

1 Diversified Reporting Services, Inc.

2 RPTS EUELL

3 HIF098000

4

5

6 MARKUP OF H.R. 1442, YOUTH POISONING PROTECTION ACT;

7 H.R. 973, SETTING CONSUMER STANDARDS FOR LITHIUM-ION

8 BATTERIES ACT;

9 H.R. 633, TOOLS TO ADDRESS KNOWN EXPLOITATION BY IMMOBILIZING

10 TECHNOLOGICAL DEEPFAKES ON WEBSITES AND NETWORKS (TAKE IT

11 DOWN) ACT;

12 H.R. 1664, DEPLOYING AMERICAN BLOCKCHAINS ACT OF 2025;

13 H.R. 2444, PROMOTING RESILIENT SUPPLY CHAINS ACT OF 2025;

14 H.R. 2480, SECURING SEMICONDUCTOR SUPPLY CHAINS ACT;

15 H.R. 1402, TRANSPARENCY IN CHARGES FOR KEY EVENTS TICKETING

16 (TICKET) ACT;

17 H.R. 1479, HOTEL FEES TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2025;

18 H.R. 859, INFORMING CONSUMERS ABOUT SMART DEVICES ACT;

19 H.R. 2481, ROMANCE SCAM PREVENTION ACT;

20 H.R. 617, AMERICAN MUSIC TOURISM ACT OF 2025;

21 H.R. 2269, WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE POLLUTION PREVENTION AND

22 ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY (WIPPES) ACT;

23 H.R. 906, FOREIGN ADVERSARY COMMUNICATIONS TRANSPARENCY

24 (FACT) ACT;

25 H.R. 2449, FUTURE USES OF TECHNOLOGY UPHOLDING RELIABLE AND

26 ENHANCED (FUTURE) NETWORKS ACT;

27 H.R. 2458, SECURE SPACE ACT;

28 H.R. 866, REMOVING OUR UNSECURE TECHNOLOGIES TO ENSURE  
29 RELIABILITY AND SECURITY (ROUTERS) ACT;  
30 H.R. 2482, NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION  
31 ADMINISTRATION (NTIA) REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2025;  
32 H.R. 2399, RURAL BROADBAND PROTECTION ACT OF 2025;  
33 H.R. 2037, OPENRAN OUTREACH ACT;  
34 H.R. 1717, COMMUNICATIONS SECURITY ACT H.R. 2483, SUPPORT FOR  
35 PATIENTS AND COMMUNITIES REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2025;  
36 H.R. 2483, SUPPORT FOR PATIENTS AND COMMUNITIES  
37 REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2025;  
38 H.R. 1520, CHARLOTTE WOODWARD ORGAN TRANSPLANT DISCRIMINATION  
39 PREVENTION ACT;  
40 H.R. 2319, WOMEN AND LUNG CANCER RESEARCH AND PREVENTIVE  
41 SERVICES ACT OF 2025;  
42 H.R. 1669, TO AMEND THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT TO  
43 REAUTHORIZE THE STOP, OBSERVE, ASK, AND RESPOND TO HEALTH AND  
44 WELLNESS TRAINING PROGRAM;  
45 H.R. 1082, SHANDRA EISENGA HUMAN CELL AND TISSUE PRODUCT  
46 SAFETY ACT; AND  
47 H.R. 2484, SENIORS' ACCESS TO CRITICAL MEDICATIONS ACT  
48 TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2025  
49 House of Representatives,  
50 Committee on Energy and Commerce,  
51 Washington, D.C.

53

54           The committee met, pursuant to call, at 10:24 a.m. in  
55 Room 2123, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Brett Guthrie  
56 [chair of the committee] presiding.

57

58

59

60           Present: Representatives Guthrie, Latta, Griffith,  
61 Bilirakis, Hudson, Carter of Georgia, Palmer, Dunn, Crenshaw,  
62 Joyce, Weber, Allen, Balderson, Fulcher, Pfluger,  
63 Harshbarger, Miller-Meeks, Cammack, Obernolte, James, Bentz,  
64 Houchin, Fry, Lee, Langworthy, Kean, Rulli, Evans, Goldman,  
65 Fedorchak; Pallone, DeGette, Schakowsky, Matsui, Castor,  
66 Tonko, Clarke, Ruiz, Peters, Dingell, Veasey, Kelly,  
67 Barragan, Soto, Schrier, Trahan, Fletcher, Ocasio-Cortez,  
68 Auchincloss, Carter of Louisiana, Menendez, Mullin, Landsman,  
69 and McClellan.

70

71           Staff Present:   Ansley Boylan, Director of Operations;  
72   Jessica Donlon, General Counsel; Kristin Fritsch,  
73   Professional Staff Member; Seth Gold, Professional Staff  
74   Member; Sydney Greene, Director of Finance and Logistics; Jay  
75   Gulshen, Chief Counsel; Emily Hale, Staff Assistant; Kate  
76   Harper (O'Connor), Chief Counsel; Natalie Hellman,  
77   Professional Staff Member; Calvin Huggins, Clerk; Megan  
78   Jackson, Staff Director; Daniel Kelly; Press Secretary;  
79   Sophie Khanahmadi, Deputy Staff Director; Alex Khlopin,  
80   Clerk; Brayden Lacefield, Special Assistant; Giulia Leganski,  
81   Chief Counsel; John Lin, Senior Counsel; Joel Miller, Chief  
82   Counsel; Elaina Murphy, Professional Staff Member; Kaitlyn  
83   Peterson, Policy Analyst; Brannon Rains, Professional Staff  
84   Member; Evangelos Razis, Professional Staff Member; Seth  
85   Ricketts, Special Assistant; Jake Riith, Staff Assistant;  
86   Dylan Rogers, Professional Staff Member; Jackson Rudden,  
87   Staff Assistant; Chris Sarley, Member Services/Stakeholder  
88   Director; Emma Schultheis, Clerk; Kaley Stidham, Press  
89   Assistant; Matt VanHyfte, Communications Director; Hannah  
90   Anton, Minority Policy Analyst; Rasheedah Blackwood, Minority  
91   Intern; Keegan Cardman, Minority Staff Assistant; Waverly  
92   Gordon, Minority Deputy Staff Director and General Counsel;  
93   Tiffany Guarascio, Minority Staff Director; Perry Hamilton,  
94   Minority Member Services and Outreach Manager; Lisa Hone,  
95   Minority Chief Counsel; Una Lee, Minority Chief Counsel, HE;

96 Dan Miller, Minority Professional Staff Member; Emma Roehrig,  
97 Minority Staff Assistant; Andrew Souvall, Minority Director  
98 of Communications, Outreach, and Member Services; Johanna  
99 Thomas, Minority Counsel; and Parul Desai, Minority Chief  
100 Counsel, CAT.

101

102           \*The Chair. The committee will come to order, and the  
103 chair will recognize himself for an opening statement.

104           Thank you all for being here today for this markup as we  
105 look to advance legislation affecting Americans in the most  
106 personal ways.

107           From reauthorizing key programs addressing substance use  
108 disorder to protecting Americans online from sexual  
109 exploitation, the Committee on Energy and Commerce is working  
110 to address the biggest issues facing our country and our  
111 constituents. Every bill we are considering today is  
112 bipartisan, and in many cases members of this committee have  
113 been working together on them over several congresses.

114           Every bill today either passed out of the committee  
115 unanimously and through the House last year with strong  
116 bipartisan votes, or were negotiated and agreed upon on a  
117 bipartisan, bicameral basis at the end of last year. Every  
118 single bill we are considering today had bipartisan agreement  
119 last Congress, and I hope we can pick up where we left off  
120 and move them all forward today.

121           Earlier this Congress, Ranking Member, my good friend  
122 from New Jersey, Pallone, and I testified before the House  
123 Administration committee to talk about our committee budget.  
124 And I really appreciate what my good friend said at the  
125 hearing when he said, "While we were not able to get these  
126 bipartisan bills and provisions last Congress, I know that we

127 are committed to getting them done this Congress.'` And I am  
128 glad to report that we are moving these bills forward because  
129 they make our country stronger, and we need to pass this  
130 critical legislation.

131 In particular, we will advance health care legislation  
132 to lower costs for patients, support cancer research, and  
133 address substance use disorder. And I am thankful for -- to  
134 all of my colleagues who have supported this legislation to  
135 increase access to care for patients and their families.

136 Today we have an opportunity to advance multiple bills  
137 that will strengthen our communications infrastructure and  
138 better prevent attacks from our adversaries who are  
139 continually seeking to compromise our critical  
140 infrastructure. These bills will help fortify our networks  
141 against our threats.

142 While technological leadership is critically important  
143 to our national security and economic prosperity, as a father  
144 and a grandfather I am extremely concerned by the stories we  
145 are hearing from parents about the potential unintended  
146 consequences of new technologies. From protecting Americans  
147 from romance scams to increasing price transparency in  
148 ticketing and lodging, today should be a chance to celebrate  
149 bipartisan wins that serve our constituents.

150 I am still hopeful we can make progress soon on some of  
151 the other bills I have discussed with my friends from across

152 the aisle. But nonetheless, we are marking up some  
153 outstanding legislation today, and I want to thank all of our  
154 sponsors for their hard work getting us to this point. I  
155 always say the work we do here in the House affects people in  
156 their homes. This legislation is making Americans' home  
157 safer, healthier, and more prosperous.

158 Thank you for all your hard work. I appreciate  
159 everybody's efforts, and I -- for advancing this legislation.

160 I yield back, and I recognize the ranking member, Mr.  
161 Pallone, for five minutes for his opening statement.

162 \*Mr. Pallone. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

163 We are here today for what would normally be a routine  
164 markup of 26 bills. However, these are not normal times. I  
165 know Republicans want to proceed with business as usual  
166 around here, but the daily chaos and illegal activity that we  
167 are seeing from the Trump Administration is not business as  
168 usual.

169 The reality is most of the bills we are considering  
170 today were already agreed to last year as part of a  
171 bipartisan, bicameral legislative package that was set to be  
172 passed and signed into law in December before Elon Musk  
173 intervened and killed the agreement. We should be passing  
174 that entire package as one bill today. That package included  
175 important provisions that would have lowered costs for hard-  
176 working Americans. But instead of passing it and sending it

177 to the President's desk to be signed into law, my Republican  
178 colleagues allowed Elon Musk to decide what becomes law.

179       What is especially upsetting about this is that my  
180 Republican colleagues know this was a good agreement that  
181 would have helped people. It included provisions to lower  
182 prescription drug prices, crack down on junk fees, lower gas  
183 prices, ensure our water is safe to drink, and fund community  
184 health centers and teaching health centers. Republicans  
185 repeatedly look the other way. First, as President Trump  
186 gave Elon Musk and his DOGE lackeys free reign to loot the  
187 American Government, and destroy our institutions, and  
188 illegally fire tens of thousands of public servants who go to  
189 work every day to serve the American people. And now, as  
190 Trump's reckless tariffs are leading to the largest middle-  
191 class tax increase in at least 50 years, these tariffs are  
192 crashing our economy, raising costs for groceries and other  
193 goods, and wiping out the hard-earned retirement savings of  
194 middle-class families.

195       Amidst all this chaos, Republicans have refused to hold  
196 this administration accountable. We are marking up 26 bills  
197 that would test various Federal agencies with more  
198 responsibilities, while at the very same time the Trump  
199 Administration is gutting the agencies and firing the public  
200 servants who would implement these new laws. Republicans are  
201 bringing up consumer protection bills while also ignoring

202 Trump's attempted illegal firing of the Democratic FTC  
203 commissioners, and reports that DOGE has arrived at FTC to  
204 fire people at an already under-staffed agency. And this  
205 illegal action threatens the ability of our nation's leading  
206 consumer protection watchdogs to do their job, including  
207 protecting children from big tech online harms. But  
208 Republicans blindly move ahead without acknowledging the new  
209 reality.

210         Meanwhile, we will debate health-related bills today  
211 like the SUPPORT Act, all while President Trump eliminates  
212 20,000 jobs at the Department of Health and Human Services.  
213 Amidst a continued fentanyl crisis and a measles and bird flu  
214 outbreak, a 25 percent reduction of the workforce at HHS is  
215 alarming and truly irresponsible.

216         The truth is, Republicans want to hold this markup today  
217 so they can continue to pretend like everything is normal.  
218 But it is all a charade. It is time for this committee to  
219 wake up and pay attention to what is going on around us.  
220 This is not business as usual. The Trump Administration is  
221 driving up costs, ruining our economy, and putting American  
222 families at risk. It is time for Republicans to pull their  
223 heads out of the sand and start demanding some accountability  
224 before it is too late.

225         And with that, I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

226         \*The Chair. Thank you. The gentleman yields back. Are

227     there any other opening statements?

228             Seeing none, the chair calls up H.R. 1442 and asks the  
229     clerk to report.

230             \*The Clerk.   H.R. 1442, a bill to ban the sale of  
231     products with a high concentration --

232             \*The Chair.   Without objection, the first reading of the  
233     bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for  
234     amendments at any point.

235             So ordered.

236             [The bill follows:]

237

238     \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

239

240           \*The Chair. Does anyone seek to be recognized on the  
241 bill?

242           Seeing none --

243           \*Ms. DeGette. Mr. Chair?

244           \*The Chair. Yes, the gentlelady from Colorado, you are  
245 recognized for five minutes --

246           \*Ms. DeGette. I move --

247           \*The Chair. -- to speak on the bill.

248           \*Ms. DeGette. -- to strike the last word.

249           \*The Chair. You are -- the gentlelady is recognized.

250           \*Ms. DeGette. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I am  
251 so proud of E&C's work last Congress to advance a common --  
252 package including health reforms that will make a meaningful  
253 difference.

254           This committee advanced legislation on a bipartisan  
255 basis to make it easier for kids with cancer to find  
256 treatment, fund research into curing diabetes, prevent  
257 maternal deaths, and support research related to Down  
258 syndrome, among other critical reforms and investments. One  
259 such bill, Give Kids a Chance Act, incentivizes the  
260 development of drugs for rare pediatric diseases. Another,  
261 the Accelerating Kids' Access to Care Act, makes it easier  
262 for kids with serious conditions to find the care that they  
263 need. And let's not forget the PBM reforms that Mr. Carter  
264 has championed so much and that we all support that are part

265 of that package.

266 Democrats and Republicans came together last year to  
267 agree on a package of those bills which was originally  
268 included in the December 2024 continuing resolution. That  
269 was, of course, until Elon Musk and Donald Trump told the  
270 House Republicans to remove it.

271 I have said time and time again that if Republicans  
272 still want to bring this health package to the floor for a  
273 vote, Democrats will stand with you and will pass it. We  
274 could pass it on the suspension calendar. But I keep hearing  
275 that the majority doesn't have any plan to bring it up for a  
276 vote.

277 So to my Republican colleagues, I ask you, do you want  
278 to make it easier for kids with life-threatening diseases to  
279 see a doctor?

280 Do you support research to cure diabetes?

281 Do you want to make it easier for entrepreneurs to  
282 invest in life-saving treatments for childhood cancer? I  
283 know that the Democrats over here do. And to my colleagues  
284 on the other side of the aisle, this was your chance to show  
285 your constituents that you do, too.

286 It is shameful that Republicans are hiding behind  
287 germaneness to avoid this vote -- well, wait, that is  
288 different -- but they will in a minute, and they are going to  
289 delay the legislation, I reiterate, that we all agreed upon.

290           Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to enter a  
291   section-by-section of the December health care package into  
292   the record, outlining the 550 pages of bipartisan legislation  
293   that for some reason are not being considered today.

294           \*The Chair. Without objection, so ordered.

295           [The information follows:]

296

297   \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

298

299           \*Ms. DeGette. Thank you.

300           It is full of common-sense reforms and reauthorizations,  
301 as everybody in this room knows. I keep hearing about this  
302 -- all these wonderful bills today, and some of them are just  
303 fine. In fact, some of them are in this package. We had the  
304 opportunity to do the whole package, at least the part in  
305 this committee's jurisdiction, in today's markup. But  
306 instead, we didn't.

307           And I know in a moment my colleague, Mr. Pallone, is  
308 going to give us an opportunity to pass those bills. So  
309 frankly, Mr. Chairman, you just said -- and many of your  
310 members have said -- they want to get the package done. So  
311 let's do it. Let's pass that package. Let's do it today.

312           It just feels like we are stringing America's patients  
313 along. There is nothing wrong with any of these provisions,  
314 which we all agreed on last year. So why pick and choose?  
315 Why just do these ones for today, and why not do all of them?  
316 So I just want to ask that question, and with that I will  
317 yield back.

318           \*The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. Is anyone  
319 seeking discussion on the bill?

320           Turning to amendments, does anyone have an amendment?

321           For what purpose does the gentleman from New Jersey seek  
322 recognition?

323           \*Mr. Pallone. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the

324 desk.

325 \*The Chair. The clerk will report -- oh, I am sorry.

326 \*Mr. Pallone. No, I don't know the number.

327 \*The Chair. The clerk will report the amendment. Do  
328 you know the --

329 \*The Clerk. Amendment to H.R. 1442, offered by Mr.  
330 Pallone.

331 \*The Chair. Without objection, the reading of the  
332 amendment is dispensed with.

333 [The amendment of Mr. Pallone follows:]

334

335 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

336

337           \*The Chair. And the gentleman from New Jersey is  
338 recognized for five minutes in support of the amendment.

339           \*Mr. Pallone. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

340           My amendment is simple and straightforward, and it  
341 basically follows up on the comments that were made by our  
342 ranking member of the Health Subcommittee, Ms. DeGette. It  
343 would attach the bipartisan, bicameral legislative package  
344 that was set to pass and be signed into law at the end of the  
345 year, before Elon Musk intervened and killed the agreement in  
346 December.

347           This is a common-sense legislative package that was  
348 signed off on by leaders of the committee, as well as House  
349 and Senate leadership. So rather than taking a piecemeal  
350 approach today, where we pass a portion of the bills included  
351 in that agreement, which may or may not ever be brought to  
352 the House floor for a vote by the Republican leadership, my  
353 amendment would allow us to take up the entire bipartisan  
354 agreement and send it to the House floor for a vote.

355           There are critical provisions of that package that are  
356 not included in this markup today. It would also be stronger  
357 for us to move ahead with the entire package in one bill,  
358 rather than breaking them up.

359           Now, my amendment includes the entire comprehensive  
360 package that would meaningfully lower costs for hard-working  
361 American families, which would pass overwhelmingly if it was

362 allowed to get a vote on the House floor. It would have  
363 passed overwhelmingly in December. And frankly, it would be  
364 the first thing this Republican Congress accomplishes to  
365 actually lower costs for American families. Everything else  
366 the President is doing is moving us in the opposite  
367 direction.

368         So to detail a few of the things the agreement includes,  
369 it would finally take on pharmaceutical [sic] benefit  
370 managers to lower prescription drug costs for Americans at  
371 the pharmacy counter, and it would lower the cost of filling  
372 up your gas tank with year-round E15. It would also help  
373 ensure our water is safe to drink, and provide much-needed  
374 funding for both the community health centers that serve  
375 millions of Americans, as well as the teaching health centers  
376 that train the next generation of doctors right here in our  
377 communities.

378         Again, these are all provisions that were part of that  
379 end-of-the-year bipartisan agreement that were ignored by the  
380 committee Republicans at this markup. My amendment is a  
381 clear win for American consumers, who we all know are  
382 struggling to keep up with the rising cost of living,  
383 something that is being made worse as we speak as President  
384 Trump engages in a reckless trade war that is causing market  
385 turmoil, driving up costs, and ruining people's retirement  
386 savings. Trump's reckless tariffs are the largest middle-

387 class tax increase in at least 50 years.

388         And let me just say, Mr. Chairman, you know, over the  
389 weekend it was a very sad thing for me to see people come up  
390 to me talking about their 401(k)s, talking about their  
391 pensions. As I was driving back to Washington from New  
392 Jersey on -- yesterday, actually -- I stopped at a service  
393 area, and people came up to me who I didn't even know,  
394 weren't even from my district, and were crying. I mean,  
395 literally, I am not making this up, Mr. Chairman, crying over  
396 the impact on their 401(k)s and their pensions. You know,  
397 the -- one guy said to me, you know, "My 401(k) is worth 20  
398 to 30 percent less today than it was a week or two ago.'`

399         And, you know, I just don't understand. I mean, I --  
400 you know, people think that the stock market is just -- I  
401 mean, some people think the stock market is just, you know, a  
402 haven for the wealthy and, you know, people that clip coupons  
403 and don't work. But in reality, there are so many people's  
404 401(k)s and their pensions, and everything is invested in it,  
405 and they rely on it to live.

406         So I -- and I don't want to just mention the stock  
407 market, but, you know, I think that people are crying out for  
408 us to take -- to get rid of these tariffs, to take on the  
409 Trump Administration on a bipartisan basis and say, "What are  
410 you doing,'` and having a hearing or an opportunity to, you  
411 know, to bring these agencies in that are being impacted.

412 But with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield.

413 \*The Chair. Thank you. The gentleman yields back, and  
414 I will recognize myself to speak in opposition to the  
415 amendment.

416 You know, I have reiterated several times that we are  
417 committed to working and moving the policies that were  
418 included in the December deal through this committee. And  
419 that is why H.R. 1442 is on the markup today.

420 And I have also been committed and reiterate that we are  
421 going to move bipartisan bills through the committee, bills  
422 that have Republican sponsors, Democrat sponsors. And we  
423 have had a commitment from the leader to make sure these go -  
424 - get votes on the floor, the ones in the commerce title.

425 So what we are -- we saw the Senate Democrats try to  
426 move this entire package, and they couldn't get it through  
427 the Senate through opposition. So what we want to do is move  
428 Republican priorities, Democrat priorities, and the commerce  
429 title through today, and continued to work on the issues that  
430 we have all tried to address together. So instead of  
431 conducting a process that will run into roadblocks, we want  
432 to move these bills so they can get bipartisan policies  
433 through the committee and on the House floor.

434 And the Youth Poisoning Act moved through this committee  
435 unanimously, the bill -- underlying bill, and passed  
436 overwhelmingly on the House floor. And this illustrates how

437 widely supported these policies are.

438       And I am committed to continue to work on the policies  
439 in the overall package. But we are moving the commerce title  
440 and a couple of other bills today to get to the floor so we  
441 can get them through the House and onto the -- into the  
442 Senate.

443       So I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment with my  
444 commitment that we will continue to work on the policies that  
445 are in your amendment that are not included on the bills  
446 today.

447       So I will yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

448       Did you start the clock? Okay, the gentleman from  
449 Georgia is recognized.

450       Well, do you want my time, or --

451       \*Mr. Carter of Georgia. If you don't mind, but you are  
452 out of time.

453       \*The Chair. I will yield to you. Yes, I don't think I  
454 had five minutes.

455       \*Mr. Carter of Georgia. Yes, that --

456       \*The Chair. Or I would yield you the time, yes.

457       \*Mr. Carter of Georgia. That is fine. I move to strike  
458 the last word, Mr. Speaker -- Mr. Chairman, excuse me.

459       \*The Chair. Let me see, it is their side -- their turn,  
460 I am sorry.

461       \*Mr. Carter of Georgia. Their turn? Okay.

462           \*The Chair. If you are getting your own time, I need to  
463 go -- who is -- yes, we didn't have the clock on my time. So  
464 I could yield you my time, or I will yield back and then  
465 recognize the -- who is -- oh, the gentlelady from  
466 California?

467           \*Ms. Matsui. Yes.

468           \*The Chair. Ms. Matsui, five minutes.

469           \*Ms. Matsui. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to strike  
470 the last word.

471           \*The Chair. The --

472           \*Ms. Matsui. Ranking Member Pallone's amendment  
473 represents the past two years of hard, bipartisan work that  
474 we have done on this committee. Each of the bills in this  
475 amendment is long overdue. Each was ready to go last  
476 Congress as part of the carefully negotiated bipartisan  
477 package.

478           As we all know, Elon Musk blew up that package because  
479 he convinced Republicans their thoughtfully crafted policies  
480 were just too big. If it wasn't for congressional  
481 Republicans giving in to Elon's whims by killing that end-of-  
482 the-year deal, the bills in today's markup would already be  
483 helping the American people by improving the vetting process  
484 so that we can better build high-speed broadband to rural  
485 areas, securing U.S. leadership in next-generation wireless  
486 communications, reauthorizing the NTIA for the first time in

487 30 years so it can better carry out its mission to close the  
488 digital divide and jumpstart innovation, making ticket prices  
489 for events more transparent, and so much more. The delay of  
490 these bills hurts consumers, threatens national security, and  
491 risks Americans' technological leadership.

492 Even worse, Republicans have left significant portions  
493 of the agreed-upon package out of this markup. This includes  
494 key health and environment provisions that would have  
495 improved lifesaving care and therapies for children with  
496 cancer and rare diseases, boosted public health preparedness,  
497 made drug prices more transparent, enhanced our drinking  
498 water systems, and reduced air pollution in vulnerable  
499 communities.

500 While I am glad to see some of the package revived  
501 today, this markup is leaving more questions than answers.  
502 Why are we moving some bipartisan policies but not others?  
503 Why spend this committee's precious time relitigating settled  
504 debates discussing the same bills we moved last Congress?  
505 Why haven't we received any assurances that the package will  
506 be considered on the floor, as opposed to being dissected and  
507 sold for parts? Perhaps it is because this administration  
508 and our Republican colleagues are more focused on gutting  
509 Medicaid, jeopardizing care for millions of Americans,  
510 raising prices for American consumers by engaging in  
511 destructive trade wars, and ceding our global leadership to

512 China and other foreign adversaries.

513 This bipartisan -- this partisan Republican agenda is  
514 hurting our families, businesses, and economy. We need to  
515 return to bipartisan priorities that help Americans, and we  
516 can start by passing this package of bills together, just as  
517 we intended at the end of last year.

518 I strongly urge my colleagues to vote yes on this  
519 amendment, and with that I yield back the balance of my time.

520 \*The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. The chair  
521 recognizes the gentleman from Georgia for five minutes --

522 \*Mr. Carter of Georgia. Mr. Chair --

523 \*The Chair. -- to speak on the amendment.

524 \*Mr. Carter of Georgia. -- I move to strike the last  
525 word.

526 \*The Chair. The gentleman is recognized.

527 \*Mr. Carter of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I just want to be  
528 clear on this amendment because last year, at the end-of-the-  
529 year package, with the health care package, trust me, no one,  
530 no one out of the 435 Members of Congress was more  
531 disappointed than I was. It had PBM reform that I have  
532 fought for since day one and that is bipartisan, by the way.  
533 And we intend to continue to work on that.

534 And I will mention two things. First of all, this is  
535 just the beginning of PBM reform. The bills that were in  
536 that and part of the Lower Cost, More Transparency Act that

537 was passed unanimously out of this House, that is the  
538 beginning of PBM reform. We did try to move that package.  
539 They ran it over in the Senate, there were problems with it.

540 I just want to make sure that we understand that the PBM  
541 reform is still going to be part of what we do. We have a  
542 commitment from leadership. We have a commitment from the  
543 chairman -- you just heard it -- of this committee that we  
544 are going to move forward on parts of this. And it is  
545 extremely important because it is bipartisan. PBM reform is  
546 bipartisan. We all understand that.

547 So I just want to make sure everyone understands that  
548 just because we are taking some of the commerce parts out of  
549 this, that the health title will be considered at some point.

550 And I will yield back.

551 \*The Chair. The gentleman yields back, and the chair  
552 recognizes the gentlelady from Florida for five minutes.

553 \*Ms. Castor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to strike  
554 the last word.

555 \*The Chair. The gentlelady is recognized.

556 \*Ms. Castor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

557 Members, this is not a normal time. We are watching an  
558 administration, a president, who has gone rogue. And people  
559 really did expect a new president and a new Congress to help  
560 them with the cost of living, to work in a bipartisan way to  
561 solve problems. But instead, everything now is getting more

562 expensive, their lives are getting harder. I know we are all  
563 hearing from friends and neighbors back home, and they are  
564 confronted now, when you have a rogue president, now they are  
565 confronted with a weak and timid Congress, led by a GOP that  
566 cannot stand up to this rogue president.

567         And Mr. Chairman, when we got together -- when we opened  
568 up the session three months ago in the committee, I asked you  
569 about all of the bipartisan initiatives that came out of this  
570 committee that didn't cross the finish line at the end of the  
571 year, what you expected, what you intended. This was -- for  
572 those of you who do not know what happened at the end of the  
573 year, Elon Musk worked with Speaker Johnson to kill the  
574 package of bipartisan initiatives that would cut costs and  
575 improve people's lives and improve their health. They killed  
576 it, Elon Musk said, because the bill had too many pages.

577         We were on the verge of passing life-saving and cost-  
578 saving legislation that originated in this proud committee.  
579 This included legislation to reduce costs by helping our  
580 community health centers, preventing maternal deaths,  
581 supporting pediatric cancer research, improving pandemic  
582 preparedness, reauthorizing the Mission Zero initiative, and  
583 so much more. But here is what you said, Mr. Chairman. You  
584 said, "We are disappointed that the bills of last year didn't  
585 get past the finish line. There was a lot of hard work by  
586 members of this committee, and it was bipartisan, and they

587 were important. I am trying to find the right avenue for  
588 them. They are still alive. It is a priority for this side  
589 of the committee. We are just trying to find the right  
590 avenue to be able to move those policies forward. They are a  
591 priority.'`

592 Well, that was almost three months ago. And while we  
593 have considered -- we are considering a handful of bills from  
594 the package, there is so much more that you are not living up  
595 to your end of the bargain to get passed, particularly when  
596 it comes to health. Today committee Republicans are  
597 including just one of the health bills from the package, a  
598 weakened SUPPORT Act. Meanwhile, you all have sat idly by  
599 while Elon Musk has taken a chainsaw to what makes American -  
600 - America great, our scientific enterprise, everything we are  
601 doing in innovation and medical research. You just sit there  
602 and let it happen.

603 There are other important bills, too. Where is the  
604 legislation to address price gouging practices by PBMs?

605 Where is the legislation to make it easier with children  
606 with complex medical conditions to receive out-of-state  
607 specialty care, or to help doctors' practices and  
608 disproportionate share hospitals make ends meet?

609 You know, all of that provides stability for people back  
610 home, and you are just throwing them to the mercy of this  
611 rogue president.

612           Meanwhile, the cost of living is going up, President  
613 Trump is firing tens of thousands of American workers and  
614 scientists, trying to illegally shut down cutting-edge  
615 research. He is freezing congressionally-appropriated  
616 funding. I thought maybe you would honor your responsibility  
617 under Article I of the U.S. Constitution, but I guess that is  
618 too much to ask.

619           All of this does nothing to help keep Americans healthy  
620 and well. In fact, it does the opposite. It is incredibly  
621 costly. It is a threat to our safety and security in this  
622 country. If you want a road map to empower China and our  
623 adversaries, you are writing that map right now. And for  
624 what? To scrape together every penny to be found to give  
625 massive tax breaks to the wealthy and the well-connected on  
626 the backs of hard-working Americans?

627           Look, people of all political stripes are outraged.  
628 This is not business as usual, and we really do expect you to  
629 join us, to do everything that we can, working together to  
630 protect our democracy, to protect our cutting-edge innovation  
631 where we are currently the world leader, to protect our way  
632 of life. That shouldn't be too much to ask. And I hear what  
633 you say, but I am -- I think we are closely watching what you  
634 do. And what you are doing is not living up to your  
635 responsibility to this country.

636           \*The Chair. The gentlelady --

637           \*Ms. Castor. With that I will yield back my time.

638           \*The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. The chair  
639 recognizes the gentleman from Virginia for --

640           \*Mr. Griffith. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

641           \*The Chair. -- to speak on the amendment.

642           \*Mr. Griffith. Speaking to the amendment, I just have  
643 to say that I understand that procedurally we can't make the  
644 objection to germaneness. I wish we had done so sooner. But  
645 I will tell you there is a reason for that, and the reason  
646 for that is that when you take something this large and add  
647 it to a bill that deals with -- interestingly, I was looking  
648 at the bill, and it is confusing as to whether it deals with  
649 sodium nitrates or sodium nitrites. It looks like nitrites  
650 in the text of the bill, but it is nitrate in the lead-up, in  
651 the title of the bill. And so I found that interesting.

652           And I find it particularly interesting, Mr. Chairman,  
653 because I have a food sensitivity to both nitrites and  
654 nitrates, but not everybody does.

655           That said, we have members on this committee who have  
656 not heard these bills before. We have a whole myriad of  
657 bills that are included in this amendment, and many of the  
658 points of debate -- and some people I understand are going to  
659 vote against some of these today that we are bringing up, but  
660 everything that is in this amendment many of the members on  
661 this body heard last year, but not all of them. We have new

662 members. We have freshmen who weren't even a Member of  
663 Congress in the last term on this committee.

