days a week. By passing the Postal Service Reform Act, we can ensure the Postal Service is able to provide reliable service to families and small businesses, veterans, seniors, and rural communities who rely on this essential service each and every day for years to come.

By passing this legislation tonight and quickly sending it to President Biden's desk, this body can show the Nation that Congress can indeed build consensus; we can work on a bipartisan basis and get things done for the American people. Together, we can enact historic, meaningful change and improve the lives of our constituents.

I urge my colleagues to vote in support of this long-overdue bill so that we can take a historic and significant step to bring the Postal Service into the future and ensure it can continue providing essential services to the American people, as it has done for nearly 250 years.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). Under the previous order, all postcloture time is expired, amendment No. 4955 is withdrawn, and the bill is considered read a third time.

The amendment (No. 4955) was withdrawn.

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, the pending measure, H.R. 3076, Postal Service Reform Act of 2022, would increase on-budget deficits by $5 billion or more in at least one of the four 10-year periods beginning in 2032.

This increase violates section 3101 of the 2016 budget resolution, which prohibits consideration of legislation that would cause a net increase in on-budget deficits in any of the four 10-year periods beyond the current budget window.

I raise a point of order under section 3101(b) of S. Con. Res. 11, the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2016.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

MOTION TO WAIVE

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, pursuant to section 3101(c) of the fiscal year 2016 budget resolution, I move to waive section 3101 of that resolution for purposes of the pending measure, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

There will be now 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote on the motion to waive.

The Senator from Florida.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, as I have said repeatedly, I absolutely support getting something done to reform the Postal Service, but it cannot come at the expense to American taxpayers.

The Federal debt has already surged above $30 trillion, and it just keeps growing and growing.

I wrote to the Congressional Budget Office, asking what the future cost of this bill would be to Medicare and how it would impact the debt. While they could tell me there would be at least $5 billion in new deficits, they couldn't provide data past 2031, when Medicare will be most affected by this proposal.

Here is what we know for certain: This bill doesn't reduce costs; it just shifts them from one unfunded government program to another.

This bill adds at least $6 billion in new costs to Medicare, with no way to pay for it, and adds at least $5 billion to long-term Federal deficits. That is unacceptable. It is why I am raising a point of order today. We have to stop driving America deeper into debt and finally be accountable to the American taxpayers.

I urge my colleague to vote no on the budget point of order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, let me congratulate Senator PETERS and Senator PORTMAN for their work.

This is a bill that has been looked at and worked on for a very long time, and I am glad that in a few moments we are going to pass it.

I know that the people of Vermont and all over this country are increasingly concerned about the long delays they are experiencing in getting the mail they need. Senior citizens and veterans are not getting the prescription drugs they need on time. Working families have been forced to pay late fees because it is taking much longer than normal with the Postal Service to mail their bills. The Postal Service Reform Act is a step forward in addressing those concerns, and I am very proud to support this bill.

This is a bill that will save the Postal Service billions of dollars a year by ending the absurd Bush-era mandate forcing the Postal Service to prefund 75 years of future retiree health benefits for employees who haven't even been born yet. It protects 6-day delivery service and gives the Postal Service the ability to offer new consumer products and services.

The bottom line is, the Postal Service is enormously important to people all over this country. This bill strengthens the Postal Service and will guarantee that the people of our country get the quality service they demand.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON MOTION TO WAIVE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 68, nays 30, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 70 Leg.]

YEAS—68

Baldwin	Gillibrand	Padilla
Bennet	Hassan	Peters
Blumenthal	Hawley	Portman
Blunt	Heinrich	Reed
Booker	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Boozman	Hirono	Rounds
Brown	Kaine	Sanders
Burr	Kelly	Schatz
Cantwell	King	Schumer
Capito	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cardin	Leahy	Sinema
Carper	Luján	Smith
Casey	Manchin	Stabenow
Cassidy	Markey	Tester
Collins	Marshall	Tillis
Coons	McConnell	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Warner
Cotton	Merkley	Warnock
Cramer	Moran	Warren
Daines	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Duckworth	Murphy	Wicker
Durbin	Murray	Wyden
Feinstein	Ossoff	

NAYS—30

Barrasso	Hoeven	Rubio
Blackburn	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Braun	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Crapo	Lankford	Shelby
Cruz	Lee	Sullivan
Ernst	Lummis	Thune
Fischer	Paul	Toomey
Graham	Risch	Tuberville
Grassley	Romney	Young

NOT VOTING—2

Hagerty	Inhofe

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas were 68, and the nays were 30. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote on passage of the bill.

The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I rise in support of the Postal Service bill before us. It is important reform. People know this needs to be done. The vote in the House of Representatives was 342 to 92. It has to be done because the Postal Service's business model just doesn't work—having to deliver more and more packages and fewer and fewer more profitable first-class mail pieces to more and more addresses. So we have got to do something to reform it.

Let me tell you what this bill does do and what it doesn't do—first of all, what it does not do. It is not an appropriation, so there is no money here going into the Postal Service from the taxpayer. It does not change the accounting or the cost structure for packages and letters. That way, it does not disadvantage the private sector carriers some were worried about. It also does not allow the Postal Service to enter into new commercial services like postal banking that we are against. Contrary to claims of some of the opponents, it actually does not impact the solvency of the trust fund. So the Medicare hospital trust fund we all worry about, predicted to expire in about 2026, this does not affect it at all. Postal Service employees are already in Part A. And it does not increase the Part B or the Part D premiums.

What this does do is it saves the post office, which is incredibly important to all of our constituents—to our veterans who get their prescription drugs through the mail, to people who are voting by mail, and to people who are relying on the Postal Service to provide them with what they need to be able to survive.

This is an important bill that has been worked on for 15 years. I thank my colleague Senator PETERS from Michigan for working on a bipartisan basis on this.

Let's get it done tonight.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, every day, the U.S. Postal Service faithfully delivers for the American people. Today, the Senate is finally delivering for the post office.

Today, we can happily say that the postal reform is now signed, sealed, and delivered for the American people. Because of today's bill, the Postal Service will be stronger, more efficient, and better able to serve more people, and we did it on a bipartisan basis.

For over a decade, the USPS—one of the most important institutions in American life—has been on an ominous trajectory: shrinking revenues, fewer delivery routes, and finances in desperate need of a revamp. These problems led to late deliveries, reduced hours, and increased costs. And when the Postal Service suffers, America suffers.

Today, after much hard work, the Senate is providing the Postal Service a much needed reset. The legislation we are about to pass is the most significant step that Congress has taken in a long time to strengthen USPS. It will guarantee delivery services 6 days a week, put the Postal Service on a path to solvency, and will ensure that we care for our dedicated postal workers, all while saving dollars.

This postal reform bill is a win-win-win: a win for bipartisanship, a win for our postal workers, and most importantly, a win for the tens of millions of Americans who rely on the Postal Service every single day, from seniors to veterans, to small businesses, to rural Americans, to everyone in between.

I want to really give a special shoutout to my colleagues who made this possible for us to pass this bill. Senators PETERS and PORTMAN led the charge, Senator CARPER worked long in the vineyards on this bill, and so many others as well.

Of course, I want to thank the half a million postal workers who kept our country going every single day, especially during the pandemic. While so many other services were shut down

during COVID, the post office kept delivering goods and supplies and medicines across the economy. They are public servants of the highest order.

So it is a great day for our postal workers, and it is a great day for the American people.

The bill has been in the works for over a decade, and today, after so much work, we are all thrilled to have finally gotten it done.

VOTE ON H.R. 3076

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 79, nays 19, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 71 Leg.]

YEAS—79

Baldwin	Graham	Padilla
Barrasso	Grassley	Peters
Bennet	Hassan	Portman
Blumenthal	Hawley	Reed
Blunt	Heinrich	Rosen
Booker	Hickenlooper	Rounds
Boozman	Hirono	Sanders
Brown	Hoeven	Schatz
Burr	Kaine	Schumer
Cantwell	Kelly	Shaheen
Capito	Kennedy	Sinema
Cardin	King	Smith
Carper	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Casey	Leahy	Sullivan
Cassidy	Luján	Tester
Collins	Lummis	Thune
Coons	Manchin	Tillis
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Cotton	Marshall	Warner
Cramer	McConnell	Warnock
Daines	Menendez	Warren
Duckworth	Merkley	Whitehouse
Durbin	Moran	Wicker
Ernst	Murkowski	Wyden
Feinstein	Murphy	Young
Fischer	Murray	
Gillibrand	Ossoff	

NAYS—19

Blackburn	Lankford	Scott (FL)
Braun	Lee	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Paul	Shelby
Crapo	Risch	Toomey
Cruz	Romney	Tuberville
Hyde-Smith	Rubio	
Johnson	Sasse	

NOT VOTING—2

Hagerty	Inhofe

The bill (H.R. 3076) was passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session.

There will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided.

The Senator from Michigan.

CLOTURE MOTION WITHDRAWN

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture motion on the Gonzalez nomination be withdrawn.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Not hearing an objection, it is withdrawn.

The cloture motion, on the nomination of Ed Gonzalez, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, was withdrawn.

The PRESIDING OFFICER.

Who yields time?

Mr. SCHUMER. We yield back all time, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. All time is yielded back.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 547, Maria L. Pagan, of Puerto Rico, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Geneva Office), with the rank of Ambassador.

Charles E. Schumer, Alex Padilla, Christopher Murphy, Edward J. Markey, Gary C. Peters, Brian Schatz, Jack Reed, Tammy Duckworth, John W. Hickenlooper, Sheldon Whitehouse, Tim Kaine, Richard Blumenthal, Christopher A. Coons, Margaret Wood Hassan, Patrick J. Leahy, Debbie Stabenow.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Maria L. Pagan, of Puerto Rico, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Geneva Office), with the rank of Ambassador shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 78, nays 19, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 72 Ex.]

YEAS—78

Baldwin	Carper	Durbin
Barrasso	Casey	Ernst
Bennet	Cassidy	Feinstein
Blumenthal	Collins	Fischer
Blunt	Coons	Gillibrand
Booker	Cornyn	Graham
Brown	Cortez Masto	Grassley
Burr	Cramer	Hassan
Cantwell	Crapo	Heinrich
Capito	Daines	Hickenlooper
Cardin	Duckworth	Hirono
Hoeven	Murphy	Sinema
Kaine	Murray	Smith
Kelly	Ossoff	Stabenow
Kennedy	Padilla	Tester
King	Peters	Thune
Klobuchar	Portman	Tillis
Leahy	Reed	Toomey
Luján	Risch	Van Hollen
Manchin	Romney	Warner
Markey	Rosen	Warnock
McConnell	Rounds	Warren
Menendez	Sasse	Whitehouse
Merkley	Schatz	Wicker
Moran	Schumer	Wyden
Murkowski	Shaheen	Young

NAYS—19

Blackburn	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Boozman	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Braun	Lee	Shelby
Cotton	Lummis	Sullivan
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville
Hawley	Paul	
Hyde-Smith	Rubio	

NOT VOTING—3

Hagerty	Inhofe	Sanders

(Mr. KING assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HASSAN). On this vote, the yeas are 78 and the nays are 19.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Maria L. Pagan, of Puerto Rico, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Geneva Office), with the rank of Ambassador.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I am here today for two purposes. I will start with the first.

The first is to rise in support of advancing the nomination of Elizabeth Watson to serve as the Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs at the Department of Labor.

Ms. Watson is a highly qualified nominee who was nominated in April of last year, almost a year ago now. She has spent most of her career advocating for workers through labor and economic policy.

Ms. Watson previously served as labor policy director and chief labor counsel on the House Committee on Education and Labor. Given her labor expertise and commitment to public service, she would be an enormous asset to the Department of Labor.

It is past due that the Senate confirm her nomination.

Ms. Watson is one of many excellent pro-worker nominees that have been put forward by the Biden-Harris administration.

Working families and unions built the American middle class, and working families and unions helped to make the Nation what it is today—the strongest, most powerful nation in the world.

Every worker in America deserves to be paid a living wage and treated with

dignity and respect. Over the past few decades, corporations have worked to undermine and weaken workers' fundamental rights to organize and collectively bargain. We should, for example, pass the PRO Act, which would safeguard and strengthen workers' fundamental right to organize and ensure that workers are able to decide whether or not to join a union through a fair process.

It would help restore fairness to an economy that has been rigged against workers for too long. We owe it to workers and families to create an economy that works for them, not for corporate interests. Pro-worker nominees, like Elizabeth Watson, will help us realize this goal. The Senate should advance her nomination.

So I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nomination: Calendar No. 687, Elizabeth Schoff Watson, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor; that the nomination be confirmed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. BRAUN. Reserving the right to object, the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs works closely with congressional leaders and staff on a variety of issues, including legislative proposals, hearings, briefings, requests for information, and general topics. It is essential that the nominee is willing to work with both Democrats and Republicans in a bipartisan fashion.

Elizabeth Watson is currently the executive director of the Congressional Progressive Caucus Center—director of the Congressional Progressive Caucus Center—hardly a springboard of bipartisanship.

During the previous administration, Ms. Watson retweeted posts such as ''White supremacists don't belong in the White House,'' referring to President Trump.

Her past actions have cast doubt on her ability to be impartial and her willingness to work in a bipartisan manner.

My concerns with this nominee are not unique, and there are many other Members that have concerns as well. There should be a vote on this nominee.

Therefore, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

STURDY ACT

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I rise this evening to share the urgent need to pass a bipartisan bill, a piece of legislation we have been working on for years now that will save the lives of children.

Every year, emergency rooms across the country treat over 22,000 preventable injuries—22,000 preventable injuries—caused by falling furniture, like dressers or television sets. On average, roughly half—half—of those injured are children, and of the vast majority of those killed by furniture tip-overs, some 81 percent are children. Eighty-one percent of all those killed by furniture tip-overs are children.

The death of a child is an unspeakable loss. There is no way to calculate it, and if you haven't lived through it, I don't think any of us can understand what some families have lived through. Yet in America, the most powerful Nation on the Earth, in less than 20 years, more than 460 children have been killed by these furniture tip-overs, and that number is the reported fatality number.

Compounding the grief and loss that these families experience is the fact that these deaths might have been prevented.

The answer here is pretty simple: mandatory stability standards that would make our homes safer for our children. For years now, Senator KLOBUCHAR, Senator BLUMENTHAL, Senator COTTON, and I have led a bipartisan effort to pass the STURDY Act.

Here is what all of the letters in that acronym stand for: The Stop Tip-overs of Unstable, Risky Dressers on Youth. We call it the STURDY Act.

The STURDY Act would require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to create a mandatory stability standard for furniture. That is all it does. It would create a mandatory stability standard. It would require companies to ensure their products are tested for safety and stability before being sold. It is a simple, commonsense requirement that will save the lives of children and prevent injuries.

Families in Pennsylvania and across the Nation have been waiting too long for the Senate to act. There are families like the Lamberts and the Collases who have experienced every parent's worst nightmare—the loss of a child. These families have given my staff permission for me to share their stories tonight on the Senate floor. These are two stories I will start with.

You can see on my left, Katie Lambert.

Katie Lambert, in 2005, was 3 years old, just 3 years old. Her mom Judy describes her as ''everything a three-year-old child should be—full of love and spontaneity.''

Katie loved Thomas the Tank Engine; she loved Buzz Lightyear; and, of course, she loved her older brothers.

Katie's family had just moved into their new home in Huntingdon Valley, PA, in Southeastern Pennsylvania. One day, Katie was playing in her room while her mom painted the room next-door. Suddenly, Judy heard an ''awful crash'' as she described it. Judy ran into the room to find 3-year-old Katie crushed beneath a tall, mirrored wardrobe. The wardrobe had been on carpet and was unstable.

Judy said:

While we don't know what Katie was doing, she was probably dancing and watching herself in the mirrors. She may have bumped up against it or tried to open one of the doors or maybe the vibration of her dancing in the room was just enough to cause it to become unstable and fall forward on her.

That is what her mom Judy said.

You can see in this photograph a beautiful little child, Katie Lambert, who died on that day. As her mom Judy held her, waiting for an ambulance to arrive, Katie took her last breath. She would have been 21 years old this year, and Judy wonders what she would be like today. What would she look like as a young woman? What college would she have chosen and what career path? Would she like spicy food like her brothers do?

Judy Lambert wanted me to share a message today, and it is quoted right here on this poster:

Please, do everything you can to ensure that no other family suffers the pain we do.