664 And as a result, I think that we should vote no on this  
665 amendment so that the debate can be had, so the new members  
666 can hear the issues involved in each of these, so they can  
667 make their own minds up hearing from members of both sides of  
668 the aisle making the points that they ought to make.

669 And we are going from sodium nitrite -- or sodium  
670 nitrate, depending on which part controls, I believe it is,  
671 the text of the bill and not the title -- but we are going  
672 from that to recycling water, consumer product safety  
673 standards for certain batteries, foreign adversary  
674 communications, promoting resilient supply chains, deploying  
675 American blockchains, secure space, future networks, the TAKE  
676 IT DOWN Act, rural broadband protection, American music  
677 tourism, informing consumers about smart devices, securing  
678 semiconductor supply chains, Hotel Fee Transparency Act,  
679 transparency in charges of certain key events for ticketing,  
680 the ROUTERS Act, NTIA reauthorization, et cetera, et cetera,  
681 et cetera.

682 Now, all that being said, I may very well vote for all  
683 of those. I think I will, most likely. But Mr. Chairman,  
684 everyone on this committee, including the new members and  
685 particularly the freshman members, have a right to hear the  
686 arguments and the debates and make up their own mind. And if

687 we adopt this amendment, we are denying them that right and  
688 we are taking away from them the ability to make a fully-  
689 informed decision on these important measures.

690 And so I would say that there is two ways to get to  
691 germaneness. One, you can do a procedural motion. Or you  
692 can vote no on the amendment, and let each bill be taken up  
693 in its own time today or other days.

694 I yield back.

695 \*The Chair. The gentleman yields back. The chair  
696 recognizes the gentlelady from California, Ms. Barragan, for  
697 five minutes to speak on the amendment.

698 \*Ms. Barragan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
699 strike the last word.

700 \*The Chair. The gentlelady is recognized.

701 \*Ms. Barragan. I would like to thank Ranking Member  
702 Pallone for offering the amendment to restore the full  
703 bipartisan end-of-year package, which includes important  
704 policies to reform the practices of pharmacy benefit  
705 managers, or PBMs, as was spoken about by Mr. Carter.

706 One of the interesting things that I heard say was 435  
707 Members. Like, we all agree this is all okay, and we are  
708 going to continue to push this. But right now it doesn't  
709 feel like 435 Members' voices matter when Republicans are in  
710 control. The one voice that matters to them is Elon Musk.  
711 If he says, "Wait a second, let's go take this PBM reform out

712 of the bill,`` they are going to take it out of the bill.  
713 Why? Because that is who they are beholden to. It is not  
714 the constituents who are paying the higher prices. It is not  
715 the constituents who are concerned about the price of their  
716 medicine that they are worried about. They are worried about  
717 Elon Musk.

718       So PBM reform, more than half of adults in this country  
719 are worried they won't be able to afford their family's  
720 prescription drug costs. Nearly one in three Americans  
721 report not taking their medicines as prescribed because of  
722 the cost. This is unacceptable. No one should have to cut  
723 pills in half, skip a dose, or choose between medicine and  
724 groceries. When people delay care because they can't afford  
725 it, they get sicker and the cost of emergency room visits and  
726 hospital stays go up for everyone. PBMs exploit a system  
727 that lacks transparency, thrives on anti-competition  
728 behavior, and leaves patients paying the price.

729       This is a non-partisan issue. That is why I have been  
730 proud to co-lead several bills to reform PBM practices,  
731 including the Help Copays Act with Chair Buddy Carter and the  
732 Drug Act with Representative Miller-Meeks. Last Congress  
733 Democrats reached a bipartisan, bicameral agreement with  
734 Republicans on policies to reform PBMs with greater  
735 transparency and accountability for PBM practices. This will  
736 lead to lower prescription drug prices for patients and

737 reduce health care costs for employees.

738 Right now the American people are begging for us to do  
739 something to bring down prices. What can we do? PBM reform.  
740 This committee worked hard to craft and pass these PBM  
741 reforms which were all set to pass the House and be signed  
742 into law last December. But what happened? Of course, that  
743 last-minute phone call from the President and tweets from the  
744 unelected billionaire who is now apparently running the show,  
745 who is calling the shots, who is the one person's voice,  
746 unfortunately, that Republicans are listening to caused this  
747 reform to be taken out of the agreement.

748 Elon Musk did all of this, and then later admitted he  
749 doesn't even know what a PBM is.

750 Meanwhile, House Republicans stood by in silence,  
751 choosing loyalty to Trump and Musk over lowering costs for  
752 the American people, which, of course, we are seeing today as  
753 the economy tanks, the stock market tanks, as 401(k) plans  
754 are being evaporated. And what do my colleagues say over  
755 there? Oh, it is just some short-term pain. Some people  
756 don't have 20 years to rebuild a 401(k) plan to retire.

757 So who are we fighting for? Are we working for  
758 Americans or billionaires and big corporations? I know what  
759 House Democrats are doing. We are fighting for the American  
760 people. We are fighting to bring down cost. We just need  
761 Republicans to join us. And one way to do that is to start

762 -- I would rather finish what we started.

763 I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and pass  
764 long-overdue PBM reform to lower costs for the people who  
765 need it most.

766 And with that I yield back.

767 \*Mr. Joyce. [Presiding.] The gentlelady yields. Does  
768 anyone else wish to be recognized?

769 The gentleman from New York, Mr. Tonko, is recognized.

770 \*Mr. Tonko. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I move to strike the  
771 last word.

772 \*Mr. Joyce. The gentleman is recognized.

773 \*Mr. Tonko. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I want to echo  
774 Ranking Member Pallone's concerns about the end-of-year  
775 agreement being broken up, broken up through this process  
776 because of Elon Musk. This allows for some pieces of widely-  
777 supported, bipartisan legislation to be left behind. I am  
778 indeed worried this is already the case.

779 Before the end-of-year agreement fell apart in December,  
780 it included several bipartisan bills from the Environment  
781 Subcommittee's jurisdiction. This included two recycling  
782 bills that have been considered by the Energy and Commerce  
783 Committee in the past and were passed by the Senate on  
784 numerous occasions. One of these bills would establish a  
785 pilot recycling program at the EPA to award grants to improve  
786 recycling accessibility in underserved and rural communities.

787 The other would improve data collection on our nation's  
788 recycling systems and explore the potential of a national  
789 composting strategy. Neither bill is going to fix our  
790 nation's waste and recycling challenges, but they were good,  
791 common-sense, bipartisan efforts with widespread stakeholder  
792 support.

793 Similarly, the omnibus would have reauthorized EPA's  
794 DERA program, which provides grants to replace the oldest and  
795 the dirtiest diesel engines, and a fourth provision would  
796 have allowed for a year-round sale of E15 fuels, an action  
797 which has now been taken by both the Biden and Trump  
798 Administrations. Again, none of these proposals are radical.  
799 They have historically enjoyed bipartisan support. They  
800 serve the American public extremely well, and are denied  
801 because of the force of an unelected individual named Elon  
802 Musk.

803 If this amendment is not adopted, I do hope these are  
804 policies that will be returned to by the committee in the  
805 future. They are essential bills that need to be included in  
806 the final outcome.

807 With that, Mr. Chair, I thank you and yield back.

808 \*The Chair. [Presiding.] The gentleman yields back, and  
809 the chair will recognize Mr. Peters from California.

810 \*Mr. Peters. Thank you, Mr. Chairman --

811 \*The Chair. For five minutes.

812           \*Mr. Peters. Sorry, I move to strike the last word.

813           \*The Chair. The gentleman is recognized.

814           \*Mr. Peters. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

815           Today we are considering a variety of bills that fall  
816 within this committee's jurisdiction, including, as we have -  
817 - as has been noted, a number that were part of the year-end  
818 package that Congress considered just a few months ago. As  
819 folks at home might recall, that is the bill that was blown  
820 up because of this body's reaction to Mr. Musk's objection to  
821 the page count.

822           Many of those pages were things we voted on here in this  
823 very room, things we agreed on almost unanimously. The  
824 legislation would have reduced the cost of prescription drugs  
825 for all Americans by reforming pharmacy benefit managers,  
826 extending telehealth coverage for seniors on Medicare, giving  
827 safety net hospitals some financial certainty about the  
828 billions of dollars of cuts coming their way. It also  
829 included other bills I co-led to prevent fraud in Medicaid  
830 and Medicare, to restore telehealth for patients who need  
831 cardiac rehabilitation, and reauthorize comprehensive opioid  
832 recovery centers that provide wrap-around support to people  
833 in recovery from addiction.

834           And while I support the other bills that are being  
835 considered today, I think it is a stain on this committee's  
836 bipartisan reputation that we are dividing up the legislation

837 we worked on last Congress. We are going to work on a lot of  
838 partisan things this Congress, but these bipartisan bills  
839 should already be law.

840 And look, I think one of the things people on the other  
841 side of the aisle like -- reasons that they like working with  
842 me is because I have been willing to speak up against people  
843 on my side when I think they are wrong. That means sometimes  
844 environmental groups, that means sometimes labor groups.  
845 That means sometimes President Biden. And I didn't do that  
846 out of any sense of disloyalty or personal animus toward  
847 President Biden. But when I thought his policies were wrong,  
848 I spoke up.

849 So I don't blame Elon Musk or Grover Norquist or Newt  
850 Gingrich or Tucker Carlson for anything that happens here. I  
851 think it is on all of us who have a vote here to stand up for  
852 the work we do here. And we had a package that should be  
853 law. We all agreed on it. It should be law. And because of  
854 this outside objection, frankly, the Republicans just folded  
855 up. And I think this is an opportunity to make good on your  
856 promises to stand behind the work of this committee, to stand  
857 behind the work of Congress and the role of Congress. And we  
858 need you. We can't do it just as Democrats.

859 We were all independently elected to office on the same  
860 day as Donald Trump was. And, you know, today we have got  
861 tariffs, we have got a president who says he doesn't care if

862 car prices go up. We have got -- we are going to pretend --  
863 this week the Senate's pretending that extending tax cuts  
864 that were temporary in 2017 doesn't cost any money. They are  
865 going to pretend that. We have got measles. You all need to  
866 step up. And you don't have to -- you could still support  
867 President Trump, you could still work to make sure he is  
868 successful. But we have got to ask you to stand up for what  
869 is right as Members of Congress independently elected to do  
870 your job.

871 As I have said before, we work with presidents, we don't  
872 work for presidents. Let's do our jobs.

873 I yield.

874 \*The Chair. The gentleman yields back. The gentlelady  
875 from Massachusetts seeks recognition for five minutes to  
876 speak on the amendment.

877 \*Mrs. Trahan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
878 strike the last word in support of the amendment.

879 \*The Chair. The gentlelady is recognized.

880 \*Mrs. Trahan. So once again we find ourselves having to  
881 shine a light on a package of bipartisan bills that should  
882 already be law. This amendment is an opportunity for my  
883 colleagues across the aisle to get back to governing. This  
884 package of bills contains thoughtful, bipartisan work that  
885 almost every single one of you supported last Congress, bills  
886 to make it easier for children battling rare diseases to

887 cross state lines for the lifesaving care that they need, to  
888 reinvest in children's cancer research, and to advance  
889 solutions to pediatric diseases 95 percent of which currently  
890 have no treatments or cures for our children.

891       This package passed overwhelmingly in this committee.  
892 But as my colleagues have mentioned, when this package was  
893 included in the bipartisan spending deal at the end of last  
894 year Elon Musk demanded that it be stripped out. And not a  
895 single one of my colleagues across the aisle spoke up. You  
896 didn't make a call asking for it to be put back in. You  
897 didn't threaten to vote against the package. You left these  
898 bills and the kids who are depending on us to pass them out  
899 to dry. And now you are allowing the administration to fire  
900 critical HHS staff who would be implementing the very  
901 policies that we are debating today.

902       You know, this committee has put its head in the sand  
903 while the Health and Human Services Department that we have  
904 direct oversight of is being dismantled without a single  
905 hearing on the matter. And what has the majority decided to  
906 do instead? Maybe, maybe a closed-door briefing that only  
907 half of the committee gets to attend and ask questions. That  
908 is not oversight. It is not transparency. And it sure as  
909 hell isn't accountability.

910       The truth is it is hard to trust our Republican  
911 colleagues to join us to move bipartisan legislation that

912 helps our constituents. You all fold to the whims of the  
913 President and his billionaire donors, rather than working  
914 across the aisle to stand up against these deeply harmful  
915 firings and cuts.

916       The American people deserve elected officials who are  
917 serious about lowering costs and improving lives, not  
918 servants to the president at the expense of good policy and  
919 good governance. So I support this amendment. I support  
920 this package, as we all did just a few months ago.

921       And I yield back.

922       \*The Chair. Thank you. The gentlelady yields back.  
923 Does any person on the Republican -- anybody on the Democrat  
924 side seeking recognition?

925       Seeing none, seeing no further discussion, the vote  
926 occurs on the amendment.

927       The gentleman asked for a roll call vote. And the roll  
928 call being requested, the clerk will call the roll.

929       \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

930       [No response.]

931       \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith?

932       \*Mr. Griffith. No.

933       \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes no.

934       Mr. Bilirakis?

935       \*Mr. Bilirakis. No.

936       \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes no.

937 Mr. Hudson?

938 \*Mr. Hudson. No.

939 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes no.

940 Mr. Carter of Georgia?

941 \*Mr. Carter of Georgia. No.

942 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia votes no.

943 Mr. Palmer?

944 [No response.]

945 \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn?

946 \*Mr. Dunn. No.

947 \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes no.

948 Mr. Crenshaw?

949 [No response.]

950 \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce?

951 [No response.]

952 \*The Clerk. Mr. Weber?

953 \*Mr. Weber. No.

954 \*The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes no.

955 Mr. Allen?

956 \*Mr. Allen. No.

957 \*The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes no.

958 Mr. Balderson?

959 [No response.]

960 \*The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher?

961 \*Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher, no.

962           \*The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes no.  
963           Mr. Pfluger?  
964           \*Mr. Pfluger. No.  
965           \*The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes no.  
966           Mrs. Harshbarger?  
967           \*Mrs. Harshbarger. No.  
968           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes no.  
969           Mrs. Miller-Meeks?  
970           [No response.]  
971           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack?  
972           \*Mrs. Cammack. No.  
973           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes no.  
974           Mr. Obernolte?  
975           [No response.]  
976           \*The Clerk. Mr. James?  
977           \*Mr. James. No.  
978           \*The Clerk. Mr. James votes no.  
979           Mr. Bentz?  
980           \*Mr. Bentz. No.  
981           \*The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes no.  
982           Mrs. Houchin?  
983           [No response.]  
984           \*The Clerk. Mr. Fry?  
985           \*Mr. Fry. No.  
986           \*The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes no.

987 Ms. Lee?  
988 [No response.]  
989 \*The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?  
990 \*Mr. Langworthy. No.  
991 \*The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes no.  
992 Mr. Kean?  
993 \*Mr. Kean. No.  
994 \*The Clerk. Mr. Kean votes no.  
995 Mr. Rulli?  
996 \*Mr. Rulli. No.  
997 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes no.  
998 Mr. Evans?  
999 \*Mr. Evans. No.  
1000 \*The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes no.  
1001 Mr. Goldman?  
1002 \*Mr. Goldman. No.  
1003 \*The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes no.  
1004 Mrs. Fedorchak?  
1005 \*Mrs. Fedorchak. No.  
1006 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes no.  
1007 Mr. Pallone?  
1008 \*Mr. Pallone. Aye.  
1009 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes aye.  
1010 Ms. DeGette?  
1011 \*Ms. DeGette. Aye.

1012           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes aye.  
1013           Ms. Schakowsky?  
1014           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   Aye.  
1015           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.  
1016           Ms. Matsui?  
1017           \*Ms. Matsui.   Aye.  
1018           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes aye.  
1019           Ms. Castor?  
1020           \*Ms. Castor.   Aye.  
1021           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Castor votes aye.  
1022           Mr. Tonko?  
1023           \*Mr. Tonko.   Absolutely, aye.  
1024           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Tonko votes aye.  
1025           Ms. Clarke?  
1026           \*Ms. Clarke.   Aye.  
1027           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Clarke votes aye.  
1028           Mr. Ruiz?  
1029           \*Mr. Ruiz.   Aye.  
1030           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Ruiz votes aye.  
1031           Mr. Peters?  
1032           \*Mr. Peters.   Aye.  
1033           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Peters votes aye.  
1034           Mrs. Dingell?  
1035           \*Mrs. Dingell.   Aye.  
1036           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Dingell votes aye.

1037 Mr. Veasey?  
1038 \*Mr. Veasey. Aye.  
1039 \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes aye.  
1040 Ms. Kelly?  
1041 [No response.]  
1042 \*The Clerk. Ms. Barragan?  
1043 [No response.]  
1044 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto?  
1045 \*Mr. Soto. Aye.  
1046 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.  
1047 Ms. Schrier?  
1048 \*Ms. Schrier. Aye.  
1049 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.  
1050 Mrs. Trahan?  
1051 \*Mrs. Trahan. Aye.  
1052 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.  
1053 Mrs. Fletcher?  
1054 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Aye.  
1055 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.  
1056 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?  
1057 \*Ms. Ocasio-Cortez. Aye.  
1058 \*The Clerk. Ms. Ocasio-Cortez votes aye.  
1059 Mr. Auchincloss?  
1060 \*Mr. Auchincloss. Aye.  
1061 \*The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.

1062 Mr. Carter of Louisiana?  
1063 \*Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Aye.  
1064 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes aye.  
1065 Mr. Menendez?  
1066 \*Mr. Menendez. Aye.  
1067 \*The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes aye.  
1068 Mr. Mullin?  
1069 \*Mr. Mullin. Aye.  
1070 \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
1071 Mr. Landsman?  
1072 \*Mr. Landsman. Aye.  
1073 \*The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes aye.  
1074 Ms. McClellan?  
1075 \*Ms. McClellan. Aye.  
1076 \*The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes aye.  
1077 Chairman Guthrie?  
1078 \*The Chair. Chairman Guthrie votes no.  
1079 \*The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes no.  
1080 \*The Chair. Mr. Latta?  
1081 \*Mr. Latta. Latta votes no.  
1082 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes no.  
1083 \*The Chair. Mr. Palmer?  
1084 \*Mr. Palmer. Palmer votes no.  
1085 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes no.  
1086 \*The Chair. Mr. Crenshaw?

1087           \*Mr. Crenshaw. Crenshaw votes no.  
1088           \*The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes no.  
1089           \*The Chair. Dr. Joyce?  
1090           \*Mr. Joyce. Votes no.  
1091           \*The Chair. Mr. Obernolte?  
1092           \*Mr. Obernolte. Obernolte, no.  
1093           \*The Chair. Mr. Balderson?  
1094           \*Mr. Balderson. No.  
1095           \*The Chair. Ms. Kelly?  
1096           \*Ms. Kelly. Kelly votes aye.  
1097           \*The Chair. Did you get all those?  
1098           \*Mr. Griffith. Mr. Chairman? Mr. Chairman, how am I  
1099 recorded?  
1100           \*The Chair. Mr. Griffith?  
1101           \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith is recorded no.  
1102           \*The Chair. Anyone?  
1103           Seeing none, the clerk will report.  
1104           \*Mr. Bilirakis. Mr. Chairman?  
1105           \*The Chair. Yes, the gentleman --  
1106           \*Mr. Bilirakis. Mr. Chairman --  
1107           \*The Chair. I am sorry, the gentleman from Florida.  
1108           \*Mr. Bilirakis. Yes, I am inquiring as to how I voted.  
1109           \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis voted no.  
1110           \*Mr. Bilirakis. Thank you.  
1111           \*The Chair. The gentleman -- okay, so the gentleman

1112 will report.

1113       \*The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie, on that vote there were  
1114 27 noes and 23 ayes.

1115       \*The Chair. With 27 noes and 23 ayes, the amendment is  
1116 not agreed to.

1117       Are there any further amendments?

1118       \*Mr. Pallone. Mr. Chairman, may I ask you a question?

1119       \*The Chair. Yes, you may. The gentleman is recognized.

1120       \*Mr. Pallone. As you know, I have concerns that moving  
1121 the end-of-the-year bill separately could result in  
1122 Republican-led bills moving to the floor and Democratic-led  
1123 bills being left behind. I know this isn't your intention,  
1124 but I do worry about the Republican leadership. So, as I  
1125 mentioned, that is why we continue to be frustrated that  
1126 these bills -- or that is one of the reasons we are  
1127 frustrated that these bills did not become law last Congress,  
1128 and that we are not moving them as a package today.

1129       My staff raised these concerns with your staff in  
1130 preparation for the markup, and I know that your staff sent  
1131 us an email, and I want to make sure I understand the path  
1132 forward. According to the staff email, we understand that  
1133 floor staff confirmed that all the CMT bills and the cat  
1134 bills would be on the floor, likely under suspension, but on  
1135 the same day, and that it was an agreement with Mr. Scalise  
1136 and the leadership that that would happen, that they would

1137 all move on the floor the same day.

1138           So I was just going to ask you, is that your  
1139 understanding? Is that our path forward?

1140           \*The Chair. So yes, so your staff -- to bring that to  
1141 our attention -- we talked to the leaders. The leader has  
1142 given us a commitment that the bills, regardless of who the  
1143 sponsor is, that we are passing today will come to the floor.  
1144 These are bills that we all agree on.

1145           And I understand your concern, but I do have a  
1146 commitment that it will go to the floor. And I will also  
1147 commit to you that I will work with our Senate colleagues  
1148 once these pass the floor, and with the White House to see  
1149 that the bills, regardless of the party of the sponsor, are  
1150 signed into law.

1151           \*Mr. Pallone. But let me ask you -- I appreciate that,  
1152 but let me ask you -- I don't have the email in front of me,  
1153 but -- I don't want to be a stickler for the email, but my  
1154 understanding is we are talking about the same day, that they  
1155 are going to be brought up the same day. Is that accurate?

1156           \*The Chair. My understanding, that is the commitment,  
1157 probably mostly under suspension since there are so many  
1158 bills. But yes, they will -- that is the commitment. And I  
1159 will commit to you that there will be -- the Democrat bills  
1160 will be included in whatever process the floor does. It will  
1161 be Democrat and Republican bills together, and I have the

1162 commitment from the leader to do that.

1163       \*Mr. Pallone. Well, I appreciate that. Thank you for  
1164 that confirmation. And as we have all said, we look forward  
1165 to continuing to work on these bills this Congress. Thank  
1166 you, Mr. Chairman.

1167       \*The Chair. Thank you.

1168       So no -- seeing no further amendments, does anyone want  
1169 to speak on the bill?

1170       The gentlelady from Massachusetts.

1171       \*Mrs. Trahan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
1172 strike the last word in support of the bill.

1173       \*The Chair. The gentlelady is recognized.

1174       \*Mrs. Trahan. Thank you.

1175       I introduced the bipartisan Youth Poisoning Protection  
1176 Act to address an alarming and growing public health crisis:  
1177 the promotion and use of sodium nitrite, a dangerous and  
1178 toxic chemical, as a method for suicide. Three years ago The  
1179 New York Times brought to light a disturbing trend, an online  
1180 suicide assistance forum hidden in the dark corners of the  
1181 Internet are actively encouraging individuals to take their  
1182 own lives. These forums have been instrumental in the rise  
1183 of suicides using sodium nitrite, a chemical that, in its  
1184 safe, low-concentration form, is often used to cure meat and  
1185 fish. However, in high concentrations sodium nitrite becomes  
1186 highly toxic at levels comparable to cyanide.

1187           If the story ended there, it would still be tragic but,  
1188       sadly, it gets even worse. While anonymous users of these  
1189       online forums tout sodium nitrite as a painless way to end  
1190       one's life, survivors of this method share a very different,  
1191       haunting reality. They describe excruciating experiences:  
1192       nausea, vomiting, severe stomach pain, heart palpitations as  
1193       the poison deprives the body of vital oxygen.

1194           When my office became aware of the growing availability  
1195       of this substance as a suicide method, we acted immediately.  
1196       Many websites we contacted took swift action to remove  
1197       listings for sodium nitrite or to restrict sales to  
1198       businesses with legitimate, proven uses for it. But despite  
1199       these efforts, there are still bad actors out there, websites  
1200       designed specifically to sell this poison as part of a  
1201       suicide kit, preying on individuals in their darkest moments.

1202           Unfortunately, there are currently no Federal laws that  
1203       can effectively stop these dangerous transactions. The Youth  
1204       Poisoning Protection Act changes that. This legislation  
1205       would prohibit the sale of sodium nitrite to consumers in  
1206       concentrations higher than 10 percent, the threshold  
1207       established by independent experts for safe use.

1208           This bill is not aimed at affecting legitimate business  
1209       operations. Some businesses, like those that cure meat or  
1210       fish in large quantities, require high-concentrated sodium  
1211       nitrite as part of their process. This bill does not disrupt

1212 those operations. Its sole focus is on preventing the direct  
1213 sale of highly-concentrated sodium nitrite to consumers,  
1214 specifically stopping the bad actors who are exploiting  
1215 vulnerable individuals by promoting this deadly chemical for  
1216 suicide.

1217         This is a straightforward solution with the potential to  
1218 save countless lives. I urge all members of this committee  
1219 to join us in supporting this essential bipartisan  
1220 legislation that was advanced through this committee and  
1221 passed overwhelmingly on the House floor last year. It is  
1222 simple. It is an effective step toward saving lives. And I  
1223 believe we have a shared responsibility to protect the most  
1224 vulnerable among us.

1225         Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield back the balance of my  
1226 time.

1227         \*The Chair. Thank you. The gentlelady yields back. Is  
1228 there any further discussion on the bill?

1229         Seeing none, the question now occurs on adopting H.R.  
1230 1442.

1231         All those in favor, say aye.

1232         All those opposed, no.

1233         I am sorry, a roll call has been requested, so the clerk  
1234 will call the roll.

1235         \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

1236         [No response.]

1237           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Griffith?  
1238           \*Mr. Griffith.   Aye.  
1239           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Griffith votes aye.  
1240           Mr. Bilirakis?  
1241           \*Mr. Bilirakis.   Aye.  
1242           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.  
1243           Mr. Hudson?  
1244           \*Mr. Hudson.   Aye.  
1245           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Hudson votes aye.  
1246           Mr. Carter of Georgia?  
1247           [No response.]  
1248           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Palmer?  
1249           [No response.]  
1250           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn?  
1251           \*Mr. Dunn.   Aye.  
1252           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn votes aye.  
1253           Mr. Crenshaw?  
1254           [No response.]  
1255           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce?  
1256           \*Mr. Joyce.   Aye.  
1257           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce votes aye.  
1258           Mr. Weber?  
1259           \*Mr. Weber.   Aye.  
1260           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Weber votes aye.  
1261           Mr. Allen?

1262           \*Mr. Allen.   Aye.  
1263           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Allen votes aye.  
1264           Mr. Balderson?  
1265           [No response.]  
1266           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Balderson?  
1267           \*Mr. Balderson.   Aye.  
1268           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Balderson votes aye.  
1269           Mr. Fulcher?  
1270           \*Mr. Fulcher.   Fulcher is aye.  
1271           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Fulcher votes aye.  
1272           Mr. Pfluger?  
1273           \*Mr. Pfluger.   Aye.  
1274           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pfluger votes aye.  
1275           Mrs. Harshbarger?  
1276           \*Mrs. Harshbarger.   Aye.  
1277           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Harshbarger votes aye.  
1278           Mrs. Miller-Meeks?  
1279           \*Mrs. Miller-Meeks.   Aye.  
1280           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes aye/  
1281           Mrs. Cammack?  
1282           \*Mrs. Cammack.   Aye.  
1283           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Cammack votes aye.  
1284           Mr. Obernolte?  
1285           \*Mr. Obernolte.   Aye.  
1286           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Obernolte votes aye.

1287 Mr. James?  
1288 \*Mr. James. Aye.  
1289 \*The Clerk. Mr. James votes aye.  
1290 Mr. Bentz?  
1291 \*Mr. Bentz. Aye.  
1292 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes aye.  
1293 Mrs. Houchin?  
1294 \*Mrs. Houchin. Aye.  
1295 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes aye.  
1296 Mr. Fry?  
1297 \*Mr. Fry. Aye.  
1298 \*The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes aye.  
1299 Ms. Lee?  
1300 [No response.]  
1301 \*The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?  
1302 \*Mr. Langworthy. Aye.  
1303 \*The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes aye.  
1304 Mr. Kean?  
1305 \*Mr. Kean. Aye.  
1306 \*The Clerk. Mr. Kean votes aye.  
1307 Mr. Rulli?  
1308 \*Mr. Rulli. Aye.  
1309 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes aye.  
1310 Mr. Evans?  
1311 \*Mr. Evans. Aye.

1312           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Evans votes aye.  
1313           Mr. Goldman?  
1314           \*Mr. Goldman.   Aye.  
1315           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Goldman votes aye.  
1316           Mrs. Fedorchak?  
1317           \*Mrs. Fedorchak.   Aye.  
1318           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fedorchak votes aye.  
1319           Mr. Pallone?  
1320           \*Mr. Pallone.   Aye.  
1321           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pallone votes aye.  
1322           Ms. DeGette?  
1323           \*Ms. DeGette.   Aye.  
1324           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes aye.  
1325           Ms. Schakowsky?  
1326           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   Aye.  
1327           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.  
1328           Ms. Matsui?  
1329           \*Ms. Matsui.   Aye.  
1330           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes aye.  
1331           Ms. Castor?  
1332           \*Ms. Castor.   Aye.  
1333           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Castor votes aye.  
1334           Mr. Tonko?  
1335           \*Mr. Tonko.   Aye.  
1336           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Tonko votes aye.

1337 Ms. Clarke?  
1338 \*Ms. Clarke. No.  
1339 \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.  
1340 Mr. Ruiz?  
1341 \*Mr. Ruiz. Aye.  
1342 \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes aye.  
1343 Mr. Peters?  
1344 \*Mr. Peters. Aye.  
1345 \*The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes aye.  
1346 Mrs. Dingell?  
1347 \*Mrs. Dingell. Aye.  
1348 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes aye.  
1349 Mr. Veasey?  
1350 \*Mr. Veasey. Aye.  
1351 \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes aye.  
1352 Ms. Kelly?  
1353 \*Ms. Kelly. Aye.  
1354 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes aye.  
1355 Ms. Barragan?  
1356 [No response.]  
1357 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto?  
1358 \*Mr. Soto. Aye.  
1359 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.  
1360 Ms. Schrier?  
1361 \*Ms. Schrier. Aye.

1362           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schrier votes aye.  
1363           Mrs. Trahan?  
1364           \*Mrs. Trahan.   Aye.  
1365           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Trahan votes aye.  
1366           Mrs. Fletcher?  
1367           \*Mrs. Fletcher.   Aye.  
1368           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.  
1369           Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?  
1370           \*Ms. Ocasio-Cortez.   Aye.  
1371           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Ocasio-Cortez votes aye.  
1372           Mr. Auchincloss?  
1373           \*Mr. Auchincloss.   Aye.  
1374           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.  
1375           Mr. Carter of Louisiana?  
1376           \*Mr. Carter of Louisiana.   Aye.  
1377           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes aye.  
1378           Mr. Menendez?  
1379           \*Mr. Menendez.   Aye.  
1380           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Menendez votes aye.  
1381           Mr. Mullin?  
1382           \*Mr. Mullin.   Aye.  
1383           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
1384           Mr. Landsman?  
1385           \*Mr. Landsman.   Aye.  
1386           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Landsman votes aye.

1387 Ms. McClellan?

1388 \*Ms. McClellan. Aye.

1389 \*The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes aye.

1390 Chairman Guthrie?

1391 \*The Chair. Aye.

1392 \*The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes aye.

1393 \*The Chair. Mr. Latta?

1394 \*Mr. Latta. Latta votes aye.

1395 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

1396 \*The Chair. Mr. Palmer?

1397 \*Mr. Palmer. Palmer votes aye.

1398 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.

1399 \*The Chair. Mr. Carter?

1400 \*Mr. Carter of Georgia. Carter votes aye.

1401 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia votes aye.

1402 \*The Chair. Seeing no one else, the clerk will report.

1403 \*The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie, on that vote there were

1404 50 ayes and 1 no.

1405 \*The Chair. The ayes -- excuse me. The chair calls up

1406 973, and asks the clerk to report.

1407 \*The Clerk. H.R. 973 --

1408 \*The Chair. Without objection, the first reading of the

1409 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for

1410 amendment at any point.

1411 So ordered.

1412           [The bill follows:]

1413

1414       \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

1415

1416           \*The Chair. Does anybody seek recognition on the bill?

1417           \*Mr. Pallone. Ms. Clarke.

1418           \*The Chair. Ms. -- the gentlelady from New York is  
1419 recognized for five minutes to speak on the bill.

1420           \*Ms. Clarke. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
1421 word.

1422           \*The Chair. The gentlelady is recognized.

1423           \*Ms. Clarke. Thank you.

1424           \*The Chair. What happened to my --

1425           \*Ms. Clarke. I am a proud cosponsor and co-lead of H.R.  
1426 973, legislation that serves as a solution to a problem that  
1427 we in this committee and Americans across the country agree  
1428 is desperately needed, just as I was proud to join with  
1429 Congressman Torres in supporting this bill last Congress, and  
1430 I am grateful for his continued leadership.

1431           And while my belief in this bill's necessity remains  
1432 absolute, I am simply stunned that it is not already law.  
1433 The leaders of this committee, along with a bicameral,  
1434 bipartisan group of congressional leaders negotiated an end-  
1435 of-year package that included this very legislation along  
1436 with a number of other bills being considered at today's  
1437 markup. Democrats and Republicans were ready and willing to  
1438 pass this legislative package, most of which went through the  
1439 regular order in December of 2024.

1440           The only reason these bills are not already law is

1441 because they were killed on the orders of one man, Elon Musk.  
1442 One man, through one tweet, was all it took to undermine  
1443 months of painstaking bipartisan negotiations to advance the  
1444 priorities of both parties. I can't tell you if it was fear,  
1445 fealty, foolishness, or just an infatuation with chaos. All  
1446 I know is that one social media post from the wealthiest man  
1447 in the world -- in world history, who also just so happens to  
1448 be Donald Trump's biggest financial supporter, and my  
1449 Republican colleagues shriveled up and allowed an  
1450 ineffective, embarrassing bill to pass. And now they have  
1451 the audacity to ask us to sit here today and pretend that  
1452 everything is normal. It is not.

1453 I refuse to accept this scam of a status quo. I will no  
1454 longer sit back and trade support for each other's bills, let  
1455 House GOP leadership use that bipartisan support to fill up  
1456 the suspension calendar with only Republican bills and then  
1457 simply hope and pray that Elon Musk -- or whoever the  
1458 preferred billionaire of the day -- is willing to permit  
1459 Democratic bills to move forward. I am done with waiting on  
1460 Republicans to magically regrow the backbone Donald Trump  
1461 ripped from their bodies. I am done letting my support for  
1462 common-sense legislation at the committee level be used as  
1463 cover to advance Republican priorities while Democratic bills  
1464 and Democratic priorities are left to rot or die because that  
1465 is what the oligarch class ordered.

1466           We are in crisis, and we need to act like it. We are  
1467 being led by an administration run by a convicted felon and  
1468 his Nazi-saluting billionaire sidekick, an administration  
1469 that routinely and proudly seeks to bend, circumvent, and  
1470 straight up ignore the rule of law, the Constitution, and  
1471 even Federal court rulings whenever any of them stand in the  
1472 way of their goals. And all the while, my colleagues across  
1473 the aisle say nothing and do nothing.

1474           This administration fires dozens of inspector generals,  
1475 the very people responsible for finding the waste, fraud, and  
1476 abuse they pretend to care so deeply about. What is the  
1477 response? Silence.

1478           This administration tries to illegally fire Democratic  
1479 FTC commissioners to ensure no dissenting views are  
1480 represented on the Commission. And what is the response?  
1481 Silence.

1482           This administration weaponizes once-independent agencies  
1483 to serve as their own personal enforcers to shake down law  
1484 firms. And what is the response? Silence.

1485           The lawlessness and disregard for the lives of those  
1486 impacted by this administration is only escalating. And  
1487 enough is enough. Business as usual for me is over. So  
1488 while I still believe in this bill, and while I support a  
1489 number of the other bills in this markup on the merits, if my  
1490 Republican colleagues want the ability to say their bills

1491 passed through this committee unanimously, sorry to  
1492 disappoint, but that time is over. I will be voting no on  
1493 every bill today, and will continue to do so until we return  
1494 to something approaching normalcy and the Democratic bills  
1495 receive their deserved consideration.

1496 With that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my  
1497 time.

1498 \*The Chair. Thank you. The gentlelady from New York  
1499 yields back. The gentleman from New York is recognized to  
1500 speak on the bill.

1501 \*Mr. Langworthy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1502 The safety of the American consumers must always come  
1503 first, and that -- to remain true when looking at the rising  
1504 appeal of e-mobility devices. Rechargeable lithium ion  
1505 batteries are everywhere. They power e-bikes and scooters,  
1506 and they are all over New York City and every other major  
1507 city in this country.

1508 But far too many of these batteries are cheaply made  
1509 overseas, particularly in China, with little regard for  
1510 safety. The flood of shoddily-manufactured lithium ion  
1511 batteries into the United States with no serious safety  
1512 standards has led to deadly fires and explosions, and has  
1513 even led to the deaths of innocent people and first  
1514 responders. In New York City alone these batteries have  
1515 caused 850 fires since 2021, resulting in more than 450

1516 injuries and 34 tragic deaths. Just this year, 279 e-  
1517 mobility fires have been reported already, a staggering  
1518 increase from 44 in 2020.

1519       And this problem isn't just limited to New York. Across  
1520 the country families have been left homeless and first  
1521 responders put in danger by low-quality batteries powering  
1522 many of these e-bikes and scooters. H.R. 973, the Setting  
1523 Consumer Standards for Lithium Ion Batteries Act, sponsored  
1524 by my colleague Representative Ritchie Torres, is a common-  
1525 sense solution that will set clear safety standards for  
1526 rechargeable lithium ion batteries used in e-mobility  
1527 devices, ensuring that only safe, tested products reach  
1528 American consumers.

1529       I am proud to co-lead this legislation, and I urge my  
1530 colleagues to support the bill. H.R. 973 protects American  
1531 consumers and first responders from dangerous, even life-  
1532 threatening products from overseas in China.

1533       And with that I yield back.

1534       \*The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there  
1535 further discussion on the bill?

1536       Seeing none, the question now occurs on adopting H.R.  
1537 973.

1538       All those in favor, say aye.

1539       Those opposed, no.

1540       The ayes have it, and the bill is agreed to.

1541           The chair calls up H.R. 633, and asks the clerk to  
1542 report.

1543           \*The Clerk. H.R. 633, a bill to require covered  
1544 platforms to remove --

1545           \*The Chair. Without objection, the first reading of the  
1546 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for  
1547 amendment at any point.

1548           So ordered.

1549           [The bill follows:]

1550

1551           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

1552

1553           \*The Chair. Does anyone seek to be recognized on the  
1554 bill?

1555           Who is on the other side?

1556           [Pause.]

1557           \*The Chair. The gentleman from Texas. The gentleman  
1558 from Texas is recognized for five minutes to speak on the  
1559 bill.

1560           \*Mr. Pfluger. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will pull my  
1561 notes up.

1562           I rise in support of the TAKE IT DOWN Act, and am deeply  
1563 concerned about the rise in deepfake pornographic images in  
1564 the United States that destroy innocent lives, as well as the  
1565 inconsistent -- or rather non-existent -- legislation to  
1566 protect victims of this egregious act at a state level.

1567           This bill is a critical step to solve this problem and  
1568 protect innocent victims of non-consensual intimate imagery,  
1569 and we have heard time and again of the horrific stories of  
1570 people ranging from celebrities to 14-year-old girls that  
1571 have been victimized by this harmful content by strangers or  
1572 even their peers. And while AI has the potential to be  
1573 harnessed for incredible things, there are far too many  
1574 predators out there who abuse its power to exploit innocent  
1575 people, which is why Congress must implement decisive Federal  
1576 guidelines.

1577           Myself, as a father of three girls, it is sickening, it

1578 is harmful, and it must stop. Big tech will not remain  
1579 complicit anymore. They will take it down.

1580       This common-sense legislation is simple, and should be a  
1581 no-brainer to support. It would criminalize the publication  
1582 of non-consensual, sexually exploitative images, including  
1583 AI-generated deepfakes, and require platforms to remove them.  
1584 This legislation has also been narrowly crafted to ensure  
1585 that it does not affect consensual and constitutionally  
1586 protected speech, which brings me back to the fact that this  
1587 should be a no-brainer to support.

1588       And if anyone here is on the fence about this  
1589 legislation, I urge you to put yourself in the shoes of your  
1590 daughter, your wife, your sister, or anyone who has fallen  
1591 victim to these egregious acts.

1592       The TAKE IT DOWN Act has not only passed the Senate  
1593 unanimously, but President Trump and First Lady Melania Trump  
1594 have openly supported this legislation.

1595       I am proud to be one of the House co-leads on this  
1596 bipartisan, bicameral effort to prevent explicit material  
1597 from circulating and harming innocent victims. And of all  
1598 the things that we do in Congress, I think this Act, this  
1599 TAKE IT DOWN Act, in a bipartisan fashion, can move the  
1600 needle to protect innocent people, can move the needle to  
1601 protect our sisters, our daughters, our wives, and anyone who  
1602 has been taken advantage of.

1603 I urge both Republicans and Democrats on this committee  
1604 to support this legislation and get it swiftly signed into  
1605 law.

1606 And I yield back.

1607 \*The Chair. The gentleman yields back. The gentleman  
1608 from California -- the gentlelady from Florida is first. The  
1609 gentlelady from Florida is recognized --

1610 \*Ms. Castor. I have an amendment at the desk.

1611 \*The Chair. Do you want to speak on the bill or an  
1612 amendment -- do you want to speak on the bill?

1613 \*Ms. Castor. I have an amendment --

1614 \*The Chair. The gentleman from --

1615 \*Mr. Ruiz. I want to speak on the bill.

1616 \*The Chair. Okay, speak on the bill and then we will --  
1617 the gentlelady from Florida --

1618 \*Ms. Castor. All right.

1619 \*The Chair. -- I will go -- you have a -- speak on the  
1620 bill, as well?

1621 All right, the gentleman from California is recognized  
1622 to --

1623 \*Mr. Ruiz. Thank you, Mr. Chairman --

1624 \*The Chair. -- speak on the bill.

1625 \*Mr. Ruiz. -- I move to strike the last word on the  
1626 bill.

1627 The TAKE IT DOWN Act is a critical step in protecting

1628 individuals, especially our children, from the devastating  
1629 consequences of online exploitation. As a father of twin 10-  
1630 year-old daughters who are just beginning to explore the  
1631 digital world, I worry constantly about the risks they face.  
1632 The idea that they could be exposed, harassed, or exploited  
1633 online is terrifying.

1634       Every day intimate images are weaponized without  
1635 consent, causing lasting harm. According to the Cyber Civil  
1636 Rights Initiative, 1 in 12 U.S. adults have been impacted by  
1637 the non-consensual sharing of intimate images; 90 percent of  
1638 them are women.

1639       This crisis is even more dire for children. In 2023 the  
1640 National Center for Missing and Exploited Children received  
1641 over 32 million reports of online child sexual exploitation.  
1642 Even more troubling, cases of sextortion, where minors are  
1643 coerced into sharing explicit images, have surged by 322  
1644 percent since 2019. Young people are especially vulnerable  
1645 in the digital age where a single mistake or moment of trust  
1646 can lead to a lifetime of trauma.

1647       Sadly, this is not something that is only happening in  
1648 one part of the country; it is affecting victims everywhere.  
1649 Last week in the Coachella Valley, where my district is  
1650 located, a deeply disturbing case has come to light. A  
1651 Reddit page appeared it was dedicated to seeking, posting,  
1652 and trading intimate images of women without their consent.

1653

1654 This group does not stop at violating women's privacy. It  
1655 also shares their full names and locations, putting their  
1656 safety at grave risk. Even more disturbingly, this operation  
1657 has moved to a private Telegram group, where the predatory  
1658 behavior has escalated unchecked.

1659 This page should have never been allowed to exist, and  
1660 it probably wouldn't have if the TAKE IT DOWN Act had been  
1661 signed into law in the December 2024 end-of-year package,  
1662 like it was intended. But instead of putting our children's  
1663 safety first, Republicans chose President Trump and Musk's  
1664 petty politics over protecting victims and children. They  
1665 decided to take it down, following Musk's orders. And  
1666 because of that inaction, individuals continue to suffer,  
1667 these predators continue to exploit, and our communities  
1668 continue to live in fear.

1669 That said, we must go further. We need to design  
1670 digital platforms that protect children's privacy from the  
1671 start. That is why we must also consider the Senate's Kids  
1672 Online Safety Act, or KOSA, which puts the responsibility  
1673 where it belongs, on tech companies, to make their platforms  
1674 safer in the first place. Because while removing -- removal  
1675 is essential, prevention is just as critical.

1676 And I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to  
1677 support the TAKE IT DOWN Act and urge a vote on KOSA to end

1678 this digital abuse now. So let's do the right thing.

1679 I yield back.

1680 \*The Chair. The gentleman yields back. The chair will  
1681 recognize the gentleman from Georgia for five minutes to  
1682 speak on the bill.

1683 \*Mr. Carter of Georgia. I move to strike the last word.

1684 \*The Chair. The gentleman is recognized.

1685 \*Mr. Carter of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I would like to  
1686 express my support for H.R. 633, the TAKE IT DOWN Act, which  
1687 will protect all Americans from vengeful, deepfake  
1688 pornography that is produced and promoted against their will.

1689 AI has been revolutionary thus far, and has offered a  
1690 golden pathway to further innovation and technology that can  
1691 improve and even save lives. Unfortunately, the advancement  
1692 of AI has also opened new doors to ruin people's lives with  
1693 malicious, lewd, and pornographic content. Revenge porn is  
1694 something that no one should ever be subjected to, as it has  
1695 led to the destruction of lives and the dreadful outcome of  
1696 suicide for some. We must give our nation's children  
1697 protection from these AI-generated deep fakes.

1698 This bill will criminalize the publication of non-  
1699 consensual exploitative images, including AI deepfakes. This  
1700 law will provide a strict framework for social media and  
1701 other online platforms to swiftly remove deepfakes and other  
1702 pornographic material in 48 hours or less.

1703 I am happy to support the TAKE IT DOWN Act out of the  
1704 Energy and Commerce Committee today, and I would also like to  
1705 thank Senator Cruz and the First Lady for their advocacy on  
1706 this piece of legislation.

1707 It is time we all work together to empower victims and  
1708 help them take it down.

1709 Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I will yield back.

1710 \*The Chair. The gentleman yields back. The chair  
1711 recognizes to speak on the bill Mrs. Dingell from Michigan.

1712 \*Mrs. Dingell. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I move to strike  
1713 the last --

1714 \*The Chair. The gentlelady is recognized.

1715 \*Mrs. Dingell. I am a proud co-lead of this bipartisan,  
1716 bicameral TAKE IT DOWN Act, which recently passed the Senate  
1717 unanimously. And I want to thank Representatives Salazar,  
1718 Dean, and Pfluger, as well as Senators Cruz and Klobuchar for  
1719 their leadership on this critical issue.

1720 Let's be clear. This bill should already be law. Last  
1721 year, this bill was included in the end-of-the-year budget  
1722 package until it was stripped out because some of my  
1723 colleagues caved to outside pressure. I am glad to see them  
1724 say they are supporting it today, and I hope they will stay  
1725 strong if somebody tries to cause problems again.

1726 And while I do support this bill, I will offer an  
1727 amendment today -- and others are going to, as well, which

1728 will make it even stronger for those who need protections the  
1729 most. I hope my colleagues will consider them before they  
1730 automatically reject them. We have to work together to  
1731 protect women and children from new and evolving threats.

1732 As artificial intelligence advances, so do new forms of  
1733 abuse primarily targeting women and children. Deepfake  
1734 pornography is not just a tool for harassment. It is being  
1735 weaponized to silence and humiliate women, exploit children,  
1736 and destroy lives. We have seen it used against women in  
1737 public life, young girls, and even our own colleagues. No  
1738 one in this committee thinks that this is acceptable, and it  
1739 is a crisis that demands immediate action.

1740 The TAKE IT DOWN Act provides victims with a path to  
1741 justice, ensures these harmful images are removed, and holds  
1742 perpetrators accountable. But let me be clear. This isn't  
1743 just about AI-driven exploitations. It is part of a broader  
1744 fight to protect women and survivors of abuse. For years I  
1745 have worked to address domestic violence, coercive control,  
1746 and the misuse of technology to harm victims. I have been  
1747 focused on ensuring survivors have the tools they need to  
1748 reclaim their safety, and I would be remiss, my friends, if I  
1749 didn't point out contradictions here today.

1750 Some of my colleagues rightfully expressed their support  
1751 for protecting women and children, and I think we all share  
1752 that, and I believe they mean it. But at the same time, they

1753 back efforts that are gutting the very agencies responsible  
1754 for enforcing these protections. We can't have it both ways.  
1755 We need to protect women and children. So I hope my  
1756 colleagues will consider good faith amendments today to  
1757 strengthen this bill. We cannot afford to wait. We must act  
1758 now to protect women and children from new and emerging  
1759 threats.

1760         So I urge my colleagues to consider the amendments  
1761 today, and to support the TAKE IT DOWN Act and move it  
1762 through this committee. It is time we deliver for women and  
1763 children who are counting on us not to play political games,  
1764 but to keep them safe.

1765         Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I yield back.

1766         \*The Chair. Thank you. The gentlelady yields back. Is  
1767 anyone seeking recognition to speak on the bill?

1768         The gentlelady from Massachusetts. The gentlelady from  
1769 New York will be next.

1770         \*Mrs. Trahan. Yes, Mr. Chairman, I move to strike --

1771         \*The Chair. You are recognized for five minutes.

1772         \*Mrs. Trahan. -- the last word. Thank you, Mr.  
1773 Chairman.

1774         I strongly support the TAKE IT DOWN Act, bipartisan  
1775 legislation that addresses an urgent and growing threat: the  
1776 proliferation of non-consensual, sexually exploitive images  
1777 online.

1778           This problem is particularly alarming with respect to  
1779 children. And with the rise of artificial intelligence, it  
1780 is only getting worse. AI can now create these images within  
1781 seconds, and they often spread online in mere minutes or  
1782 hours. The impact on these victims is devastating. They can  
1783 ruin reputations, destroy careers, and cause significant  
1784 mental health harm, all with little recourse for those whose  
1785 lives are upended by this abuse.

1786           Congress has the responsibility and the obligation to  
1787 act. This legislation is an essential step toward protecting  
1788 victims, particularly minors, and taking divisive action --  
1789 decisive action, excuse me -- against this crisis.

1790           It is worth noting that, while this bill shares  
1791 bipartisan support, the agency responsible for implementing  
1792 it after it passes is currently being undermined. The  
1793 President's unlawful attempt to remove two FTC commissioners  
1794 will hinder the implementation of the TAKE IT DOWN Act, and  
1795 in doing so it will make it harder to take down these  
1796 sexually exploitative images popping up across the Internet  
1797 without victims' consent. So I urge my colleagues to join me  
1798 in standing for a strong, independent FTC that will be  
1799 instrumental in combating this crisis.

1800           I will also add, Mr. Chairman, that passing this bill  
1801 should not be seen as the end of our work. It would be a  
1802 mistake to believe that enacting this legislation alone

1803 solves the broader challenges facing Americans online. It is  
1804 my hope that this committee will continue the bipartisan  
1805 progress we have made, particularly on comprehensive privacy  
1806 reform and stronger children's privacy protections. These  
1807 efforts directly implement -- complement the TAKE IT DOWN  
1808 Act, further advancing our shared goal of protecting  
1809 Americans of all ages online.

1810         And finally, I want to acknowledge the concerns raised  
1811 by many civil liberty and technology groups about the  
1812 potential impact of this bill on encrypted services. These  
1813 concerns focus primarily on whether encrypted platforms such  
1814 as messaging apps and storage services could fall under the  
1815 bill's definition of a covered platform.

1816         As someone who has spent considerable time in this  
1817 committee working to protect and promote encryption in order  
1818 to safeguard Americans privacy, I can assure you that I am  
1819 committed to ensuring that the language in our bill is as  
1820 clear and protective as possible of this vital technology.  
1821 The TAKE IT DOWN Act defines a covered platform as any  
1822 website, online service, or application that primarily  
1823 provides a forum for user-generated content. That word,  
1824 "forum," is critical. A forum is a space for open public  
1825 discussion, a place for public discourse. Social media  
1826 platforms like X and TikTok are prime examples.

1827         On the other hand, services that operate more like

1828 private channels, where information is exchanged securely and  
1829 privately between a select group of users, are not forums.  
1830 Encrypted services such as messaging apps that ensure content  
1831 is only seen by the intended recipients, not by the service  
1832 provider, fit this definition of a channel, not a forum.  
1833 That is why I do not believe that encrypted services will  
1834 fall under the scope of this bill. They are not the  
1835 platforms targeted by the TAKE IT DOWN Act, and their  
1836 encryption should not be compromised. But that doesn't mean  
1837 that anyone can simply use encrypted services to publish NDII  
1838 legally. Under the bill the publication of NDII becomes a  
1839 criminal offense.

1840 I am proud of the work that this committee is doing to  
1841 address this pressing issue, one that affects more and more  
1842 of our constituents every day, and look forward to continuing  
1843 that work. I urge my colleagues to support the TAKE IT DOWN  
1844 Act and to stand with the victims it aims to protect.

1845 And I yield back the balance of my time.

1846 \*The Chair. Thank you. The gentlelady yields back.  
1847 Are any members seeking recognition for discussion?

1848 The gentlelady from New York, Ms. Ocasio-Cortez, you are  
1849 recognized for five minutes.

1850 \*Ms. Ocasio-Cortez. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and I would  
1851 like to thank the primary sponsors of this bill on both sides  
1852 of the aisle for making this issue such a priority.

1853           Right now one in eight teenagers in the United States  
1854 has a friend who has been impacted by deepfake harassment in  
1855 schools. This issue has completely exploded very rapidly  
1856 right under our noses. And I am very thankful for the  
1857 responsiveness for -- of members and leadership for bringing  
1858 this bill forward.

1859           I also want to reiterate that TAKE IT DOWN is a very  
1860 important step. Right now many of our platforms lack legal  
1861 clarity on this issue. Unfortunately, non-consensual  
1862 deepfake pornography is in a legal area -- a gray legal area.  
1863 And absent clarity, it is very difficult for platforms to  
1864 take this material down. So this bill will provide the  
1865 clarity that is needed in order to help victims of this be  
1866 able to take down some of these materials.

1867           I also want to emphasize that our work in this issue is  
1868 not done. This -- what this bill excludes is the ability for  
1869 victims to have a civil right of action, and -- which means  
1870 that, essentially, having their day in court without going to  
1871 criminal trial isn't necessarily a possibility, or it is less  
1872 of a possibility with this bill. And so I am very supportive  
1873 of us passing this legislation, and I look forward to us  
1874 bringing forward civil right of action for victims in future  
1875 legislation so that we can have a full package of the ability  
1876 for victims to be able to stand up for themselves and take  
1877 down this material.

1878           And with that I yield back. Thank you.

1879           \*Mr. Joyce. [Presiding.] The gentlelady yields. Is  
1880 there any further discussion on the bill?

1881           The gentlewoman from Washington, Dr. Schrier, is  
1882 recognized.

1883           \*Mr. Schrier. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you to  
1884 the sponsors of this really important bill, the TAKE IT DOWN  
1885 Act. It is a great bill. It is a necessary bill. It  
1886 demands the immediate removal of real or deepfake sexual  
1887 images that are posted online without the consent of the  
1888 victim. These images are so traumatizing and destructive.

1889           I mean, at the very least, they are shaming and  
1890 embarrassing, but they are also threatening and lead to  
1891 extortion and trafficking, and are awful for the victims.  
1892 And that is why this is such a necessary bill and such a  
1893 great bill. And I support this bill. It protects people,  
1894 and particularly children.

1895           But right now it is feeling like empty words because my  
1896 Republican colleagues just stood by while the administration  
1897 filed -- fired FTC commissioners, the exact people who  
1898 enforce this law. And without enforcement, this is just a  
1899 discussion, this is not going to protect anybody. In fact,  
1900 it feels almost like my Republican colleagues are just giving  
1901 a wink and a nod to the predators out there who are waiting  
1902 to exploit kids and other innocent victims.

1903           So I just want to say that if my colleagues really,  
1904 truly want to protect kids like I do, they will insist that  
1905 the administration restore the FTC commissioners, the cops on  
1906 the beat who will enforce this law, who will punish the  
1907 perpetrators, and truly protect kids and other victims out  
1908 there. Please consider reinstating the people who will  
1909 enforce this excellent law. Thank you.

1910           \*Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady yields. Is there any  
1911 further discussion on the bill?

1912           Seeing none --

1913           \*Mr. Pallone. We have a series of amendments.

1914           \*Mr. Joyce. For what purpose does the gentleman, Mr.  
1915 Soto, seek to be recognized?

1916           \*Mr. Soto. To introduce amendment 633-01.

1917           \*Mr. Joyce. The clerk will report the amendment.

1918           \*The Clerk. Amendment to H.R. 633, offered by Mr. Soto  
1919 of Florida. At the end of the bill, add the following --

1920           \*Mr. Joyce. Without objection, the reading of the  
1921 amendment is --

1922           \*Voice. I reserve, just in case.

1923           [Laughter.]

1924           \*Voice. Yes, the gentleman learned his lesson.

1925           \*Voice. He reserves a point of order.

1926           \*Mr. Joyce. The gentleman reserves a point of order.  
1927 Without objection, the reading of the amendment is

1928     dispensed.

1929             [The amendment of Mr. Soto follows:]

1930

1931     \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

1932

1933           \*Mr. Joyce. Is there any discussion on the amendment?

1934           Mr. Soto is recognized.

1935           \*Mr. Soto. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1936           This amendment would condition the effective date of  
1937 this act on the withdrawal of the President's illegal attempt  
1938 to fire two FTC commissioners.

1939           We have an opportunity to vote on many important  
1940 consumer protection bills today, including the TAKE IT DOWN  
1941 Act, which I support and plan to vote for today. We also  
1942 have the Informing Consumers about Smart Devices Act, the  
1943 TICKET Act, the Hotel Fees Transparency Act, and eventually  
1944 comprehensive privacy and social media regulation. All  
1945 require a strong, fully functional Federal Trade Commission.  
1946 This is why we must take this unlawful attempt to fire two  
1947 FTC commissioners head on. Silence, mere complaining is not  
1948 enough. Our constituents are counting on us and on the FTC  
1949 to stop fraud, to stop exploitation and abuse of kids like  
1950 the TAKE IT DOWN Act would do, to help seniors protect  
1951 consumers and lower costs.

1952           Commissioner Rebecca Kelly Slaughter, whose term would  
1953 not expire until 2029, and Commissioner Alvaro Bedoya, whose  
1954 term doesn't expire until next year, were terminated without  
1955 cause. This was illegal, unconstitutional. Under Humphrey's  
1956 Executor v. U.S., a case that dates back to 1935, presidents,  
1957 including President Trump, cannot fire FTC commissioners

1958 without cause. They said -- the court at that time -- the  
1959 Constitution never gave presidents illimitable power of  
1960 removal. President Trump's attempts to fire these folks were  
1961 illegal.

1962 It is time for this committee to reassert our power, to  
1963 reassert our responsibility. It is time to act to protect  
1964 exploited kids, like we hope to do with this bill today, and  
1965 swindled consumers and struggling seniors. It is time to get  
1966 off the sidelines and act. Otherwise, these good consumer  
1967 protection bills passed today will be ineffective when they  
1968 finally get into law. And it is time to make sure the  
1969 Congress steps up to make sure President Trump is abiding by  
1970 the Constitution and by the independent power of the FTC.

1971 And with that I yield back.

1972 \*Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. Is there any further  
1973 discussion on the amendment?

1974 \*Mr. James. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
1975 word.

1976 \*Mr. Joyce. The gentleman from Michigan is recognized.

1977 \*Mr. James. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1978 I am profoundly disappointed by this thinly-veiled delay  
1979 tactic. This amendment is nothing less than an attempt to  
1980 derail this very important bill that we have to move forward.

1981 Everybody wants to talk about how we care about women  
1982 and children, but when it comes down to moving it quickly to

1983 protect the most vulnerable, my Democrat colleagues are using  
1984 stall tactics and performative protesting. This is not the  
1985 time for games. This is not gamesmanship.

1986 But if we want to talk about hypocrisy, if we want to  
1987 talk about saying one thing and doing another, let's just  
1988 talk about people who are here in the 117th Congress, the  
1989 2021, 2022 -- during the same timeframe that 33 children  
1990 below the age of 13 died in TikTok challenges. Let's talk  
1991 about the time that they were in the majority in the House,  
1992 they were in the majority in the Senate, and they had a very  
1993 popular president, with Kelly Slaughter leading the FTC.

1994 They want to talk about cops? Well, you know what?  
1995 Sometimes there are bad cops who don't do their jobs and have  
1996 to be fired. I haven't heard of any of the Democrats who  
1997 were in the majority talking about that. They want to talk  
1998 about delay tactics? Well, the facts of the matter is Kelly  
1999 Slaughter was the interim chair at the beginning of 2021.  
2000 She was in her position for seven years. The gentleman who  
2001 introduced this amendment was literally on this committee  
2002 during this timeframe and did nothing, did absolutely  
2003 nothing.

2004 They care more about protecting unelected bureaucrats  
2005 than they care about protecting children's lives and  
2006 protecting parents' rights. They are talking about us  
2007 standing by while these terrible bureaucrats are fired, and

2008 they stood by and let them stay. Well, the American people  
2009 are sick and tired of it, which is why they elected President  
2010 Trump and gave us the majority in Congress. They need to  
2011 stop with these games, stop talking out of both sides of  
2012 their mouths, do their doggone jobs.

2013           And for the same people who said, I quote, "We also  
2014 support the TAKE IT DOWN Act, and we stand with the families  
2015 here today and the excruciating stories that you have to tell  
2016 us,"` excruciating, excruciating pain for people who also  
2017 have daughters and sons. Excruciating. Does that seem like  
2018 pain that can be delayed in assuaging? Does that sound like  
2019 pain that the American people are ready to allow Congress to  
2020 play games with? Absolutely not.

2021           I would encourage a no vote on this politically-driven  
2022 agenda, and I hope and pray that my colleagues will turn more  
2023 of their focus to the American people than Elon Musk.

2024           I yield.

2025           \*Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. The chair recognizes  
2026 the ranking member from New Jersey, Mr. Pallone.

2027           \*Mr. Pallone. I move to strike the last word --

2028           \*Mr. Joyce. The gentleman is recognized.

2029           \*Mr. Pallone. -- Mr. Chair. Mr. Chairman, I have to  
2030 totally disagree with the gentleman, Mr. James.

2031           I -- look, the bottom line is we had a hearing a couple  
2032 -- I guess last week or a week or so ago on kids' privacy

2033 bills. And I made the point that day that the Republican  
2034 majority in this committee is basically trying to give the  
2035 impression that they are acting on kids' privacy, that they  
2036 are concerned about kids' privacy. The bottom line is those  
2037 bills passed out of committee last session, and the  
2038 Republican leadership refused to bring them up on the floor.

2039         So who is kidding who here? If the FTC commissioners  
2040 are fired -- I know he only fired the two Democrats, but who  
2041 knows? Trump might fire the Republicans as well, because,  
2042 you know, we don't know what he does from one day to the  
2043 next. He likes to fire people, particularly for independent  
2044 agencies. There is going to be no enforcement. There is  
2045 going to be no enforcement of the TAKE IT DOWN act, there  
2046 will be no enforcement of anything related to kids' privacy.

2047         You know, when you talk about who is pulling the wool  
2048 over the eyes, the wool is being pulled over the eyes by the  
2049 Republicans because, you know, they pass bills out of  
2050 committee, then they don't bring them up on the floor, they  
2051 fire the commissioners that would enforce the law. So it is  
2052 all very nice to say we are going to pass the TAKE IT DOWN  
2053 Act and hopefully, you know, based on the commitment that  
2054 Chairman Guthrie made, that all these bills are going to go  
2055 to the floor together one day. I hope so. I mean, I know he  
2056 is going to try, and he has that commitment from Scalise, but  
2057 we never know.

2058           Last Congress we had so many bills that never reached  
2059   the floor. So who knows what happens with the TAKE IT DOWN  
2060   Act? Who knows if they ever bring up the kids' privacy  
2061   bills. In any case, there is not going to be any enforcement  
2062   if there is no FTC, and that is where we are. You know, the  
2063   FTC has a long track record of working on a bipartisan basis  
2064   to rein in big tech's attempts to mislead consumers and  
2065   misuse their personal data. President Trump's unlawful  
2066   attempts to decimate the independent, bipartisan FTC is just  
2067   another, in my opinion, blatant giveaway to the big tech CEOs  
2068   who sat on the dais at his inauguration.

2069           President Trump illegally attempted to fire these  
2070   commissioners because he does not want the FTC to do the  
2071   important work of holding big tech accountable. So they are  
2072   the ones that are behind all this. They are the ones that  
2073   don't want to enforce the law. They are the ones that don't  
2074   care about privacy. And they are sitting there -- you know,  
2075   Trump is doing their work by firing or attempting to fire  
2076   these commissioners.