So said a mom about what we should do when we think of this child.

Then, Judy went on to say:

I am begging you to pass the STURDY Act now.

We should listen to her words and act.

The second child I will talk about tonight is Curren Collas. Another family, the Collas family, experienced a similar tragedy in their home in West Chester, PA.

Curren was just 2 years old—2 years old—with blond hair and deep blue eyes that his mom Jackie described as ''soulful.'' Curren loved his cars. He would carefully display his collection of them in a perfect line.

In February of 2014, Jackie walked into Curren's bedroom to wake him for the day. She discovered Curren's five-drawer dresser had fallen on him. Curren was trapped between it and his bed. As she waited for an ambulance to arrive, Jackie tried to resuscitate Curren but was later told by the paramedics that he had no vital signs when they took over.

In the months after Curren's death, Jackie would sometimes stumble on his toy cars, hidden around the house—reminders of her spirited son, Curren.

Obviously, Jackie and her family's lives will never ever be the same.

Here is what she told us in memory of her son. She said:

Even if I live until 100, it's going to be before Curren and after Curren.

Just two stories tell us all we need to know about why we have to pass this bill. We could tell a lot more from Pennsylvania and so many other States that are represented by those Senators I mentioned and represented by Senators from other States. There is no reason—no reason at all—for families to endure this unimaginable grief, but, tragically, families across the Nation share similar stories of losing children to these horrific furniture tipover accidents. You will hear more of their

stories from my colleagues in the days ahead.

In the memory of Katie and Curren and so many others who were lost to their families—killed in these tragedies—we must pass the STURDY Act. It is not complicated. It is not complicated at all. We must ensure that the furniture sold to consumers is tested—tested for safety and tested for stability. Congress must do all it can. We in the Senate must do all we can to ensure that no more children—no more children—are harmed or killed by furniture tipovers.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that all postcloture time on the Pagan nomination be considered expired, with all previous provisions remaining in effect.

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

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 117–81, appoints the following individual to serve as a member of the Congressional Commission on the Strategic Posture of the United States: Robert M. Scher of the District of Columbia.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

EMMETT TILL ANTILYNCHING ACT

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. Madam President, for the last 4 years I have worked hard with my friends across the aisle on antilynching legislation, legislation that has failed in this body 200 times. We passed it in 2019 under Republican leadership in this Senate, only for it to fall apart in the House.

Well, after more than a century of failed attempts, both Chambers of Congress have finally passed this historic piece of legislation. I am proud to say we did the right thing not for Republicans or Democrats, but for Americans who have watched their government fall short too many times.

While we cannot erase our Nation's past, today, we have taken a significant step toward a better future for all. This long overdue piece of legislation sends a clear message: We will not tolerate hatred and violence against our fellow Americans.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER ERIK CLARK

● Mr. MARSHALL. Madam President, I rise today to honor a true hero from Olathe, KS Officer Erik Clark. His brave actions during an active shooter situation at Olathe East High School helped keep an already tragic situation from taking students' lives.

On Friday, March 4, a senior student at Olathe East was called into the administration office after a tip that he had brought in a gun to school. A few minutes into meeting with the assistant principal, the senior wouldn't open his backpack, prompting Officer Clark—the school's resource officer—to step into the situation. Shortly after Clark arrived, the student pulled out his weapon and began opening fire.

In a flurry, Clark responded and returned fire, ultimately shooting and subduing the student, but not without himself and the assistant principal being wounded as well. Both, however, have thankfully been discharged from the hospital. I pray that something like that may never happen in those halls or any others across America again, for even though there were no fatal wounds, the scars of trauma everyone at Olathe East will surely run deep.

Lastly, I want t thank this brave officer for being so courageous to dive headfirst into peril on that day. If it were not for Officer Clark, this situation could have turned out to be a much darker day in Olathe. As the son of a police chief, I know the risks our men and women in blue take on each day. I admire Officer Clark for continually working to ensure our safety. He has shown what true valor looks like, and Olathe East is safer because of him. I ask now that my colleagues show this same admiration and recognition for Officer Clark and that he may stay safe protecting his community.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. KALEB STOPPEL

● Mr. MARSHALL. Madam President, I rise today to honor a school administrator that went above and beyond the service to his students, Dr. Kaleb Stoppel. His brave actions during an active shooter situation at Olathe East High School helped keep an already tragic situation from taking students' lives.

On Friday, March 4, a senior student at Olathe East was called into Dr. Stoppel's office after a tip was submitted saying the student brought a gun to the school. Dr. Stoppel first asked the student to open his backpack, which he did not comply with, prompting the school's resource officer to step into the situation. Shortly after the officer arrived, the student pulled out his weapon and began opening fire.

In a flurry, the officer returned fire, ultimately shooting and subduing the student, but not without himself and Dr. Stoppel being wounded as well. Both, however, have thankfully been discharged from the hospital. I pray that something like that may never happen in those halls or any others across America again, for even though there were no fatal wounds, the scars of trauma for everyone at Olathe East will surely run deep.

Lastly, I want to thank Dr. Stoppel for being so responsive to the situation and keeping students out of harm's way. Had he not investigated the tip, this tragedy surely would have been much graver. Olathe East is safer because of him. I ask now that my colleagues show this same admiration and recognition for Dr. Stoppel and that he may stay safe while educating our future leaders.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Swann, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE ISSUANCE OF AN EXECUTIVE ORDER WITH RESPECT TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S UNJUSTIFIED, UNPROVOKED, UNYIELDING, AND UNCONSCIONABLE WAR AGAINST UKRAINE, AND EXPANDING THE SCOPE OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 14024 OF APRIL 15, 2021—PM 26

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with accompanying papers; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*), the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*), and section 301 of title 3, United States Code, I report that I have issued an Executive Order finding that the Russian Federation's unjustified, unprovoked, unyielding, and unconscionable war against Ukraine, including its recent further invasion in violation of international law, including the United Nations Charter, further threatens the peace, stability, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Ukraine, and thereby constitutes an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States.

As a result, I have prohibited the following: (i) the importation into the United States of the following products of Russian Federation origin: crude oil; petroleum; petroleum fuels, oils, and products of their distillation; liquefied natural gas; coal; and coal products; (ii) new investment in the energy sector in the Russian Federation by a United States person, wherever located; and (iii) any approval, financing, facilitation, or guarantee by a United States person, wherever located, of a transaction by a foreign person where the transaction by that foreign person would be prohibited by this section if performed by a United States person or within the United States.

I am enclosing a copy of the Executive Order I have issued.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *March 8, 2022.*

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:36 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5615. An act to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit a plan to make Federal assistance available to certain urban areas that previously received Urban Area Security Initiative funding to preserve homeland security capabilities, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5616. An act to require reporting regarding accreditation of basic training programs of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 658. An act to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to work with cybersecurity consortia for training, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 5615. An act to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit a plan to make Federal assistance available to certain urban areas that previously received Urban Area Security Initiative funding to preserve homeland security capabilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 5616. An act to require reporting regarding accreditation of basic training programs of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC–3312. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to Cuba that was originally declared in Proclamation 6867 of March 1, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3313. A communication from the General Counsel, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Civil Monetary Penalty Annual Inflation Adjustment'' (RIN3147–AA24) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3314. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a legislative proposal entitled ''To authorize Coast Guard activities for fiscal year 2022, and for other purposes''; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3315. A communication from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Wireline Competition Bureau adopts final rules for the Affordable Connectivity Program, which builds upon the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program (EBB Program) for January 21, 2021'' ((FCC 22–2) (WC Docket Nos. 20–445 and 21–450)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3316. A communication from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism'' ((RIN3060–AK57) (CC Docket No. 02–6)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3317. A communication from the Associate Administrator for Policy, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Qualifications of Drivers; Vision Standard'' (RIN2126–AC21) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3318. A communication from the Attorney Adviser, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Control of Alcohol and Drug Use: Coverage of Mechanical Employees and Miscellaneous Amendments'' (RIN2130–AC80) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3319. A communication from the Deputy Chief, Office of Economics and Analytics, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Auction of Construction Permits for Full Power Television Stations; Notice and Filing Requirements, Minimum Opening Bids, Upfront Payments, and Other Procedures for Auction 112; Bidding Scheduled to Begin June 7, 2022'' ((AU Docket No. 21–449) (DA 22–125)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3320. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Take of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Seabird Research Activities in Central California'' (RIN0648–BJ47) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3321. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to the U.S. Navy Training and Testing Activities in the Northwest Training and Testing (NWTT) Study Area'' (RIN0648–BJ30) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3322. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Take of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Rocky Intertidal Monitoring Surveys Along the Oregon and California Coasts'' (RIN0648–BJ37) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3323. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''2020 Annual Determination To Implement the Sea Turtle Observer Requirement'' (RIN0648–BI91) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3324. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''List of Fisheries for 2020'' (RIN0648–BI76) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3325. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''List of Fisheries of 2021'' (RIN0648–BJ47) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3326. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled

''Take of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to U.S. Navy Construction at Naval Station Norfolk in Norfolk, Virginia'' (RIN0648–BJ90) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3327. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revisions to Hatchery Programs Included as Part of Pacific Salmon and Steelhead Species Listed Under the Endangered Species Act'' (RIN0648–XE804) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3328. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endangered and Threatened Species; Removal of Siderastrea glynni From the Federal List of Threatened and Endangered Species'' (RIN0648–XR115) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3329. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Swim With and Approach Regulation for Hawaiian Spinner Dolphins'' (RIN0648–AU02) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3330. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Take of Marine Mammals Incidental to Commercial Fishing Operations; Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan Regulations; Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act Provisions; American Lobster Fishery'' (RIN0648–BJ09) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3331. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to the U.S. Navy Training and Testing Activities in the Hawaii-Southern California Training and Testing Study Area'' (RIN0648–BJ06) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3332. A communication from the Deputy Chief Financial Officer and Director for Financial Management, Office of the Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Civil Monetary Penalty Adjustments for Inflation'' (RIN0605–AA63) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3333. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Revision of Critical Habitat for the Southern Resident Killer Whale Distinct Population Segment'' (RIN0648–BH95) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3334. A communication from the Chief Innovation Officer, Rural Development Innovation Center, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Meat and Poultry Processing Expansion Program'' received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3335. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Ipflufenoquin; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 8572–01–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3336. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Polyammonium Bisulfate; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9420–01–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3337. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Oxirane, 2-(phenoxymethyl)-, polymer with oxirane, ether with 2,2′,2″- nitrilotris[ethanol] (3:1), diblock; Tolerance Exemption'' (FRL No. 9416–01–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 26, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–3338. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fluopyram; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9454–01–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 26, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–3339. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Potassium acetate; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9550–01–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–3340. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Adipic acid; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9551–01–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–3341. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fluridone; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions'' (FRL No. 9459–01–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–3342. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fatty Acids, Esters with Ethoxylated Triethanolamine; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9534–01–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–3343. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Phosphoric Acid; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9380–01–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–3344. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Jeffrey A. Rockwell, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3345. A communication from the Senior Official performing the duties of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Destruction of the United States Stockpile of Lethal Chemical Agents and Munitions for Fiscal Year 2021''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3346. A communication from the Senior Official performing the duties of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, an interim response to a reporting requirement regarding Military Child Care and Child Development Center Matters; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3347. A communication from the Senior Official performing the duties of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2020; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3348. A communication from the Senior Official performing the duties of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, an interim response to a reporting requirement regarding Military Child Care and Child Development Center Matters; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3349. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)'' (RIN0790–AK90) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2022; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3350. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Admissions Policies and Procedures for the School of Medicine, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences'' (RIN0790–AL01) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2022; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3351. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Privacy Act of 1974; Implementation'' (RIN0790–AK96) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2022; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3352. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of

Staff and the Joint Staff Privacy Program'' (RIN0790–AK59) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2022; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3353. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Trade Agreements Threshold'' (RIN0750–AL50) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2022; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3354. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Admiral Robert P. Burke, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3355. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of General Jeffrey L. Harrington, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3356. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of General Kenneth F. McKenzie, United States Marine Corps, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3357. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Financial Stability Oversight Council 2021 annual report to Congress; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3358. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Termination of Waiver with Respect to Certain Persons Identified on the Protecting Europe's Energy Security Act Report''; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3359. A communication from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled'' HUD Office of Hearings and Appeals'' (RIN2501–AE00) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3360. A communication from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Chinese Military-Industrial Complex Sanctions Regulations'' (31 CFR Part 586) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3361. A communication from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Russian Harmful Foreign Activities Sanctions Regulations'' (31 CFR Part 587) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3362. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Enterprise Regulatory Capital Framework—Prescribed Leverage Buffer Amount and Credit Risk Transfer'' (RIN2590–AB17) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3363. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's semiannual Monetary Policy Report to Congress; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3364. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to Libya that was declared in Executive Order 13566 of February 25, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3365. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, a report relative to the issuance of an Executive Order in order to expand the scope of the national emergency with respect to Ukraine declared in Executive Order 13661 of June 26, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. MENENDEZ for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

George J. Tsunis, of New York, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Greece.

FEDERAL CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION REPORT

NOMINEE: George J. Tsunis.

POST: Hellenic Republic.

(The following is a list of members of my immediate family. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Recipent, amount, report year, report type, entity type, receipt type description, contribution receipt date, YTD, election: Anna Eshoo for Congress, 2,800, 2019, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 9/18/2019, 0:00, 5,600, G2020; Anna Eshoo for Congress, 2,800, 2019, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 9/18/2019, 0:00, 5,600, P2020; Arbor Realty Trust Inc Political Action Committee (Artpac), 5,000 2017, YE, Individual, Contribution, 12/14/2017, 0:00, 5,000 P; Arbor Trust Realty, Inc Pac, 5,000, 2020, YE, Individual, Contribution, 12/29/2020, 0:00, 5,000, P; Baldwin Wisconsin Victory Fund, 5,000, 2018, 30G, Individual, Contribution, 10/14/2018 0:00, 5,000, G2018; Biden for President, 2,800, 2019, Q2, Individual, Contribution, 4/29/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Biden for President, 2,800, 2020, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution Given to Join, 9/17/2020, 0:00, 5,600 G2020; Biden Victory Fund, 7,200, 2020, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 9/17/2020, 0:00, 7,200 P; Blumenauer for Congress, 2,800, 2019, YE, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 10/27/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Bob Casey for Senate Inc, 2,800, 2019, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/3/2019, 0:00, 5,600, G2024; Bob Casey for Senate Inc, 2,800, 2019, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/3/2019, 0:00, 5,600 P2024; Charlie Crist for Congress, 1,800, 2017, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 3/31/2017, 0:00, 1,800, P2018; Chris Pappas for Congress, 2,700, 2018, 12G, Individual, Contribution, 10/16/2018, 0:00, 2,700, G2018; Cicilline Committee, 2,700, 2017, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 9/30/2017, 0:00, 2,700, P2018; Cicilline Committee, 1,000, 2021, Q1, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/2/2021, 0:00, 1,000, P2022; Cory 2020, 2,800, 2019, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 3/31/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Cory Booker for Senate, 5,500, 2020, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/30/2020, 0:00, 5,600, G2020; Cory Booker for Senate, −2,700, 2020, Q2, Individual, Contribution, 6/30/2020, 0:00, 5,600, P2020; Cory Booker for Senate, 100, 2020, Q2 Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/30/2020, 0:00, 5,600, P2020; Crapo Victory Committee, 2,800, 2020, 12G, Individual, Contribution, 10/14/2020, 0:00, 2,800, P.