2077           Media reports have been circulating that Mark  
2078   Zuckerberg, the head of Facebook, has asked President Trump  
2079   to direct the FTC to dismiss its antitrust case against  
2080   Facebook. Instead of defending the independence of the FTC,  
2081   the current FTC chairman has confirmed that he would do as  
2082   directed by the president, and the absence of minority

2083 commissioners would certainly make that a lot easier.

2084         So if we all want to be serious about protecting  
2085 consumers, including our kids, from harms online, it is not  
2086 enough to pass the TAKE IT DOWN Act. We also have to be  
2087 full-throated advocates for a fully functioning, independent,  
2088 bipartisan FTC. And I call on my Republican colleagues to  
2089 recognize that the President's illegal power grab is hurting  
2090 everyday Americans and helping big tech, and it has to be  
2091 reversed.

2092         If Republicans want to show they care about protecting  
2093 children, they will support Mr. Soto's amendment to ensure  
2094 there is a cop on the beat. Otherwise, we have no cop on the  
2095 beat. And we can do whatever we want here to pass bills,  
2096 move bills forward. Meanwhile, Trump fires people at the  
2097 Health and Human Services, at the FDA, at the CDC, fires  
2098 commissioners of all the independent agencies. Who is going  
2099 to be the cop on the beat? There isn't going to be anybody  
2100 left to enforce the law.

2101         So we can add all the laws we want here -- and I am not  
2102 saying we shouldn't, I support this -- but to suggest somehow  
2103 that this is not an important amendment, this is a crucial  
2104 amendment. And if it goes down to defeat, then who is going  
2105 to be the cop on the beat?

2106         But in any case, I yield back the balance of my time.

2107         \*Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. The gentlelady from

2108 Illinois, Ms. Kelly, is recognized.

2109       \*Ms. Kelly. I want to yield my time to the gentleman  
2110 from Florida, Mr. Soto.

2111       \*Mr. Soto. Thank you so much, Representative Kelly.

2112       You know, we had a bipartisan privacy bill. It was  
2113 killed by the Republicans last term.

2114       Social media regulation, still outstanding because it  
2115 was killed by the Republicans.

2116       Big tech billionaires had a better seat at the  
2117 inauguration than the Republican governors did.

2118       False slandering FTC commissioners is not going to work  
2119 today. Hissy fits won't distract us and fake news will not  
2120 go unchecked.

2121       I urge you all to join us in this. This is about the  
2122 power of Congress. Otherwise, we have a king and not a  
2123 president. We have cops who are taken off the beat for the  
2124 very bills that you all seem to care about. This is the  
2125 moment. Step up. Let this committee do its job.

2126       And I yield back.

2127       \*Ms. Kelly. I yield back the balance of my time.

2128       \*Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady yields. If there is no  
2129 further discussion -- Dr. Schrier. The chair recognizes Dr.  
2130 Schrier from Washington.

2131       \*Mr. Schrier. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2132       I want to applaud this amendment. This amendment says

2133 restore the cops on the beat, restore the enforcers of this  
2134 law that will protect children at the same time we pass the  
2135 TAKE IT DOWN Act. One without the other just doesn't make  
2136 sense.

2137         So I am going to address what my colleague, Mr. James,  
2138 said. This is not a delay tactic. This is a speed it up  
2139 tactic. This is a get your tails in gear act -- amendment.  
2140 This is a move it along amendment. This is a hustle and get  
2141 it done so we can get these both done together and protect  
2142 kids act.

2143         Unless you get those FTC commissioners who are going to  
2144 enforce taking down pornographic images, you are going to get  
2145 nothing. And so I ask all of my colleagues, my Republican  
2146 colleagues, get it together, call the White House, restore  
2147 the FTC commissioners, get this law enforced, and you have  
2148 partners here to pass it and protect our children.

2149         I yield back.

2150         \*Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady yields. If there is no  
2151 further discussion, the vote on the amendment shall occur. A  
2152 recorded vote has been requested. The clerk will call the  
2153 vote.

2154         \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

2155         [No response.]

2156         \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith?

2157         \*Mr. Griffith. On the amendment, no.

2158           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Griffith votes no.  
2159           Mr. Bilirakis?  
2160           \*Mr. Bilirakis.   No.  
2161           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bilirakis votes no.  
2162           Mr. Hudson?  
2163           [No response.]  
2164           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Carter of Georgia?  
2165           \*Mr. Carter of Georgia.   No.  
2166           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Carter of Georgia votes no.  
2167           Mr. Palmer?  
2168           [No response.]  
2169           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn?  
2170           [No response.]  
2171           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw?  
2172           [No response.]  
2173           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce?  
2174           \*Mr. Joyce.   No.  
2175           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce votes no.  
2176           Mr. Weber?  
2177           \*Mr. Weber.   No.  
2178           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Weber votes no.  
2179           Mr. Allen?  
2180           \*Mr. Allen.   No.  
2181           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Allen votes no.  
2182           Mr. Balderson?

2183           \*Mr. Balderson.   No.  
2184           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Balderson votes no.  
2185           Mr. Fulcher?  
2186           \*Mr. Fulcher.   Fulcher is no.  
2187           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Fulcher votes no.  
2188           Mr. Pfluger?  
2189           \*Mr. Pfluger.   No.  
2190           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pfluger votes no.  
2191           Mrs. Harshbarger?  
2192           \*Mrs. Harshbarger.   No.  
2193           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Harshbarger votes no.  
2194           Mrs. Miller-Meeks?  
2195           \*Mrs. Miller-Meeks.   Nay.  
2196           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes no.  
2197           Mrs. Cammack?  
2198           \*Mrs. Cammack.   No.  
2199           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Cammack votes no.  
2200           Mr. Obernolte?  
2201           [No response.]  
2202           \*The Clerk.   Mr. James?  
2203           \*Mr. James.   No.  
2204           \*The Clerk.   Mr. James votes no.  
2205           Mr. Bentz?  
2206           [No response.]  
2207           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Houchin?

2208 \*Mrs. Houchin. No.  
2209 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes no.  
2210 Mr. Fry?  
2211 \*Mr. Fry. No.  
2212 \*The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes no.  
2213 Ms. Lee?  
2214 [No response.]  
2215 \*The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?  
2216 \*Mr. Langworthy. No.  
2217 \*The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes no.  
2218 Mr. Kean?  
2219 \*Mr. Kean. No.  
2220 \*The Clerk. Mr. Kean votes on.  
2221 Mr. Rulli?  
2222 \*Mr. Rulli. No.  
2223 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes no.  
2224 Mr. Evans?  
2225 \*Mr. Evans. No.  
2226 \*The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes no.  
2227 Mr. Goldman?  
2228 \*Mr. Goldman. No.  
2229 \*The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes no.  
2230 Mrs. Fedorchak?  
2231 \*Mrs. Fedorchak. No.  
2232 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes no.

2233 Mr. Pallone?

2234 \*Mr. Pallone. Aye.

2235 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes aye.

2236 Ms. DeGette?

2237 \*Ms. DeGette. Aye.

2238 \*The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes aye.

2239 Ms. Schakowsky?

2240 \*Ms. Schakowsky. Aye.

2241 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.

2242 Ms. Matsui?

2243 \*Ms. Matsui. Aye.

2244 \*The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes aye.

2245 Ms. Castor?

2246 \*Ms. Castor. Aye.

2247 \*The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes aye.

2248 Mr. Tonko?

2249 \*Mr. Tonko. Aye.

2250 \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes aye.

2251 Ms. Clarke?

2252 \*Ms. Clarke. Aye.

2253 \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes aye.

2254 Mr. Ruiz?

2255 \*Mr. Ruiz. Aye.

2256 \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes aye.

2257 Mr. Peters?

2258 [No response.]  
2259 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell?  
2260 \*Mrs. Dingell. Aye.  
2261 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes aye.  
2262 Mr. Veasey?  
2263 \*Mr. Veasey. Aye.  
2264 \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes aye.  
2265 Ms. Kelly?  
2266 \*Ms. Kelly. Aye.  
2267 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes aye.  
2268 Ms. Barragan?  
2269 [No response.]  
2270 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto?  
2271 \*Mr. Soto. Aye.  
2272 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.  
2273 Ms. Schrier?  
2274 \*Ms. Schrier. Aye.  
2275 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.  
2276 Mrs. Trahan?  
2277 \*Mrs. Trahan. Aye.  
2278 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.  
2279 Mrs. Fletcher?  
2280 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Aye.  
2281 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.  
2282 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?

2283           \*Ms. Ocasio-Cortez.   Aye.  
2284           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Ocasio-Cortez votes aye.  
2285           Mr. Auchincloss?  
2286           \*Mr. Auchincloss.   Aye.  
2287           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.  
2288           Mr. Carter of Louisiana?  
2289           \*Mr. Carter of Louisiana.   Aye.  
2290           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes aye.  
2291           Mr. Menendez?  
2292           \*Mr. Menendez.   Aye.  
2293           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Menendez votes aye.  
2294           Mr. Mullin?  
2295           \*Mr. Mullin.   Aye.  
2296           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
2297           Mr. Landsman?  
2298           \*Mr. Landsman.   Aye.  
2299           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Landsman votes aye.  
2300           Ms. McClellan?  
2301           \*Ms. McClellan.   Aye.  
2302           \*The Clerk.   Ms. McClellan votes aye.  
2303           Chairman Guthrie?  
2304           \*The Chair.   No.  
2305           \*The Clerk.   Chairman Guthrie votes no.  
2306           \*Mr. Latta.   Mr. Chairman?  
2307           \*Mr. Joyce.   How is Mr. Latta recorded?

2308           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Latta is not recorded.  
2309           \*Mr. Latta.   Latta votes no.  
2310           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Latta votes --  
2311           \*Mr. Joyce.   How is Mr. Hudson recorded?  
2312           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Hudson is not -- Mr. --  
2313           \*Mr. Hudson.   Hudson, no.  
2314           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Hudson votes no.  
2315           \*Mr. Joyce.   How is Mr. Crenshaw recorded?  
2316           \*Mr. Crenshaw.   No.  
2317           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw votes no.  
2318           \*Mr. Joyce.   How is Mr. Palmer recorded?  
2319           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Palmer is not recorded.  
2320           \*Mr. Palmer.   Palmer votes no.  
2321           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Palmer votes no.  
2322           \*Mr. Joyce.   Does anyone else wish --  
2323           \*Ms. Lee.   Ms. Lee, no.  
2324           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Lee votes no.  
2325           [Pause.]  
2326           \*Mr. Joyce.   How is Mr. Obernolte recorded?  
2327           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Obernolte is not recorded.  
2328           \*Mr. Obernolte.   Obernolte, no.  
2329           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Obernolte votes no.  
2330           \*Mr. Joyce.   The clerk will report the result.  
2331           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Chairman, on that vote there were 22  
2332   ayes and 28 noes.

2333           \*Mr. Joyce. The amendment is not agreed to. Are there  
2334 any further amendments?

2335           Mrs. Dingell from Michigan is recognized.

2336           \*Mrs. Dingell. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I have an  
2337 amendment at the desk labeled amendment 633-03.

2338           \*Mr. Joyce. The clerk will report the amendment.

2339           \*The Clerk. Amendment to H.R. 633, offered by Mrs.  
2340 Dingell. Page 2, line --

2341           \*Mr. Joyce. Without objection, the reading of the  
2342 amendment is dispensed.

2343           [The amendment of Mrs. Dingell follows:]

2344

2345           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

2346

2347           \*Voice. Reserve --

2348           \*Voice. Reserves a point of order.

2349           \*Mr. Joyce. The gentleman reserves a point of order.

2350           [Pause.]

2351           \*Mrs. Dingell. Am I recognized?

2352           \*Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady from Michigan is recognized.

2353           \*Mrs. Dingell. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

2354           As many on this committee know, I strongly support the  
2355 TAKE IT DOWN Act. However, we must ensure it is as strong,  
2356 effective, and impactful as possible. And I want to ensure  
2357 that this bill actually works. That is why I am offering  
2358 this amendment to tighten up the bill text, close loopholes,  
2359 and hold platforms accountable so that we can strengthen its  
2360 ability to protect survivors of online abuse.

2361           Deepfake images are often indistinguishable from  
2362 authentic content, so we need to fully capture AI-driven  
2363 exploitation in this bill. We have to prevent ambiguity and  
2364 strengthen the takedown process by ensuring key terms are  
2365 carried over properly.

2366           My amendment makes necessary refinements to the bill  
2367 text, including carrying language from section to section to  
2368 ensure the bill explicitly covers both non-consensual,  
2369 authentic, intimate imagery and digital forgeries. It also  
2370 strengthens the take-down process and ensures enforcement  
2371 mechanisms work.

2372           Importantly, my amendment also ensures that  
2373   constitutionally-protected speech is preserved by  
2374   incorporating essential provisions for consensual content and  
2375   matters of public concern. My goal is to protect survivors  
2376   of abuse, not suppress lawful expression or shield misconduct  
2377   from public accountability.

2378           If we are looking to protect women, children, and those  
2379   who are targeted by deepfake content, the provisions I  
2380   propose are not partisan.

2381           I have heard from many, many stakeholders that we need  
2382   to tighten up this bill, and my amendment is good policy.  
2383   Survivors deserve a clear path to justice, and we must act  
2384   decisively to protect them.

2385           I urge my colleagues to support this amendment, ensure  
2386   the TAKE IT DOWN Act is as strong as possible.

2387           Thank you, and I yield back.

2388           \*Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady yields. The gentleman from  
2389   Texas, Mr. Pfluger, is recognized.

2390           \*Mr. Pfluger. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I appreciate  
2391   my colleague, who I know supports the bill overall. And  
2392   actually, we have heard a lot of support from the other side  
2393   of the aisle. I would recommend we move forward with the  
2394   bill, and actually start protecting kids, but I do appreciate  
2395   my colleague from Michigan. I just think the word  
2396   "virtually" is unnecessary here, and I don't think that it

2397 adds anything. In fact, I think it opens, legally, a lot of  
2398 vulnerabilities to interpretation.

2399       You know, and kind of line by line, I mean, the  
2400 constitutionally-protected speech, I mean, the notice and the  
2401 take-down process already require that evidence -- that an  
2402 image was published without consent of the person, and I  
2403 think that that particular piece right there, when you look  
2404 at the word "virtually," does open a lot of loopholes. We  
2405 could go further into digital forgeries, but these are a  
2406 category and a subcategory of intimate visual depictions, and  
2407 the definition of "digital forgery" is added in the  
2408 definition of this legislation.

2409       So while I appreciate the efforts, let's move forward,  
2410 let's quit the stall tactics, and move forward with voting on  
2411 the major legislation.

2412       I don't support this amendment, and yield back.

2413       \*Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. Does any further  
2414 member wish to speak on the amendment?

2415       If there is no further discussion --

2416       \*Mr. Pallone. A roll call.

2417       \*Mr. Joyce. A roll call has been requested. The clerk  
2418 will request the roll.

2419       \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

2420       \*Mr. Latta. No.

2421       \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes no.

2422 Mr. Griffith?

2423 \*Mr. Griffith. No.

2424 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes no.

2425 Mr. Bilirakis?

2426 \*Mr. Bilirakis. No.

2427 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes no.

2428 Mr. Hudson?

2429 \*Mr. Hudson. No.

2430 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes no.

2431 Mr. Carter of Georgia?

2432 [No response.]

2433 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer?

2434 \*Mr. Palmer. No.

2435 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes no.

2436 Mr. Dunn?

2437 [No response.]

2438 \*The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw?

2439 [No response.]

2440 \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce?

2441 \*Mr. Joyce. No.

2442 \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes no.

2443 Mr. Weber?

2444 [No response.]

2445 \*The Clerk. Mr. Allen?

2446 [No response.]

2447

2448           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Balderson?

2449           \*Mr. Balderson.   No.

2450           \*Mr. Weber.   No.

2451           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Balderson votes no.

2452           Mr. Weber votes no.

2453           Mr. Fulcher?

2454           \*Mr. Fulcher.   Fulcher is no.

2455           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Fulcher votes no.

2456           Mr. Pfluger?

2457           \*Mr. Pfluger.   No.

2458           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pfluger votes no.

2459           Mrs. Harshbarger?

2460           \*Mrs. Harshbarger.   No.

2461           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Harshbarger votes no.

2462           Mrs. Miller-Meeks?

2463           [No response.]

2464           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Cammack?

2465           \*Mrs. Cammack.   No.

2466           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Cammack votes no.

2467           Mr. Obernolte?

2468           [No response.]

2469           \*The Clerk.   Mr. James?

2470           \*Mr. James.   No.

2471           \*The Clerk.   Mr. James votes no.

2472 Mr. Bentz?  
2473 [No response.]  
2474 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin?  
2475 \*Mrs. Houchin. No.  
2476 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes no.  
2477 Mr. Fry?  
2478 \*Mr. Fry. No.  
2479 \*The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes no.  
2480 Ms. Lee?  
2481 \*Ms. Lee. No.  
2482 \*The Clerk. Ms. Lee votes no.  
2483 Mr. Langworthy?  
2484 \*Mr. Langworthy. No.  
2485 \*The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes no.  
2486 Mr. Kean?  
2487 \*Mr. Kean. No.  
2488 \*The Clerk. Mr. Kean votes on.  
2489 Mr. Rulli?  
2490 \*Mr. Rulli. No.  
2491 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes no.  
2492 Mr. Evans?  
2493 \*Mr. Evans. No.  
2494 \*The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes no.  
2495 Mr. Goldman?  
2496 \*Mr. Goldman. No.

2497           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Goldman votes no.  
2498           Mrs. Fedorchak?  
2499           \*Mrs. Fedorchak.   No.  
2500           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fedorchak votes no.  
2501           Mr. Pallone?  
2502           \*Mr. Pallone.   Aye.  
2503           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pallone votes aye.  
2504           Ms. DeGette?  
2505           \*Ms. DeGette.   Aye.  
2506           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes aye.  
2507           Ms. Schakowsky?  
2508           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   Aye.  
2509           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.  
2510           Ms. Matsui?  
2511           \*Ms. Matsui.   Aye.  
2512           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes aye.  
2513           Ms. Castor?  
2514           \*Ms. Castor.   Aye.  
2515           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Castor votes aye.  
2516           Mr. Tonko?  
2517           \*Mr. Tonko.   Aye.  
2518           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Tonko votes aye.  
2519           Ms. Clarke?  
2520           \*Ms. Clarke.   Aye.  
2521           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Clarke votes aye.

2522 Mr. Ruiz?  
2523 \*Mr. Ruiz. Aye.  
2524 \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes aye.  
2525 Mr. Peters?  
2526 [No response.]  
2527 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell?  
2528 \*Mrs. Dingell. Aye.  
2529 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes aye.  
2530 Mr. Veasey?  
2531 \*Mr. Veasey. Aye.  
2532 \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes aye.  
2533 Ms. Kelly?  
2534 \*Ms. Kelly. Aye.  
2535 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes aye.  
2536 Ms. Barragan?  
2537 [No response.]  
2538 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto?  
2539 \*Mr. Soto. Aye.  
2540 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.  
2541 Ms. Schrier?  
2542 \*Ms. Schrier. Aye.  
2543 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.  
2544 Mrs. Trahan?  
2545 \*Mrs. Trahan. Aye.  
2546 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.

2547 Mrs. Fletcher?

2548 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Aye.

2549 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.

2550 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?

2551 \*Ms. Ocasio-Cortez. Aye.

2552 \*The Clerk. Ms. Ocasio-Cortez votes aye.

2553 Mr. Auchincloss?

2554 \*Mr. Auchincloss. Aye.

2555 \*The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.

2556 Mr. Carter of Louisiana?

2557 \*Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Aye.

2558 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes aye.

2559 Mr. Menendez?

2560 \*Mr. Menendez. Aye.

2561 \*The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes aye.

2562 Mr. Mullin?

2563 \*Mr. Mullin. Aye.

2564 \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.

2565 Mr. Landsman?

2566 \*Mr. Landsman. Yes.

2567 \*The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes aye.

2568 Ms. McClellan?

2569 \*Ms. McClellan. Aye.

2570 \*The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes aye.

2571 Chairman Guthrie?

2572           \*The Chair.   No.

2573           \*The Clerk.   Chairman Guthrie votes no.

2574           \*Mr. Joyce.   How is Dr. Dunn recorded?

2575           \*The Clerk.   Dr. Dunn is not recorded.

2576           \*Mr. Dunn.   No.

2577           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn --

2578           \*Mr. Joyce.   How is --

2579           \*The Clerk.   -- votes no.

2580           \*Mr. Joyce.   How is Mr. Carter recorded?

2581           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Carter is not recorded.

2582           \*Mr. Joyce.   How is Dr. --

2583           \*Mr. Carter of Georgia.   Votes no.

2584           \*The Clerk.   Carter --

2585           \*Mr. Joyce.   How is Dr. Miller-Meeks recorded?

2586           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Miller-Meeks is not recorded.

2587           \*Mrs. Miller-Meeks.   No.

2588           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Miller-Meeks --

2589           \*Mr. Joyce.   How is Mr. Crenshaw recorded?

2590           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw is not recorded.

2591           \*Mr. Crenshaw.   No.

2592           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw --

2593           \*Mr. Joyce.   How is Mr. Allen --

2594           \*The Clerk.   -- votes no.

2595           \*Mr. Joyce.   -- recorded?

2596           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Allen is not recorded.

2597           \*Mr. Allen.   Allen votes no.

2598           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Allen votes no.

2599           \*Mr. Joyce.   The clerk will report the result.

2600           [Pause.]

2601           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Chairman, on that vote there were 22  
2602 ayes and 28 noes.

2603           \*Mr. Joyce.   The amendment is not agreed to.   Are there  
2604 any further amendments?

2605           [Pause.]

2606           \*Mr. Joyce.   Is there an amendment?

2607           Ms. Castor is recognized.

2608           \*Ms. Castor.   Yes, Castor 13 is at the desk, Mr.  
2609 Chairman.

2610           \*Mr. Joyce.   The clerk will report the amendment.

2611           \*The Clerk.   Amendment to H.R. 633, offered by Ms.  
2612 Castor of Florida.   Page 1 --

2613           \*Mr. Joyce.   Without objection, the reading of the  
2614 amendment is dispensed with.

2615           [The amendment of Ms. Castor follows:]

2616

2617           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

2618

2619           \*Mr. Joyce. And the gentlelady is recognized for five  
2620 minutes in support of the amendment.

2621           \*Ms. Castor. Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2622           For years this committee has investigated the malign  
2623 actions of the big tech platforms that have done everything  
2624 to hook our kids, to steal their attention. And we have done  
2625 a lot of investigation on what we need to do to counter  
2626 online predators and pornographers and online bullies.

2627           We heard from the Facebook whistleblower, Frances  
2628 Haugen, who told us that Meta, Facebook, Instagram, they all  
2629 knew about the harm it was causing our kids, but they just  
2630 kept on in the face of that understanding of the hit to the  
2631 well-being of our kids. We even watched as Mark Zuckerberg  
2632 was forced to apologize to parents here in the Congress for  
2633 the harms from stealing attention online.

2634           We -- and to the credit of this committee, after all of  
2635 those years, really being informed by our own personal  
2636 experience as parents, and some grandparents, and hearing  
2637 from parents who suffered tragedies, we finally took action  
2638 and passed the Kids Online Safety Act last September.

2639           You know, I sat with parents in the audience in the  
2640 United States Senate when KOSA passed the Senate almost  
2641 unanimously, and they had really thought that that was the  
2642 moment in time, after all the years and all of the hurt, that  
2643 the Congress was going to stand up to these platforms and to

2644 take action to protect kids online. Their hopes were dashed  
2645 when Republican Speaker Mike Johnson and Majority Leader  
2646 Steve Scalise killed the bill.

2647 I mean, we had passed it here out of this committee in a  
2648 bipartisan way, and -- I have said it before -- Gus Bilirakis  
2649 deserves a lot of credit for bringing us together and helping  
2650 to hammer out a bipartisan KOSA that passed out of this  
2651 committee.

2652 I don't think that kids and families can wait any  
2653 longer. So Mr. Chairman, my amendment today would add the  
2654 Kids Online Safety Act to strengthen the TAKE IT DOWN Act.  
2655 And after all these years, it is plain as day that the big  
2656 tech platforms elevate their bottom line over the mental,  
2657 physical, and social well-being of our kids. In fact, it was  
2658 2023 when the United States Surgeon General published an  
2659 advisory on the impacts of social media. He said it is an  
2660 important contributor to our nation's worsening youth mental  
2661 health emergency.

2662 He wrote, "Adolescents who spend more than 3 hours a day  
2663 on social media face double the risk of anxiety and  
2664 depression, and the average daily use in this age group as of  
2665 the summer of 2023 was 4.8 hours.'" And he wrote that social  
2666 media platforms can be sites for predatory behaviors and  
2667 interactions with malicious actors who target children and  
2668 adolescents like adults seeking to sexually exploit children

2669 or to financially extort them through the threat of -- or  
2670 actual distribution of intimate images.

2671 He recommended that Congress take action. Legislation  
2672 from Congress should shield young people from online  
2673 harassment, abuse, and exploitation, and from exposure to  
2674 extreme violence and sexual content that too often appears in  
2675 algorithm-driven feeds.

2676 Parents are desperate for laws and tools to help keep  
2677 kids safe online. Just look at the fact that Jonathan  
2678 Haidt's "Anxious Generation" book has been on the bestseller  
2679 list for well over a year. And while the TAKE IT DOWN Act  
2680 would criminalize posting of non-consensual, explicit images  
2681 of children and adults, we should make it stronger. Dr. Ruiz  
2682 reminded me, he pointed out, that TAKE IT DOWN, yes, it is  
2683 important, but it is reactive. It doesn't do anything  
2684 proactive to prevent the harm in the first place.

2685 So what does KOSA do? You all know this very well  
2686 because we have been working on this for years. The  
2687 amendment would require platforms to take reasonable measures  
2688 to prevent and mitigate harm online to minors. It provides  
2689 kids, teens, and parents the opportunity to turn off  
2690 recommended data-driven algorithms. It requires covered  
2691 platforms to provide parents with tools to help manage a  
2692 minor's use of a platform, including options to control  
2693 safety settings, track their time online, limit purchases,

2694 and address harmful usage. And it enables these by default.  
2695 It ensures that covered platforms offer easy-to-use controls,  
2696 prohibiting the use of dark patterns that mislead or confuse  
2697 consumers.

2698         Similar to TAKE IT DOWN, KOSA implements a dedicated  
2699 reporting channel to alert platforms of harm to minors. For  
2700 too long these big tech companies have operated with few  
2701 checks, constantly deploying deceptive platform designs.

2702         Members of this committee have said time and time again  
2703 you are committed to protecting kids online. Now is your  
2704 chance. I urge you to support my amendment and make the  
2705 online world safer for our kids.

2706         I yield back my time.

2707         \*Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady from Florida yields. The  
2708 gentleman from Florida is recognized.

2709         \*Mr. Bilirakis. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate  
2710 it -- strike the last word. I seek recognition again. I  
2711 want to oppose the amendment.

2712         I want to thank my colleague for her continued support  
2713 for the Kids Online Safety Act. Ms. Castor, you have been my  
2714 steadfast partner in protecting children online, and I know  
2715 for certain that this is one of your priorities, probably  
2716 your top priority. And of course, it is my top priority, as  
2717 well.

2718         I want to be clear. I am committed to moving KOSA

2719 across the finish line, and working with you to do so. And  
2720 we have had assurances, we have gotten assurances, and we  
2721 continue to work with the leadership on this particular  
2722 issue. It is just not the time or place for this particular  
2723 amendment, because I think we are risking the TAKE IT DOWN  
2724 Act, and we do not want to do that.

2725 I am disappointed that the previous text is being  
2726 offered as an amendment to the TAKE IT DOWN Act, as I said, a  
2727 bill which is almost surely going to be signed into law after  
2728 it passes the committee and the full House. I will tell you  
2729 this, folks, this is good work that we are doing in a  
2730 bipartisan fashion. We don't need these stalling and  
2731 delaying tactics.

2732 But I agree with everything you said, most everything  
2733 you said, Ms. Castor, and I appreciate you so very much.  
2734 However, this is not the time. This will kill the TAKE IT  
2735 DOWN Act. I am not even certain which version of the  
2736 particular amendment -- which version of the bill that was  
2737 filed last time, whether it is the version that passed the  
2738 committee or maybe it was the version that we filed together,  
2739 or it could be the Senate language. So let's get that  
2740 straight. We are not ready yet.

2741 But again, I commit. This is my top priority. I know  
2742 -- I believe it is yours. We have assurances from the  
2743 chairman of this committee. I have been working with

2744 leadership on this. Let's get this done. But I do not want  
2745 to jeopardize the TAKE IT DOWN Act.

2746 As a matter of fact, in Pasco County, which is -- I  
2747 think I have a couple more minutes -- in Pasco County, which  
2748 is in my district, the sheriff approached me, Sheriff Nocco,  
2749 and he said a teacher was found to be making AI images,  
2750 computer-generated images of children performing sexual acts.  
2751 Very sick. Very sick. And because we don't have the TAKE IT  
2752 DOWN Act, we can't prosecute this particular teacher that is  
2753 doing this terrible thing to our children. And, obviously,  
2754 he is being prosecuted in certain -- with certain other  
2755 charges, but not with this particular charge. But the TAKE  
2756 IT DOWN Act will address this issue, so let's not jeopardize  
2757 this particular bill. Let's get it to the President's desk  
2758 as soon as possible.

2759 I would like to ask the gentlelady, my good friend from  
2760 Florida, from the Tampa Bay area, to withdraw. If not, I am  
2761 going to have to recommend that we vote down this amendment.  
2762 Thank you very much, and --

2763 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Will the gentleman --

2764 \*Mr. Bilirakis. -- I yield back --

2765 \*Mrs. Fletcher. -- yield for a question?

2766 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Yes, please. Yes.

2767 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Thank you so much, Mr. Bilirakis, and I  
2768 appreciate the questions and comments that you are making.

2769 But you just said something we heard from Mr. James earlier,  
2770 that these amendments are just stalling and delaying tactics.  
2771 And I understand what you are saying, that you want to see  
2772 this bill move quickly, but was this not raised in the markup  
2773 in the subcommittee before it came to the full committee,  
2774 when -- did a subcommittee actually look at this bill?

2775 \*Mr. Bilirakis. This is a -- well, what we did was --  
2776 this is a four corners agreement, and that is why we don't  
2777 want to stall this any further. You know, most people  
2778 actually are familiar with this particular bill. Again, the  
2779 four corner agreements will move forward, and --

2780 \*Mrs. Fletcher. But so this is the --

2781 \*Mr. Bilirakis. -- that is why -- so, I mean, I don't  
2782 know why you would object to getting this bill through  
2783 because we have -- I mean, more than likely we are going to  
2784 have a unanimous vote on this particular bill in committee,  
2785 and --

2786 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Well --

2787 \*Mr. Bilirakis. -- it will get to the floor of the  
2788 House as soon as possible.

2789 So, I mean, let's do our work. And I think that the --  
2790 it is a stalling tactic, and I believe that some of these  
2791 amendments are just placed there -- it is -- frankly, it is  
2792 frustrating that we are not moving forward on this particular  
2793 bill that everyone agrees to, and it is vitally necessary to

2794 protect our kids.

2795 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Thank you for yielding.

2796 \*Ms. DeGette. Will the gentleman yield?

2797 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Oh, I guess I am out of time so I can't  
2798 yield.

2799 \*Ms. DeGette. Okay.

2800 \*Mr. Bilirakis. So I guess you will have to ask for  
2801 time.

2802 Thank you. I yield back, Mr. --

2803 \*Mr. Joyce. Does someone else seek recognition?

2804 The gentlelady from Texas.

2805 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Thank you so much, Mr. Chairman. I  
2806 move to strike the last word.

2807 \*Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady is recognized.

2808 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Thank you so much. Look, I hadn't  
2809 anticipated speaking, but I appreciate your answers to my  
2810 questions to Mr. Bilirakis.

2811 I just -- it sounds like this is an issue -- this is the  
2812 first time this committee is considering this bill. It  
2813 didn't go through regular order, it didn't go through a  
2814 subcommittee. This is the first time that we are weighing in  
2815 on this TAKE IT DOWN Act, and I don't think that sitting here  
2816 offering amendments, debating the substance of the bill,  
2817 trying to make it better, trying to address long-term issues  
2818 about kids' privacy is a waste of time or is a delay tactic.