DCCC, 5,000, 2018, 12G, Individual, Contribution, 10/15/2018, 0:00, 5,000 P.De Blasio, 2020, 2,800, 2019, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 5/21/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Democratic Party of Virginia, 5,400, 2018, M7, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution, Given to Join, 6/30/2018, 0:00, 5,400, P; Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 2,300, 2018, 12G, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 10/14/2018, 0:00, 2300, P; DNC Services Corp/Democratic National Committee, 4,400, 2020, M10, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution, Given to Join, 9/17/2020, 0:00, 4,400, G2020; DNC Services Corp/Dem. Nat'l Committee, 2,500, 2018, M3, Individual, Contribution, 2/12/2018, 0:00, 2,500, G2018; DSCC, 35,500, 2019, YE, Individual, Contribution, 12/5/2019, 0:00, 35,500, P; Duty And Country, 25,000, 2018, M5, Individual, Non-Federal Receipt From Persons, 4/30/2015, 0:00, 25,000, P; Fairness Pac, 5,000, 2019, MY, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 4/3/2019, 0:00, 5,000, P; Freedom Fund, 2,700, 2021, MY, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution Given to Join, 1/15/2021, 0:00, 2,700, P; Friends of Dick Durbin Committee, 2,800, 2019, YE, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 11/6/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Friends of John Barrasso, 2,800, 2020, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 9/30/2020, 0:00, 5,600, G2024; Friends of John Barrasso, 2,800, 2020, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 9/30/2020, 0:00, 5,600, P2024; Friends of Mark Warner, 2,700, 2018, Q1, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution Given to Join, 2/28/2018, 0:00, 5,400, G2020; Friends of Mark Warner, 2,700, 2018, Q1, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution Given to Join 2/28/2018, 0:00, 5,400, P2020; Friends of Raja for Congress, 1,000, 2018, 30G, Individual, Contribution, 11/6/2018, 0:00, 1,000, G2018; Friends of Schumer, 2,900, 2021, 01, Individual, Contribution, 3/18/2021, 0:00 5800 G2022; Friends of Schumer, 2,900, 2021, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 3/18/2021, 0:00 5800 P2022; Gillibrand 2020, 2,800, 2019, Q1, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/31/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Gillibrand for Senate, 2,700, 2018, Q1 Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/5/2018, 0:00, 5,400, G2018; Gillibrand for Senate, 2,700, 2018, (21 Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/5/2018, 0:00, 5,400, P2018.

IA/NC Senate 2020, 5,600, 2020, Q1, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/16/2020, 0:00, 5,600 P; Jeffries for Congress, 2,800, 2020, Q3, Individual, Earmarked, Contribution, 8/1/2020, 0:00, 2,800, G2020; Jim Risch for US Senate Committee, 1500, 2019, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 8/28/2019, 0:00, 1500, P2020; Jim Risch for US Senate Committee, 2,800, 2020 Q3 Individual, Contribution, 8/31/2020, 0:00, 4,300 G2020; Kaine for Virginia, 2,700, 2018, Q2, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution, Given to Join, 6/12/2018, 0:00, 5,400, Q2018; Kaine for Virginia, 2,700, 2018, Q2, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution, Given to Join, 6/12/2018, 0:00, 5,400, P2018; Kaine Victory Fund, 10,800, 2018, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 5/30/2018 0:00, 10,800 P; Leadership Alliance, 4,8025, 2018, Q3, Individual, Non-Federal Receipt From Persons, 8/7/2018, 0:00, 4,8025 P; Leadership Alliance, 48,025, 2018, Q3, Individual, Non-Federal Receipt From Persons, 8/29/2018, 0:00, 96050 P; Maloney for Congress, 2,700, 2018, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 9/27/2018, 0:00, 2,700 G2018; Maloney for Congress, 2,900, 2021, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/7/2021, 0:00, 5,800, G2022; Maloney for Congress, 2,900, 2021, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/7/2021, 0:00, 5,800 P2022; Menendez for Senate, 2,700, 2017, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 3/22/2017, 0:00, 400, G2018; Menendez for Senate, 2,700, 2017, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 3/22/2017, 0:00, 400,

P2018; Menendez for Senate, 2,800, 2020, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/30/2020, 0:00, 5,600 G2024; Menendez for Senate, 2,800, 2020, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/30/2020, 0:00, 5,600 P2024; Menendez Victory Fund, 5,000 2018, Q2, Individual, Contribution, 5/21/2018, 0:00, 5,000 P; Menendez Victory Fund, 5,000, 2018, Q3, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 9/11/2018, 0:00, 15,000 P; Menendez Victory Fund, 5,000, 2018, Q3, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 9/29/2018, 0:00, 15,000 P.

Saddle PAC, 2,700, 2018, Q2, Individual, Contribution, 5/14/2018, 0:00, 2,700 P; Saddle PAC, 2,300, 2018, 30G, Individual, Contribution, 10/9/2018, 0:00, 5,000, P; Schiff for Congress, 2,700, 2018, 12P, Individual, Contribution, 5/14/2018, 0:00, 2,700, P2018; Shaheen for Senate, 2,800, 2019, YE, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 12/2/2019, 0:00, 5,600, G2020; Shaheen for Senate, 2,800, 2019, YE, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 12/2/2019, 0:00, 5,600, P2020; Shaheen Victory Fund 2020, 10,000, 2020, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 9/25/2020, 0:00, 10,000, P; Suozzi for Congress, 2,700, 2018, 12P, Individual, Contribution, 5/15/2018, 0:00, 2,700, P2018; Tammy Baldwin for Senate, 2,700, 2018, 12G, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution, Given to Join, 10/14/2018, 0:00, 2,700, G2018; Team Rand, 4,602, 2021, M5, Individual, Contribution, 4/1/2021, 0:00, 4,600, P; Ted Deutch for Congress Committee, 2,800, 2020, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 2/5/2020, 0:00, 5,600, G2020; Ted Deutch for Congress Committee, 5,600, 2020, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 2/5/2020, 0:00, 5,600, P2020; Ted Deutch for Congress Committee, 2,800, 2020, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 2/5/2020, 0:00, 5,600, P2020; The Markey Committee, 2,800, 2019, Q1, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/2/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Tina Smith for Minnesota, 2,700, 2018, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 5/20/2018, 0:00, 2,700, P2018; Torres for Congress, 2,800, 2019, YE, Individual, Contribution, 11/7/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Van Hollen for Senate, 2,800, 2019, YE, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 9/23/2019, 0:00, 5,600, G2022; Van Hollen for Senate, 2,800, 2019, YE, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 9/23/2019, 0:00, 5,600, P2022; Virginia Together, 5,400, 2018, Q1, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 2/5/2018, 0:00, 5,400, P; Winred, 2,800, 2020, Q1, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/5/2020, 0:00, 2,800, P; Winred, 5,600, 2020, 12G, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 10/2/2020, 0:00, 8,400, P; Zeldin for Congress, 2,800, 2020, 12G, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution, Given to Join, 10/5/2020, 0:00, 2,800, G2020; Zeldin Victory Committee, 2020 2,800, 2020 12G, Individual, Contribution, 10/5/2020, 0:00, 2,800, G2020.

Biden for President, 2,800, 2019 Q2, Individual, Contribution, 4/29/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Booker Victory Fund, 2,800, 2020 30G, Individual, Contribution, 11/1/2020, 0:00, 2,800, P; Brindisi for Congress, 1,000, 2018, 12P, Individual, Contribution, 4/22/2018, 0:00, 1,000, P2018; Chris Pappas for Congress, 500, 2018, 12G, Individual, Contribution, 10/16/2018, 0:00, 2,700, G2018; Chris Pappas for Congress, 2,200, 2018, 12G, Individual, Contribution, 10/16/2018, 0:00, 2,700, G2018; Cory 2020, 2,800, 2019, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 3/31/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Cory Booker for Senate, 2,700, 2020, Q2, Individual, Contribution, 6/30/2020, 0:00, 2,700, P2020; Cory Booker for Senate, 2,800, 2020, 300, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution, Given to Join, 11/1/2020, 0:00, 5,500, G2020; Crapo Victory Committee, 2,800, 2020 12P, Individual, Contribution, 10/14/2020, 0:00, 2,800, P; De Blasio, 2020, 2,800, 2019, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/3/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Freedom Fund, 2,700, 2021, My Individual, Memo (Filers % of Contribution, Given to Join, 1/19/2021, 0:00, 2700, P; Friends of Mark Warner, 2,800, 2020, 12P, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/2/2020, 0:00, 5,600 G2020; Friends of Mark Warner, 2,800, 2020, 12P, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/2/2020, 0:00, 5,600, P2020; Friends of Schumer, 2,900, 2021, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 3/18/2021, 0:00, 5,800, G2022; Friends of Schumer, 2,900, 2021, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 3/18/2021, 0:00, 5,800, P2022; Gillbrand 2020, 2,800, 2019, Q1, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/31/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Gillbrand for Senate, 2,700, 2018, Q1 Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/20/2018, 0:00, 5,400, P2018; Gillibrand for Senate, 2,700, 2018, Q1, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/20/2018, 0:00, 5,400, G2018; IA/NC Senate 2020, 5,600, 2020, Q1, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/16/2020, 0:00, 5,600, P; Jim Risch for U.S. Senate Committee, 2,800, 2020, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 8/31/2020, 0:00, 2,800, G2020; Luba for Congress, 2,700, 2018, 12G, Individual, Contribution, 10/10/2018, 0:00, 2,700, G2018; Maloney for Congress, 2,700, 2018, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 9/27/2018, 0:00, 2,700, G2018;

McConnell Senate Committee, 2,800, 2019, YE, Individual, Contribution, 12/31/2019, 0:00, 5,600, P2020; McConnell Senate Committee, 2,800, 2019, YE, Individual, Contribution, 12/31/2019, 0:00, 5,600, G2020; Menendez for Senate, 2,700, 2017, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 3/29/2017, 0:00, 400, G2018; Menendez for Senate, 2,700, 2017, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 3/29/2017, 0:00, 400, P2018; Menendez Victory Fund, 10,000, 2018, Q3, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 9/29/2018, 0:00, 15,000, P; Menendez Victory Fund, 5,000, 2018, Q2, Individual, Contribution, 5/21/2018, 0:00, 5,000, P; Mike Crapo for US Senate, 2,700, 2019, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 8/28/2019, 0:00, 2,700, P2022; Mike Crapo for US Senate, 100, 2021, Q1, Individual, Memo (Filers %, of Contribution, Given to Join, 10/14/2020, 0:00, 2,800, P2022; New Jersey Democratic State Committee, 5,000, 2018, M10, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution, Given to Join, 9/21/2018, 0:00, 5,000, P; New Jersey Democratic State Committee, 5,000, 2018, 300, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution, Given to Join, 9/30/2018, 0:00, 10,000, P; New Millennium PAC, 5,000, 2018, YE, Individual, Memo (Filers % of Contribution, Given to Join, 9/30/2018, 0:00, 5,000, P; Nita Lowey for Congress, 2,700, 2018, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 9/24/2018, 0:00, 2,700, G2018; Rand Paul for US Senate, 1,200, 2021, Q2, Individual, Memo (Filers % of Contribution, Given to Join, 4/5/2021, 0:00, 5,800, G2022; Rand Paul for US Senate, 2,900, 2021, Q2, Individual, Memo (Filers % of Contribution, Given to Join, 4/1/2021, 0:00, 5,800, P2022; Rand Paul for US Senate, 1,700, 2021, Q2, Individual, Memo (Filers % of Contribution, Given to Join, 4/1/2021, 0:00, 5,800, G2022; Reinventing A New Direction Political Action Committee, 1,700, 2021, M7, Individual, Memo (Filer's of Contribution, Given to Join, 4/5/2021, 0:00, 1,700, P; Shaheen for Senate, 2,800, 2019 YE, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 12/2/2019, 0:00, 5,600, P2020; Shaheen for Senate 2,800, 2019 YE, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 12/2/2019, 0:00, 5,600, G2020; Team Rand, 4,600, 2021 MS, Individual, Contribution, 4/1/2021, 0:00, 4,600, P; Van Hollen for Senate, 2,800, 2019 YE, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 9/23/2019, 0:00, 5,600, P2022; Van Hollen for Senate, 2,800, 2019, YE, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 9/23/2019, 0:00, 5,600, G2022; Zeldin for Congress, 2,800, 2020, 12G, Individual, Memo (Filers % of Contribution, Given to Join, 10/5/2020, 0:00, 2,800, G2020; Zeldin Victory Committee, 2020, 2,800, 2020 12G, Individual, Contribution, 10/5/2020, 0:00, 2,800, G2020.

James C. O'Brien, of Nebraska, to be Head of the Office of Sanctions Coordination, with the rank of Ambassador.

Nominee: James C. O'Brien.

Post: State Sanctions Coordinator.

(To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate for my spouse, Mary P. O'Brien, and me.)

Amount, date, and donee: $250, 12/31/20, DSCC; $126, 12/31/20, ActBlue; $12.60, 12/31/20, ActBlue; $500, 11/15/20, Warnock; $500, 11/15/20, Ossoff; $1,000, 11/13/20, Ga. Sen. Vic.; $10, 11/13/20, ActBlue; $63, 10/30/20, ActBlue; $63, 10/30/20, ActBlue; $5, 10/30/20, ActBlue.

Please see additional contributions in the attachment.

O'Brien—Federal Political Contributions—Attachment November 2021

Amount, date, and donee: $250, 12/31/20, DSCC; $126, 12/31/20, ActBlue; $12.60, 12/31/20, ActBlue; $500, 11/15/20, Warnock; $500, 11/15/20, Ossoff; $1,000, 11/13/20, Ga. Sen. Vic.; $10, 11/13/20, ActBlue; $63, 10/30/20, ActBlue; $63, 10/30/20, ActBlue; $5, 10/30/20, ActBlue; $12, 10/5/20, ActBlue; $5, 9/30/20, ActBlue; $250, 9/30/20, Spanberger for Congress; $100, 9/29/20, ActBlue; $250, 9/29/20, Biden for Pres.; $100, 9/29/20, Montanans For Bullock; $500, 9/29/20, DSCC; $10, 9/29/20, ActBlue; $100, 9/29/20, Bullock For Senate; $5, 9/29/20, ActBlue; $5, 9/29/20, ActBlue; $5, 9/29/20, ActBlue; $50, 9/29/20, Jaime Harrison For Senate; $10, 9/29/20, ActBlue; $5, 9/21/20, ActBlue; $100, 9/21/20, Eastman for Congress; $100, 9/21/20, Gideon for Maine; $10, 9/21/20, ActBlue.

Amount, date, and donee: $538.44, 9/20/20, 14 Sen. candidates*; $50, 9/13/20, ActBlue; $1500, 9/13/20, Biden For Pres.; $1500, 9/13/20, Biden Victory Fund; $10, 9/13/20, ActBlue; $100, 9/13/20, Dem. Party Wisconsin; $10, 9/13/20, ActBlue; $15, 9/13/20, ActBlue; $550, 9/13/20, 11 Sen. Candidates**; $500, 8/14/20, Biden for Pres.; $500, 8/14/20, Biden Victory Fund; $500, 7/31/20, Biden for Pres.; $500, 7/31/20, Biden Victory Fund; $556, 6/30/20, 10 candidates***; $10, 6/30/20, ActBlue; $10, 6/30/20, ActBlue; $250, 6/30/20, Malinowski for Congress; $250, 6/30/20, Biden for President; $10, 6/3/20, ActBlue; $250, 6/3/20, Evelyn4NY (Farkas); $1000, 4/23/20, Biden For Pres.; $1150, 3/31/20, Evelyn4NY (Farkas); $500, 3/31/20, Evelyn4NY(Farkas); $10, 3/31/20, ActBlue; $500, 12/16/19, Evelyn4NY (Farkas); $2.50 9/6/19, ActBlue; $2.50, 9/6/19, ActBlue; $601.90, 5/20/19, Malinowski for Congress; $500, 3/25/19, Kamala For the People; $500, 11/4/18, Soderberg for Congress; $250, 11/4/18, Sinema for Arizona; $250, 11/4/18, Malinowski for Congress; $100, 11/4/18, ActBlue; $250, 10/15/18, Chris Hunter for Congress; $250, 10/15/18, Tom Malinowski for Congress; $1,018.37, 10/15/18, Tom Malinowski for Congress; $2,000, 9/17/18, Lauren Baer for Congress; $250, 8/27/18, Soderberg for Congress; $250, 6/30/18, Soderberg for Congress; $250, 6/30/18, Lauren Baer for Congress; $500, 6/30/18, Chris Hunter for Congress; $250, 6/30/18, Tom Malinowski for Congress; $500, 3/27/18, Lauren Baer for Congress; $250, 12/31/17, Delgado for Congress; $510, 12/29/17, Tom Malinowski for Congress; $500, 12/29/17, Lauren Baer for Congress; $540.66, 12/12/17, Lauren Baer for Congress; $120, 10/30/16, Hillary for America.

*ActBlue distributed this contribution equally to Jaime Harrison, Peters for Michigan, Alan Gross, Doug Jones, MJ For Texas, Ossoff for Senate, Gideon for Maine, Cal4NC, Bullock for Senate, Bollier for Kansas, Greenfield, Hickenlooper, and Warnock for Senate.

**ActBlue distributed this contribution equally to Jaime Harrison, Peters for Michigan, Alan Gross, Doug Jones, MJ For Texas, Ossoff for Senate, Gideon for Maine, Cal4NC, Bullock for Senate, Bollier for Kansas, Greenfield, Hickenlooper, and Warnock for Senate.

***ActBlue distributed this contribution equally to Jaime Harrison, Peters for Michigan, Alan Gross, Doug Jones, MJ For Texas, Ossoff for Senate, Gideon for Maine, Cal4NC, Bullock for Senate, Bollier for Kansas, Greenfield, Hickenlooper, and Warnock for Senate.

Mary P. O'Brien: amount, date, and donee: $100, 1/30/21, Arballo for Congress; $100, 10/28/

20, Arballo for Congress; $10, 10/15/20, ActBlue; $50, 10/15/20, Dr. Cameron Webb for Cong.; $50, 10/15/20, Voter Protection Project; $100, 10/1/20, Espy for Senate; $50, 9/29/20, Jaime Harrison for Senate; $100, 9/29/20, Greenfield for Iowa; $10, 9/29/20, ActBlue; $50, 9/29/20, Voter Protection Project; $100, 2/28/20, Mary Washington (Baltimore); $50, 10/31/19, LGBTQ Victory Fund; $100, 7/27/17, Danica Roem; $10, 7/27/17, ActBlue; $26.85, 10/25/16, Hillary Victory Fund; $5, 3/31/16, ActBlue; $50, 3/31/16, van Hollen for Senate; $2.50, 8/26/15, ActBlue; $25, 8/26/15, van Hollen for Senate; $2,700, 5/13/15, Hillary for America.

Beth Van Schaack, of California, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Criminal Justice.

Nominee: Elizabeth Van Schaack (''Beth'').

Post: Ambassador-at-Large for Global Criminal Justice.

(The following is a list of members of my immediate family. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, and donee:

Beth Van Schaack: $100, 1/25/2017, Kamala Harris; $125, 2/8/2017 Elizabeth Warren; $500, 2/8/2017, Elizabeth Warren; $500, 2/28/2017, Cory Booker; $100, 4/29/2017, Cory Booker; $1, 5/8/2017, Colin Allred; $1, 5/8/2017, Sharice Davids; $150, 7/3/2017, Kirsten Gillibrand; $250, 8/30/2017, Elissa Slotkin; $100, 10/31/2017, Lauren Baer; $50, 11/29/2017, Lauren Baer; $63 1/7/2018, Elissa Slotkin; $500, 2/2/2018, Ken Harbaugh; $1,000, 2/2/2018, Ken Harbaugh; $250, 2/23/2018, Max Rose; $50, 2/24/2018, Andy Kim; $100, 3/13/2018, Marie Newman; $1,000, 3/14/2018, Lauren Baer; $1,000, 3/14-2018, Tom Malinowski; $100, 3/15/2018, Erin Collier; $500, 3/24/2018, Ken Harbausgh; $500, 3/26/2018, Kirsten Gillibrand; $100, 3/30/2018, Erin Collier; $100, 4/25/2018, Cory Booker; $50, 5/25/2018, Tim Kaine; $500, 6/13/2018, Betsy Rader; $100, 6/15/2018, Tim Kaine; $500, 6/17/2018, Andy Kim; $500, 6/17/2018, Tom Malinowski; $500, 6/21/2018, Colin Allred; $150, 6/26/2018, Lauren Baer; $100, 7/17/2018, Juana Matias; $2,700, 7/27/2018; Abigail Spanberger; $2,700, 7/27/2018, Cindy Axne; $2,700, 7/27/2018, Jared Golden; $2,700, 7/27/2018, Richard Ojeda; $2,700, 7/29/2018, Dan Feehan; $500, 7/30/2018, Tom Malinowski; $250, 8/8/2018, Anthony Brindisi; $2,700, 8/25/2018, Dana Balter; $2,700, 8/25/2018, Kathleen Williams; $2,699, 8/25/2018, Lauren Underwood; $2,700, 8/25/2018, Sean Casten; $2,700, 8/25/2018, Sharice Davids; $1,000, 10/24/2018, Kristen Carlson; $500, 11/19/2018, Mike Espy; $1,000, 2/8/2019, Cory Booker; $100, 5/7/2019, Michael Bennet; $500, 5/12/2019, Seth Moulton; $1,000, 5/13/2019, Dan Baer; $2,000, 5/20/2019, Kamala Harris; $500, 5/30/2019, Kirsten Gillibrand; $250, 5/30/2019, Seth Moulton; $100, 5/31/2019, Beto O'Rourke; $500, 6/14/2019, Joe Biden; $500, 6/24/2019, Roger Misso; $100, 7/13/2019, Amy Klobuchar; $50, 8/31/2019 Adair Boroughs; $250, 9/4/2019, Andy Kim; $250, 9/15/2019, Roger Misso; $100, 9/19/2019, Anthony Brindisi; $13, 9/26/2019, Jeanne Shaheen; $500, 11/2/2019, Cory Booker; $500, 11/15/2019, Andy Kim; $63, 11/25/2019, Sara Gideon; $100, 12/14/2019, Amy Klobuchar; $100, 12/14/2019, Amy Klobuchar; $200, 12/19/2019, Michael Franken; $250 12/28/2019; Roger Misso; $500, 3/12/2020 Ross LaJeunesse; $500, 3/19/2020, Lauren Underwood; $100, 3/31/2020, Andy Kim; $500, 3/31/2020, Evelyn Farkas; $100, 3/31/2020, Lauren Underwood; $500, 3/31/2020, Sri Kulkami; $500, 3/31/2020, Tom Malinowski; $10, 4/21/2020, Tom Malinowski; $100, 4/22/2020, Sara Jacobs; $250, 4/24/2020, Cory Booker; $500, 6/10/2020, Tom Malinowski; $50, 6/11/2020, Joe Biden; $100, 6/22/2020, Josh Harder; $5, 6/22/2020, Joe Biden; $5, 6/22/2020, Joe Biden; $100, 6/27/2020, Anthony Brindisi; $50, 6/27/2020, Joe Biden; $25, 7/13/2020, Joe Biden; $1,000, 7/27/2020, Joe Biden; $250, 7/29/2020, Joe Biden; $250, 8/10/2020, Joe Biden; $10, 8/12/2020, Joe Biden; $50, 8/12/2020, Tom Malinowski; $10, 8/16/2020, Joe Biden; $5, 8/28/2020, Joe Biden; $500, 8/31/2020, Joe Biden; $25, 9/5/2020, Sima Ladjevardian; $500, 9/23/2020, Andy Kim; $50, 9/24/2020, Andy Kim; $500, 9/25/2020, Tom Malinowski; $500, 9/28/2020, Alan Gross; $500, 9/28/2020, Sara Gideon; $500, 9/28/2020, Steve Bullock; $250, 9/29/2020, Theresa Greenfield; $15, 9/30/2020, Joe Biden; $1,000, 10/1/2020, Joe Biden; $500, 10/5/2020, Anthony Brindisi; $100, 10/13/2020, Josh Hicks; $500, 10/15/2020, Dana Balter; $100, 10/15/2020, Steve Bullock; $100, 10/23/2020, MJ Hegar; $250, 11/5/2020, Joe Biden; $50, 11/5/2020, Lauren Underwood; $32, 11/7/2020, Alan Gross; $250, 11/9/2020, Jon Ossoff; $250, 11/9/2020, Raphael Warnock; $83, 12/10/2020, Jon Ossoff; $83, 12/10/2020, Raphael Warnock; $500, 1/8/2021, Nancy Pelosi; $100, 6/1/2021, Cory Booker; $500, 6/22/2021, Jerry Dickinson; $10, 1/25/2017, ActBlue; $10, 1/25/2017, ActBlue Federal Tips; $125, 2/8/2017, Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee (DSCC); $100, 3/23/2017, DSCC; $100, 3/23/2017, LegitAction, Inc.; $25, 4/27/2017, DSCC; $24, 5/8/2017, ActBlue; $25, 7/19/2017, DSCC; $100, 12/27/2017, Swing Left; $100, 12/27/2017, LegitAction, Inc.; $500, 1/7/2018, Arena; $50, 1/18/2018, LegitAction, Inc.; $100, 1/29/2018, LegitAction Inc.; $100, 2/19/2018, Giffords PAC; $50, 3/8/2018, Giffords PAC; $50, 3/11/2018, Giffords PAC; $250, 3/15/2018, Democratic National Committee; $10, 3/15/2018, ActBlue; $100, 3/17/2018, Giffords PAC; $100, 3/18/2018, Giffords PAC; $100, 3/31/2018, LegitAction, Inc.; $100, 5/12/2018, Giffords PAC; $1,000, 5/16/2018, Flip the 49th; $10, 5/16/2018, ActBlue; $10, 5/16/2018, ActBlue Federal Tips; $1,000, 6/17/2018, Security 44; $5,000, 8/7/2018, Foreign Policy for America; $1,000, 10/24/2018, Civic Innovation Works Inc.; $250, 2/22/2019, Democratic National Committee; $250, 7/15/2019, Win the ERA Pac; $13, 9/26/2019, Legitpac; $3, 9/26/2019, ActBlue; $504, 11/25/2019, ActBlue; $1,000, 12/18/2019, Mind the Gap; $250, 1/8/2020, Democratic National Committee; $52, 3/17/2020, Democratic National Committee; $1, 4/21/2020, ActBlue; $10, 4/22/2020, ActBlue; $10, 5/17/2020, ActBlue; $10, 5/17/2020, Abolish the Electoral College; $3, 6/14/2020, Stop Republicans; $3, 6/14/2020, Stop Republicans; $15, 6/16/2020, Stop Republicans; $25, 6/26/2020, Congressional Black Caucus PAC; $500, 7/27/2020, More Like America; $100, 8/7/2020, The Squad Victory Fund; $15, 8/9/2020, Congressional Black Caucus PAC; $1,000, 8/21/2020, America Votes; $1,000, 8/21/2020, Vote Tripling PAC; $3, 8/22/2020, Congressional Black Caucus PAC; $1, 8/28/2020, ActBlue; $1, 8/28/2020, ActBlue Federal Tips; $50, 9/3/2020, Taking the Hill; $250, 9/12/2020, PowerPAC.org; $1, 9/20/2020, Daily Kos Liberation League; $500, 10/2/2020, The Squad Victory Fund; $100, 10/3/2020, Committee for Hispanic Causes; $100, 10/15/2020, Daily Kos; $500, 10/15/2020, More Like America; $1,000, 10/22/2020, Future Forward PAC; $500, 10/22/2020, More Like America; $20, 10/23/2020, ActBlue; $20, 10/23/2020, ActBlue Federal Tips; $50, 11/1/2020, Pennsylvania Democratic Party; $10, 11/4/2020, Daily Kos; $32 11/7/2020, Congressional Black Caucus PAC; $500, 11/9/2020, Georgia Senate Victory Fund; $83, 12/10/2020, Democratic National Committee; $250, 1/21/2021, Democratic National Committee; $4, 7/19/2021, ActBlue Federal Tips; $35, 7/19/2021, National Democratic Training Committee;

Brent Lang: $1,000, 5/9/2019, Cory Booker; $1,000, 5/10/2019, Brynne Kennedy; $10, 5/26/2019, Seth Moulton; $500, 8/22/2019, Brynne Kennedy; $100, 11/26/2019, Brynne Kennedy; $1,200, 2/25/2020, Brynne Kennedy; $100, 2/25/2020, Brynne Kennedy; $1,000, 5/18/2020, Brynne Kennedy; $500, 6/1/2020, Lauren Underwood; $500, 6/1/2020, Lauren Underwood; $2,800, 7/12/2020, Joe Biden; $700, 8/31/2020, Brynne Kennedy; $500, 9/30/2020, Lauren Underwood; $1000, 10/1/2020, Joe Biden.

Randi Charno Levine, of New York, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Portuguese Republic.

Nominee: Randi Charno Levine.

Post: Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Portuquese Republic.

Nominated: November 4, 2021.

(The following is a list of members of my immediate family. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, and donee:

Manchin for West Virginia, 2,700, 4/23/2018, Levine, Randi; Manchin for West Virginia, 2,700, 4/23/2018, Levine, Randi; Menendez for Senate, 2,700, 6/5/2018, Levine, Randi; Biden for President, 2,800, 7/3/2019, Levine, Randi; Cory 2020, 2,800, 9/24/2019, Levine, Randi; Friends of Schumer, 2,800, 10/21/2019, Levine, Randi; Friends of Schumer, 2,800, 10/21/2019, Levine, Randi; Amy for America, 2,800, 10/31/2019, Levine, Randi; Schiff for Congress, 2,800, 12/23/2019, Levine, Randi; Torres for Congress, 2,800, 12/27/2019, Levine, Randi; Cal for NC, 2,800, 2/12/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden for President, 2,800, 3/4/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp / Democratic National Committee, 1,000, 5/18/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 1,000, 5/18/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 50,000, 5/28/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp / Democratic National Committee, 34,500, 5/28/2020, Levine, Randi: DNC Services Corp / Democratic National Committee, 15,500, 5/28/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Biden Action Fund, 100,000, 6/23/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp / Democratic National Committee, 91,000, 6/23/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp / Democratic National Committee, 9,000, 6/23/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Action Fund, 25,000, 8/6/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp / Democratic National Committee, 25,000, 8/6/2020, Levine, Randi Beth.

Biden Victory Fund, 40,000, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 10,000, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 3,000, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Colorado Democratic Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Nebraska Democratic Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Nevada State Democratic Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; New Hampshire Democratic Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 2,666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 2,666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 2,666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Pennsylvania Democratic party 2,666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Democratic Party of Virginia, 2,666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party Federal, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Colorado Democratic Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Nebraska Democratic Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Nevada State Democratic Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020 Levine, Randi; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida,, 666.67, 10/1/2020 Levine, Randi; New Hampshire Democratic Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi;

Pennsylvania Democratic Party, 666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Democratic Party of Virginia, 666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi.

North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Virginia, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; New Hampshire Democratic Party, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 45,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Colorado Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Nebraska Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Nevada State Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Pennsylvania Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Virginia, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; New Hampshire Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 1,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Colorado Democratic Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Nebraska Democratic Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Nevada State Democratic Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi.

New Hampshire Democratic Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Pennsylvania Democratic Party, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Democratic Party of Virginia, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 15,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Colorado Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Nebraska Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Nevada State Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/712020, Levine, Randi; Pennsylvania Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Virginia, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; New Hampshire Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 2,666.67, 10/13/2020, Levine, Randi; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 666.67, 10/13/2020, Levine, Randi; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 200, 10/13/2020, Levine, Randi; Mark Kelly for Senate, 2,800, 10/19/2020, Levine, Randi; SMP, 25,000, 10/20/2020, Levine, Randi B.; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 3,000, 10/21/2020, Levine, Randi; Hiral for Congress, 1,000, 10/21/2020, Levine, Randi; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 66.67, 10/21/2020, Levine, Randi; Mark Kelly Victory Fund, 1,250, 10/22/2020, Levine, Randi.

Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 1,000, 10/27/2020, Levine, Randi; Sean Patrick Maloney for Congress, 2,800, 10/28/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 1,250, 10/29/2020, Levine, Randi; Sean Patrick Maloney for Congress, 2,900, 2/22/2021, Levine, Randi; Sean Patrick Maloney for Congress, 2,900, 2/22/2021, Levine, Randi; Maggie for NH, 1,000, 2/22/2021, Levine, Randi; Schiff Leads PAC, 2,900, 3/16/2021, Levine, Randi; Schiff for Congress, 2,900, 3/16/2021, Levine, Randi; Friends of Schumer, 100, 3/16/2021, Levine, Randi; Friends of Schumer, 100, 3/16/2021, Levine, Randi; Blumenthal Victory Fund, 5,800, 5/11/2021, Levine, Randi; New Yorkers for Tali, 5,100, 5/11/2021, Levine, Randi; Mark Kelly for Senate, 2,900, 5/11/2021, Levine, Randi; Catherine Cortez Masto for Senate, 2,900, 5/21/2021, Levine, Randi; Shaun Donovan for Mayor, 5,100, 5/27/2021, Levine, Randi; Democratic National Committee (DNC), 18,250, 6/8/2021, Levine, Randi; Donnelly for Indiana, 1,000, 10/27/2017, Levine, Jeffrey; Crowley Leadership Fund, 2,700, 1/19/2018, Levine, Jeffrey; Crowley for Congress, 2,700, 1/26/2018, Levine, Jeffrey E.; Jobs, Education, & Families First—Jeff PAC, 5,000, 2/22/2018, Levine, Jeffrey; Friends of David Weprin—ID# 16341, 500, 05/03/2018, Jeffrey Levine; Friends for Kathy Hochul—ID# 16851, 5,000, 08/09/2018, Jeffrey Levine; Ugenti-Rita for Senate, 1,000, 8/18/2018 Jeff Levine; Katz Nys (New York State)—ID# 14106, 2,500, 05/20/2019, Jeffrey E Levine; Biden for President, 2,800, 7/3/2019, Levine, Jeffrey; Friends of Schumer, 2,800, 10/21/2019, Levine, Jeffrey E.; Friends of Schumer, 2,800, 10/21/2019, Levine, Jeffrey E.; Benjamin for New York—ID# 14412, 1,000, 11/14/2019, Jeffrey Levine; Friends for Kathy Hochul—ID# 16851, 5,000, 12/17/2019, Jeffrey Levine; Torres for Congress, 2,800, 12/18/2019, Levine, Jeffrey; Biden for President, 2,800, 3/4/2020, Levine, Jeffrey; Biden for President, 2,800, 3/4/2020, Levine, Jeffrey; DMFI PAC, 5,000, 3/26/2020, Levine, Jeffrey; Shaun Donovan for Mayor, 400, 7/30/2020, Levine, Jeffrey.

Kaminsky for New York—ID# 22504, 1,000, 09/29/2020, Jeffrey Levine; Mark Kelly for Senate, 2,800, 10/19/2020, Levine, Jeff; Mark Kelly Victory Fund, 1,250, 10/22/2020, Levine, Jeff; Betty for Phoenix City Council District 5, 2,500, 10/27/2020, Jeff Levine; Deb Stark for Phoenix, 2,500, 10/27/2020, Jeff Levine; Kate Gallego for Phoenix Mayor, 5,000, 10/27/2020, Jeff Levine; Anna Kaplan for NY State Senate—ID# 6317, 2,500, 10/27/2020, Jeffrey Levine; Sean Patrick Maloney for Congress, 2,800, 10/28/2020, Levine, Jeff; Arizona Democratic Party, 1,250, 10/29/2020, Levine, Jeff; Friends for Kathy Hochul—ID# 16851, 5,000, 12/16/2020, Jeffrey Levine; Schiff Leads PAC, 2,900, 3/16/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Schiff for Congress, 2,900, 3/16/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Friends of Schumer, 100, 3/16/2021, Levine, Jeffrey E.; Friends of Schumer, 100, 3/16/2021, Levine, Jeffrey E.; James Gennaro for City Council, 250, 5/5/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Robert E. Cornegy, Jr. for Borough President, 320, 5/5/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Eric Adams for Mayor, 400, 5/5/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Blumenthal Victory Fund, 5,800, 5/11/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Mark Kelly for Senate, 2,900, 5/11/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Kathryn Garcia for Mayor, 400, 5/19/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Democratic National Committee (DNC), 18,250, 6/8/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Kyrsten Sinema for Arizona, 5,800, 6/17/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Kathy Hochul, 25,000, 09/20/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Democratic Organization of Queens County, 1,000, 04/29/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Democratic Organization of Queens County, 2,500, 04/20/2017, Levine, Jeffrey; Nysafah (Affordable Housing PAC, Ltd.)—ID# 2256, 1,000, 02/15/2017, Douglaston Development; Benjamin for New York—ID# 14412, 250, 03/16/2017, Douglaston Development, LLC; Nysafah (Affordable Housing PAC, Ltd.)—ID# 2256, 1,000, 02/27/2018, Douglaston Development LLC; Real Estate Board PAC—ID# 6884, 25,000, 10/31/2018, Douglaston Development, LLC; Jobs for New York—1D# 6924, 25,000, 10/31/2018, Douglaston Development, LLC; Nys Senate Republican Campaign Committee (Nyssroc)—ID# 2480, 25,000, 11/01/2018, Douglaston Development LLC.

New York State Democratic Committee—ID# 11236, 15,000, 11/01/2018, Douglaston Development, LLC; Nys Democratic Senate Campaign Committee (Nys Dscc)—ID# 160, 15,000, 11/02/2018, Douglaston Development LLC; Katz Nys (New York State)—ID# 16592, 5,000, 01/08/2019, Douglaston Development; Nysafah (Affordable Housing PAC, Ltd)—ID# 2256, 1,000, 03/26/2019, Douglaston Development LLC; Real Estate Board PAC—ID# 6884, 5,000, 10/27/2020, Douglaston Development, LLC; Rsa PAC—ID# 1156, 297, 4/3/2018, Clinton Management LLC.

Committee name, amount, date, and donee:

Manchin for West Virginia, 2,700, 4/23/2018, Levine, Randi; Manchin for West Virginia, 2,700, 4/23/2018, Levine, Randi; Menendez for Senate, 2,700, 6/5/2018, Levine, Randi; Biden for President, 2,800, 7/3/2019, Levine, Randi; Cory 2020, 2,800, 9/24/2019, Levine, Randi; Friends of Schumer, 2,800, 10/21/2019, Levine, Randi; Friends of Schumer, 2,800, 10/21/2019, Levine, Randi; Amy for America, 2,800, 10/31/2019, Levine, Randi; Schiff for Congress, 2,800, 12/23/2019, Levine, Randi; Torres for Congress, 2,800, 12/27/2019, Levine, Randi; Cal for NC, 2,800, 2/12/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden for President, 2,800, 3/4/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp/Democratic National Committee, 1,000, 5/18/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 1,000, 5/18/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 50,000, 5/28/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp/Democratic National Committee, 34,500, 5/28/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp/Democratic National Committee, 15,500, 5/28/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Biden Action Fund, 100,000, 6/23/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp/Democratic National Committee, 91,000, 6/23/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp/Democratic National Committee, 9,000, 6/23/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Action Fund, 25,000, 8/6/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp/Democratic National Committee, 25,000, 8/6/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Biden Victory Fund, 40,000, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 10,000, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 3,000, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi.

Colorado Democratic Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Nebraska Democratic Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Nevada State Democratic Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; New Hampshire Democratic Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 2,666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 2,666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 2,666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Pennsylvania Democratic Party, 2,666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Democratic Party of

Virginia, 2,666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Colorado Democratic Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Nebraska Democratic Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Nevada State Democratic Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; New Hampshire Democratic Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 666.66 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi.

Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Pennsylvania Democratic Party, 666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Democratic Party of Virginia, 666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Virginia, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; New Hampshire Democratic Party, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 45,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Colorado Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Nebraska Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Nevada State Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Pennsylvania Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Virginia, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi.

New Hampshire Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 1,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Colorado Democratic Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Nebraska Democratic Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Nevada State Democratic Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; New Hampshire Democratic Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Pennsylvania Democratic Party, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Democratic Party of Virginia, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 15,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Colorado Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Nebraska Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi.

Texas Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Nevada State Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Pennsylvania Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Virginia, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee, of Florida, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; New Hampshire Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 2,666.67, 10/13/2020, Levine, Randi; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 666.67, 10/13/2020, Levine, Randi; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 200, 10/13/2020, Levine, Randi; Mark Kelly for Senate, 2,800, 10/19/2020, Levine, Randi; SMP 25000 10/20/2020, Levine, Randi B.; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 3,000, 10/21/2020, Levine, Randi; Hiral for Congress, 1,000, 10/21/2020, Levine, Randi; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 66.67, 10/21/2020, Levine, Randi; Mark Kelly Victory Fund, 1,250, 10/22/2020, Levine, Randi; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 1,000, 10/27/2020, Levine, Randi; Sean Patrick Maloney for Congress, 2,800, 10/28/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 1,250, 10/29/2020, Levine, Randi; Sean Patrick Maloney for Congress, 2,900, 2/22/2021, Levine, Randi; Sean Patrick Maloney for Congress, 2,900, 2/22/2021, Levine, Randi; Maggie for NH, 1,000, 2/22/2021, Levine, Randi; Schiff Leads PAC, 2,900, 3/16/2021, Levine, Randi; Schiff for Congress, 2,900, 3/16/2021, Levine, Randi; Friends of Schumer, 100, 3/16/2021, Levine, Randi; Friends of Schumer, 100, 3/16/2021 Levine, Randi.

Blumenthal Victory Fund, 5,800, 5/11/2021, Levine, Randi; New Yorkers for Tali, 5,100, 5/11/2021, Levine, Randi; Mark Kelly for Senate, 2,900, 5/11/2021, Levine, Randi; Catherine Cortez Masto for Senate, 2,900, 5/21/2021, Levine, Randi; Shaun Donovan for Mayor, 5,100, 5/27/2021, Levine, Randi; Democratic National Committee, (DNC), 18,250, 6/8/2021, Levine, Randi; Donnelly for Indiana, 1,000, 10/27/2017, Levine, Jeffrey; Crowley Leadership Fund, 2,700, 1/19/2018, Levine, Jeffrey Crowley for Congress, 2,700, 1/26/2018, Levine, Jeffrey E; Jobs, Education, & Families First—Jeff PAC, 5,000, 2/22/2018, Levine, Jeffrey; Friends of David Wepnn—ID# 16341, 500, 05/03/2018, Jeffrey Levine; Friends for Kathy Hochul—ID# 16851, 5000, 08/09/2018, Jeffrey Levine; Ugenti-Rita for Senate, 1,000, 8/18/2018, Jeff Levine; Katz Nys (New York State)—ID# 14106, 2,500, 05/20/2019, Jeffrey E Levine; Biden for President, 2,800, 7/3/2019, Levine, Jeffrey; Friends of Schumer, 2,800, 10/21/2019, Levine, Jeffrey E; Friends of Schumer, 2,800, 10/21/2019, Levine, Jeffrey E; Benjamin for New York—ID# 14412, 1,000, 11/14/2019, Jeffrey Levine; Friends for Kathy Hochul—ID# 16851, 5,000, 12/17/2019, Jeffrey Levine; Torres for Congress, 2,800, 12/18/2019, Levine, Jeffrey; Biden for President, 2,800, 3/4/2020, Levine, Jeffrey.

Biden for President, 2,800, 3/4/2020, Levine, Jeffrey; DMFI PAC, 5,000, 3/26/2020, Levine, Jeffrey; Shaun Donovan for Mayor, 400, 7/30/2020, Levine, Jeffrey; Kaminsky For New York—ID# 22504, 1,000, 09/29/2020, Jeffrey Levine; Mark Kelly for Senate, 2,800, 10/19/2020, Levine, Jeff; Mark Kelly Victory Fund, 1,250, 10/22/2020, Levine, Jeff; Betty for Phoenix City Council District 5, 2,500, 10/27/2020, Jeff Levine; Deb Stark for Phoenix, 2,500, 10/27/2020, Jeff Levine; Kate Gallego for Phoenix Mayor, 5,000, 10/27/2020, Jeff Levine; Anna Kaplan For NY State Senate—ID# 6317, 2,500, 10/27/2020, Jeffrey Levine; Sean Patrick Maloney for Congress, 2,800, 10/28/2020, Levine, Jeff; Arizona Democratic Party, 1,250, 10/29/2020, Levine, Jeff; Friends For Kathy Hochul—ID# 16851, 5,000, 12/16/2020, Jeffrey Levine; Schiff Leads PAC, 2,900, 3/16/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Schiff for Congress, 2,900, 3/16/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Friends of Schumer, 100, 3/16/2021, Levine, Jeffrey E; Friends of Schumer, 100, 3/16/2021, Levine, Jeffrey E; James Gennaro for City Council, 250, 5/5/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Robert E Cornegy, Jr for Borough President, 320, 5/5/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Eric Adams for Mayor, 400, 5/5/2021, Levine, Jeffrey.

Blumenthal Victory Fund, 5,800, 5/11/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Mark Kelly for Senate, 2,900, 5/11/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Kathryn Garcia for Mayor, 400, 5/19/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Democratic National Committee (DNC), 18,250, 6/8/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Kyrsten Sinema for Arizona, 5,800, 6/17/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Kathy Hochul, 25,000, 09/20/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Democratic Organization of Queens County, 1,000, 04/29/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Democratic Organization of Queens County, 2,500, 04/20/2017, Levine, Jeffrey; Nysafah (Affordable Housing Pac, Ltd.)—ID# 2256, 1,000, 02/15/2017, Douglaston Development; Benjamin For New York—ID# 14412, 250, 03/16/2017, Douglaston Development LLC; Nysafah (Affordable Housing Pac, Ltd.)—ID# 2256, 1,000, 02/27/2018, Douglaston Development LLC; Real Estate Board Pac—ID# 6884, 25,000, 10/31/2018, Douglaston Development, LLC; Jobs For New York—ID# 6924, 25,000, 10/31/2018, Douglaston Development, LLC; Nys Senate Republican Campaign Committee (Nyssrcc)—ID# 2480, 25,000, 11/01/2018, Douglaston Development LLC; New York State Democratic Committee—ID# 11236, 15,000, 11/01/2018, Douglaston Development, LLC; Nys Democratic Senate Campaign Committee (Nys Dscc)—ID# 160, 15,000, 11/02/2018, Douglaston Development LLC; Katz Nys (New York State)—ID# 16592, 5,000, 01/08/2019, Douglaston Development LLC; Nysafah (Affordable Housing Pac, Ltd.)—ID# 2256, 1,000, 03/26/2019, Douglaston Development LLC; Real Estate Board Pac—ID# 6884, 5,000, 10/27/2020, Douglaston Development, LLC; Rsa Pac—ID# 1156, 297, 4/3/2018, Clinton Management LLC.

Laura Farnsworth Dogu, of Texas, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Minister, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Honduras.

Nominee: Laura Farnsworth Dogu.

Post: Honduras.

(The following is a list of members of my immediate family. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, donee:

None, Laura F. Dogu; None, (deceased spouse) Murat Aydin Dogu.

N. Nickolas Perry, of New York, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Jamaica.

Nominee Noah Nickolas Perry.

Post Kingston.

(The following is a list of members of my immediate family. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, and donee: Noah Perry, $150.00 11/04/21 ActBlue; Noah Perry, $100.00, 07/28/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, $100.00, 06/27/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $100.00, 06/27/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, $50.00, 05/30/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 05/30/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, $50.00, 05/16/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 05/16/21, Friends of Schumer;

Noah Perry, $50.00, 04/29/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 04/29/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, 25.00, 04/17/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/17/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, $25.00, 01/06/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 01/05/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 12/14/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 12/14/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 12/05/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $25.00, 12/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 11/05/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $25.00, 11/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 10/30/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 10/28/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 10/17/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 10/10/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 10/10/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 10/06/20, Biden for President, Noah Perry, $50.00, 10/06/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 10/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 10/05/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $50.00, 09/20/20, Biden for President; Noah Perry, $50.00, 09/20/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $35.00, 09/19/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/17/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/13/20, Biden for President; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/13/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $10.00, 09/12/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $10.00, 09/12/20 DSCC; Noah Perry, $5.00, 09/10/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/06/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/05/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $250.00, 09/03/20 DSCC; Noah Perry, $12.50, 08/23/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 08/23/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 08/23/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $10.00, 08/12/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $10.00, 08/12/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 08/10/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 08/05/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $25.00, 08/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $7.00, 08/04/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $33.00, 08/04/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $250.00, 08/03/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $25.00, 08/03/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 07/21/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 07/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 07/01/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 06/27/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 06/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 05/08/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 05/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $29.00, 05/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 05/04/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 05/04/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 05/03/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/30/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 04/24/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 04/24/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/21/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/10/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 03/20/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 03/20/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 02/06/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 02/06/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $5.00, 02/06/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 07/10/19, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $10.00, 01/19/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $10.00, 01/19/20, ActBlue.

Novalie Perry, $50.00, 06/02/20, ActBlue.

Joyce M. Perry, None, none, none.