2819           If all we are here to do is take something that the  
2820 President wants or that Elon Musk wants, we don't need to be  
2821 here. We are all legislators. Many people in this room have  
2822 been working for years on this issue, and we are here to do  
2823 this work. This isn't delaying. There may very well be a  
2824 unanimous vote at the end of this markup, at the end of  
2825 discussion, but we are here to discuss it, and we are here to  
2826 try to make it better if we can, to try to identify problems  
2827 if we can. That is what a markup is for. This is our job.  
2828 This is why we are here.

2829           And I am so frustrated. We have heard over and over in  
2830 this committee about bills that we passed last year that got  
2831 pulled out of the year-end package because Elon Musk tweeted  
2832 that he didn't like it. And as our colleague noted in a  
2833 hearing recently, he said it was too long, he said it was,  
2834 you know, too many pages without understanding the substance,  
2835 and a week later he asked what pharmacy benefit managers  
2836 were. Why are we substituting his judgment for our judgment?

2837           We have been working on these issues for years, and  
2838 offering amendments in a markup is exactly what we are here  
2839 to do. So I just think that we should kind of cool the  
2840 rhetoric about slowing it down. We are considering it in  
2841 this committee today, but this is our job. This is what we  
2842 are here to do. And so I --

2843           \*Mr. Bilirakis. Will the gentlelady yield?

2844           \*Mrs. Fletcher. I will yield for a question, yes, Mr.  
2845 Bilirakis.

2846           \*Mr. Bilirakis. Okay. Well, no, I just want to make a  
2847 couple statements and clarify. We did have a subcommittee  
2848 hearing on this particular bill this year. We -- it passed  
2849 the Senate unanimously, and you know how hard -- how  
2850 difficult that is.

2851           And also, we have 100 groups that are supporting this  
2852 particular bill, and the ranking member, of course, agreed in  
2853 December to move this bill forward. So, in my opinion, that  
2854 is enough.

2855           \*Mrs. Fletcher. As --

2856           \*Mr. Bilirakis. If you don't like the bill or you don't  
2857 think the bill is good enough, obviously, you can vote it  
2858 down. But --

2859           \*Mrs. Fletcher. Well --

2860           \*Mr. Bilirakis. -- I think we should --

2861           \*Mrs. Fletcher. -- thank you. I will reclaim my time.  
2862 I am not saying I dislike the bill, but I am saying I dislike  
2863 what is happening on this committee, where we want to take  
2864 legislation prepared by someone else, eliminate input from  
2865 members on both sides of the aisle, certainly eliminate any  
2866 Democratic participation or amendments, not debate them. We  
2867 are here to make good legislation, and when things come to us  
2868 we can -- you are right, we could just have an up or down

2869 vote.

2870           If you all vote down this amendment today, if you vote  
2871 down any of these amendments, you have more votes than we do.  
2872 So we will just consider the bill as written. But that does  
2873 not absolve us of the responsibility of doing our jobs here.  
2874 And it is very frustrating for many of us to sit over here  
2875 and see work we have done for years getting destroyed by this  
2876 administration, to see agencies -- we just had a hearing last  
2877 week on SAMHSA and mental health -- or on the FDA -- and  
2878 during the hearing the former commissioner of the FDA said,  
2879 "The FDA, as we know it, is gone'' because they just fired  
2880 everybody. We were sitting in this room while people were  
2881 swiping their badges to figure out if they still had a job.

2882           We have been working not only on smart legislation, but  
2883 making sure we have agencies to implement it. It was the  
2884 same issue with the FTC commissioners in an earlier bill.  
2885 This administration is firing people and making it impossible  
2886 to carry out the legislation that we are passing. So that is  
2887 frustrating. We shouldn't stop doing the work that we are  
2888 doing here, and the work that we were sent here to do on  
2889 behalf of the people who sent us here.

2890           So with that I yield back.

2891           \*Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady from Texas yields. The  
2892 chair recognizes the chairman of the committee, Mr. Guthrie.

2893           \*The Chair. Thank you very much. I appreciate it.

2894           And we sat down and looked, and we respect everybody's  
2895 work here. We -- and understand that there is opportunities  
2896 for you to bring amendments and discuss some issues you want  
2897 to discuss, and that is a fair point. But when we sat down  
2898 and looked at the end-of-year package, we wanted to make sure  
2899 that both sides of the aisle get bills today. We wanted to  
2900 make sure, as I told the ranking member, we went to  
2901 leadership and said we don't want to just pass bills out of  
2902 committee and you only pass Republican bills on the floor.  
2903 So we had a commitment for them to do that.

2904           But I do appreciate that you are bringing amendments so  
2905 you can discuss some things you want to discuss. And so what  
2906 we agreed on is bills that passed not necessarily unanimous  
2907 across the floor, but essentially out of committee across the  
2908 floor. The TAKE IT DOWN Act didn't pass the House last  
2909 Congress. That is a fair point. But it was in the year  
2910 package, so negotiated on. That is why we had a subcommittee  
2911 hearing on it last week to make sure that we have the chance  
2912 to talk about these.

2913           This is a bill that has gone from the Senate to us. So  
2914 as soon as we pass it, it goes to the President. And that is  
2915 why we are trying to get it signed into law. I had a -- as  
2916 we had in the hearing -- I know all of us have these stories  
2917 -- I had a young man, Eli Heacock, who took his life the  
2918 other day -- about two or three weeks ago because of what was

2919 going on to him online. And so when we say stalling tactic,  
2920 we are just trying to get this -- we want to get this signed  
2921 into law.

2922 I appreciate your points. You make well-made points.  
2923 But we really tried to construct this markup so that all of  
2924 us could get the agenda -- at least what we had in the  
2925 commerce title of the end-of-year package, because we are  
2926 frustrated it didn't get passed. I am frustrated it didn't  
2927 get passed. So we are trying to do it, and we are doing it  
2928 today, at least the commerce titles. But your points are  
2929 well taken, and -- but I want you to know, from our side, we  
2930 are trying to include everybody in this process, too.

2931 So I will yield back.

2932 \*Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. If there is no  
2933 further discussion, the vote occurs on the amendment.

2934 The chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington,  
2935 Dr. Schrier.

2936 \*Mr. Schrier. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to thank  
2937 Representative Castor for introducing this amendment to offer  
2938 up the stronger version of the Kids Online Safety Act. It is  
2939 a bill I very enthusiastically support.

2940 This bill, frankly, which we all support, didn't make it  
2941 to the floor last year because Republican leadership blocked  
2942 it, and that was a dangerous and devastating loss for all of  
2943 our constituents who have been asking us for protections.

2944 Too many children and families have been harmed by the  
2945 addictive algorithms that social media companies push on our  
2946 kids, and it is essential to include the duty of care  
2947 standard in any legislation that aims to hold big tech  
2948 accountable when their algorithms present dangerous  
2949 information and content to children. And the Kids Online  
2950 Safety Act does exactly that. Enforcing the duty of care and  
2951 giving parents the individual right of action would make sure  
2952 this bill has teeth.

2953         So I want to thank Representative Castor again for  
2954 introducing this amendment, and I encourage all my colleagues  
2955 to support it.

2956         I yield back.

2957         \*Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady yields. The gentlewoman  
2958 from New York is recognized.

2959         \*Ms. Ocasio-Cortez. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I  
2960 would like to thank everyone for the intent of this bill.

2961         This is my first time serving on this committee. I  
2962 understand this bill is deeply bipartisan. In good faith I  
2963 want to just raise some questions around First Amendment  
2964 concerns regarding the bill, particularly through the duty of  
2965 care provision.

2966         I am very concerned with especially this  
2967 administration's stance towards the LGBTQ community and the  
2968 intended blurring of lines between LGBTQ rights and

2969 accusations of things such as "grooming," and just the  
2970 existence of trans people as some sort of alleged threat to  
2971 children. I deeply appreciate that this version that has  
2972 been presented today has removed the specific mentioning of  
2973 grooming, but I maintain my concern about using the duty of  
2974 care as the vehicle for this kind of enforcement, especially  
2975 because that is historically housed under the FTC, and we  
2976 have seen a partisan dismissal of the FTC, as well.

2977 And so I raise this. I understand that this bill, I am  
2978 sure, will return here. And I would like for us to continue  
2979 this discussion so that we can continue to engage in this  
2980 effort to protect our kids and children's safety online and  
2981 privacy. And again, I appreciate the debate and discussion  
2982 on this.

2983 And I yield back.

2984 \*Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady yields. If there is no  
2985 further discussion, the vote occurs on the amendment. The  
2986 ranking member has requested a record [sic] vote, and the  
2987 clerk will call the roll.

2988 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

2989 \*Mr. Latta. No.

2990 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes no.

2991 Mr. Griffith?

2992 \*Mr. Griffith. No.

2993 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes no.

2994 Mr. Bilirakis?

2995 \*Mr. Bilirakis. No.

2996 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes no.

2997 Mr. Hudson?

2998 \*Mr. Hudson. No.

2999 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes no.

3000 Mr. Carter of Georgia?

3001 \*Mr. Carter of Georgia. No.

3002 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia votes no.

3003 Mr. Palmer?

3004 \*Mr. Palmer. No.

3005 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes no.

3006 Mr. Dunn?

3007 [No response.]

3008 \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn?

3009 \*Mr. Dunn. No.

3010 \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes no.

3011 Mr. Crenshaw?

3012 [No response.]

3013 \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce?

3014 \*Mr. Joyce. No.

3015 \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes no.

3016 Mr. Weber?

3017 \*Mr. Weber. No.

3018 \*The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes no.

3019 Mr. Allen?  
3020 \*Mr. Allen. No.  
3021 \*The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes no.  
3022 Mr. Balderson?  
3023 \*Mr. Balderson. No.  
3024 \*The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes no.  
3025 Mr. Fulcher?  
3026 [No response.]  
3027 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger?  
3028 \*Mr. Pfluger. No.  
3029 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes no.  
3030 Mrs. Harshbarger?  
3031 \*Mrs. Harshbarger. No.  
3032 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes no.  
3033 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?  
3034 \*Mrs. Miller-Meeks. No.  
3035 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes no.  
3036 Mrs. Cammack?  
3037 \*Mrs. Cammack. No.  
3038 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes no.  
3039 Mr. Obernolte?  
3040 \*Mr. Obernolte. No.  
3041 \*The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte votes no.  
3042 Mr. James?  
3043 [No response.]

3044

3045           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bentz?

3046           [No response.]

3047           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Houchin?

3048           \*Mrs. Houchin.   No.

3049           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Houchin votes no.

3050           Mr. Fry?

3051           \*Mr. Fry.   No.

3052           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Fry votes no.

3053           Ms. Lee?

3054           \*Ms. Lee.   No.

3055           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Lee votes no.

3056           Mr. Langworthy?

3057           \*Mr. Langworthy.   No.

3058           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Langworthy votes no.

3059           Mr. Kean?

3060           \*Mr. Kean.   No.

3061           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Kean votes on.

3062           Mr. Rulli?

3063           \*Mr. Rulli.   No.

3064           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rulli votes no.

3065           Mr. Evans?

3066           \*Mr. Evans.   No.

3067           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Evans votes no.

3068           Mr. Goldman?

3069           \*Mr. Goldman.   No.  
3070           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Goldman votes no.  
3071           Mrs. Fedorchak?  
3072           \*Mrs. Fedorchak.   No.  
3073           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fedorchak votes no.  
3074           Mr. Pallone?  
3075           \*Mr. Pallone.   Aye.  
3076           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pallone votes aye.  
3077           Ms. DeGette?  
3078           \*Ms. DeGette.   Aye.  
3079           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes aye.  
3080           Ms. Schakowsky?  
3081           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   Aye.  
3082           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.  
3083           Ms. Matsui?  
3084           \*Ms. Matsui.   Aye.  
3085           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes aye.  
3086           Ms. Castor?  
3087           \*Ms. Castor.   Aye.  
3088           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Castor votes aye.  
3089           Mr. Tonko?  
3090           \*Mr. Tonko.   No.  
3091           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Tonko votes no.  
3092           Ms. Clarke?  
3093           \*Ms. Clarke.   Aye.

3094           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Clarke votes aye.  
3095           Mr. Ruiz?  
3096           \*Mr. Ruiz.   Aye.  
3097           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Ruiz votes aye.  
3098           Mr. Peters?  
3099           [No response.]  
3100           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Dingell?  
3101           \*Mrs. Dingell.   Aye.  
3102           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Dingell votes aye.  
3103           Mr. Veasey?  
3104           \*Mr. Veasey.   Aye.  
3105           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Veasey votes aye.  
3106           Ms. Kelly?  
3107           \*Ms. Kelly.   Aye.  
3108           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kelly votes aye.  
3109           Ms. Barragan?  
3110           \*Ms. Barragan.   Aye.  
3111           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Barragan votes aye.  
3112           Mr. Soto?  
3113           \*Mr. Soto.   Aye.  
3114           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Soto votes aye.  
3115           Ms. Schrier?  
3116           \*Ms. Schrier.   Aye.  
3117           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schrier votes aye.  
3118           Mrs. Trahan?

3119           \*Mrs. Trahan.   Aye.  
3120           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Trahan votes aye.  
3121           Mrs. Fletcher?  
3122           \*Mrs. Fletcher.   Aye.  
3123           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.  
3124           Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?  
3125           \*Ms. Ocasio-Cortez.   No.  
3126           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Ocasio-Cortez votes no.  
3127           Mr. Auchincloss?  
3128           \*Mr. Auchincloss.   Aye.  
3129           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.  
3130           Mr. Carter of Louisiana?  
3131           \*Mr. Carter of Louisiana.   Aye.  
3132           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes aye.  
3133           Mr. Menendez?  
3134           \*Mr. Menendez.   Aye.  
3135           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Menendez votes aye.  
3136           Mr. Mullin?  
3137           [No response.]  
3138           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Landsman?  
3139           \*Mr. Landsman.   Aye.  
3140           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Landsman votes aye.  
3141           Ms. McClellan?  
3142           \*Ms. McClellan.   Aye.  
3143           \*The Clerk.   Ms. McClellan votes aye.

3144 Chairman Guthrie?

3145 \*The Chair. No.

3146 \*The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes no.

3147 \*Mr. Joyce. How is Mr. James recorded?

3148 \*The Clerk. Mr. James is not recorded.

3149 \*The Chair. How --

3150 \*Mr. James. Votes no.

3151 \*The Clerk. Mr. James votes no.

3152 \*Mr. Joyce. How is Mr. Fulcher recorded?

3153 \*The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher is not recorded.

3154 \*Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher, no.

3155 \*The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes no.

3156 \*Mr. Joyce. The clerk will report the result.

3157 How is Mr. Crenshaw recorded?

3158 \*The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw is not recorded.

3159 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Crenshaw votes no.

3160 \*The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes no.

3161 [Pause.]

3162 \*The Clerk. Mr. Chairman, on that vote there were 20

3163 ayes and 31 noes.

3164 \*Mr. Joyce. The amendment is not agreed to. Are there  
3165 any further amendments?

3166 The chair recognizes the ranking member, Mr. Pallone.

3167 \*Mr. Pallone. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the  
3168 desk labeled 633-02 XML.

3169           \*Mr. Joyce. The clerk will report the amendment.

3170           \*The Clerk. Amendment to H.R. 633, offered by Mr.

3171 Pallone. Page 6, line 19, strike depiction of --

3172           \*Mr. Joyce. Without objection, the reading of the  
3173 amendment is dispensed with.

3174           [The amendment of Mr. Pallone follows:]

3175

3176           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

3177

3178           \*Mr. Joyce. And the gentleman is recognized for five  
3179 minutes in support of his amendment.

3180           \*Mr. Pallone. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3181           The TAKE IT DOWN Act has an admirable goal, which is  
3182 swift recourse for victims of one of the most harmful trends  
3183 to proliferate in the social media era, the sharing of  
3184 graphic, authentic, and deepfake intimate imagery without the  
3185 subject's consent. And these violations represent some of  
3186 the worst of what social media and artificial intelligence  
3187 have to offer.

3188           It is our duty to protect Americans, particularly our  
3189 children, against such horrible acts. That is why the TAKE  
3190 IT DOWN Act was included in the end-of-the-year bipartisan  
3191 package, and would already be law if my Republican colleagues  
3192 had not bowed to Elon Musk's demands to not move the package.

3193           Now, that being said, this bill did not receive careful  
3194 consideration in our committee last Congress, and it is our  
3195 obligation in this markup to identify and address loopholes  
3196 and uncertain language that creates the opportunity for abuse  
3197 that would tarnish the promise to victims this bill intends  
3198 to empower.

3199           And more than 10 days ago we reached out to the  
3200 Republican majority to request a discussion on a number of  
3201 potential improvements to the bill, many recommended by  
3202 conscientious stakeholders. Committee Republicans

3203 categorically declined to discuss any changes to the bill. I  
3204 have a couple -- my amendment addresses two of these  
3205 important deficiencies.

3206         Mr. Chairman, I do want to stress, you know, I -- the  
3207 thing that really disturbs me here is the fact that we had  
3208 these reasonable technical amendments that are not being  
3209 considered or even discussed. And I understand Mr. Guthrie  
3210 -- that Chairman Guthrie, mentioned that, you know, they just  
3211 want to take up the Senate bill, which is why they don't want  
3212 to do any changes at all. But, you know, when you have  
3213 deficiencies -- and we are trying to correct them -- you  
3214 know, some people may think these things are not important,  
3215 but I think they are. So let me address what the amendment  
3216 does.

3217         First, it would prevent bad actors from falsely claiming  
3218 to be authorized to make a take-down request on behalf of  
3219 someone else. This is a common-sense guardrail to protect  
3220 against weaponization of this bill to take down images that  
3221 are published with the consent of the subject matter of the  
3222 images.

3223         And second, my amendment would narrow the exemption that  
3224 prohibits criminal prosecution of a person for possessing or  
3225 publishing an intimate image of him or herself so that it  
3226 applies only where the nude or sexually explicit image is  
3227 solely of the person in question. Failure to narrow the

3228 scope of this exemption could allow, for example, a person to  
3229 escape criminal liability for distributing real or deepfake  
3230 intimate images of his or -- well, himself or his ex-  
3231 girlfriend in order to cause the ex-girlfriend, for example,  
3232 psychological, financial, and reputational harm.

3233 Now, I don't think that is the intent of the drafters or  
3234 the members of this committee. Again, I understand that you  
3235 might say, well, what does it matter? But I think it does  
3236 matter, and so I urge my colleagues to support this amendment  
3237 and ensure the provisions of this bill do not lead to  
3238 unintended but easily foreseeable consequences for victims.

3239 And with that I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

3240 \*The Chair. [Presiding.] The gentleman yields back. Is  
3241 anyone seeking -- the gentleman from Florida, for what  
3242 purpose do you seek recognition?

3243 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Yes, to strike the last word.

3244 \*The Chair. The gentleman is recognized.

3245 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate  
3246 it.

3247 Let's not pretend these amendments are thoughtful policy  
3248 contributions. They are delay tactics, plain and simple.  
3249 This bill passed the Senate with full -- as I said, full  
3250 bipartisan support, UC, which is practically unheard of with  
3251 these type of bills. It has broad bipartisan support, as I  
3252 said, and in the House, as well. And we have a four corners

3253 agreement. We have 100 groups backing this particular bill.

3254 We are here to protect children and support survivors.

3255 So I object to this particular amendment. I urge my  
3256 colleagues again to vote no on this particular amendment, and  
3257 vote yes on --

3258 \*Mr. Pallone. Mr. Chairman, can I --

3259 \*Mr. Bilirakis. -- the bill as is.

3260 \*Mr. Pallone. Can I --

3261 \*Mr. Bilirakis. I don't want to jeopardize this bill by  
3262 adding something here that I consider a stalling tactic.

3263 So, yes, of course, I will yield.

3264 \*Mr. Pallone. Mr. Bilirakis, Mr. Chairman, look, I  
3265 think it is unfortunate you see this as a delay tactic. That  
3266 is not what it is.

3267 First of all, Mr. -- Chairman Guthrie already said that  
3268 he is going to take up the Senate bill, so that can be done  
3269 at any time by the leadership. They don't even need to pay  
3270 any attention to what we do here today, if that is what they  
3271 want to do. I am -- just want you to understand that when we  
3272 have some technical amendments that we think are important to  
3273 the victims, that those should be considered, and they were  
3274 not today. It is not a delaying tactic. You can take up the  
3275 Senate bill whenever you want. And according to the chairman  
3276 of the committee, he is going to do that anyway. So there is  
3277 no delay here. It is just an effort to point out that there

3278 are some problems here that should be addressed.

3279 And I am only asking that they be considered, and not be  
3280 considered a delaying tactic. That is not my intention.

3281 But I yield back.

3282 \*Mr. Bilirakis. And I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

3283 \*Mrs. Dingell. With respect for my dear friend, I just  
3284 want to say, you know, delay tactics was when we didn't pass  
3285 this bill last year. And I am a strong supporter, as you  
3286 know, of TAKE IT DOWN, and I just believe we have got to pass  
3287 the most strongest bill possible.

3288 Ranking Member Pallone's amendment makes necessary  
3289 changes, I believe, to ensure the legitimacy of take-down  
3290 requests by ensuring that those submitting requests are  
3291 acting in good faith under penalty of perjury. And I have  
3292 actually seen where people have tried stalling tactics of not  
3293 legitimate take-down requests. It would also close a  
3294 potential loophole that would exempt people who disclose non-  
3295 consensual intimate images from criminal provisions simply  
3296 because the image depicts themselves as well as their  
3297 victims.

3298 Common sense improvements like this only serve to  
3299 further strengthen protections for women and children online,  
3300 and I thank you for yielding your time.

3301 \*The Chair. Will the gentleman yield to me?

3302 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Yes, I will.

3303           \*The Chair. I know everybody on both sides supports  
3304 this bill and wants the premise of this bill to be done. My  
3305 point in saying -- I don't think it is tactics, that you are  
3306 doing that intentional -- you guys are doing it nefariously  
3307 at all. But I do -- if we adopt the Senate bill, it does get  
3308 to the floor early when we get back from Easter and right to  
3309 the President's desk. So that is, I guess, what we are  
3310 trying to say.

3311           I will yield back to my friend from Florida.

3312           \*Mr. Bilirakis. I yield back. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3313           \*The Chair. Thank you.

3314           Any further discussion?

3315           Seeing none, if there is no further discussion, the vote  
3316 occurs on the amendment.

3317           All those in favor shall signify by saying aye.

3318           All those opposed, nay.

3319           The nays have it, and the amendment is not agreed to.

3320           Are there any further amendments?

3321           The gentleman from Massachusetts, Mr. Auchincloss, for  
3322 what purpose do you seek recognition?

3323           \*Mr. Auchincloss. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at  
3324 the desk --

3325           \*The Chair. The gentleman is recognized to discuss his  
3326 amendment.

3327           \*Mr. Auchincloss. Thanks, Mr. --

3328           \*The Chair. The clerk will report. I am sorry. The  
3329 clerk will report.

3330           \*The Clerk. Amendment in the nature of a substitute to  
3331 H.R. 633 --

3332           \*The Chair. Without objection, the reading of the  
3333 amendment is dispensed with.

3334           [The amendment of Mr. Auchincloss follows:]

3335

3336           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

3337

3338           \*The Chair. And the gentleman is recognized for five  
3339 minutes in support of the amendment.

3340           \*Mr. Auchincloss. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3341           I strongly support the intent of the TAKE IT DOWN Act.

3342 As we all know, there is an epidemic of non-consensual  
3343 deepfake pornography primarily targeting women and girls.  
3344 The vast majority of online deepfake imagery is deepfake  
3345 pornography, and the vast majority of that targets women.

3346           This is also, however, a major problem for young men,  
3347 not just because young men also can be sexually exploited  
3348 online, but also because this type of deepfake pornography  
3349 lies to young men about the nature of sex, and it also  
3350 impairs their ability to form healthy, intimate relationships  
3351 on their own.

3352           Last Congress I introduced bipartisan legislation to  
3353 hold social media companies accountable for the proliferation  
3354 of deepfake abuse and online harms on their platforms.  
3355 Section 230's liability shield for online platforms has led  
3356 to a lack of an incentive for their CEOs and boards of  
3357 directors to ensure user safety or address harmful content on  
3358 their apps. And my bill, the Intimate Privacy Protection  
3359 Act, conditions the applicability of section 230's liability  
3360 shield on a platform implementing a duty of care, a set of  
3361 basic steps that requires companies to be responsive to  
3362 complaints about cyber stalking, intimate privacy violations,

3363 and digital forgeries.

3364       So while I fully support the TAKE IT DOWN Act's  
3365 inclusion of criminal statutes for publication of non-  
3366 consensual intimate images, and I do believe that those  
3367 notice and take-down provisions will go a long way to helping  
3368 victims of deepfake abuse, I believe that ultimately a  
3369 stronger bill would condition those requirements on -- or  
3370 would condition, rather, section 230 on those requirements.  
3371 If we want social media platforms to be better actors in this  
3372 space, we need to make them liable for their inaction. And  
3373 for that reason this amendment would strike the text of TAKE  
3374 IT DOWN, and replace it with my Intimate Privacy Protection  
3375 Act.

3376       It is important for Congress to steel itself for the  
3377 fight ahead to sunset section 230. And we know how big tech  
3378 lobbies on this issue. First, big tech will come to Congress  
3379 and they will claim, well, if you take section 230 away, you  
3380 are going to impair freedom of expression. Well, as Ranking  
3381 Member Pallone and former Chairwoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
3382 said in their excellent op ed in the Wall Street Journal last  
3383 term, we have the First Amendment for freedom of expression  
3384 issues. James Madison didn't write section 230. It was  
3385 written in the 1990s, and it is a liability shield for big  
3386 tech platforms. It is not a sacrosanct protection for the  
3387 First Amendment.

3388           The second thing the social media corporations will say  
3389 about section 230 is, oh, if you take this away, then we are  
3390 going to lose on AI to China. And I think that is just  
3391 nonsensical. I mean, OpenAI just raised a \$40 billion round,  
3392 the most lucrative private round in the history of venture  
3393 capital, based entirely on AI. I think there is plenty of  
3394 money going towards artificial intelligence and our  
3395 competition with China.

3396           And the third thing that big tech companies will do on  
3397 section 230 is they won't even show up themselves. They will  
3398 fund a bunch of front groups to come lobby on esoteric and  
3399 distinct issues. But they are suspiciously well funded, and  
3400 they are always targeting the protection of section 230 and  
3401 the degradation of intellectual property.

3402           So we have to steel ourselves for 230 reforms and  
3403 understand the absolute barrage of corporate lobbying that  
3404 will come our way. And Chairman Guthrie, I am happy to  
3405 withdraw this amendment if I could just get a commitment to  
3406 [sic] you that you are willing to work on section 230 reform  
3407 with Ranking Member Pallone and E&C Democrats.

3408           \*The Chair. I look forward to the opportunity for us to  
3409 work for it, and tomorrow be a good time to ask questions of  
3410 some people who are going to be before our hearing tomorrow  
3411 on AI and China and regulations. So yes, I would be willing  
3412 to work with you.

3413           \*Mr. Auchincloss. And you believe that we do need to  
3414 look at section 230?

3415           \*The Chair. I think we need to look at everything as we  
3416 look at privacy, and see where it needs to go. I am willing  
3417 to work with you. I am not committing to any end result, but  
3418 we are willing to work together, sure.

3419           \*Mr. Auchincloss. Your predecessor took a bold stand on  
3420 that, and I would encourage you to take a similarly bold  
3421 stand up against the big tech lobby.

3422           I will withdraw the amendment, and I will yield back my  
3423 time.

3424           \*The Chair. Without objection, the amendment is  
3425 withdrawn.

3426           Is there any further discussion?

3427           The gentleman from --

3428           \*Mr. Bilirakis. I ask for a roll call.

3429           \*The Chair. Well, let me -- let's see, if there is no  
3430 further discussion, the question now occurs on adopting H.R.  
3431 633 as -- excuse me, 633. A roll call vote has been  
3432 requested by Mr. Bilirakis of Florida. So the clerk will  
3433 call the roll.

3434           \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

3435           \*Mr. Latta. Aye.

3436           \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

3437           Mr. Griffith?

3438           \*Mr. Griffith.   Aye.  
3439           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Griffith votes aye/  
3440           Mr. Bilirakis?  
3441           \*Mr. Bilirakis.   Aye.  
3442           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.  
3443           Mr. Hudson?  
3444           \*Mr. Hudson.   Aye.  
3445           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Hudson votes aye.  
3446           Mr. Carter of Georgia?  
3447           \*Mr. Carter of Georgia.   Aye.  
3448           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Carter of Georgia votes aye.  
3449           Mr. Palmer?  
3450           [No response.]  
3451           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn?  
3452           [No response.]  
3453           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw?  
3454           [No response.]  
3455           \*Mr. Dunn.   Aye.  
3456           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn votes aye.  
3457           Mr. Joyce?  
3458           \*Mr. Joyce.   Aye.  
3459           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce votes aye.  
3460           Mr. Weber?  
3461           \*Mr. Weber.   Yes, sir.  
3462           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Weber votes aye.

3463 Mr. Allen?  
3464 \*Mr. Allen. Aye.  
3465 \*The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes aye.  
3466 Mr. Balderson?  
3467 \*Mr. Balderson. Aye.  
3468 \*The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes aye.  
3469 Mr. Fulcher?  
3470 \*Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher is aye.  
3471 \*The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes aye.  
3472 Mr. Pfluger?  
3473 \*Mr. Pfluger. Aye.  
3474 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes aye.  
3475 Mrs. Harshbarger?  
3476 \*Mrs. Harshbarger. Aye.  
3477 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes aye.  
3478 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?  
3479 \*Mrs. Miller-Meeks. Aye.  
3480 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes aye.  
3481 Mrs. Cammack?  
3482 \*Mrs. Cammack. Aye.  
3483 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes aye.  
3484 Mr. Obernolte?  
3485 [No response.]  
3486 \*The Clerk. Mr. James?  
3487 [No response.]

3488

3489           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bentz?

3490           [No response.]

3491           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Houchin?

3492           \*Mrs. Houchin.   Aye.

3493           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Houchin votes aye.

3494           Mr. Fry?

3495           [No response.]

3496           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Lee?

3497           \*Ms. Lee.    Aye.

3498           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Lee votes aye.

3499           Mr. Langworthy?

3500           \*Mr. Langworthy.   Aye.

3501           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Langworthy votes aye.

3502           Mr. Kean?

3503           \*Mr. Kean.    Aye.

3504           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Kean votes aye.

3505           Mr. Rulli?

3506           \*Mr. Rulli.   Aye.

3507           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rulli votes aye.

3508           Mr. Evans?

3509           \*Mr. Evans.   Aye.

3510           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Evans votes aye.

3511           Mr. Goldman?

3512           \*Mr. Goldman.   Aye.

3513           \*The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes aye.  
3514           Mrs. Fedorchak?  
3515           \*Mrs. Fedorchak. Aye.  
3516           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes aye.  
3517           Mr. Pallone?  
3518           \*Mr. Pallone. Aye.  
3519           \*The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes aye.  
3520           Ms. DeGette?  
3521           \*Ms. DeGette. Aye.  
3522           \*The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes aye.  
3523           Ms. Schakowsky?  
3524           \*Ms. Schakowsky. Aye.  
3525           \*The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.  
3526           Ms. Matsui?  
3527           \*Ms. Matsui. Aye.  
3528           \*The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes aye.  
3529           Ms. Castor?  
3530           \*Ms. Castor. Aye.  
3531           \*The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes aye.  
3532           Mr. Tonko?  
3533           \*Mr. Tonko. Aye.  
3534           \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes aye.  
3535           Ms. Clarke?  
3536           \*Ms. Clarke. No.  
3537           \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.

3538 Mr. Ruiz?  
3539 \*Mr. Ruiz. Aye.  
3540 \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes aye.  
3541 Mr. Peters?  
3542 [No response.]  
3543 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell?  
3544 \*Mrs. Dingell. Aye.  
3545 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes aye.  
3546 Mr. Veasey?  
3547 \*Mr. Veasey. Aye.  
3548 \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes aye.  
3549 Ms. Kelly?  
3550 \*Ms. Kelly. Aye.  
3551 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes aye.  
3552 Ms. Barragan?  
3553 [No response.]  
3554 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto?  
3555 \*Mr. Soto. Aye.  
3556 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.  
3557 Ms. Schrier?  
3558 \*Ms. Schrier. Aye.  
3559 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.  
3560 Mrs. Trahan?  
3561 \*Mrs. Trahan. Aye.  
3562 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.

3563 Mrs. Fletcher?  
3564 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Aye.  
3565 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.  
3566 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?  
3567 \*Ms. Ocasio-Cortez. Aye.  
3568 \*The Clerk. Ms. Ocasio-Cortez votes aye.  
3569 Mr. Auchincloss?  
3570 \*Mr. Auchincloss. Aye.  
3571 \*The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.  
3572 Mr. Carter of Louisiana?  
3573 \*Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Aye.  
3574 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes aye.  
3575 Mr. Menendez?  
3576 \*Mr. Menendez. Aye.  
3577 \*The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes aye.  
3578 Mr. Mullin?  
3579 \*Mr. Mullin. Aye.  
3580 \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
3581 Mr. Landsman?  
3582 \*Mr. Landsman. Aye.  
3583 \*The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes aye.  
3584 Ms. McClellan?  
3585 \*Ms. McClellan. Aye.  
3586 \*The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes aye.  
3587 Chairman Guthrie?

3588           \*The Chair.   Aye.

3589

3590           \*The Clerk.   Chairman Guthrie votes aye.

3591           \*The Chair.   How is Mr. Palmer recorded?

3592           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Palmer is not recorded.

3593           \*Mr. Palmer.   Aye.

3594           \*The Clerk.   Mr. --

3595           \*The Chair.   Mr. James?

3596           \*The Clerk.   -- Palmer votes aye.

3597           Mr. James?

3598           \*Mr. James.   Aye.

3599           \*The Clerk.   Mr. James votes aye.

3600           \*The Chair.   Ms. Barragan?

3601           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Barragan is not recorded.

3602           \*Ms. Barragan.   Aye.

3603           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Barragan votes aye.

3604           \*The Chair.   Mr. Crenshaw?

3605           \*Mr. Crenshaw.   Votes aye.

3606           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.

3607           \*The Chair.   Members?

3608           Seeing none, the clerk will report.

3609           [Pause.]

3610           \*The Clerk.   Chairman Guthrie, on that vote there were

3611           49 ayes and 1 no.

3612           \*The Chair.   The ayes have it, and the bill is agreed

3613 to.

3614           The chair calls up H.R. 1664, and asks the clerk to  
3615 report.

3616           \*The Clerk. H.R. 1664, a bill to direct the Secretary  
3617 of --

3618           \*The Chair. Without objection, the first reading of the  
3619 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for  
3620 amendment at any point.

3621           So ordered.

3622           [The bill follows:]

3623

3624           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

3625

3626           \*The Chair. Does anybody seek recognition on the bill?

3627           For what purposes does the gentlelady from the very  
3628 happy city of Gainesville, Florida seek recognition?

3629           [Laughter.]

3630           \*Mrs. Cammack. The gentlewoman from the Gator Nation,  
3631 a.k.a Titledown, whose Gator Boys just brought home the natty  
3632 last night, seeks recognition on the bill.

3633           [Laughter.]

3634           \*Mr. Weber. Will the ungentlelady yield?

3635           \*The Chair. The gentlelady is recognized.

3636           [Laughter.]

3637           \*Mrs. Cammack. Don't ruin the thunder here.

3638           \*The Chair. The gentlelady is recognized.

3639           \*Mrs. Cammack. All right. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3640 All right, I would like to encourage my colleagues to support  
3641 H.R. 1664, Deploying American Blockchains Act of 2025, a  
3642 bipartisan effort that I have introduced with my friend,  
3643 Representative Darren Soto.

3644           This bill is about securing America's future in a  
3645 rapidly evolving digital world. Blockchain technology is  
3646 transforming industries, strengthening our economy, enhancing  
3647 national security, and revolutionizing how we manage data.  
3648 But we are at a crossroads. Nations like China are racing  
3649 ahead, claiming dominance in this space. We cannot afford to  
3650 fall behind.

3651           This legislation directs the Department of Commerce to  
3652   lead the charge, advising the president, establishing a  
3653   blockchain deployment program, and ensuring that the U.S.  
3654   remains competitive.

3655           Blockchain isn't just a buzzword, it is a tool to  
3656   empower our businesses and safeguard our supply chains. It  
3657   is the backbone of innovations in supply chain security,  
3658   digital identity, and smart contracts. It is about fostering  
3659   innovation, creating jobs, and protecting our national  
3660   interests. But for too long innovators in this space have  
3661   faced uncertainty, inconsistent policies, and the risk of  
3662   being pushed offshore.

3663           This bill takes a strategic and thoughtful approach. It  
3664   directs the Department of Commerce to support this right here  
3665   at home, the development of blockchain right here at home,  
3666   while keeping consumer protection and national security front  
3667   and center. It ensures that companies can innovate with  
3668   confidence, and that our values, not those of authoritarian  
3669   regimes, shape the global digital infrastructure of the  
3670   future. This is about leadership, and this is about economic  
3671   opportunity, and it is about securing America's role as the  
3672   world's most innovative, most free, and most forward-thinking  
3673   economy.

3674           I am so proud to sponsor this legislation, and I urge my  
3675   colleagues on both sides of the aisle --

3676           \*Mr. Bilirakis. Will the gentlelady yield?

3677           \*Mrs. Cammack. I will yield to my good friend from the  
3678 Gator Nation, as well.

3679           \*Mr. Bilirakis. Thank you. It is great to be a Florida  
3680 Gator.

3681           I yield back.

3682           [Laughter.]

3683           \*Voice. Order, Mr. Chairman, order.

3684           \*Mrs. Cammack. Oh, yes. I will say even the Georgia  
3685 Bulldogs up here on the dais, Mr. Chairman, were cheering for  
3686 the Gators, and I know that made them a little uncomfortable,  
3687 but once again the SEC is proving why we are the dominant  
3688 conference.

3689           And with that I yield back.

3690           \*The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. Is -- the  
3691 gentleman from Florida, you are recognized. Are you a part  
3692 of the Gator Nation, as well? But you are recognized to  
3693 speak on the bill.

3694           \*Mr. Soto. Thank you, Chairman. And all Floridians  
3695 were Gators last night, and congratulations to my co-  
3696 introducer, Kat Cammack, and all our friends at UF for a huge  
3697 win last night.

3698           I am proud to be able to co-introduce the Deploying  
3699 American Blockchains Act of 2025. Commerce needs to take a  
3700 more aggressive role in helping foster both blockchain and

3701 distributive ledger technology. To make it simple,  
3702 blockchain helps keep information fixed and trustworthy so it  
3703 can't be altered later on. That fidelity, that fixed ledger,  
3704 makes sure we could have different aspects like  
3705 cryptocurrency exist, as well as big data to make sure that  
3706 we could have information on any number of things from public  
3707 health to disaster relief to resolving other conflicts,  
3708 gathering that data and then helping with our best  
3709 scientists, and with the artificial intelligence to help  
3710 solve some of the toughest problems that face both the nation  
3711 and the world.

3712         And so we need to get more aggressive about this. We  
3713 need to make sure America continues to be the leader in  
3714 blockchain technology. And so I am proud to co-introduce  
3715 this bill.

3716         And I yield back.

3717         \*The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there  
3718 further discussion?

3719         Seeing none, the question now occurs on adopting H.R.  
3720 1664.

3721         All those in favor, say aye.

3722         All those opposed, no.

3723         The ayes have it, and the bill is agreed to.

3724         The chair calls up H.R. 2444, and asks the clerk to  
3725 report.

3726           \*The Clerk.   H.R. 2444 --

3727           \*The Chair.   Without objection, the first reading of the  
3728 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for  
3729 amendment at any point.

3730           So ordered.

3731           [The bill follows:]

3732

3733           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

3734

3735           \*The Chair. Does anybody seek recognition on the bill?

3736           The gentlelady from Indiana seeks recognition.

3737           You are recognized.

3738           \*Mrs. Houchin. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
3739 strike the last word.

3740           \*The Chair. The gentlelady is recognized.

3741           \*Mrs. Houchin. I am proud to be working alongside my  
3742 friend, Representative John James, on this important  
3743 legislation. The United States should never be at the mercy  
3744 of the CCP or any foreign adversary. Our supply chains must  
3745 be American made, driven by American workers.

3746           My home state of Indiana is one of the most  
3747 manufacturing-intensive states in the country, and our supply  
3748 chains are critical to our manufacturing success. The  
3749 Promoting Resilient Supply Chains Act is a strong step toward  
3750 ending our dependance on foreign manufacturing, lowering  
3751 costs, and protecting our national security. Again, I am  
3752 proud to be an original cosponsor of this bill, and look  
3753 forward to its passage today.

3754           And with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

3755           \*The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. The gentlelady  
3756 from Michigan seeks recognition.

3757           \*Mrs. Dingell. Thank you, Mr. Chair, I move to strike  
3758 the last --

3759           \*The Chair. The gentlelady is recognized.

3760           \*Mrs. Dingell. I want to thank my colleagues,  
3761 Representatives James and Kelly, for their leadership in  
3762 advancing bipartisan supply chain legislation.

3763           I am proud to support the Promoting Resilient Supply  
3764 Chains Act, which builds on the progress we made the last  
3765 Congress to strengthen American manufacturing and protect our  
3766 economic and national security. Over the last several years  
3767 we have taken meaningful steps to bolster our industrial  
3768 base, foster innovation, and create jobs. This bipartisan  
3769 legislation continues that work by giving the Federal  
3770 Government the tools it needs to reinforce supply chain  
3771 resilience and prevent future disruptions. I am pleased that  
3772 we are moving it forward in this committee.

3773           Last Congress we worked across the aisle to pass this  
3774 bill in the House, and I was proud to co-lead several of its  
3775 key provisions. We even reached a bipartisan, bicameral  
3776 agreement on a supply chain measure for the year-end funding  
3777 bill, a deal that should have been a win for American workers  
3778 and manufacturers. But instead, it was gutted at the last  
3779 minute because my colleagues caved to Elon Musk's public  
3780 opposition, and that setback only highlights why we must act  
3781 now.

3782           This legislation includes critical provisions from last  
3783 Congress's Supply Chains Act, which I co-led, including  
3784 designating the Assistant Secretary of Commerce to lead a

3785 government-wide supply chain resilience effort. It also  
3786 expands supply chain mapping, monitoring, and coordination  
3787 with labor to proactively address potential disruptions.

3788       A strong national strategy will ensure we are prepared  
3789 for future challenges, rather than reacting to crises. For  
3790 too long, poorly-negotiated trade deals, job outsourcing, and  
3791 the decline of unionization have hollowed out our industrial  
3792 base, leaving manufacturers and suppliers vulnerable. We  
3793 have a responsibility to rebuild American manufacturing and  
3794 protect workers because doing so is essential to both our  
3795 economic strength and our national security.

3796       This bill is an important step towards preventing  
3797 debilitating shortages, strengthening domestic semiconductor  
3798 production, and safeguarding our auto industry from threats  
3799 to innovation and competitiveness. Supply chain resilience  
3800 is vital to our long-term economic success, and I am glad to  
3801 see bipartisan momentum behind this effort.

3802       I strongly urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle  
3803 to support H.R. 254, and ensure we get this done.

3804       Thank you, and I yield back.

3805       \*The Chair. Thank you. The gentlelady yields back.

3806       The gentleman from Michigan seeks recognition.

3807       \*Mr. James. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3808       \*The Chair. You are recognized for five minutes.

3809       \*Mr. James. I would like to strike the last word.

3810           \*The Chair. You are recognized for five minutes to  
3811 speak on the bill.

3812           \*Mr. James. Yes, sir. No matter how you slice it, and  
3813 no matter what industry, there is not a single American who  
3814 isn't impacted by supply chains.

3815           Now, after COVID everybody became a supply chain expert,  
3816 but I actually have a master's degree and ran an automotive  
3817 logistics company that specializes in supply chains.  
3818 Michigan's 10th congressional district and supply chains are  
3819 equivalent to rocket fuel. It is providing the firepower to  
3820 the number-one manufacturing district in the entire country.  
3821 And this is vital not just for Michigan, but also for the  
3822 nation.

3823           Having a strong and reliable supply chain for this  
3824 nation is essential to ensuring that every American can get  
3825 food, fuel, household products, and every other consumer  
3826 product that they need each and every single day. This is  
3827 why I introduced H.R. 2444, the Promoting Resilient Supply  
3828 Chains Act of 2025.

3829           I want to thank my friend and colleague, Representative  
3830 Dingell, for her support and her efforts; Representative  
3831 Houchin; Representative Robin Kelly; and Representative Pat  
3832 Ryan, who shows that, while the West Point class of 1987 is  
3833 okay, the class of 2004 is the best. I appreciate all their  
3834 support on this very bipartisan bill.

3835           This is important to bring jobs back home, to lower  
3836 costs for hard-working families. No longer just about  
3837 economics, supply chain are vital to American interests and  
3838 national security. We have to do everything in our power to  
3839 ensure our nation's supply chains are resilient, shock  
3840 resistant, and protected from nefarious foreign adversaries.  
3841 This includes public enemy number one, the Chinese Communist  
3842 Party. The threat from China is real, and the time to act  
3843 was years ago. But the next best time to act is right now.

3844           To achieve a strong, resilient supply chain, we must  
3845 have a coordinated, whole-of-government approach that  
3846 decreases dependance on our adversaries and leverages  
3847 American ingenuity and our independence. The Promoting  
3848 Resilient Supply Chains Act is a step in the right direction.  
3849 This legislation will create a supply chain resilience  
3850 program to identify and address gaps in critical industries  
3851 and emerging technologies, establish an early warning system  
3852 to predict and prevent supply chain disruption, reduce  
3853 dependance of adversarial nations -- on adversarial nations  
3854 by incentivizing domestic manufacturing, and doing all of  
3855 this powered by quantum computing and AI to make sure that we  
3856 continue to stay ahead of our enemies.

3857           Resilient global supply chains are the cornerstone of  
3858 American innovation leadership, and we must take clear and  
3859 decisive action on this global competition with China. I

3860 urge my colleagues to vote yes on H.R. 2444, the Promoting  
3861 Resilient Supply Chains Act of 2025.

3862 And with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

3863 \*The Chair. The gentleman yields back. The gentlelady  
3864 from Illinois is recognized for five minutes to discuss the  
3865 bill.

3866 \*Ms. Kelly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3867 Supply chain vulnerabilities cannot be addressed if they  
3868 are not identified. But for far too many suppliers and  
3869 producers, particularly small and medium manufacturers, the  
3870 cost and complexity of supply chain mapping and monitoring  
3871 can be a substantial barrier. We must heed the lessons  
3872 learned from the COVID-19 supply chain crisis, and do our  
3873 best to ensure this is not another supply chain shock --  
3874 there is not another supply chain shock.

3875 Our nation's manufacturing base and supply chains are  
3876 critical for supporting our capacity to develop and produce  
3877 high-tech revolutions essential for prosperity in the 21st  
3878 century. That is why last Congress I was proud to co-lead  
3879 the Democratic-led Supply Chains Act with now-Senator Blunt  
3880 Rochester, Representative Debbie Dingell, and former  
3881 Representative Wild. I am very pleased that this version of  
3882 the Promoting Resilient Supply Chains Act that is under  
3883 consideration today includes vital provisions from the Supply  
3884 Chain Act which garnered the support of over 160

3885 stakeholders.

3886       The bill, among other things, establishes a robust  
3887 program that includes an expanded mapping and monitoring  
3888 initiative to address supply chain shocks before they occur,  
3889 a national strategy that elevates the importance of the  
3890 issue, and provides a plan of action to address supply chain  
3891 resiliency.

3892       My hope is that my colleagues, particularly those in the  
3893 majority who control the House floor, remain committed to  
3894 addressing supply chain resiliency to ensure America remains  
3895 competitive and not overly reliant on foreign adversaries. I  
3896 would be very disappointed if unelected individuals who have  
3897 an outsized influence in the current Trump Administration and  
3898 Republican Party are able to again meddle in this committee's  
3899 affairs by obstructing critical bipartisan bills like this  
3900 Promoting Resilient Supply Chain Act from receiving  
3901 consideration on the House floor as a standalone bill or as  
3902 part of a larger package.

3903       So while I will support this bill and others in  
3904 committee, I want to stress that voting on individual parts  
3905 of this bipartisan package will not result in them becoming  
3906 law. We should pass a bipartisan agreement as a package,  
3907 just as it was intended at the end of last year.

3908       I yield back.

3909       \*The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. Is there

3910 further discussion?

3911 Seeing none, the question now occurs on adopting H.R.

3912 2444 -- a roll call has been requested? The gentleman from

3913 Ohio requested a roll call vote?

3914 \*Voice. Yes.

3915 \*The Chair. A roll call has been -- the clerk will call

3916 the roll. Okay, the clerk will call the roll.

3917 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

3918 \*Mr. Latta. Aye.

3919 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

3920 Mr. Griffith?

3921 \*Mr. Griffith. Aye.

3922 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

3923 Mr. Bilirakis?

3924 [No response.]

3925 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson?

3926 [No response.]

3927 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia?

3928 \*Mr. Carter of Georgia. Aye.

3929 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia votes aye.

3930 Mr. Palmer?

3931 \*Mr. Palmer. Aye.

3932 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.

3933 Mr. Dunn?

3934 [No response.]

3935  
3936 \*The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw?  
3937 [No response.]  
3938 \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce?  
3939 \*Mr. Joyce. Aye.  
3940 \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.  
3941 Mr. Weber?  
3942 \*Mr. Weber. Aye.  
3943 \*The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes aye.  
3944 Mr. Allen?  
3945 \*Mr. Allen. Aye.  
3946 \*The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes aye.  
3947 Mr. Balderson?  
3948 \*Mr. Balderson. Aye.  
3949 \*The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes aye.  
3950 Mr. Fulcher?  
3951 \*Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher is aye.  
3952 \*The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes aye.  
3953 Mr. Pfluger?  
3954 \*Mr. Pfluger. Aye.  
3955 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes aye.  
3956 Mrs. Harshbarger?  
3957 \*Mrs. Harshbarger. Aye.  
3958 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes aye.  
3959 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?

3960 [No response.]

3961

3962 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack?

3963 \*Mrs. Cammack. Aye.

3964 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes aye.

3965 Mr. Obernolte?

3966 \*Mr. Obernolte. Aye.

3967 \*The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte votes aye.

3968 Mr. James?

3969 [No response.]

3970 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bentz?

3971 \*Mr. Bentz. Aye.

3972 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes aye.

3973 Mrs. Houchin?

3974 \*Mrs. Houchin. Aye.

3975 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes aye.

3976 Mr. Fry?

3977 [No response.]

3978 \*The Clerk. Ms. Lee?

3979 \*Ms. Lee. Aye.

3980 \*The Clerk. Ms. Lee votes aye.

3981 Mr. Langworthy?

3982 \*Mr. Langworthy. Aye.

3983 \*The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes aye.

3984 Mr. Kean?

3985           \*Mr. Kean.   Aye.  
3986           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Kean votes aye.  
3987           Mr. Rulli?  
3988           [No response.]  
3989           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Evans?  
3990           \*Mr. Evans.   Aye.  
3991           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Evans votes aye.  
3992           Mr. Goldman?  
3993           \*Mr. Goldman.   Aye.  
3994           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Goldman votes aye.  
3995           Mrs. Fedorchak?  
3996           \*Mrs. Fedorchak.   Aye.  
3997           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fedorchak votes aye.  
3998           Mr. Pallone?  
3999           \*Mr. Pallone.   Aye.  
4000           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pallone votes aye.  
4001           Ms. DeGette?  
4002           \*Ms. DeGette.   Aye.  
4003           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes aye.  
4004           Ms. Schakowsky?  
4005           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   Aye.  
4006           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.  
4007           Ms. Matsui?  
4008           \*Ms. Matsui.   Aye.  
4009           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes aye.

4010 Ms. Castor?

4011 \*Ms. Castor. Aye.

4012 \*The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes aye.

4013 Mr. Tonko?

4014 \*Mr. Tonko. Aye.

4015 \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes aye.

4016 Ms. Clarke?

4017 \*Ms. Clarke. No.

4018 \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.

4019 Mr. Ruiz?

4020 \*Mr. Ruiz. Aye.

4021 \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes aye.

4022 Mr. Peters?

4023 [No response.]

4024 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell?

4025 \*Mrs. Dingell. Aye.

4026 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes aye.

4027 Mr. Veasey?

4028 \*Mr. Veasey. Aye.

4029 \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes aye.

4030 Ms. Kelly?

4031 \*Ms. Kelly. Aye.

4032 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes aye.

4033 Ms. Barragan?

4034 \*Ms. Barragan. Aye.

4035           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Barragan votes aye.  
4036           Mr. Soto?  
4037           [No response.]  
4038           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schrier?  
4039           \*Ms. Schrier.   Aye.  
4040           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schrier votes aye.  
4041           Mrs. Trahan?  
4042           \*Mrs. Trahan.   Aye.  
4043           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Trahan votes aye.  
4044           Mrs. Fletcher?  
4045           \*Mrs. Fletcher.   Aye.  
4046           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.  
4047           Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?  
4048           \*Ms. Ocasio-Cortez.   Aye.  
4049           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Ocasio-Cortez votes aye.  
4050           Mr. Auchincloss?  
4051           [No response.]  
4052           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Carter of Louisiana?  
4053           \*Mr. Carter of Louisiana.   Aye.  
4054           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes aye.  
4055           Mr. Menendez?  
4056           \*Voice.   Aye.  
4057           \*The Clerk.   Mr. -- Mr. Mullin?  
4058           \*Mr. Mullin.   Aye.  
4059           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Mullin votes aye.

4060 Mr. Landsman?

4061 \*Mr. Landsman. Aye.

4062 \*The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes aye.

4063 Ms. McClellan?

4064 \*Ms. McClellan. Aye.

4065 \*The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes aye.

4066 Chairman Guthrie?

4067 \*The Chair. Aye.

4068 \*The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes aye.

4069 \*The Chair. Mr. Auchincloss?

4070 \*Mr. Auchincloss. Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.

4071 \*The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.

4072 \*The Chair. Miller-Meeks?

4073 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks is not recorded.

4074 \*Mrs. Miller-Meeks. Aye.

4075 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes aye.

4076 \*The Chair. Mr. Hudson?

4077 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson is not recorded.

4078 \*Mr. Hudson. Hudson votes aye.

4079 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.

4080 \*The Chair. Mr. Bilirakis?

4081 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis is not recorded.

4082 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Aye.

4083 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.

4084 \*Mr. Dunn. Dunn votes aye.

4085           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn votes aye.  
4086           \*The Chair.   Mr. Crenshaw?  
4087           \*Mr. Crenshaw.   Votes aye.  
4088           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.  
4089           \*Mr. James.   James votes aye.  
4090           \*The Clerk.   Mr. James votes aye.  
4091           \*The Chair.   How is Mr. Menendez recorded?  
4092           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Menendez is not recorded.  
4093           \*Mr. Menendez.   Aye.  
4094           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Menendez votes aye.  
4095           \*The Chair.   Mr. Rulli?  
4096           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rulli is not recorded.  
4097           \*Mr. Rulli.   Aye.  
4098           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rulli votes aye.  
4099           \*The Chair.   Is anyone here for the roll call?  
4100           Seeing no others, the clerk will report.  
4101           [Pause.]  
4102           \*The Chair.   The clerk will report.  
4103           \*The Clerk.   Chairman Guthrie, on that vote there were  
4104   51 ayes and 1 no.  
4105           \*The Chair.   The ayes have it, and the amendment -- the  
4106   -- excuse me, the ayes have it, and the bill is agreed to --  
4107   is adopted, I am sorry, the bill is adopted.  
4108           The chair will call out H.R. 2480, and ask the clerk to  
4109   report.

4110           \*The Clerk.   H.R. 2480 --

4111           \*The Chair.   Without objection, the first reading of the  
4112 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for  
4113 amendment at any point.

4114           So ordered.

4115           [The bill follows:]

4116

4117       \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

4118

4119           \*The Chair. Does anyone seek recognition?

4120           Mr. Landsman?

4121           \*Mr. Landsman. Yes.

4122           \*The Chair. For what purpose do you seek recognition?

4123           \*Mr. Landsman. To speak on behalf of the bill.

4124           \*The Chair. The gentleman from Ohio is recognized.

4125           \*Mr. Landsman. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Securing  
4126 Semiconductor Supply Chains Act is a straightforward, common-  
4127 sense bill designed to bolster U.S. manufacturing and the  
4128 domestic production of semiconductors.

4129           As you all know, semiconductors are foundational to all  
4130 of the technology that we use. They are the building blocks  
4131 that power everything from smartphones and laptops to cars,  
4132 medical devices, critical infrastructures, even some of our  
4133 appliances. And they are essential for our national  
4134 security, economic growth, and continued innovation.

4135           This bill is very simple. It requires that SelectUSA, a  
4136 division within the Department of Commerce, work with the  
4137 state economic development agencies -- all of us have these  
4138 in our states -- to determine how to better attract foreign  
4139 investments in America's semiconductor industry. With this  
4140 information, SelectUSA will then inform us on ways to bolster  
4141 investment in U.S. allies and partners so that we are  
4142 bringing more and more dollars to American semiconductor  
4143 industries and businesses.

4144           Everything that we do right now should involve -- as it  
4145   relates to trade -- investments in American manufacturing and  
4146   American workers. We desperately need those investments.  
4147   Our businesses do, our workers do. So I urge my colleagues  
4148   to support this bill.

4149           And with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

4150           \*The Chair. Thank you. The gentleman yields back. The  
4151   chair -- is there further discussion?

4152           \*Ms. Matsui. Mr. Chairman?

4153           \*The Chair. Yes. Is there no further discussion on the  
4154   Republican side?

4155           The gentlelady from California is recognized.

4156           \*Ms. Matsui. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to strike  
4157   the last word.

4158           \*The Chair. Both of you -- I am sorry, I was going with  
4159   Ms. Barragan. But Ms. Matsui, you are recognized. Both from  
4160   California. Go ahead.

4161           \*Ms. Matsui. My first --

4162           \*The Chair. I didn't see you, that is why. You are  
4163   first.

4164           \*Ms. Matsui. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to strike  
4165   the last word.

4166           \*The Chair. The gentlelady is recognized.

4167           \*Ms. Matsui. I support Congressman Landsman's bill to  
4168   secure the semiconductor supply chain. It is an economic and

4169 national security imperative to bring advanced semiconductor  
4170 manufacturing back to the United States and secure a  
4171 resilient, diversified supply chain. This bill is a common-  
4172 sense way of increasing collaboration between states and  
4173 Federal agencies to attract investment in the United States.

4174 As co-author of the original CHIPS Act, I am proud of  
4175 our bipartisan work to invest in a once-in-a-generation  
4176 program for our long-term economic growth. The CHIPS and  
4177 Science Act is working as intended, leveraging \$50 billion of  
4178 government funding to spur a ninefold investment of \$450  
4179 billion from the semiconductor industry in the United States.  
4180 Yet President Trump has called for abandoning this historic  
4181 effort to reignite domestic manufacturing, and he has slashed  
4182 our nation's ability to conduct cutting-edge research.

4183 To make things worse, last week President Trump  
4184 unleashed the largest tax hike since 1968 through his  
4185 disastrous tariffs which will raise prices for American  
4186 families. Because of tariffs, the price of almost every  
4187 electronic good is going to go up. The price of the  
4188 component parts and raw materials to make them is going to go  
4189 up. Make no mistake, these tariffs will come out of the  
4190 pockets of U.S. consumers, and they will hurt our ability to  
4191 compete worldwide.

4192 And he is not done. The President is threatening future  
4193 tariffs on the semiconductor industry and other goods. This

4194 is a critical industry. We spent years working together in  
4195 this room to increase the domestic manufacturing of  
4196 semiconductors and build international cooperation. We need  
4197 to be the best in the world.

4198 I urge my colleagues to remember why bills like this are  
4199 important, and not let Donald Trump force us to fail. It is  
4200 critical that we continue supporting the development of our  
4201 world-class semiconductor industry. Congressman Landsman's  
4202 bill ensures we have a secure and stable supply chain.

4203 With that I urge my colleagues to vote yes on the bill,  
4204 and I yield back my time.

4205 \*Mr. Joyce. [Presiding.] The gentlelady yields. The  
4206 chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon.

4207 \*Mr. Bentz. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
4208 word.

4209 \*Mr. Joyce. The gentleman is recognized.

4210 \*Mr. Bentz. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I urge my  
4211 colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 2480, the Securing  
4212 Semiconductor Supply Chains Act, which I co-lead with  
4213 Congressman Landsman.

4214 This bipartisan bill seeks to unlock barriers to expand  
4215 foreign direct investment into our domestic manufacturing  
4216 semiconductor area.

4217 Last year Intel has brought to -- or sought to invest  
4218 some \$36 billion to create a research and development

4219 facility or add to their facilities in Oregon, my state. The  
4220 economy, workforce, and people of Oregon are feeling the  
4221 benefit of this proposed investment. In the last few months  
4222 President Trump brought Apple, Nvidia -- a Taiwan  
4223 semiconductor manufacturing company -- to invest hundreds  
4224 upon hundreds of billions of dollars here, in the United  
4225 States.

4226         We have discovered the risks of depending upon rival  
4227 nations to ensure the availability of semiconductor chips for  
4228 our economic stability. This bill directs the SelectUSA  
4229 program to engage with state-level economic development  
4230 organizations about how they are attracting foreign direct  
4231 investment to onshore activities related to semiconductor  
4232 manufacturing. It is a priority of this Congress to fight  
4233 for policies that have the opportunity to create good-paying  
4234 jobs for all Americans.

4235         I urge support for this bill. I yield back.

4236         \*Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. The chair recognizes  
4237 the gentlewoman from California.

4238         \*Ms. Barragan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
4239 strike the last word.

4240         \*Mr. Joyce. So recognized.

4241         \*Ms. Barragan. I support this bill and any effort to  
4242 strengthen American semiconductor manufacturing and supply  
4243 chains. That is exactly why Democrats voted to pass the

4244 CHIPS and Science Act. It has already created over 115,000  
4245 manufacturing and construction jobs, and generated nearly  
4246 \$450 billion in private investment across 28 states.

4247 But here is the hypocrisy that is hard to ignore. My  
4248 Republican colleagues are advocating for semiconductor  
4249 manufacturing today, but they stayed silent as Donald Trump  
4250 stood before Congress during his joint address and called for  
4251 the repeal of what he calls this "horrible" CHIPS Act, the  
4252 very law that made these investments possible.

4253 House Republicans can't have it both ways. If they  
4254 truly support American semiconductor manufacturing, they  
4255 should defend the progress we have made. Just look at where  
4256 CHIPS Act funding is going. Texas, Arizona, and Ohio have  
4257 been awarded billions in CHIPS funding. Intel's expansion in  
4258 Ohio, Samsung's facility in Texas, TSMC's massive investment  
4259 in Arizona all made possible by the CHIPS Act. In fact, most  
4260 major CHIPS-funded projects are in red states. These  
4261 investments for communities are not just numbers on a  
4262 spreadsheet. There are about good paychecks and health care  
4263 for working families. And yet Republicans from these states,  
4264 Republicans on this very committee, stay silent while Trump  
4265 continues his crusade to gut the very law that made these  
4266 investments possible.

4267 Let's be clear about the contrast here. Democrats are  
4268 actually bringing jobs home with real legislation, real

4269 investment, and real results. The CHIPS Act is delivering  
4270 for working Americans. Meanwhile, Donald Trump's tariffs  
4271 have tanked the economy, raised prices for families, and  
4272 triggered job losses in industries that rely on global supply  
4273 chains. His approach isn't bringing back jobs; it is driving  
4274 economic instability. This isn't just political hypocrisy;  
4275 it is a direct threat to the American worker and businesses.

4276 If Republicans truly care about strengthening U.S.  
4277 semiconductor manufacturing, they should stand up to Trump  
4278 and protect the CHIPS Act. Otherwise, they are just playing  
4279 politics with our economy and our future. I urge my  
4280 colleagues to stop the games, put our country first, and  
4281 defend the progress that we have made.

4282 I yield back.

4283 \*Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady yields. Is there any  
4284 further discussion on the bill?

4285 Seeing none, the question now occurs on adopting H.R.  
4286 2480.

4287 All those in favor, say aye.

4288 Opposed, no.

4289 The ayes have it, and the bill is agreed to.

4290 The chair calls up H.R. 1402, and asks the clerk to  
4291 report.

4292 \*The Clerk. H.R. 1402, a bill to require sellers of  
4293 event tickets to disclose comprehensive --

4294           \*Mr. Joyce. Without objection, the first reading of the  
4295 bill is dispensed, and the bill will be open for amendment at  
4296 any point.

4297           [The bill follows:]

4298

4299           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

4300

4301           \*Mr. Joyce. Does the chair -- does anyone wish to be  
4302 recognized on the bill?

4303           The gentleman from Florida is recognized.

4304           \*Mr. Bilirakis. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I  
4305 move to strike the last word.

4306           \*Mr. Joyce. So recognized.

4307           \*Mr. Bilirakis. I urge my colleagues to support H.R.  
4308 1402, the TICKET Act, a bipartisan bill that I am proud to  
4309 lead alongside Ranking Member Schakowsky.

4310           This legislation is about protecting consumers and  
4311 ensuring fans can enjoy live events by improving ticket price  
4312 transparency. H.R. 1402 requires all event ticket sellers to  
4313 display the total ticket price, including all required fees  
4314 up front, provide refunds for canceled or postponed events,  
4315 and protect consumers from deceptive ticketing websites.