FEDERAL CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS—
Noah Nickolas Perry

Contributions, amount, date, and donee: Noah Perry, $150.00, 11/04/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $100.00, 07/28/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, $100.00, 06/27/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $100.00, 06/27/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, $50.00, 05/30/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 05/30/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, $50.00, 05/16/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 05/16/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, $50.00, 04/29/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 04/29/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/17/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/17/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, $25.00, 01/06/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 01/05/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 12/14/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 12/14/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 12/05/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $25.00, 12/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 11/05/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $25.00, 11/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 10/30/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 10/28/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 10/17/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 10/10/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 10/10/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 10/06/20, Biden for President; Noah Perry, $50.00, 10/06/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 10/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 10/05/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $50.00, 09/20/20, Biden for President; Noah Perry, $50.00, 09/20/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $35.00, 09/19/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/17/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/13/20, Biden for President; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/13/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $10.00, 09/12/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $10.00, 09/12/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $5.00, 09/10/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/06/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/05/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $250.00, 09/03/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $12.50, 08/23/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 08/23/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 08/23/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $10.00, 08/12/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $10.00, 08/12/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 08/10/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 08/05/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $25.00, 08/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $7.00, 08/04/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $33.00, 08/04/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $250.00, 08/03/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $25.00, 08/03/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 07/21/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 07/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 07/01/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 06/27/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 06/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 05/08/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 05/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $29.00, 05/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 05/04/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 05/04/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 05/03/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/30/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 04/24/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 04/24/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/21/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/10/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 03/20/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 03/20/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 02/06/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 02/06/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $5.00, 02/06/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 07/10/19, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $10.00, 01/19/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $10.00, 01/19/20, ActBlue.

Erin Elizabeth McKee, of California, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

Mallory A. Stewart, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Verification and Compliance).

Adriana Debora Kugler, of Maryland, to be United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for a term of two years.

C.S. Eliot Kang, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (International Security and Non-Proliferation).

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, for the Committee on Foreign Relations I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

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

Foreign Service nomination of Scott Bruns.

Foreign Service nominations beginning with Casey E. Bean and ending with Erich R. Kuss, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 17, 2021.

Foreign Service nomination of Ronald P. Verdonk.

Foreign Service nominations beginning with Lisa M. Allen and ending with Jasmine M. Osinski, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 17, 2021.

Foreign Service nominations beginning with Stephen Anderson and ending with Eugene West, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 17, 2021. (minus 1 nominee: William Steuer)

Foreign Service nominations beginning with Randy W. Berry and ending with Lynne Marie Tracy, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 17, 2021.

Foreign Service nominations beginning with Kathy E. Body and ending with Jessica Hunter Zaman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 31, 2022.

By Mr. REED for the Committee on Armed Services.

*Robert Phillip Storch, of the District of Columbia, to be Inspector General, Department of Defense.

*Peter J. Beshar, of New York, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Air Force.

*Christopher Joseph Lowman, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*Frank Calvelli, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

*Lester Martinez-Lopez, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*Agnes Schaefer, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army.

*Franklin R. Parker, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

By Mr. MANCHIN for the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

*Shalanda H. Baker, of Texas, to be Director of the Office of Minority Economic Impact, Department of Energy.

*Asmeret Asefaw Berhe, of California, to be Director of the Office of Science, Department of Energy.

*Sara C. Bronin, of Connecticut, to be Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for a term expiring January 19, 2025.

*Joseph F. DeCarolis, of North Carolina, to be Administrator of the Energy Information Administration.

By Mr. WARNER for the Select Committee on Intelligence.

*Kenneth L. Wainstein, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis, Department of Homeland Security.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. TILLIS (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. COTTON, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 3772. A bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to limit foreign interference with respect to the right to file and maintain a patent infringement claim, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 3773. A bill to authorize the leases of up to 99 years for land held in trust for the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. SMITH, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 3774. A bill to address the disparate impact of climate change on women and support the efforts of women globally to address climate change, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 3775. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State to enter into contracts with satellite-based companies to provide or propagate internet and mobile services in countries where the United States Government is engaged in, or providing support related to, contingency operations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 3776. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to make fraudulent dealings in firearms and ammunition unlawful, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. BURR):

S. 3777. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide that it is unlawful to knowingly distribute private intimate visual depictions with reckless disregard for the individual's lack of consent to the distribution, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 3778. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to make premium and cost-sharing subsidies available to low-income Medicare part D beneficiaries who reside in Puerto Rico or another territory of the United States; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BROWN, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. REED, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 3779. A bill to establish a clear and uniform process, on a nationwide basis, for replacing the London interbank offered rate in existing contracts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 3780. A bill to provide security assistance for Ukraine, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WARNOCK, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 3781. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to exclude a basic allowance for housing from income for purposes of eligibility for the supplemental nutrition assistance program; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 3782. A bill to prohibit the delivery of opioids by means of the dark web, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 3783. A bill to establish a critical mineral environmental processing and mining cleanup program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH):

S. 3784. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to submit to Congress a report relating to the blockchain-based service network of the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. WICKER:

S. 3785. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to eliminate the restriction on veterans concurrently serving in the Offices of Administrator and Deputy Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 3786. A bill to suspend normal trade relations treatment for the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 3787. A bill to prohibit the importation of petroleum products from the Russian Federation, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish an income tax credit for the sale or blending of certain fuels containing ethanol and to extend tax incentives for biodiesel and renewable diesel, to amend the Clean Air Act with respect to the ethanol waiver for Reid vapor pressure limitations under that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PADILLA:

S. 3788. A bill to address the homelessness and housing crises, to move toward the goal of providing for a home for all Americans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. RISCH (for himself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Res. 538. A resolution expressing support for a second United States-Africa Leaders Summit as an important opportunity to strengthen ties between the United States and African partners and build on areas of mutual interest; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. BLUNT):

S. Res. 539. A resolution directing the Architect of the Capitol to obtain and place a memorial plaque for the United States Capitol Police Officer William F. Evans at the north security kiosk of the Capitol; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. BALDWIN, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. Res. 540. A resolution supporting the goals of International Women's Day; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Mr. PETERS):

S. Con. Res. 32. A concurrent resolution expressing support for the recognition of March 10, 2022, as ''Abortion Provider Appreciation Day''; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 212

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 212, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable tax credit against income tax for the purchase of qualified access technology for the blind.

S. 350

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 350, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize certain programs under part A of title XI of such Act relating to genetic diseases, and for other purposes.

S. 403

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 403, a bill to preserve open competition and Federal Government neutrality towards the labor relations of Federal Government contractors on Federal and federally funded construction projects, and for other purposes.

S. 488

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 488, a bill to provide for congressional review of actions to terminate or waive sanctions imposed with respect to Iran.

S. 563

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 563, a bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to prohibit certain financial service providers who deny fair access to financial services from using taxpayer funded discount window lending programs, and for other purposes.

S. 564

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 564, a bill to prohibit Members of Congress from purchasing or selling certain investments, and for other purposes.

S. 618

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 618, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify and extend the deduction for charitable contributions for individuals not itemizing deductions.

S. 775

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr.

PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 775, a bill to require institutions of higher education to disclose hazing-related misconduct, and for other purposes.

S. 819

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 819, a bill to enhance the security of the United States and its allies, and for other purposes.

S. 828

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 828, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coverage of marriage and family therapist services and mental health counselor services under part B of the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 836

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 836, a bill to amend subpart 1 of part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to ensure that mental health screenings and assessments are provided to children and youth upon entry into foster care.

S. 864

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 864, a bill to extend Federal Pell Grant eligibility of certain short-term programs.

S. 910

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 910, a bill to create protections for financial institutions that provide financial services to cannabis-related legitimate businesses and service providers for such businesses, and for other purposes.

S. 990

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 990, a bill to reauthorize the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area.

S. 1093

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1093, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish in the Department the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 1116

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1116, a bill to amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to create a presumption that a disability or death of a Federal employee in fire protection activities caused by any of certain diseases is the result of the performance of such employees duty, and for other purposes.

S. 1450

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1450, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for expanded coverage of services furnished by genetic counselors under part B of the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 1489

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1489, a bill to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to establish an Inspector General of the Office of the United States Trade Representative, and for other purposes.

S. 1615

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1615, a bill to limit the scope of regulations issued by the Secretary of Health and Human Services to control communicable diseases, and for other purposes.

S. 1748

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1748, a bill to modify the prohibition on recognition by United States courts of certain rights relating to certain marks, trade names, or commercial names.

S. 1782

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1782, a bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a grant program to facilitate tree planting that reduces residential energy consumption, and for other purposes.

S. 2607

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2607, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the former hostages of the Iran Hostage Crisis of 1979–1981, highlighting their resilience throughout the unprecedented ordeal that they lived through and the national unity it produced, marking 4 decades since their 444 days in captivity, and recognizing their sacrifice to the United States.

S. 2653

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2653, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for collegiate housing and infrastructure grants.

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2653, supra.

S. 2705

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2705, a bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish Tribal Wildlife Corridors, and for other purposes.

S. 2779

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2779, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of a Task Force on Maternal Mental Health, and for other purposes.

S. 2854

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) were added as cosponsors of S. 2854, a bill to allow for the transfer and redemption of abandoned savings bonds.

S. 3108

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) were added as cosponsors of S. 3108, a bill to provide counsel for unaccompanied children, and for other purposes.

S. 3176

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3176, a bill to establish a cause of action for those harmed by exposure to water at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and for other purposes.

S. 3210

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3210, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend to Black veterans of World War II, and surviving spouses and certain direct descendants of such veterans, eligibility for certain housing loans and educational assistance administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 3447

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3447, a bill to authorize the National Service Animals Monument Corporation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes.

S. 3593

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3593, a bill to amend titles XI and XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend certain telehealth services covered by Medicare and to evaluate the impact of telehealth services on Medicare beneficiaries, and for other purposes.

S. 3614

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr.

RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3614, a bill to prohibit the importation of seafood and seafood products from the Russian Federation, and for other purposes.

S. 3700

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3700, a bill to provide for appropriate cost-sharing for insulin products covered under Medicare part D and private health plans.

S. 3741

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3741, a bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds for the private interim storage of spent nuclear fuel, and for other purposes.

S. 3754

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3754, a bill to prohibit the importation of crude oil and petroleum products from the Russian Federation, to impose sanctions with respect to persons involved in the importation of such crude oil and petroleum products who have engaged in acts of corruption or who are responsible for serious human rights abuses, and for other purposes.

S. 3757

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) were added as cosponsors of S. 3757, a bill to prohibit the importation of crude oil, petroleum, petroleum products, liquefied natural gas, and coal from the Russian Federation.

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3757, supra.

S. 3760

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3760, a bill to continue the temporary waiver of interest on State unemployment loans during the pandemic to provide additional relief, and for other purposes.

S. 3765

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3765, a bill to provide assistance to American fisheries participants to comply with Federal regulations to protect the endangered North Atlantic right whale by reducing the risk of incidental entanglement in fishing gear.

S. RES. 513

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 513, a resolution recognizing the growing threats against women and children, religious and ethnic minorities, and LGBTQI persons in Afghanistan and against allies of such individuals, such as civil society leaders and activists, scholars, former government officials, journalists, and media workers, and expressing solidarity with and reaffirming the dire need to protect vulnerable and minority populations and their allies in Afghanistan under Taliban rule.

S. RES. 534

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 534, a resolution condemning threats of violence against historically Black colleges and universities and reaffirming support for the students of historically Black colleges and universities.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. SMITH, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 3774. A bill to address the disparate impact of climate change on women and support the efforts of women globally to address climate change, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Women and Climate Change Act of 2022. This bill affirms the U.S. commitment to supporting a group of people who are most often negatively impacted by climate change, yet too often left out of decisionmaking and policy development—women. The bill creates a Federal interagency working group, established by the Department of State, that will collect data and develop policies and strategies to address the effects of climate change on women both at home and abroad. Communities all across the United States and the world are currently feeling the impacts of climate change. The time to empower women to respond to this crisis is now. As we commemorate International Women's Day today, we are reminded of the important roles that women play in communities across the world and seize this opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to working towards equity.

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, UNFCC, highlights that the majority of the world's poor is made up of women who rely on natural resources in their daily lives and are least likely to be able to respond to extreme weather events. These women disproportionately face the brunt of climate change impacts, yet too often have little power or say over how they, their families, and their communities are able to combat climate change. UNFCC notes that when women are allowed a role in developing strategies that address climate change, it often results in great responsiveness to local needs, enabling resilience and capacity building, and delivering peace across communities.

The rising costs of climate change to communities at home and abroad, both in terms of fatalities and expenses, are sobering. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA, last year the United States alone experienced 20 weather and climate disasters that cost at least $1 billion each, netting a $145 billion price tag and resulting in 688 deaths. Data from NOAA indicates a trend of increasing billion-dollar disasters each decade since the 1980s, with the expectation that the trend will continue.

According to Christian Aid, a relief agency in the United Kingdom working to address poverty, the 10 worst global climate disasters in 2021 cost $170 billion. These included Hurricane Ida, which impacted the east coast of the United States and resulted in at least 95 deaths, flooding in Europe that caused 240 fatalities, and July floods in China that killed over 300 individuals.

The latest report issued by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, IPCC, last month highlights the consequences that the world will face if countries do not take immediate and significant action to address climate change. These consequences include extreme heat, floods, wildfire, drought, and famine that could result in malnutrition and displacement of people across the globe. The report also noted that between 2010 and 2020, extreme weather events fueled by climate change killed 15 times the number of people in poor countries as in wealthier nations. The report underscores how women will continue to face mounting challenges as the world experiences more severe and costly climate-fueled disasters. Women play a critical role in combating climate change—both within their communities and on a global scale. By including them at all levels, from planning to implementation, and providing them with the platform and support to carry out these strategies, we have the opportunity to create fair, effective, and sustainable solutions to respond to the climate crisis.

This bill is a companion to H.R. 260, which was introduced by my colleague Representative BARBARA LEE early last year. I thank her for her leadership on this bill and look forward to continuing our work to see that women all across the world are empowered to help confront this global crisis.

Groups in support of this bill include Sierra Club, Planned Parenthood, the Women's Environment and Development Organization, Madre, Outdoor Afro, California Environmental Voters, Oxfam America, League of Conservation Voters, and Schools for Climate Action.

By Mr. PADILLA:

S. 3788. A bill to address the homelessness and housing crises, to move toward the goal of providing for a home for all Americans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of the Housing Act for All Act of 2022, which I introduced today.

The homelessness and housing crises have worsened in recent years. As of January 2020, more than 580,000 individuals in the country, disproportionately people of color, were experiencing homelessness. Rates of unsheltered homelessness have increased over the last few years, and people experiencing unsheltered homelessness have a mortality rate four to nine times higher than that of the general public. A lack of affordable housing and housing assistance programs have contributed to homelessness. There is a shortage of 6.8 million affordable rental homes in the United States. Even before the pandemic, one in four renters spent half of their monthly income on rent, and nearly a million tenants were evicted each year. I believe every person has a right to housing.

That is why I am proud to introduce this bill, which represents a comprehensive approach to tackling housing and homelessness. If enacted, it would invest in and align Federal resources to support those experiencing housing instability. To address the homelessness and housing crises, we must invest in policies that support strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and ensure quality affordable homes for all.

Specifically, this bill will address the affordable housing shortage by investing in the housing trust fund, the Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program, Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities Program, and the HOME Program. It establishes a Commission to focus on racial equity in housing and homelessness.

It will address homelessness by investing in housing choice vouchers project-based rental assistance, emergency solutions grants, and continuums of care. It will create grant programs to strengthen mobile crisis intervention teams; to support hotel and motel conversions to permanent supportive housing with services; to aid libraries in supporting persons experiencing homelessness; and to provide people living in vehicles with a safe place to park overnight and facilitate a transition to stable housing. And it commissions a report on the connection between evictions and emergency rental assistance during the pandemic, so we can make smarter policy moving forward.

When I have traveled around the State—from LA County to Inland Empire, to Fresno, to San Diego, to San Francisco—to get a sense of the needs for housing in different communities, some key elements stood out. On the production side, there is a need for more dedicated funding for affordable housing from the Federal Government. There is also missing middle housing for families, especially people of color. And there is not enough housing near transit. That is why my bill focuses on supporting inclusive, transit-oriented development. When I talked to researchers about keeping families housed, one main point they made is that we don't have enough data on renters and evictions, and that is why I wanted to include a section of the bill on data—so we can make evidence-based policies. Right now, the cost to build low-income housing in California is very high because of land and material costs as well as the fragmented way that funding gets doled out in California. That is why I included a section to provide technical assistance for localities navigating Federal and State housing funding sources.