4316           This bill also prohibits speculative ticket sales, which  
4317 is the practice of selling tickets that one does not actually  
4318 possess. By eliminating this loophole, we are ensuring fair  
4319 access to tickets for all fans.

4320           I applaud the President for his work to reinforce the  
4321 BOTS Act and combat malicious practices that prevent  
4322 America's fans from enjoying their live event experiences. I  
4323 look forward to working with the administration on these  
4324 efforts which are complementary to the TICKET Act. I  
4325 appreciate the leadership of the chair and the ranking member

4326 of the full committee in working with us on this particular  
4327 bill, a very important bill, and I look forward to seeing it  
4328 signed into law.

4329       So if -- I will yield back, unless somebody wants --

4330       \*Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields.

4331       \*Mr. Bilirakis. -- my time. I appreciate it.

4332       \*Mr. Joyce. The chair recognizes --

4333       \*Mr. Bilirakis. I yield back.

4334       \*Mr. Joyce. -- the gentlelady from Illinois, Ms.  
4335 Schakowsky.

4336       \*Ms. Schakowsky. Well, thank you so much. I am so  
4337 proud to work with you on this, on Gus [sic]. We have worked  
4338 a long time on this legislation. It has been about -- it has  
4339 been a couple of years, and we should not have any problems  
4340 with this right now because we know that this legislation has  
4341 passed the House of Representatives pretty much unanimously,  
4342 and we have had sponsors across the aisle at all times, so  
4343 this should be pretty easy right now for us today.

4344       You know, we know that there were scammers who would be  
4345 available, and people who -- you thought you were getting  
4346 your ticket for a particular price, and then, by the end of  
4347 the discussion, as you are making your ticket -- to buy your  
4348 ticket, that -- those prices suddenly went up maybe 20, 30,  
4349 40 percent. And that was your choice: the initial cost that  
4350 you thought you were going to get and then the big cost that

4351     you were going to get.

4352             So, you know, Gus and I have worked hard on this  
4353     legislation. And the reason it is important to families is  
4354     because these events are so important. You know, it may not  
4355     be the most dramatic thing that we are discussing today, but  
4356     people are making a decision to take a weekend off to go to a  
4357     wonderful event that you have been dreaming for, the one that  
4358     your kids have been begging you to take, and then at the end  
4359     of the conversation you find out that, one, that the price is  
4360     just zoomed up, and two, that it was a scam in the first  
4361     place. So for us to make families be able to enjoy and be  
4362     able to have the amount of money that they are promised, we  
4363     need to get this legislation passed.

4364             As I said, we have passed it unanimously in the House of  
4365     Representatives in the Congress itself. We had it almost  
4366     unanimously. People are looking forward to be able to in  
4367     good faith, without having to have extraneous prices on them  
4368     or scams, to get their wonderful, important work and their --  
4369     the family to be able to enjoy the best.

4370             So I am just really happy, and that Gus and I have been  
4371     able to work together on a very popular bill, and I look  
4372     forward to hopefully a unanimous passage today.

4373             And with that I yield back.

4374             \*Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady yields. The chair  
4375     recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana, Mr. Carter.

4376           \*Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
4377 move to strike the last word.

4378           \*Mr. Joyce. So recognized.

4379           \*Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Americans often face  
4380 excessive price gouging for tickets from online bots and  
4381 resellers, who often buy up large quantities of tickets and  
4382 resell them at unreasonable amounts. This behavior hurts the  
4383 hard-working people across the spectrum of the concert and  
4384 events industry, from our musicians and our operators of  
4385 establishments.

4386           The TICKET Act is a major step in the right direction in  
4387 cracking down on this behavior. I am proud to support this  
4388 bill. I am committed to ensuring Americans can enjoy live  
4389 entertainment without the fear of being scammed.

4390           I want to thank Ranking Member Schakowsky for sharing  
4391 these concerns and working with me to address these predatory  
4392 behaviors.

4393           A key issue we face with online scammers today is  
4394 inadequate enforcement of the Better Online Ticket Sales Act  
4395 of 2016, or the BOTS Act, which was intended to stop ticket  
4396 scalpers from using software to acquire large quantities of  
4397 tickets. Unfortunately, this legislation hasn't produced the  
4398 intended outcomes that Congress had intended. In fact, the  
4399 FTC had only used its BOTS authority once when they fined  
4400 three New York-based brokers in 2021. That is why this week

4401 I have introduced the MAIN Event Act, which Representative  
4402 Harshbarger -- with Representative Harshbarger, rather. This  
4403 bipartisan bill strengthens the protections for consumers by  
4404 providing reporting requirements for bot attacks, creating a  
4405 complaint database for customers so customers can share their  
4406 experiences which will in turn be shared with law  
4407 enforcement. Third, and enacting data security requirements  
4408 for online ticket sellers.

4409 Music and culture are a part of why millions of people  
4410 visit my home town of New Orleans and other areas of  
4411 Louisiana. I will continue to fight to ensure that online  
4412 scammers do not steal our opportunity to share our history  
4413 and our culture to the world, and rob our artists from the  
4414 incredible work they contribute to our overall economy and  
4415 cultural well-being.

4416 Mr. Chairman, I yield.

4417 \*Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. The chair recognizes  
4418 the ranking member from New Jersey, Mr. Pallone, for his five  
4419 minutes.

4420 \*Mr. Pallone. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4421 I am glad to be here today advancing legislation like  
4422 the TICKET Act that will lower costs for American families  
4423 and protect consumers from predatory practices. But I am  
4424 still disappointed that House Republicans allowed Elon Musk  
4425 to derail a bipartisan and bicameral agreement we reached at

4426 the end of last year to move the TICKET Act and many of the  
4427 bills that are on today's agenda as well as other good bills  
4428 that my Republican colleagues refuse to include in today's  
4429 markup.

4430 Now, my late friend, Congressman Bill Pascrell -- I have  
4431 to mention Bill -- he and I worked for many years to combat  
4432 price gouging and anti-consumer tactics in the event  
4433 ticketing industry, and I appreciate all the work that  
4434 Ranking Member Schakowsky and Congressman Pascrell did to get  
4435 us to this consensus legislation. But again, it is not  
4436 acceptable that is not yet law because the Republicans  
4437 allowed the whims of a billionaire to stand in the way.

4438 So I hope this time that Republicans will stand with  
4439 consumers, and I encourage all my colleagues to support the  
4440 bill.

4441 I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

4442 \*Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. Is there any further  
4443 discussion?

4444 Seeing none, if there is no further discussion, the vote  
4445 will occur on adopting H.R. 1402.

4446 All those in favor, say aye.

4447 Opposed, no.

4448 The ayes have it, and the bill is agreed to.

4449 The chair calls up H.R. 1479, and asks the clerk to  
4450 report.

4451           \*The Clerk. H.R. 1479, a bill to prohibit --

4452           \*Mr. Joyce. Without objection, the first reading of the  
4453 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for  
4454 amendment at any point.

4455           So ordered.

4456           [The bill follows:]

4457

4458           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

4459

4460           \*Mr. Joyce. Does anyone seek to be recognized on the  
4461 bill?

4462           \*Ms. Castor. Mr. Chairman?

4463           \*Mr. Joyce. The chair recognizes Ms. Castor.

4464           \*Ms. Castor. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I move to strike  
4465 the last word.

4466           \*Mr. Joyce. So ordered.

4467           \*Ms. Castor. Well, I want to thank Representative Kim  
4468 and my new partners, Representatives Mullin and Fry, as we  
4469 reintroduce the bipartisan legislation that would -- that  
4470 ensures that costs are transparent for stays in short-term  
4471 lodging hotels and motels.

4472           You know, most people who go online to research a  
4473 vacation, a trip at a hotel, or some short-term  
4474 accommodation, you do -- you know, people really value their  
4475 hard-earned dollars. And the worst thing in the world is you  
4476 do all of that research, and you go and make that hotel  
4477 reservation, and then by the time you get to check out they  
4478 have added all of these fees that were not disclosed up  
4479 front.

4480           So the Hotel Fees Transparency Act would prohibit unfair  
4481 and misleading price advertising for places of short-term  
4482 lodging, and would require accurate price listings that  
4483 include all mandatory and resort fees. Because we know that  
4484 visitors are often lured into hotels or motels that don't

4485 disclose all of the fees online. It is a real trap for  
4486 consumers as they plan their vacation budget, and families  
4487 really shouldn't have to play a guessing game when planning a  
4488 trip, and when they are trying to determine where to stay,  
4489 especially at a time where the high cost of living is  
4490 squeezing families.

4491 American families and consumers need all the help they  
4492 can get to save their hard-earned money, so this cost-saving  
4493 legislation will really help. I regret that it was killed by  
4494 Elon Musk at the end of the last Congress. We don't know --  
4495 really know why Speaker Johnson caved to Elon Musk. But we  
4496 are not going to give up. So I hope you all will join me in  
4497 support of this bipartisan bill.

4498 And Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask unanimous consent  
4499 to submit a couple of letters for the record. One is from  
4500 the American Hotel and Lodging Association that supports  
4501 consistent and broadly-applicable mandatory fee disclosure  
4502 and display requirements across the entire lodging, booking,  
4503 and advertising ecosystem; one from Booking Holdings, which  
4504 includes Booking.com, Priceline, Kayak, and others. They say  
4505 that this legislation will empower consumers to make informed  
4506 decisions by requiring total price display up front for all  
4507 covered platforms and properties. And the letter from Travel  
4508 Tech that says the legislation ensures consumers will see  
4509 accurate total service pricing, no matter where they live or

4510 shop for lodging.

4511 And I yield back the balance of my time.

4512 \*Mr. Joyce. Without objection.

4513 [The information follows:]

4514

4515 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

4516

4517           \*Mr. Joyce. The lady yields. The chair recognizes the  
4518 gentleman from South Carolina, Mr. Fry.

4519           \*Mr. Fry. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to strike  
4520 the last word.

4521           \*Mr. Joyce. So ordered.

4522           \*Mr. Fry. Mr. Chairman, the tourism industry is the  
4523 backbone of South Carolina's economy, particularly in the --  
4524 in my district along the Grand Strand. Each year, millions  
4525 of visitors travel to our coastline, and they expect a fair,  
4526 straightforward experience.

4527           Unfortunately, as Ms. Castor talked about, too often  
4528 they are met with unexpected fees that undermine their trust  
4529 and add undue stress to their vacations. The Hotel Fees  
4530 Transparency Act is a common-sense, bipartisan measure aimed  
4531 at restoring transparency and fairness to the hospitality  
4532 industry.

4533           This legislation ensures that consumers are provided  
4534 with clear, upfront pricing for their lodging, free from the  
4535 hidden fees that have become all too prevalent in this  
4536 industry. By requiring hotels to disclose all mandatory fees  
4537 as part of the advertised room rate, we are empowering  
4538 consumers to make informed decisions and fostering a  
4539 marketplace built on trust and integrity. This is a win for  
4540 visitors and for the local businesses who serve them,  
4541 ensuring our coastline and many others remain a top tier,

4542 family-friendly destination.

4543 I am proud to co-lead this bipartisan effort, and I urge  
4544 my colleagues to support this bill so that we can continue  
4545 protecting hard-working Americans from misleading pricing  
4546 tactics, and strengthening the foundation of our tourism  
4547 economies.

4548 With that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

4549 \*Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. The chair recognizes  
4550 the gentleman from California, Mr. Mullin.

4551 \*Mr. Mullin. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

4552 I want to thank my colleagues, Representative Kim from  
4553 my home state of California, and Ranking Member Castor and  
4554 Representative Fry for leading this bill.

4555 I also want to thank our Senate partners, Senators  
4556 Klobuchar and Moran.

4557 I am proud to co-lead it, and look forward to getting it  
4558 back on the floor as quickly as possible.

4559 I know you have all been here, working on this much  
4560 longer than when I joined the committee recently, but I want  
4561 to acknowledge the hard work that you and the committee staff  
4562 have put into this bill. I am proud that my home state of  
4563 California already leads the way on fee transparency, and I  
4564 believe setting a complementary national standard is long  
4565 overdue.

4566 No one should be duped into booking hotel stays thinking

4567 it costs one thing, and then finding out about hidden fees or  
4568 charges later on in the process. I am glad there is  
4569 bipartisan support for basic consumer protections like this,  
4570 and I look forward to more collaboration in the future.

4571 I do want to note that this bill relies on enforcement  
4572 by the Federal Trade Commission, and we are all aware of the  
4573 attempted firings at the FTC which raises concern about the  
4574 implementation and enforcement. Let's all be mindful of  
4575 that.

4576 And with that I yield back.

4577 \*Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. The question now is  
4578 on adopting H.R. 1479.

4579 All those in favor, say aye.

4580 Those opposed, no.

4581 The ayes have it, and the bill is agreed to.

4582 The chair calls up H.R. 859, and asks the clerk to  
4583 report.

4584 \*The Clerk. H.R. 859, a bill to require the disclosure  
4585 of a camera or recording --

4586 \*Mr. Joyce. Without objection, the first reading of the  
4587 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for  
4588 amendment at any point.

4589 So ordered.

4590

4591

4592           [The bill follows:]

4593

4594       \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

4595

4596           \*Mr. Joyce. Does anyone seek recognition on the bill?

4597           \*Mr. Fulcher. Mr. Chairman?

4598           \*Mr. Joyce. The gentleman from Idaho, Mr. Fulcher, is  
4599 recognized.

4600           \*Mr. Fulcher. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a bill  
4601 at the desk.

4602           \*Mr. Joyce. The bill has been read. You are recognized  
4603 for five minutes to speak.

4604           \*Mr. Fulcher. My bill, the Informing Consumers About  
4605 Smart Devices Act, would require makers of Internet-connected  
4606 smart appliances to disclose to consumers when their product  
4607 is equipped with a camera or microphone.

4608           And just to summarize, Mr. Chairman, we have seen this  
4609 before. This is a bipartisan bill. It is a good bill. We  
4610 have passed through here before. But we are concerned about  
4611 being unknowingly recorded, and having conversations or  
4612 pictures taken unknowingly by an appliance. And by doing so,  
4613 you can risk having privacy violations or even information  
4614 that could lead to scams or other harms to people.

4615           This is about disclosure, about disclosure up front when  
4616 you are purchasing an appliance you typically would not  
4617 assume would have a camera or a microphone -- refrigerators,  
4618 dryers, washers, toasting machines -- or toasters, those  
4619 types of things. But that is what this is all about. It is  
4620 about simply disclosure, and having that up front, before the

4621 purchase.

4622           And I want to thank my colleagues, Seth Moulton from  
4623 Massachusetts, for his leadership on this, as well as the  
4624 Senators Cruz, Cantwell, and Curtis.

4625           And that is the brief summary, Mr. Chairman. I yield  
4626 back.

4627           \*Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. Is there any further  
4628 discussion?

4629           Seeing none, the question now occurs on adopting H.R.  
4630 859.

4631           All those in favor, say aye.

4632           Opposed, no.

4633           The ayes have it, and the bill is agreed to.

4634           The chair calls up H.R. 2481, and asks the clerk to  
4635 report.

4636           \*The Clerk. H.R. 2481, a bill to require online --

4637           \*Mr. Joyce. Without objection, the first reading of the  
4638 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for  
4639 amendment at any point.

4640           [The bill follows:]

4641

4642           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

4643

4644           \*Mr. Joyce. Does anyone seek to be recognized for the  
4645 bill?

4646           Seeing none --

4647           [Pause.]

4648           \*Voice. The question.

4649           \*Mr. Joyce. The question now occurs on adopting H.R.  
4650 2481.

4651           All those in favor, say aye.

4652           Those opposed, no.

4653           The ayes have it, and the bill is agreed to.

4654           The chair calls up H.R. 617, and asks the clerk to  
4655 report.

4656           \*The Clerk. H.R. 617, a bill to amend the Visit America  
4657 Act --

4658           \*Mr. Joyce. Without objection, the first reading of the  
4659 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for  
4660 amendment at any point.

4661           [The bill follows:]

4662

4663           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

4664

4665           \*Mr. Joyce. The question -- the chair recognizes the  
4666           gentlewoman from Tennessee, Mrs. Harshbarger.

4667           \*Mrs. Harshbarger. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr.  
4668           Chairman, I rise today in support of my bill, the American  
4669           Music Tourism Act.

4670           This legislation's Senate companion has been led by  
4671           Senator Marsha Blackburn from Tennessee, and has since  
4672           advanced favorably out of the Senate Committee on Commerce,  
4673           Science, and Transportation. This legislation would direct  
4674           the National Travel and Tourism Office within the Department  
4675           of Commerce to promote tourism from music-related attractions  
4676           and locations at no additional cost to the taxpayer.

4677           Currently, American music tourism is valued at \$5.5  
4678           billion, and projected to grow more than double in the next  
4679           five years. I would like to make sure we see this industry  
4680           reach its goal. And from my own corner of the country, which  
4681           is east Tennessee, we are distinguished by legendary country  
4682           music stars like Dolly Parton and Morgan Wallen. And across  
4683           our 50 states we have had so many remarkable landmarks of  
4684           music, history, and significance that could benefit from this  
4685           legislation. My bill will help boost tourism and economic  
4686           development across our nation, especially for local museums  
4687           and small venues, all of whom bring people together to enjoy  
4688           and appreciate good American music.

4689           I thank my colleague, Representative Barragan, for co-

4690 leading this legislation, and I would ask all my colleagues  
4691 to support the bill.

4692 And with that, Mr. Chairman, I will --

4693 \*Mr. Griffith. Will the gentlelady yield?

4694 \*Mrs. Harshbarger. Yes. Yes.

4695 \*Mr. Griffith. Mr. Chairman, I would ask the gentlelady  
4696 if she is not talking about -- in some cases, like the  
4697 birthplace of country music, which would be --

4698 \*Mrs. Harshbarger. Totally, Bristol.

4699 \*Mr. Griffith. Bristol, Virginia, Tennessee, and --

4700 \*Mrs. Harshbarger. Yes.

4701 \*Mr. Griffith. And for those who don't know --

4702 \*Mrs. Harshbarger. Absolutely.

4703 \*Mr. Griffith. -- the musicians came together for the  
4704 first time on the Tennessee side of State Street. But to get  
4705 there --

4706 \*Mrs. Harshbarger. Of course.

4707 \*Mr. Griffith. -- they had to come through the train  
4708 station on the Virginia side of State Street.

4709 \*Mrs. Harshbarger. Isn't that funny?

4710 \*Mr. Griffith. So we share that distinction of  
4711 representing those two areas, and have great stars like  
4712 Johnny Cash.

4713 And, of course, the Carter family was at those original  
4714 recordings, and --

4715           \*Mrs. Harshbarger. Exactly.

4716           \*Mr. Griffith. -- you can stop by and see the  
4717 birthplace of country music --

4718           \*Mrs. Harshbarger. Thank you.

4719           \*Mr. Griffith. -- museum any time you want to, and  
4720 eat --

4721           \*Mrs. Harshbarger. Gosh, Morgan.

4722           \*Mr. Griffith. -- eat in either one of our districts.

4723           \*Mrs. Harshbarger. I am so happy. You can put one foot  
4724 in Tennessee and one foot in Virginia when you step under the  
4725 Bristol sign, and it is awesome. And you are right, it is  
4726 the birthplace of country music. And I love my bluegrass,  
4727 too, though, Morgan.

4728           \*Mr. Griffith. I do love the bluegrass, as well, and we  
4729 have a lot of that in both of our districts, as well.

4730           \*Mrs. Harshbarger. Absolutely.

4731           \*Mr. Griffith. With that I yield back.

4732           \*Mrs. Harshbarger. Sorry I forgot to mention that.

4733           Now, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

4734           \*Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady yields. The gentlewoman  
4735 from California, Ms. Barragan, is recognized.

4736           \*Ms. Barragan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
4737 strike the last word.

4738           \*Mr. Joyce. So recognized.

4739           \*Ms. Barragan. I just -- I want to rise today to also

4740 support the American Music Tourism Act because music is more  
4741 than entertainment, it is an economic driver. It is a  
4742 cultural force and a unifying thread in our national  
4743 identity.

4744       This bill is important for communities across the  
4745 country, some of which were just spoken about, but also, you  
4746 know, out in California we definitely have music venues  
4747 there, and festivals and concerts that are so important. By  
4748 directing the Department of Commerce to develop a strategy to  
4749 boost and attract visitors to America's iconic music venues,  
4750 we are investing in the heart of our creative economy.

4751       There is no better example of this than in my home city  
4752 of Los Angeles, one of the world's greatest music capitals.  
4753 From legendary venues like the Capitol -- like the Hollywood  
4754 Bowl and the Greek Theater to the studios that have shaped  
4755 the global music landscape, LA is a magnet for music lovers  
4756 and an economic powerhouse because of it. Greater investment  
4757 in music tourism means more jobs, more growth, and a stronger  
4758 creative economy.

4759       I want to thank my colleague for working with me on this  
4760 in a bipartisan manner, and supporting the arts.

4761       And with that I yield back.

4762       \*Mr. Joyce. Is there any further discussion on the  
4763 bill?

4764       Seeing none --

4765           \*Voice. A call for recorded vote, please.

4766           \*Mr. Joyce. The question now occurs on adopting H.R.

4767   617. A roll call vote has been requested, and the clerk will

4768   call the roll.

4769           \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

4770           [No response.]

4771           \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith?

4772           \*Mr. Griffith. Aye.

4773           \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

4774           Mr. Bilirakis?

4775           \*Mr. Bilirakis. Aye.

4776           \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.

4777           Mr. Hudson?

4778           \*Mr. Hudson. Aye.

4779           \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.

4780           Mr. Carter of Georgia?

4781           \*Mr. Carter of Georgia. Aye.

4782           \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia votes aye.

4783           Mr. Palmer?

4784           [No response.]

4785           \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn?

4786           \*Mr. Dunn. Aye.

4787           \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.

4788           Mr. Crenshaw?

4789           [No response.]

4790           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce?  
4791           \*Mr. Joyce.   Aye.  
4792           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce votes aye.  
4793           Mr. Weber?  
4794           \*Mr. Weber.   Aye.  
4795           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Weber votes aye.  
4796           Mr. Allen?  
4797           [No response.]  
4798           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Balderson?  
4799           \*Mr. Balderson.   Aye.  
4800           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Balderson votes aye.  
4801           Mr. Fulcher?  
4802           \*Mr. Fulcher.   Fulcher is aye.  
4803           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Fulcher votes aye.  
4804           Mr. Pfluger?  
4805           [No response.]  
4806           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Harshbarger?  
4807           \*Mrs. Harshbarger.   Aye.  
4808           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Harshbarger votes aye.  
4809           Mrs. Miller-Meeks?  
4810           \*Mrs. Miller-Meeks.   Aye.  
4811           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes aye.  
4812           Mrs. Cammack?  
4813           [No response.]  
4814           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Obernolte?

4815           \*Mr. Oubernolte.   Aye.  
4816           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Oubernolte votes aye.  
4817           Mr. James?  
4818           [No response.]  
4819           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bentz?  
4820           \*Mr. Bentz.   Aye.  
4821           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bentz votes aye.  
4822           Mrs. Houchin?  
4823           \*Mrs. Houchin.   Aye.  
4824           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Houchin votes aye.  
4825           Mr. Fry?  
4826           \*Mr. Fry.   Aye.  
4827           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Fry votes aye.  
4828           Ms. Lee?  
4829           [No response.]  
4830           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Langworthy?  
4831           \*Mr. Langworthy.   Aye.  
4832           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Langworthy votes aye.  
4833           Mr. Kean?  
4834           \*Mr. Kean.   Aye.  
4835           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Kean votes aye.  
4836           Mr. Rulli?  
4837           [No response.]  
4838           \*The Clerk.   Mr. --  
4839           \*Mr. Rulli.   Yes.

4840           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rulli votes aye.  
4841           Mr. Evans?  
4842           \*Mr. Evans.   Aye.  
4843           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Evans votes aye.  
4844           Mr. Goldman?  
4845           \*Mr. Goldman.   Aye.  
4846           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Goldman votes aye.  
4847           Mrs. Fedorchak?  
4848           \*Mrs. Fedorchak.   Aye.  
4849           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fedorchak votes aye.  
4850           Mr. Pallone?  
4851           \*Mr. Pallone.   Aye.  
4852           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pallone votes aye.  
4853           Ms. DeGette?  
4854           \*Ms. DeGette.   Aye.  
4855           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes aye.  
4856           Ms. Schakowsky?  
4857           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   Aye.  
4858           [Laughter.]  
4859           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.  
4860           Ms. Matsui?  
4861           \*Ms. Matsui.   Aye.  
4862           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes aye.  
4863           Ms. Castor?  
4864           \*Ms. Castor.   Aye.

4865           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Castor votes aye.  
4866           Mr. Tonko?  
4867           \*Mr. Tonko.   Aye.  
4868           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Tonko votes aye.  
4869           Ms. Clarke?  
4870           \*Ms. Clarke.   No.  
4871           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Clarke votes no.  
4872           Mr. Ruiz?  
4873           \*Mr. Ruiz.    Aye.  
4874           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Ruiz votes aye.  
4875           Mr. Peters?  
4876           \*Mr. Peters.   Aye.  
4877           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Peters votes aye.  
4878           Mrs. Dingell?  
4879           \*Mrs. Dingell.   Aye.  
4880           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Dingell votes aye.  
4881           Mr. Veasey?  
4882           \*Mr. Veasey.   Aye.  
4883           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Veasey votes aye.  
4884           Ms. Kelly?  
4885           \*Ms. Kelly.    Aye.  
4886           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kelly votes aye.  
4887           Ms. Barragan?  
4888           \*Ms. Barragan.   Aye.  
4889           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Barragan votes aye.

4890 Mr. Soto?

4891 \*Mr. Soto. Aye.

4892 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.

4893 Ms. Schrier?

4894 \*Ms. Schrier. Aye.

4895 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.

4896 Mrs. Trahan?

4897 \*Mrs. Trahan. Aye.

4898 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.

4899 Mrs. Fletcher?

4900 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Aye.

4901 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.

4902 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?

4903 \*Ms. Ocasio-Cortez. Aye.

4904 \*The Clerk. Ms. Ocasio-Cortez votes aye.

4905 Mr. Auchincloss?

4906 \*Mr. Auchincloss. Aye.

4907 \*The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.

4908 Mr. Carter of Louisiana?

4909 \*Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Aye.

4910 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes aye.

4911 Mr. Menendez?

4912 \*Mr. Menendez. Aye.

4913 \*The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes aye.

4914 Mr. Mullin?

4915           \*Mr. Mullin.   Aye.  
4916           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
4917           Mr. Landsman?  
4918           \*Mr. Landsman.   Aye.  
4919           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Landsman votes aye.  
4920           Ms. McClellan?  
4921           \*Ms. McClellan.   Aye.  
4922           \*The Clerk.   Ms. McClellan votes aye.  
4923           Chairman Guthrie?  
4924           \*The Chair.   Aye.  
4925           \*The Clerk.   Chairman Guthrie votes aye.  
4926           \*Mr. Latta.   Latta --  
4927           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Latta is not recorded.  
4928           \*Mr. Latta.   Latta votes aye.  
4929           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Latta votes aye.  
4930           \*Mr. Palmer.   Palmer, aye.  
4931           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Palmer votes aye.  
4932           \*Mr. Allen.   Allen votes aye.  
4933           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Allen votes aye.  
4934           \*Ms. Lee.   Lee votes aye.  
4935           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Lee votes aye.  
4936           \*Mr. Pfluger.   Aye.  
4937           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pfluger votes aye.  
4938           \*Mr. James.   Mr. James votes aye.  
4939           \*The Clerk.   Mr. James votes aye.

4940           \*The Chair. [Presiding.] Anyone else?

4941           Seeing no others, the clerk will report.

4942           [Pause.]

4943           \*The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie, on that vote there were

4944   51 ayes --

4945           \*The Chair. Oh, just -- Mr. Crenshaw, how is he

4946   recorded?

4947           \*Mr. Crenshaw. Aye.

4948           \*The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.

4949           \*The Chair. How is -- report.

4950           \*The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie, on that vote there were

4951   52 ayes and 1 no.

4952           \*The Chair. The ayes have it, and the bill is agreed

4953   to.

4954           The chair calls up H.R. 2269, and asks the clerk to

4955   report.

4956           \*The Clerk. H.R. 2269 --

4957           \*The Chair. Without objection, the first reading of the

4958   bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for

4959   amendment at any point.

4960           So ordered.

4961           [The bill follows:]

4962

4963   \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

4964

4965           \*The Chair. Does anyone speak [sic] to be recognized on  
4966 the bill?

4967           Mr. Mullin, for what purpose does the gentleman from  
4968 California seek recognition?

4969           \*Mr. Mullin. Thank you, Mr. Chair, for including the  
4970 WIPPES Act --

4971           \*The Chair. The gentleman is recognized.

4972           \*Mr. Mullin. I want to thank my colleague,  
4973 Representative McClain, for co-leading this bill, as well as  
4974 our Senate partners, Merkley and Collins.

4975           This common-sense legislation addresses an issue that  
4976 impacts every wastewater treatment plant across the country.  
4977 Operators in my district say one of the biggest threats to  
4978 their infrastructure is the improper disposal of wet wipes.  
4979 When people flush them instead of throwing them away, as is  
4980 often the case, these wipes damage sewers and treatment  
4981 plants. These issues can cost hundreds of thousands, if not  
4982 millions of dollars a year to fix.

4983           This bill would address the issue at its source,  
4984 requiring a simple packaging label to remind consumers that  
4985 wipes should not be flushed. This will reduce costs and help  
4986 the environment. That is why I support this bill.

4987           I urge my colleagues to do the same, and I yield back.

4988           \*The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is anybody  
4989 seeking further discussion?

4990           Seeing none, the question now occurs on adopting H.R.  
4991   2269.

4992           All those in favor, say aye.

4993           Those opposed, no.

4994           The ayes have it, and the bill is agreed to.

4995           The chair calls up H.R. 906, and asks the clerk to  
4996   report.

4997           \*The Clerk. H.R. 906, a bill to direct --

4998           \*The Chair. Without objection, the first reading of the  
4999   bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for  
5000   amendment at any point.

5001           So ordered.

5002           [The bill follows:]

5003

5004   \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

5005

5006           \*Ms. Castor. Mr. Chair --

5007           \*The Chair. Does anyone seek to be recognized on the  
5008 bill?

5009           The gentlelady from Florida is recognized.

5010           \*Ms. Castor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to strike  
5011 the last word.

5012           \*The Chair. The gentlelady is recognized.

5013           \*Ms. Castor. Mr. Chairman, the bipartisan Select  
5014 Committee on the Competition between the United States and  
5015 the Chinese Communist Party continues its important work this  
5016 Congress, including this bill that would require the FCC to  
5017 make a public record of businesses that hold authorizations  
5018 from the FCC, and have any ownership by foreign adversarial  
5019 governments such as China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea --  
5020 it would require this to be public.

5021           Last Congress I partnered with my colleagues, including  
5022 Mr. Dunn of this committee, on the committee to release a  
5023 bipartisan report on the actions to safeguard and boost the  
5024 American economy. The report found that the widespread  
5025 adoption of certain PRC-developed technologies in the U.S.  
5026 poses a significant risk to national security and data  
5027 protection concerns, and threatens long-term U.S.  
5028 technological competitiveness. The report recommends  
5029 enacting the FACT Act to shine light on companies connected  
5030 to foreign adversarial governments like the CCP, and to

5031 ensure greater accountability and transparency in our  
5032 critical communications networks.

5033       Once again, this is another bill that passed unanimously  
5034 through the subcommittee and the full committee last year  
5035 before passing the House as a -- on a voice vote. It was  
5036 included in the year-end package, and should have already  
5037 become law but for Speaker Johnson's capitulation to Elon  
5038 Musk.

5039       As our adversaries target our communications systems, it  
5040 is as critical as ever for the U.S. to continue to take steps  
5041 to protect America's telecommunications infrastructure and  
5042 strengthen our national security. So I will urge a yes vote  
5043 on the bill, and thank you, and yield back.

5044       \*The Chair. Thank you. The gentlelady yields back. Is  
5045 there any discussion?

5046       Mr. -- the gentleman from New Jersey, for what purpose  
5047 do you seek recognition?

5048       \*Mr. Kean. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
5049 word.

5050       \*The Chair. The gentleman is recognized.

5051       \*Mr. Kean. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5052       I am pleased to co-lead this important legislation, the  
5053 Foreign Adversary Communications Transparency Act, with my  
5054 colleagues, Mr. Wittman, Ms. Castor, and Mr. Khanna.