The COVID–19 pandemic has underscored the need for affordable, safe, and supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness. Because of the pandemic, many lost their housing, while others struggled to make rent for the first time. Some didn't know where to turn as shelters faced capacity limits and food banks saw overwhelming demand. These hardships were especially prevalent for those who had already been marginalized—including communities of color, low-income communities, and those with disabilities.

As we begin to recover from the pandemic, it is our job to rebuild a more inclusive and equitable world for all. A just recovery includes expanding affordable housing options to provide people with a sense of stability. It also means respecting the dignity and supporting the health of all community members. Affordable housing is essential infrastructure. Every person deserves dignity, security, and space of their own.

I want to thank Representatives LIEU and CARBAJAL for introducing this bill with me, and I hope our colleagues will join us in support of this solution to our housing and homelessness crises.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 538—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR A SECOND UNITED STATES-AFRICA LEADERS SUMMIT AS AN IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY TO STRENGTHEN TIES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND AFRICAN PARTNERS AND BUILD ON AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST

Mr. RISCH (for himself and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 538

Whereas meaningful and consistent high-level multilateral engagement between the United States and Africa is necessary for the foreign policy of the United States to keep pace with the rapid transformation and demographic shifts in Africa and to ensure that the United States understands and responds to the dynamism and ambitions of its African partners;

Whereas successive United States' Presidential administrations and Congress have identified strategic competition with the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, and other malign actors as a threat to the national security priorities of the United States that requires building and maintaining networks of bilateral and multilateral partners and allies, including countries in Africa;

Whereas the People's Republic of China, the European Union, India, Japan, the Russian Federation, and Turkey, among others, have held high-level summits with African leaders to discuss policy priorities and deepen economic, political, and security partnerships;

Whereas, during August 4 through 6, 2014, President Barack Obama hosted the first and only United States-Africa Leaders Summit (referred to in this preamble as the ''2014 Summit'') in Washington, D.C., with African leaders representing 50 countries, the African Union Commission, and various private sector and civil society leaders under the theme ''Investing in the Next Generation'';

Whereas the 2014 Summit provided a forum for African leaders to engage in frank exchanges with the Government of the United States and congressional leaders, business executives, and members of civil society regarding—

(1) development and economic challenges;

(2) trade, investment, and economic cooperation;

(3) democracy, human rights, and governance; and

(4) peace and regional security;

Whereas, on February 5, 2021, at the 34th Ordinary Session of the African Union Assembly, President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., outlined the vision of his administration for a United States-Africa partnership to strengthen relationships and build on mutual interests and respect with the governments, people (including people of the African Diaspora), and regional multilateral institutions of Africa;

Whereas, on November 19, 2021, during a speech to the Economic Community of West African States in Abuja, Nigeria, Secretary of State Antony Blinken announced that the United States would host a second United States-Africa Leaders Summit ''to drive the kind of high-level diplomacy and engagement that can transform relationships and make effective cooperation possible''; and

Whereas a well-organized and resourced second United States-Africa Leaders Summit, with an established mechanism for continuity and follow-up, will create a platform upon which the United States and African partners can better structure United States-Africa relationships, deliver on commitments, solve problems, and work together as partners on areas of mutual interest: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the administration of President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., hosting a second United States-Africa Leaders Summit (referred to in this resolution as the ''Summit'') as a vital opportunity to strengthen ties between the United States and African partners;

(2) underscores the importance of bipartisan, bicameral congressional participation in the Summit;

(3) commits to working with the heads of state, civil society, private sector, and the African Diaspora to build stronger ties with the United States and pursue mutual interests; and

(4) urges the Biden administration—

(A) to conduct adequate and diverse consultation with African leaders, the African Diaspora, educational institutions, private sector and civil society organizations of the United States and Africa, and public policy institutions in planning the Summit;

(B) to consider hosting the Summit in a location outside of Washington, D.C., that will—

(i) draw broad participation from State governors and high-level corporate leadership in the United States; and

(ii) clarify that the private sector, rather than governments, is the primary driver of the commercial relationship between the United States and African countries;

(C) to consider facilitating trips by African leaders to other cities in the United States and inviting like-minded partners from Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and the Western Hemisphere to participate as observers;

(D) to ensure that sessions focused on trade and investment between the United States and Africa include adequate facilitation of business-focused deal-making with African governments, the African Diaspora, and private sector through Prosper Africa and other similar initiatives;

(E) to include a theme for the Summit that focuses on shared democracy, governance, and human rights concerns and priorities;

(F) to create opportunities during the Summit for direct congressional engagement and to ensure the participation of multiple cabinet members, including members who do not traditionally work on foreign policy, trade, and investment;

(G) to hold bilateral one-on-one presidential engagements during the Summit to build stronger personal relationships with African leaders while also solidifying commitments and areas of mutual interest;

(H) to issue a formal declaration or communique after the Summit describing commitments and a roadmap for future engagement; and

(I) to create a formal mechanism, with appropriate funding and personnel resources, to track and follow up on the implementation of pledges made at the Summit and build upon such commitments for future summits.

SENATE RESOLUTION 539—DIRECTING THE ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL TO OBTAIN AND PLACE A MEMORIAL PLAQUE FOR THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE OFFICER WILLIAM F. EVANS AT THE NORTH SECURITY KIOSK OF THE CAPITOL

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. BLUNT) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 539

Whereas William ''Billy'' F. Evans was born on February 18, 1980 in North Adams, Massachusetts;

Whereas Officer Billy Evans joined the United States Capitol Police on March 7, 2003 and served with distinction in the Capitol Division in the First Responder Unit;

Whereas Officer Billy Evans was protecting the United States Capitol on April 2, 2021 when he was run over by a driver, who hit Officer Evans and another officer;

Whereas Officer Billy Evans died on April 2, 2021 in the heroic performance of his duties as a United States Capitol Police Officer while protecting the Capitol and the Members and staff of, and visitors to, Congress; and

Whereas Officer Billy Evans lay in honor in the rotunda of the Capitol on April 13, 2021: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. MEMORIAL PLAQUE FOR UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE OFFICER WILLIAM F. EVANS.

(a) NORTH SECURITY KIOSK PLAQUE.—By not later than April 2, 2022, the Architect of the Capitol shall obtain a memorial plaque for Officer William ''Billy'' F. Evans and place the plaque at the north security kiosk of the United States Capitol, near the intersection of Delaware Avenue NE and Constitution Avenue NE.

(b) RULES COMMITTEE APPROVAL.—Before the Architect of the Capitol may obtain a plaque under subsection (a), the Architect of the Capitol shall submit the plans for the plaque, including the design and text of the plaque, to the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate for approval by the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee, acting jointly.

SENATE RESOLUTION 540—SUPPORTING THE GOALS OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. BALDWIN, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 540

Whereas, as of March 2022, there are approximately 3,803,000,000 women and girls in the world, making up ½ of the world's population;

Whereas women and girls around the world—

(1) have fundamental human rights;

(2) play a critical role in providing and caring for their families and driving positive change in their communities;

(3) contribute substantially to food security, economic growth, the prevention and resolution of conflict, and the sustainability of peace and stability;

(4) are affected in different and often disproportionate ways by global, country, and community circumstances, including economic downturns, global health concerns, conflict, migration, and climate events; and

(5) must have meaningful protections and opportunities to more fully participate in and lead the political, social, and economic lives of their communities and countries;

Whereas the advancement and empowerment of women and girls around the world is a foreign policy priority for the United States and is critical to the achievement of global peace, prosperity, and sustainability;

Whereas, on October 6, 2017, the Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017 (22 U.S.C. 2152j et seq.) was enacted into law, which includes requirements for a government-wide ''Women, Peace, and Security Strategy'' to promote and strengthen the participation of women in peace negotiations and conflict prevention overseas, enhanced training for relevant United States Government personnel, and follow-up evaluations of the effectiveness of the strategy;

Whereas the United States Strategy on Women, Peace, and Security, dated June 2019, recognizes that—

(1) the ''[s]ocial and political marginalization of women strongly correlates with the likelihood that a country will experience conflict'';

(2) there is a ''tremendous amount of untapped potential among the world's women and girls to identify, recommend, and implement effective solutions to conflict'', and there are ''benefits derived from creating opportunities for women and girls to serve as agents of peace via political, economic, and social empowerment''; and

(3) barriers to the meaningful participation of women and girls in conflict prevention and resolution efforts ''include under-representation in political leadership, pervasive violence against women and girls, and persistent inequality in many societies'';

Whereas, according to the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (commonly referred to as ''UN Women''), peace negotiations are more likely to end in a peace agreement when women and women's groups play a meaningful role in the negotiation process;

Whereas, according to a study by the International Peace Institute, a peace agreement is 35 percent more likely to last at least 15 years if women participate in the development of the peace agreement;

Whereas, according to the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs of the Department of State, the full and meaningful participation of women in criminal justice professions and security forces vastly enhances the effectiveness of the resulting workforces;

Whereas, despite the contributions of women to society, hundreds of millions of women and girls around the world continue to be denied the right to participate freely in civic and economic life, lack fundamental legal protections, and remain vulnerable to exploitation and abuse;

Whereas, every year, approximately 12,000,000 girls are married before they reach the age of 18, which means that—

(1) nearly 33,000 girls are married every day; or

(2) nearly 23 girls are married every minute;

Whereas, despite global progress, it is predicted that by 2030 more than 150,000,000 more girls will marry before reaching the age of 18, and approximately 2,400,000 girls who are married before reaching the age of 18 are under the age of 15;

Whereas girls living in countries affected by conflict or other humanitarian crises are often the most vulnerable to child marriage, and 9 of the 10 countries with the highest rates of child marriage are considered fragile or extremely fragile;

Whereas, on August 15, 2022, the Taliban entered Kabul, Afghanistan, and toppled the elected government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, resulting in de facto Taliban rule over the people of Afghanistan;

Whereas the Taliban has prohibited girls and young women from receiving secondary education and has restricted access to primary and university education;

Whereas, according to the United Nation's Children's Fund (commonly referred to as ''UNICEF'')—

(1) approximately ¼ of girls between the ages of 15 and 19 have been victims of some form of physical violence;

(2) approximately 120,000,000 girls worldwide, slightly more than 1 in 10, have experienced forced sexual acts; and

(3) an estimated 1 in 3 women around the world has experienced some form of physical or sexual violence;

Whereas the overall level of violence against women is a better predictor of the peacefulness of a country, the compliance of a country with international treaty obligations, and the relations of a country with neighboring countries than indicators measuring the level of democracy, level of wealth, or level of institutionalization of the country;

Whereas, despite the achievements of individual female leaders and evidence that democracy and equality under the law form a mutually reinforcing relationship in which

higher levels of equality are strongly correlated with the relative state of peace of a country, a healthier domestic security environment, and lower levels of aggression toward other countries—

(1) women around the world remain vastly underrepresented in—

(A) national and local legislatures and governments; and

(B) other high-level positions; and

(2) according to the Inter-Parliamentary Union, women account for only 25.6 percent of national parliamentarians and 21 percent of government ministers;

Whereas the ability of women and girls to realize their full potential is critical to the ability of a country to achieve strong and lasting economic growth, self-reliance, and political and social stability;

Whereas, although the United Nations Millennium Project reached the goal of achieving gender parity in primary education in most countries in 2015, the COVID–19 global pandemic has set back gender equality in education and more work remains to be done to achieve gender equality in primary and secondary education, and particularly in secondary education worldwide as gender gaps persist and widen, by addressing—

(1) discriminatory practices;

(2) harmful cultural and social norms;

(3) inadequate sanitation facilities, including facilities to manage menstruation;

(4) child, early, and forced marriage;

(5) poverty;

(6) early pregnancy and motherhood;

(7) conflict and insecurity; and

(8) other factors that favor boys or devalue girls' education;

Whereas, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization—

(1) approximately 132,000,000 girls between the ages of 6 and 17 remain out of school;

(2) girls living in countries affected by conflict are 2.5 times more likely to be out of primary school than boys;

(3) girls are twice as likely as boys to never set foot in a classroom; and

(4) up to 30 percent of girls who drop out of school do so because of adolescent pregnancy or child marriage;

Whereas women around the world face a variety of constraints that severely limit their economic participation and productivity and remain underrepresented in the labor force;

Whereas the economic empowerment of women is inextricably linked to a myriad of other human rights that are essential to the ability of women to thrive as economic actors, including—

(1) living lives free of violence and exploitation;

(2) achieving the highest possible standard of health and well-being;

(3) enjoying full legal and human rights, such as access to registration, identification, and citizenship documents, and freedom of movement;

(4) access to formal and informal education;

(5) access to, and equal protection under, land and property rights;

(6) access to fundamental labor rights;

(7) the implementation of policies to address disproportionate care burdens; and

(8) receiving business and management skills and leadership opportunities;

Whereas, pursuant to section 3(b) of the Women's Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act of 2018 (22 U.S.C. 2151–2(b)), it is the international development cooperation policy of the United States—

(1) to reduce gender disparities with respect to economic, social, political, educational, and cultural resources, as well as wealth, opportunities, and services;

(2) to strive to eliminate gender-based violence and mitigate its harmful effects on individuals and communities, including through efforts to develop standards and capacity to reduce gender-based violence in the workplace and other places where women work;

(3) to support activities that secure private property rights and land tenure for women in developing countries, including—

(A) supporting legal frameworks that give women equal rights to own, register, use, profit from, and inherit land and property;

(B) improving legal literacy to enable women to exercise the rights described in subparagraph (A); and

(C) improving the capacity of law enforcement and community leaders to enforce such rights;

(4) to increase the capability of women and girls to fully exercise their rights, determine their life outcomes, assume leadership roles, and influence decision making in households, communities, and societies; and

(5) to improve the access of women and girls to education, particularly higher education opportunities in business, finance, and management, in order to enhance financial literacy and business development, management, and strategy skills;

Whereas the Millennium Challenge Corporation (commonly referred to as the ''MCC''), an independent United States foreign assistance agency, recognizes that inequality and the exclusion of women from economic opportunities can inhibit efforts to promote economic growth and reduce poverty and decrease a country's economic growth trajectory, which is why the gender policy of the MCC requires gender inequalities to be identified and considered in every stage of agreements with participating countries;

Whereas, according to the World Health Organization, global maternal mortality decreased by approximately 44 percent between 1990 and 2015, yet approximately 830 women and girls continue to die from preventable causes relating to pregnancy or childbirth each day, and 99 percent of all maternal deaths occur in developing countries;

Whereas, according to the United Nations, of the 830 women and adolescent girls who die every day from preventable causes relating to pregnancy and childbirth, 507 die each day in countries that are considered fragile because of conflict or disaster, accounting for approximately ⅗ of all maternal deaths worldwide;

Whereas the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees reports that women and girls comprise approximately ½ of the 67,200,000 refugees and internally displaced or stateless individuals in the world;

Whereas the initial days of the Russian invasion of Ukraine that began on February 24, 2022, have resulted in a disproportionate number of women and children seeking safety outside of Ukraine;

Whereas those women and girls, like women and girls in all humanitarian emergencies, including those subject to forced displacement, face increased and exacerbated vulnerabilities to—

(1) gender-based violence, including rape, child marriage, domestic violence, human trafficking, and sexual exploitation and assault;

(2) disruptions in education and livelihood;

(3) lack of access to health services; and

(4) food insecurity and malnutrition;

Whereas malnutrition poses a variety of threats to women and girls specifically, as malnutrition can weaken their immune systems, making them more susceptible to infections, and affects their capacity to survive childbirth, and children born of malnourished women and girls are more likely to have cognitive impairments and higher risk of disease throughout their lives;

Whereas it is imperative—

(1) to alleviate violence and discrimination against women and girls; and

(2) to afford women and girls every opportunity to be equal members of their communities; and

Whereas March 8, 2022, is recognized as International Women's Day, a global day—

(1) to celebrate the economic, political, and social achievements of women in the past, present, and future; and

(2) to recognize the obstacles that women face in the struggle for equal rights and opportunities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals of International Women's Day;

(2) recognizes that the fundamental human rights of women and girls have intrinsic value that affect the quality of life of women and girls;

(3) recognizes that the empowerment of women and girls is inextricably linked to the potential of a country to generate—

(A) economic growth and self-reliance;

(B) sustainable peace and democracy; and

(C) inclusive security;

(4) recognizes and honors individuals in the United States and around the world, including women human rights defenders, activists, and civil society leaders, who have worked throughout history to ensure that women and girls are guaranteed equality and fundamental human rights;

(5) recognizes the unique cultural, historical, and religious differences throughout the world and urges the United States Government to act with respect and understanding toward legitimate differences when promoting any policies;

(6) reaffirms the commitment—

(A) to end discrimination and violence against women and girls;

(B) to ensure the safety, health, and welfare of women and girls;

(C) to pursue policies that guarantee the fundamental human rights of women and girls worldwide; and

(D) to promote meaningful and significant participation of women in every aspect of society and community, including conflict prevention, protection, peacemaking, and peacebuilding;

(7) supports sustainable, measurable, and global development that seeks to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls; and

(8) encourages the people of the United States to observe International Women's Day with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 32—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE RECOGNITION OF MARCH 10, 2022, AS ''ABORTION PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY''

Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. CON. RES. 32

Whereas March 10 has been established as a day to show appreciation for the essential, high-quality care that abortion providers and clinic staff provide to their communities and those traveling to their communities, and to celebrate their courage, compassion, and dedication to their work;

Whereas this date is established in honor of Dr. David Gunn, who was killed outside

his abortion clinic in Pensacola, Florida, by a white supremacist, antiabortion extremist, in the first known instance of murder of an abortion provider on March 10, 1993;

Whereas abortion providers and clinic staff play a critical role in a world where people must be able to make essential and time-sensitive decisions about their bodies, lives, and futures;

Whereas abortion providers and clinic staff help to ensure that all people who can become pregnant can make their own decisions about their bodies and their pregnancies, and support their patients' decisions by treating them with dignity, empathy, compassion, and respect;

Whereas abortion providers and clinic staff play an essential role within the reproductive justice framework, which was created by a group of Black women in 1994, who determined the necessity of adopting a human rights framework that demands every person has the human right to bodily autonomy, which includes if, when, and how to have children, to not have children, and to parent the children they have in safe and sustainable communities;

Whereas people seeking abortion care across the United States also rely on the work of abortion funds and practical support organizations to access abortion care for themselves and their families;

Whereas abortion funds and practical support organizations that rely on donations face increasing demand as people are forced into the vicious cycle of having to travel longer distances, find childcare or lodging, and raise money to obtain an abortion and cover associated costs;

Whereas restrictions on accessing abortion care have far-reaching consequences in both deepening existing inequities caused by structural racism and systemic discrimination in the maternal health care system and worsening health outcomes for pregnant people, people giving birth, and their families;

Whereas abortion care restrictions in some States have forced many abortion clinics to shut down, such that 90 percent of counties in the United States today do not have an abortion provider, the number of independent abortion clinics in the United States has declined by ⅓ since 2012, and efforts to undermine critical supports for patients, including family planning supports, have further threatened the work of abortion providers;

Whereas restricting access to abortion care creates and increases the out-of-pocket costs and logistical burdens that patients face to get care while exposing the remaining abortion providers and staff to increased levels of harassment and politically motivated restrictions;

Whereas the National Abortion Federation's 2020 statistics on violence and disruption found an alarming escalation in incidents of obstruction, vandalism, and trespassing at abortion clinics, with abortion providers reporting an increase in death threats and threats of harm from 92 incidents in 2019 to 200 in 2020;

Whereas Black, indigenous, and other providers and patients of color face heightened levels of threats, harassment, and violence as compared to their white counterparts;

Whereas 2021 marked the worst year for abortion rights since Roe v. Wade, 410 U.S. 113 (1973), was decided, and the passage and enforcement of restrictions on abortion access and the criminalization of abortion has emboldened antiabortion individuals and groups to continue to harass providers and the patients they care for;

Whereas the Supreme Court of the United States is now (as of the date of adoption of this resolution) considering Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, 141 S.Ct. 2619 (2021), a case that the justices could use to overturn or severely undermine Roe v. Wade, and at the same time has refused to block Texas's blatantly unconstitutional ban on abortion at approximately 6 weeks of pregnancy, allowing Texas to ban the majority of abortions in the State;

Whereas the ripple effects of Texas's abortion ban have been felt by communities and abortion providers across the country as abortion clinics try to absorb the massive influx of Texas's patients who have the resources to travel and are seeking abortion care elsewhere;

Whereas, should the Supreme Court overturn or severely undermine Roe v. Wade, Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming could act as soon as possible to prohibit abortion and criminalize abortion providers;

Whereas Roe v. Wade alone has never been sufficient to ensure that all people, especially Black people, indigenous people, people of color, working class and low-income people, LGBTQIA+ people, people who are immigrants, younger people, people with disabilities, geographically isolated people, and people with multimarginal identities, can get the abortion care they need;

Whereas the unraveling or overturning of Roe v. Wade threatens the ability of abortion providers and the clinic staff who support them to serve their patients; and

Whereas in the face of multifaceted attacks on their work, abortion providers remain an essential and valued part of their communities, providing high-quality, compassionate, and necessary health care, and courageously delivering this care despite pressures, restrictions, political interference, and violent threats to their personal safety: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes March 10, 2022, as ''Abortion Provider Appreciation Day'' to celebrate the courage, compassion, and high-quality care that abortion providers and clinic staff offer to patients and their families across the country;

(2) lauds communities across the country who are proud to be home to abortion providers and clinic staff;

(3) affirms Congress's commitment to ensuring the safety of abortion providers, their ability to continue providing the essential care their patients need, and the right of their patients to access abortion care no matter where they live, free from fear of violence, criminalization, or stigma; and

(4) declares a vision for a future where access to abortion is liberated from restrictions and bans universally, and affirms Congress's commitment to working toward this goal in partnership with providers, patients, advocates, and their communities.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I have nine requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a joint hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 2 p.m., to conduct a closed business meeting.

DIRECTING THE ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL TO OBTAIN AND PLACE A MEMORIAL PLAQUE FOR UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE OFFICER WILLIAM F. EVANS AT THE NORTH SECURITY KIOSK OF THE CAPITOL

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 539, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 539) directing the Architect of the Capitol to obtain and place a memorial plaque for United States Capitol Police Officer William F. Evans at the north security kiosk of the Capitol.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. CASEY. I further ask that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 539) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

SOUTH FLORIDA CLEAN COASTAL WATERS ACT OF 2021

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 203, S. 66.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 66) to require the Inter-Agency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia to develop a plan for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam President, I am proud to be a champion of the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act—or HABHRCA—program. The program was first created in 1998 to help address harmful algal blooms in water bodies across the country. Congress recognized the devastating impact of harmful algal blooms, both ecologically and economically, and the importance of providing resources to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to advance scientific understanding of harmful algal blooms, as well as the ability to detect, monitor, assess, and predict bloom events.

In 2014 and again in 2018, I worked with then-Senator Bill Nelson to reauthorize the program in a bipartisan way. And in the 2014 legislation, I worked to ensure that freshwater bodies, specifically the Great Lakes, were a focus for the program for the first time. Since then, I have worked to secure funding for the HABHRCA program through the annual appropriations process.

I am pleased to report that, today, NOAA's work through the HABHRCA program is being used by my constituents and others across the Great Lakes basin. For example, I hear from the fishing and charter boat industries that they rely on NOAA's biweekly forecasts to monitor the location of the blooms so they know what areas of the lake to avoid in order to continue operating their tourism and fishing businesses.

It also helps our drinking water systems prevent contamination in drinking water because they are able to anticipate additional treatment needs if the location of the bloom is near a water intake valve. This will help prevent crises similar to the 2014 water crisis in Toledo, OH, in which nearly half a million people lost access to safe drinking water because a harmful algal bloom contaminated the city's water supply.

As cochair of the Senate Great Lakes Task Force, I am committed to ensuring our Great Lakes communities have the resources they need to create jobs and protect the water quality and health of the lakes.

My colleague from Florida, Senator Rubio, has a bill that would amend the HABHRCA program to require NOAA to conduct harmful algal bloom and hypoxia work specifically for the South Florida ecosystem. I am supportive of this legislation and of efforts to address harmful algal blooms across the country, so long as it does not take away or divert resources that are used in the Great Lakes.

To that end, I ask for unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a letter from NOAA Administrator Spinrad committing that the work done in South Florida, such as would be the case with passage of Senator RUBIO's legislation, S. 66, the South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act, would have no impact on the resources and work currently being conducted to support the Great Lakes.

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

MARCH 3, 2022.

Hon. ROBERT PORTMAN,
Ranking Member, Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR PORTMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding the importance of maintaining harmful algal bloom (HAB) and hypoxia research and monitoring activities in the Great Lakes region. I appreciate the discussion that you and I had about this issue last week.

As you know, NOAA has monitored and forecast cyanobacteria bloom location and concentration in Lake Erie since 2009. The early seasonal ''rolling'' outlook beginning in May estimates bloom severity based on measurements of phosphorous loading from the Maumee River combined with long-range forecasts and historical records. The Lake Erie HAB Seasonal Forecast issued in early summer allows coastal managers, lake users, and drinking water facility operators to make informed decisions based on the potential severity of the bloom. In addition, the Lake Erie HAB forecast issued twice a week during bloom season (July–October) provides the current bloom extent and 5-day outlooks of where the bloom will travel and what concentrations are likely to be seen, allowing managers to determine whether to take preventive actions.

As we discussed, NOAA is committed to continuing this important work and to pursuing improvements to Lake Erie HAB detection, monitoring, and forecasting to keep communities in the Great Lakes region safe. Additional proposals to complete HABs work in the South Florida ecosystem will not impact the resources necessary for Great Lakes HABs work through the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998. The President's Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Request includes an increase for NOAA's Coastal Science and Assessment programs that, if appropriated, will support these efforts and build capacity in other areas.

We appreciate your interest and look forward to our continued partnership. If you have further questions, please contact Makeda Okolo, Director of NOAA's Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs.

Sincerely,

DR. RICHARD W. SPINRAD,
Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator.

Mr. CASEY. I further ask that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The bill (S. 66) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 66

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. SOUTH FLORIDA HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS AND HYPOXIA ASSESSMENT AND ACTION PLAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998 (Public Law 105–383; 33 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating sections 605 through 609 as sections 606 through 610, respectively; and

(2) by inserting after section 604 the following:

''SEC. 605. SOUTH FLORIDA HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS AND HYPOXIA.

''(a) SOUTH FLORIDA.—In this section, the term 'South Florida' means—

''(1) all lands and waters within the administrative boundaries of the South Florida Water Management District;

''(2) regional coastal waters, including Biscayne Bay, the Caloosahatchee Estuary, Florida Bay, Indian River Lagoon, and St. Lucie River Estuary; and

''(3) the Florida Reef Tract.

''(b) INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT.—

''(1) INTERIM INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 540 days after the date of enactment of the South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act of 2021, the Task Force, in accordance with the authority under section 603, shall complete and submit to Congress and the President an interim integrated assessment.

''(2) FINALIZED INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act of 2021, the Task Force shall finalize, and submit to Congress and the President, the interim integrated assessment required by paragraph (1).

''(3) CONTENTS OF INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT.—The integrated assessment required by paragraphs (1) and (2) shall examine the causes, consequences, and potential approaches to reduce harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida, and the status of, and gaps within, current harmful algal bloom and hypoxia research, monitoring, management, prevention, response, and control activities that directly affect the region by—

''(A) Federal agencies;
''(B) State agencies;
''(C) regional research consortia;
''(D) academia;
''(E) private industry;
''(F) nongovernmental organizations; and
''(G) Indian tribes (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)).
''(c) ACTION PLAN.—
''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years and 180 days after the date of the enactment of the South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act of 2021, the Task Force shall develop and submit to Congress a plan, based on the integrated assessment under subsection (b), for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida.
''(2) CONTENTS.—The plan submitted under paragraph (1) shall—
''(A) address the monitoring needs identified in the integrated assessment under subsection (b);
''(B) develop a timeline and budgetary requirements for deployment of future assets;
''(C) identify requirements for the development and verification of South Florida harmful algal bloom and hypoxia models, including—
''(i) all assumptions built into the models; and
''(ii) data quality methods used to ensure the best available data are utilized; and
''(D) propose a plan to implement a remote monitoring network and early warning system for alerting local communities in the region to harmful algal bloom risks that may impact human health.
''(3) REQUIREMENTS.—In developing the action plan, the Task Force shall—
''(A) consult with the State of Florida, and affected local and tribal governments;
''(B) consult with representatives from regional academic, agricultural, industry, and other stakeholder groups;
''(C) ensure that the plan complements and does not duplicate activities conducted by other Federal or State agencies, including the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force;
''(D) identify critical research for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal bloom events and their effects;
''(E) evaluate cost-effective, incentive-based partnership approaches;
''(F) ensure that the plan is technically sound and cost-effective;
''(G) utilize existing research, assessments, reports, and program activities;
''(H) publish a summary of the proposed plan in the Federal Register at least 180 days prior to submitting the completed plan to Congress; and
''(I) after submitting the completed plan to Congress, provide biennial progress reports on the activities toward achieving the objectives of the plan.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT AND CORRECTION.—The table of contents in section 2 of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1998 (Public Law 105–383) is amended by striking the items relating to title VI and inserting the following new items:

''TITLE VI—HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS AND HYPOXIA

''Sec. 601. Short title.
''Sec. 602. Findings.
''Sec. 603. Assessments.
''Sec. 603A. National Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Program.
''Sec. 603B. Comprehensive research plan and action strategy.
''Sec. 604. Northern Gulf of Mexico hypoxia.
''Sec. 605. South Florida harmful algal blooms and hypoxia.
''Sec. 606. Great Lakes hypoxia and harmful algal blooms.
''Sec. 607. Protection of States' rights.
''Sec. 608. Effect on other Federal authority.
''Sec. 609. Definitions.
''Sec. 610. Authorization of appropriations.''.

CHANGING AGE-DETERMINED ELIGIBILITY TO STUDENT INCENTIVE PAYMENTS ACT

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 219, S. 2299.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2299) to modify the age requirement for the Student Incentive Payment Program of the State maritime academies.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CASEY. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

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

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. CASEY. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 2299) was passed, as follows:

S. 2299

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Changing Age-Determined Eligibility To Student Incentive Payments Act'' or the ''CADETS Act''.

SEC. 2. AGE REQUIREMENT FOR THE STUDENT INCENTIVE PAYMENT PROGRAM OF THE STATE MARITIME ACADEMIES.

Section 51509 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(i) AGE REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary may make an agreement under this section only with a qualified student who will meet the age requirement for enlistment in the Navy Reserve at the time of graduation from the academy.''.

Mr. CASEY. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it recess until 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 10; and that following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate be in a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

Mr. CASEY. The Senate will not be in session tomorrow.

RECESS UNTIL THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022, AT 10 A.M.

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand in recess under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:12 p.m., recessed until Thursday, March 10, 2022, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

PAUL M. ROSEN, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY FOR INVESTMENT SECURITY, VICE THOMAS PETER FEDDO.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DAVID APPLEGATE, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, VICE JAMES REILLY.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

EVELYN WANG, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY–ENERGY, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, VICE LANE GENATOWSKI.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

JOSEPH GOFFMAN, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, VICE WILLIAM L. WEHRUM.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ROBERT A. WOOD, OF NEW YORK, TO BE AN ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS, DURING HIS TENURE OF SERVICE AS ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR SPECIAL POLITICAL AFFAIRS IN THE UNITED NATIONS.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

KATE ELIZABETH HEINZELMAN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, VICE COURTNEY ELWOOD.

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) JEFFREY T. ANDERSON
REAR ADM. (LH) ANTHONY C. CARULLO
REAR ADM. (LH) RICHARD J. CHEESEMAN, JR.
REAR ADM. (LH) CRAIG A. CLAPPERTON
REAR ADM. (LH) CHRISTOPHER M. ENGDAHL
REAR ADM. (LH) ROBERT M. GAUCHER
REAR ADM. (LH) CARL A. LAHTI
REAR ADM. (LH) JOHN V. MENONI
REAR ADM. (LH) WILLIAM P. PENNINGTON
REAR ADM. (LH) CURT A. RENSHAW
REAR ADM. (LH) SCOTT F. ROBERTSON
REAR ADM. (LH) MILTON J. SANDS III
REAR ADM. (LH) CHRISTOPHER J. SWEENEY
REAR ADM. (LH) DOUGLAS C. VERISSIMO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) JOHN S. LEMMON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) NICHOLAS M. HOMAN
REAR ADM. (LH) MICHAEL J. VERNAZZA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) THOMAS J. MOREAU