5055       No matter the sector, industry, or technology, we know

5056     malign actors like the Chinese Communist Party and other  
5057     foreign adversaries seek to infiltrate our communications  
5058     infrastructure and disrupt our national security. America's  
5059     tech and telecommunication sectors are key to our national  
5060     security, and we must institute whatever safeguards we can to  
5061     understand which adversaries are present in our networks so  
5062     that we can know how to react.

5063             This bipartisan legislation will take common-sense steps  
5064     to protect our nation's telecommunications infrastructure,  
5065     requiring the Federal Communications Commission to publish a  
5066     list of entities tied to our adversaries that hold access to  
5067     these critical communications systems. Through common-sense,  
5068     transparent measures like this legislation, we can maintain  
5069     important safeguards to keep our critical wireless  
5070     communications infrastructure secure.

5071             I thank my colleagues for their partnership, and I urge  
5072     the committee to support this important legislation.

5073             Mr. Chair, I yield back.

5074             \*The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there  
5075     further discussion?

5076             Seeing none, the question now occurs on adopting H.R.  
5077     906.

5078             All those in favor, say aye.

5079             All those opposed, no.

5080             The ayes have it, and the bill is agreed to.

5081           The chair calls up H.R. 2449, and asks the clerk to  
5082 report.

5083           \*The Clerk. H.R. 2449 --

5084           \*The Chair. Without objection, the first reading of the  
5085 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for  
5086 amendment at any point.

5087           So ordered.

5088           [The bill follows:]

5089

5090           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

5091

5092           \*The Chair. Does anyone seek recognition on the bill?

5093           The gentlelady from California, for what purpose do you  
5094 seek recognition?

5095           \*Ms. Matsui. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
5096 word.

5097           \*The Chair. The gentlelady is recognized.

5098           \*Ms. Matsui. Mr. Chairman, 6G is going to be a global  
5099 evolution in the way we communicate. If America leads the  
5100 race for next-generation wireless, this global technology  
5101 will be based on our values: democracy, open markets, and  
5102 transparency. But if we fall behind, our foreign adversaries  
5103 will have a new way to expand their reach. That is why I am  
5104 so glad to see this bipartisan bill moving forward today.

5105           The FUTURE Networks Act ensures our brightest minds in  
5106 industry, government, and academia are collaborating on the  
5107 strategically vital development of 6G. I appreciate this  
5108 bill being included in today's markup, and look forward to it  
5109 receiving a vote on the floor soon.

5110           With that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my  
5111 time.

5112           \*The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. Is there any  
5113 further discussion?

5114           The gentlelady from Michigan, for what purpose do you  
5115 seek recognition?

5116           \*Mrs. Dingell. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I move to strike

5117 the last word.

5118 \*The Chair. The gentlelady is recognized.

5119 \*Mrs. Dingell. As co-chair of the congressional 5G and  
5120 Beyond Caucus, it is crucial for us to take decisive action  
5121 leading the establishment of wireless standards and advancing  
5122 the adoption of next-generation wireless technologies.

5123 Representative Matsui's FUTURE Networks Act will create  
5124 a task force dedicated to 6G, a critical step that needs to  
5125 be done now to compete against our adversaries, secure our  
5126 supply chains, and accelerate the deployment of next-  
5127 generation wireless services. This legislation is vital to  
5128 ensuring America's leadership is advanced -- in advanced  
5129 wireless technologies, recognizing the central role of  
5130 connectivity and economic growth, national security, and  
5131 technological innovation.

5132 As China continues to vie for dominance in the  
5133 telecommunications sector, we have got to remain forward  
5134 thinking to maintain America's leadership. I am hopeful this  
5135 6G task force will explore all aspects of deploying this  
5136 technology while prioritizing security, domestic  
5137 manufacturing, and global competitiveness, laying the  
5138 foundation to better protect American interests in an  
5139 increasingly interconnected world.

5140 We are a global leader in advanced wireless  
5141 technologies, and we must take -- continue to take proactive

5142 steps to maintain our competitive edge. Investing in 6G will  
5143 help us stay ahead in innovation and security, and I urge all  
5144 my colleagues to support this legislation.

5145 Thank you, and I yield back.

5146 \*The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. Is there  
5147 further discussion?

5148 Seeing none, the question now occurs on adopting H.R.  
5149 2449.

5150 All those in favor, say aye.

5151 Those opposed, say no.

5152 The ayes have it, and the bill is agreed to.

5153 The chair calls up H.R. 2458, and asks the clerk to  
5154 report.

5155 \*The Clerk. H.R. 2458 --

5156 \*The Chair. Without objection, the first reading of the  
5157 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for  
5158 amendment at any point.

5159 So ordered.

5160 [The bill follows:]

5161

5162 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

5163

5164           \*The Chair. Does anybody seek to be recognized on the  
5165 bill?

5166           For what purpose does the gentleman from New Jersey seek  
5167 recognition?

5168           The gentleman is recognized to speak on the bill.

5169           \*Mr. Pallone. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5170           I am glad to have reintroduced H.R. 2458, the Secure  
5171 Space Act, with Chair Guthrie last month. This legislation  
5172 is an important step forward in protecting our satellite  
5173 networks and their relevant supply chains from security  
5174 threats by non-trusted actors, and we can't allow our  
5175 satellite networks to face the same security challenges as  
5176 other communication networks here and globally.

5177           Specifically, this bill would extend Secure and Trusted  
5178 Communications Networks Act framework to the satellite  
5179 marketplace by ensuring that satellite systems that want to  
5180 serve the United States market are not owned or operated by  
5181 entities or their affiliates that have been identified as  
5182 national security risks. This bill is beneficial not only  
5183 for our country, but also will help further the U.S.'s  
5184 ability to protect our allies as they too rely on these  
5185 global satellite networks for broadband and emergency  
5186 services.

5187           And I want to thank Chair Guthrie for working with me on  
5188 it.

5189           For all these reasons, this is a worthwhile bill and I  
5190   urge my colleagues to support it.

5191           And I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

5192           \*The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there  
5193   further discussion?

5194           Seeing none, the question occurs on adopting H.R. 2458,  
5195   and a roll call vote has been requested, so the clerk will  
5196   call the roll.

5197           \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

5198           [No response.]

5199           \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith?

5200           \*Mr. Griffith. Aye.

5201           \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

5202           Mr. Bilirakis?

5203           [No response.]

5204           \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson?

5205           \*Mr. Hudson. Aye.

5206           \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.

5207           Mr. Carter of Georgia?

5208           \*Mr. Carter of Georgia. Aye.

5209           \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia votes aye.

5210           Mr. Palmer?

5211           [No response.]

5212           \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn?

5213           \*Mr. Dunn. Aye.

5214           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn votes aye.  
5215           Mr. Crenshaw?  
5216           [No response.]  
5217           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce?  
5218           \*Mr. Joyce.   Aye.  
5219           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce votes aye.  
5220           Mr. Weber?  
5221           \*Mr. Weber.   Aye.  
5222           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Weber votes aye.  
5223           Mr. Allen?  
5224           [No response.]  
5225           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Balderson?  
5226           \*Mr. Balderson.   Aye.  
5227           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Balderson votes aye.  
5228           Mr. Fulcher?  
5229           \*Mr. Fulcher.   Fulcher is aye.  
5230           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Fulcher votes aye.  
5231           Mr. Pfluger?  
5232           \*Mr. Pfluger.   Aye.  
5233           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pfluger votes aye.  
5234           Mrs. Harshbarger?  
5235           \*Mrs. Harshbarger.   Aye.  
5236           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Harshbarger votes aye.  
5237           Mrs. Miller-Meeks?  
5238           \*Mrs. Miller-Meeks.   Aye.

5239           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes aye.  
5240           Mrs. Cammack?  
5241           [No response.]  
5242           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Obernolte?  
5243           \*Mr. Obernolte.   Aye.  
5244           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Obernolte votes aye.  
5245           Mr. James?  
5246           \*Mr. James.   Aye.  
5247           \*The Clerk.   Mr. James votes aye.  
5248           Mr. Bentz?  
5249           \*Mr. Bentz.   Aye.  
5250           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bentz votes aye.  
5251           Mrs. Houchin?  
5252           \*Mrs. Houchin.   Aye.  
5253           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Houchin votes aye.  
5254           Mr. Fry?  
5255           \*Mr. Fry.   Aye.  
5256           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Fry votes aye.  
5257           Ms. Lee?  
5258           [No response.]  
5259           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Langworthy?  
5260           \*Mr. Langworthy.   Aye.  
5261           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Langworthy votes aye.  
5262           Mr. Kean?  
5263           \*Mr. Kean.   Aye.

5264           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Kean votes aye.  
5265           Mr. Rulli?  
5266           \*Mr. Rulli.   Aye.  
5267           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rulli votes aye.  
5268           Mr. Evans?  
5269           \*Mr. Evans.   Aye.  
5270           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Evans votes aye.  
5271           Mr. Goldman?  
5272           \*Mr. Goldman.   Aye.  
5273           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Goldman votes aye.  
5274           Mrs. Fedorchak?  
5275           [No response.]  
5276           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pallone?  
5277           \*Mr. Pallone.   Aye.  
5278           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pallone votes aye.  
5279           Ms. DeGette?  
5280           \*Ms. DeGette.   Aye.  
5281           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes aye.  
5282           Ms. Schakowsky?  
5283           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   Aye.  
5284           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.  
5285           Ms. Matsui?  
5286           \*Ms. Matsui.   Aye.  
5287           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes aye.  
5288           Ms. Castor?

5289           \*Ms. Castor.   Aye.  
5290           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Castor votes aye.  
5291           Mr. Tonko?  
5292           \*Mr. Tonko.   Aye.  
5293           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Tonko votes aye.  
5294           Ms. Clarke?  
5295           \*Ms. Clarke.   No.  
5296           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Clarke votes no.  
5297           Mr. Ruiz?  
5298           \*Mr. Ruiz.    Aye.  
5299           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Ruiz votes aye.  
5300           Mr. Peters?  
5301           \*Mr. Peters.   Aye.  
5302           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Peters votes aye.  
5303           Mrs. Dingell?  
5304           \*Mrs. Dingell.   Aye.  
5305           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Dingell votes aye.  
5306           Mr. Veasey?  
5307           \*Mr. Veasey.   Aye.  
5308           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Veasey votes aye.  
5309           Ms. Kelly?  
5310           \*Ms. Kelly.    Aye.  
5311           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kelly votes aye.  
5312           Ms. Barragan?  
5313           \*Ms. Barragan.   Aye.

5314           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Barragan votes aye.  
5315           Mr. Soto?  
5316           \*Mr. Soto.   Aye.  
5317           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Soto votes aye.  
5318           Ms. Schrier?  
5319           \*Ms. Schrier.   Aye.  
5320           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schrier votes aye.  
5321           Mrs. Trahan?  
5322           \*Mrs. Trahan.   Aye.  
5323           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Trahan votes aye.  
5324           Mrs. Fletcher?  
5325           \*Mrs. Fletcher.   Aye.  
5326           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.  
5327           Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?  
5328           \*Ms. Ocasio-Cortez.   Aye.  
5329           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Ocasio-Cortez votes aye.  
5330           Mr. Auchincloss?  
5331           \*Mr. Auchincloss.   Aye.  
5332           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.  
5333           Mr. Carter of Louisiana?  
5334           \*Mr. Carter of Louisiana.   Aye.  
5335           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes aye.  
5336           Mr. Menendez?  
5337           \*Mr. Menendez.   Aye.  
5338           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Menendez votes aye.

5339 Mr. Mullin?

5340 \*Mr. Mullin. Aye.

5341 \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.

5342 Mr. Landsman?

5343 \*Mr. Landsman. Aye.

5344 \*The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes aye.

5345 Ms. McClellan?

5346 \*Ms. McClellan. Aye.

5347 \*The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes aye.

5348 Chairman Guthrie?

5349 \*The Chair. Aye.

5350 \*The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes aye.

5351 \*The Chair. How is Mr. Latta recorded?

5352 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta is not recorded.

5353 \*Mr. Latta. Aye.

5354 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

5355 \*The Chair. Mr. Bilirakis?

5356 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Bilirakis votes aye.

5357 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.

5358 \*Mr. Palmer. Palmer votes aye.

5359 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.

5360 \*The Chair. Mr. Allen?

5361 \*Mr. Allen. Allen votes aye.

5362 \*The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes aye.

5363 \*The Chair. Mrs. Fedorchak?

5364            \*Mrs. Fedorchak.    Aye.

5365            \*The Clerk.    Mrs. Fedorchak votes aye.

5366            \*The Chair.    Crenshaw?

5367            \*Mr. Crenshaw.    Aye.

5368            \*The Clerk.    Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.

5369            \*The Chair.    Seeing -- is anybody else for the roll

5370    call?

5371            Seeing none, the clerk will report.

5372            [Pause.]

5373            \*The Chair.    How is Mrs. Cammack recorded?

5374            \*The Clerk.    Mrs. Cammack is not recorded.

5375            \*Mrs. Cammack.    Votes aye.

5376            \*The Clerk.    Mrs. Cammack votes aye.

5377            \*The Chair.    Report.

5378            \*The Clerk.    Chairman Guthrie, on that vote there were

5379    52 ayes and 1 no.

5380            \*The Chair.    The ayes have it, and the bill is adopted.

5381            The chair calls up H.R. 866, and asks the clerk to

5382    report.

5383            \*The Clerk.    H.R. 866, a bill to direct --

5384            \*The Chair.    Without objection, the first reading of the

5385    bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for

5386    amendment at any point.

5387            So ordered.

5388

5389           [The bill follows:]

5390

5391       \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

5392

5393           \*The Chair. Does anyone seek recognition on the bill?

5394           The gentlelady from Illinois has a -- is there any  
5395 amendments to the bill?

5396           The gentlelady from Illinois, you are recognized on your  
5397 amendment -- well, the clerk will report.

5398           \*The Clerk. Amendment in the nature of a substitute to  
5399 H.R. 866, offered by Ms. Kelly. Strike all after the  
5400 enacting clause --

5401           \*The Chair. Without objection, the reading of the  
5402 amendment is dispensed with.

5403           [The amendment of Ms. Kelly follows:]

5404

5405           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

5406

5407           \*The Chair. And the gentlelady is recognized for five  
5408 minutes in support of the amendment.

5409           \*Ms. Kelly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have an  
5410 amendment at the desk titled H866\_ANS\_01.

5411           Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Building out and securing our  
5412 broadband infrastructure has been a priority of mine since  
5413 joining this committee. While closing the digital divide is  
5414 something that I remain deeply committed to, we must protect  
5415 the privacy and security of those millions of Americans who  
5416 rely on the Internet to accomplish critical, everyday tasks  
5417 like online banking, educational purposes, remote sensing and  
5418 monitoring, and more leisure activities like shopping and  
5419 streaming.

5420           The Removing Our Unsecure Technologies to Ensure  
5421 Reliability and Security, or ROUTERS Act, would require the  
5422 Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information at the  
5423 Department of Commerce to conduct a study of the national  
5424 security risk posed by routers, modems, or devices that  
5425 combine both that are designed, developed, and manufactured,  
5426 or supplied by our foreign adversaries.

5427           My amendment seeks to ensure that the Secretary studies  
5428 cybersecurity vulnerabilities as part of the department's  
5429 study on the national security risk of consumer routers,  
5430 modems, and other devices that are associated with our  
5431 foreign adversaries.

5432           This amendment is not only good government, given the  
5433 recent cyber attacks we have seen on our communications  
5434 networks and personal devices, but it also corresponds with  
5435 an amendment Senator Lujan offered that was added to the  
5436 Senate version of this bill last month. My amendment will  
5437 make a technical clarification to ensure that the Secretary  
5438 relies on the entire expertise of the department when  
5439 conducting the study required by this bill.

5440           For these reasons I urge all my colleagues to support  
5441 the amendment, and I yield back.

5442           \*The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. Is there any  
5443 further discussion?

5444           Seeing none, the -- if there is no further discussion,  
5445 the vote occurs on the amendment.

5446           All those in favor shall signify by saying aye.

5447           All those opposed, nay.

5448           The ayes have it, and the amendment is agreed to.

5449           Are there any further amendments?

5450           The question now occurs on adopting H.R. 866, as  
5451 amended.

5452           All those in favor, say aye.

5453           All those opposed, no.

5454           The ayes have it, and the bill is agreed to.

5455           The chair calls up H.R. 2482, and asks the clerk to  
5456 report.

5457           \*The Clerk. H.R. 2482, a bill to reauthorize the  
5458 National --

5459           \*The Chair. Without objection, the first reading of the  
5460 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for  
5461 amendment at any point.

5462           So ordered.

5463           [The bill follows:]

5464

5465           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

5466

5467           \*The Chair. Does anyone seek to be recognized on the  
5468 bill?

5469           The gentlelady from California seeks recognition.

5470           \*Ms. Matsui. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
5471 word.

5472           \*The Chair. The gentlelady is recognized.

5473           \*Ms. Matsui. The pace of innovation has increased  
5474 dramatically over the last few years. But with ever-  
5475 advancing technologies come ever-more-complicated questions.  
5476 We need strong leadership and expertise to help us meet this  
5477 moment.

5478           From closing the digital divide to advising on the rapid  
5479 deployment of AI and bolstering our cybersecurity  
5480 infrastructure, the National Telecommunications and  
5481 Information Administration, NTIA, plays a vital role, yet  
5482 Congress has not reauthorized NTIA for over 30 years. We  
5483 must empower NTIA to keep the United States as a vanguard of  
5484 global tech leadership.

5485           This bill elevates the NTIA administrator to the  
5486 undersecretary level, and codifies the key offices that  
5487 manage our Federal spectrum and lead in international  
5488 negotiations. These common-sense steps modernize NTIA's  
5489 mission and provide new tools to ensure the agency and the  
5490 country can stay the course as an innovation leader.

5491           I recognize the crucial importance of including this

5492 bill in today's markup, and I look forward to receiving a  
5493 vote on the floor soon.

5494 With that I yield back the balance of my time.

5495 \*The Chair. The gentlelady yields back, and the chair  
5496 recognizes the gentleman from Ohio for five minutes.

5497 \*Mr. Latta. Well, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman,  
5498 and strike the last word.

5499 \*The Chair. The gentleman is recognized.

5500 \*Mr. Latta. And I want to thank, first, working with my  
5501 good friend, the gentlelady from California, on this piece of  
5502 legislation.

5503 One of the things that is important that we do in this  
5504 committee is on, you know, looking at and reauthorizing. And  
5505 NTIA had not been reauthorized since 1992, so it has to be  
5506 done, and get this thing done and get it done right because  
5507 we know that NTIA plays a significant role in closing the  
5508 digital divide and managing our nation's spectrum and  
5509 advocating the United States telecommunication positions on  
5510 the world stage.

5511 So Congress recently provided NTIA with \$42.8 billion to  
5512 address broadband deployment and digital equity and  
5513 inclusion. This reauthorization -- one way to ensure that  
5514 NTIA has the tools it needs to effectively manage these  
5515 programs.

5516 Today's NTIA also plays a key role in our effort to

5517 maintain leadership in wireless communications. As a Federal  
5518 spectrum manager, NTIA works with other Federal agencies to  
5519 ensure their spectrum interests are protected, while also  
5520 working to identify spectrum can be made available for  
5521 commercial use.

5522 And finally, this legislation also takes the long-needed  
5523 action of elevating the head of the NTIA from an assistant  
5524 secretary to an undersecretary position. So this is very  
5525 important as we look at making sure that we connect all  
5526 Americans across this nation.

5527 I want to thank my committee -- my colleagues on the  
5528 committee for their support of the legislation in the last  
5529 Congress.

5530 Mr. Chairman, I ask an affirmative vote and I yield  
5531 back.

5532 \*The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there  
5533 further discussion?

5534 Seeing none, the question now occurs on adopting H.R.  
5535 2482.

5536 All those in favor, say aye.

5537 Those opposed, no.

5538 The ayes have it, and the bill is agreed to.

5539 The chair calls up H.R. 2399, and asks the clerk to  
5540 report.

5541 \*The Clerk. H.R. 2399, a bill to require the Federal --

5542           \*The Chair. Without objection, the first reading of the  
5543 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for  
5544 amendment at any point.

5545           So ordered.

5546           [The bill follows:]

5547

5548           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

5549

5550           \*The Chair. Does anyone seek recognition on the bill?

5551           The gentlelady from Indiana, for what purpose do you  
5552 seek recognition?

5553           \*Mrs. Houchin. Mr. Chairman, I would like to strike the  
5554 last word.

5555           \*The Chair. The gentlelady is recognized.

5556           \*Mrs. Houchin. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5557           I am proud to co-lead the Rural Broadband Protection Act  
5558 that we have here in our markup today. I am grateful for the  
5559 partnership of Representative Kelly from Illinois. I also  
5560 want to thank Senators Capito, Curtis, and Klobuchar for  
5561 their work in the Senate to move this effort forward. With  
5562 this bipartisan legislation we aim to connect more Americans  
5563 in rural and unserved areas to broadband service while  
5564 protecting taxpayer dollars.

5565           This bill is straightforward and common-sense. It puts  
5566 safeguards in place to ensure that Universal Service Fund's  
5567 high-cost program supports providers that are truly capable  
5568 of delivering high-speed broadband to the hardest-to-reach  
5569 communities. This is an issue I understand personally. In  
5570 southern Indiana we have deeply rural areas that have long  
5571 been left behind. As a state senator I helped launch one of  
5572 the strongest broadband programs in the country, third in the  
5573 nation at the time, and where we brought connectivity to  
5574 thousands who had been unserved or underserved for far too

5575 long.

5576 Now, at the Federal level, we have a responsibility to  
5577 do the same responsibly and efficiently. This bill does  
5578 exactly that. It ensures that broadband providers actually  
5579 deliver on the promises they have made to bring high-speed  
5580 Internet to difficult-to-serve areas. In doing so, we want  
5581 to maximize the investment of broadband dollars and connect  
5582 more people to the service they need to thrive in education,  
5583 in business, and in health care.

5584 I look forward to its swift passage out of the committee  
5585 and across the House floor.

5586 Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

5587 \*The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. Is there  
5588 anyone seeking further -- is there further discussion on the  
5589 bill?

5590 The gentlelady -- seeing none, a roll call has been  
5591 requested, and the clerk will call the roll.

5592 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

5593 \*Mr. Latta. Aye.

5594 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

5595 Mr. Griffith?

5596 \*Mr. Griffith. Aye.

5597 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

5598 Mr. Bilirakis?

5599 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Aye.

5600

5601           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.

5602           Mr. Hudson?

5603           \*Mr. Hudson.   Aye.

5604           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Hudson votes aye.

5605           Mr. Carter of Georgia?

5606           \*Mr. Carter of Georgia.   Aye.

5607           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Carter of Georgia votes aye.

5608           Mr. Palmer?

5609           [No response.]

5610           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn?

5611           \*Mr. Dunn.   Aye.

5612           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn votes aye.

5613           Mr. Crenshaw?

5614           [No response.]

5615           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce?

5616           \*Mr. Joyce.   Aye.

5617           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce votes aye.

5618           Mr. Weber?

5619           \*Mr. Weber.   Aye.

5620           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Weber votes aye.

5621           Mr. Allen?

5622           [No response.]

5623           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Balderson?

5624           \*Mr. Balderson.   Aye.

5625           \*The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes aye.  
5626           Mr. Fulcher?  
5627           \*Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher is aye.  
5628           \*The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes aye.  
5629           Mr. Pfluger?  
5630           \*Mr. Pfluger. Aye.  
5631           \*The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes aye.  
5632           Mrs. Harshbarger?  
5633           \*Mrs. Harshbarger. Aye.  
5634           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes aye.  
5635           Mrs. Miller-Meeks?  
5636           \*Mrs. Miller-Meeks. Aye.  
5637           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes aye.  
5638           Mrs. Cammack?  
5639           \*Mrs. Cammack. Aye.  
5640           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes aye.  
5641           Mr. Obernolte?  
5642           [No response.]  
5643           \*The Clerk. Mr. James?  
5644           \*Mr. James. Aye.  
5645           \*The Clerk. Mr. James votes aye.  
5646           Mr. Bentz?  
5647           \*Mr. Bentz. Aye.  
5648           \*The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes aye.  
5649           Mrs. Houchin?

5650           \*Mrs. Houchin.   Aye.

5651           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Houchin votes aye.

5652           Mr. Fry?

5653           \*Mr. Fry.    Aye.

5654           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Fry votes aye.

5655           Ms. Lee?

5656           [No response.]

5657           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Langworthy?

5658           \*Mr. Langworthy.   Aye.

5659           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Langworthy votes aye.

5660           Mr. Kean?

5661           \*Mr. Kean.    Aye.

5662           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Kean votes aye.

5663           Mr. Rulli?

5664           \*Mr. Rulli.    Aye.

5665           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rulli votes aye.

5666           Mr. Evans?

5667           \*Mr. Evans.   Aye.

5668           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Evans votes aye.

5669           Mr. Goldman?

5670           \*Mr. Goldman.   Aye.

5671           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Goldman votes aye.

5672           Mrs. Fedorchak?

5673           \*Mrs. Fedorchak.   Aye.

5674           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fedorchak votes aye.

5675 Mr. Pallone?  
5676 \*Mr. Pallone. Aye.  
5677 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes aye.  
5678 Ms. DeGette?  
5679 \*Ms. DeGette. Aye.  
5680 \*The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes aye.  
5681 Ms. Schakowsky?  
5682 \*Ms. Schakowsky. Aye.  
5683 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.  
5684 Ms. Matsui?  
5685 \*Ms. Matsui. Aye.  
5686 \*The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes aye.  
5687 Ms. Castor?  
5688 \*Ms. Castor. Aye.  
5689 \*The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes aye.  
5690 Mr. Tonko?  
5691 \*Mr. Tonko. Aye.  
5692 \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes aye.  
5693 Ms. Clarke?  
5694 \*Ms. Clarke. No.  
5695 \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.  
5696 Mr. Ruiz?  
5697 \*Mr. Ruiz. Aye.  
5698 \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes aye.  
5699 Mr. Peters?

5700           \*Mr. Peters.   Aye.  
5701           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Peters votes aye.  
5702           Mrs. Dingell?  
5703           \*Mrs. Dingell.   Aye.  
5704           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Dingell votes aye.  
5705           Mr. Veasey?  
5706           \*Mr. Veasey.   Aye.  
5707           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Veasey votes aye.  
5708           Ms. Kelly?  
5709           \*Ms. Kelly.    Aye.  
5710           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kelly votes aye.  
5711           Ms. Barragan?  
5712           \*Ms. Barragan.   Aye.  
5713           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Barragan votes aye.  
5714           Mr. Soto?  
5715           \*Mr. Soto.    Aye.  
5716           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Soto votes aye.  
5717           Ms. Schrier?  
5718           \*Ms. Schrier.   Aye.  
5719           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schrier votes aye.  
5720           Mrs. Trahan?  
5721           \*Mrs. Trahan.   Aye.  
5722           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Trahan votes aye.  
5723           Mrs. Fletcher?  
5724           \*Mrs. Fletcher.   Aye.

5725           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.  
5726           Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?  
5727           \*Ms. Ocasio-Cortez.   Aye.  
5728           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Ocasio-Cortez votes aye.  
5729           Mr. Auchincloss?  
5730           \*Mr. Auchincloss.   Aye.  
5731           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.  
5732           Mr. Carter of Louisiana?  
5733           \*Mr. Carter of Louisiana.   Aye.  
5734           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes aye.  
5735           Mr. Menendez?  
5736           \*Mr. Menendez.   Aye.  
5737           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Menendez votes aye.  
5738           Mr. Mullin?  
5739           \*Mr. Mullin.   Aye.  
5740           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
5741           Mr. Landsman?  
5742           [No response.]  
5743           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Landsman?  
5744           \*Mr. Landsman.   Aye.  
5745           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Landsman votes aye.  
5746           Ms. McClellan?  
5747           \*Ms. McClellan.   Aye.  
5748           \*The Clerk.   Ms. McClellan votes aye.  
5749           Chairman Guthrie?

5750           \*The Chair.   Aye.

5751           \*The Clerk.   Chairman Guthrie votes aye.

5752           \*The Chair.   Mr. Palmer?

5753           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Palmer is not recorded.

5754           \*Mr. Palmer.   Palmer votes aye.

5755           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Palmer votes aye.

5756           \*The Chair.   Mr. Crenshaw?

5757           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw is not recorded.

5758           \*Mr. Crenshaw.   Crenshaw votes aye.

5759           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.

5760           \*The Chair.   Is Mr. Latta recorded?

5761           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Latta is recorded as aye.

5762           \*The Chair.   Is anyone -- Mr. Allen, is he not recorded,

5763   Mr. --

5764           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Allen is not recorded.

5765           \*Mr. Allen.   Aye.

5766           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Allen votes aye.

5767           \*The Chair.   Seeing no others, would the clerk -- well,

5768   before I -- I want to clarify for the record this vote was on

5769   the adoption of H.R. 2399.   Will the clerk report?

5770           \*The Clerk.   Chairman Guthrie, on that vote there were

5771   51 ayes and 1 no.

5772           \*The Chair.   The ayes have it, and the bill is agreed

5773   to.

5774           The chair calls up H.R. 2037, and asks the clerk to

5775 report.

5776       \*The Clerk. H.R. 2037, a bill to provide outreach and  
5777 technical --

5778       \*The Chair. Without objection, the first reading of the  
5779 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for  
5780 amendment at any point.

5781       So ordered.

5782       [The bill follows:]

5783

5784       \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

5785

5786           \*The Chair. Does anyone seek recognition?

5787           Mr. Carter from Louisiana, for what purpose do you seek  
5788 recognition?

5789           \*Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Thank you very much --

5790           \*The Chair. Your microphone, if you would get that.  
5791 There you go.

5792           \*Mr. Carter of Louisiana. All right. Thank you, Mr.  
5793 Chairman.

5794           OpenRAN, this bill requires the National  
5795 Telecommunication Information Administration, NTIA, to  
5796 conduct outreach and provide technical assistance to small  
5797 communications networks providers regarding the benefits,  
5798 uses, and challenges of open radio access network standards  
5799 and other open network architectures.

5800           OpenRAN is a non-proprietary, standardized network  
5801 deployment approach that promotes open network with  
5802 interoperable equipment and visualized network operations.

5803           The NTIA must also conduct outreach and provide  
5804 assistance to small providers regarding participation in the  
5805 Public Wireless Supply Chain Innovation Fund, a competitive  
5806 grant program that funds efforts to accelerate the  
5807 development, deployment, and adoption of OpenRAN.

5808           I am proud to have introduced this bipartisan OpenRAN  
5809 Outreach Act with Representative Richard Hudson. The bill  
5810 provides greater Federal support for small telecommunication

5811 companies in rural and disadvantaged communities to help  
5812 these companies improve their network and remove potentially  
5813 insecure Chinese network hardware.

5814       Specifically, the bill directs the National  
5815 Telecommunications and Information Administration to provide  
5816 outreach and technical assistance to small communications  
5817 networks providers about the benefits of transitioning to  
5818 OpenRAN open radio access networks, or OpenORAN,  
5819 technologies. NTIA will also inform providers of the \$1.5  
5820 billion Wireless Supply Chain Innovation Grant program funded  
5821 by the CHIPS Act to help these networks switch to OpenRAN and  
5822 replace older, Chinese-made equipment. This is a pivotal  
5823 step toward strengthening our nation's telecommunications  
5824 infrastructure by providing technical assistance and outreach  
5825 to small telecommunication providers, especially in rural  
5826 areas.

5827       This bill opens the door to a more secure, diverse, and  
5828 competitive wireless network landscape. The shift to OpenRAN  
5829 technology not only enhances national security by reducing  
5830 reliance on foreign-made equipment, but also boosts American  
5831 manufacturing and fosters innovation in 5G. This bill  
5832 ensures that rural communities are no longer left behind in  
5833 the race for cutting-edge technology, driving down cost, and  
5834 improving smaller carriers to build stronger, more resilient  
5835 networks.

5836 Mr. Chairman, I urge a favorable passage. I yield back.

5837 \*The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there  
5838 further discussion on the bill?

5839 \*Ms. Matsui. Mr. Chairman?

5840 \*The Chair. Are there any amendments? Oh -- any  
5841 amendments on the bill?

5842 \*Mr. Hudson. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the  
5843 desk.

5844 \*The Chair. We have further discussion?

5845 Oh, Ms. Matsui had a discussion on the bill. Let me  
5846 recognize --

5847 \*Voice. Well, this is the ANS.

5848 \*The Chair. Oh, it is an amendment in the nature of a  
5849 substitute. So let's report the amendment, then. All right,  
5850 the clerk will report.

5851 \*The Clerk. Amendment in the nature of a substitute to  
5852 H.R. 2037, offered by Mr. Hudson. Strike all after the  
5853 enacting clause, and insert the following --

5854 \*The Chair. Without objection, the reading of the  
5855 amendment is dispensed with.

5856 [The amendment of Mr. Hudson follows:]

5857

5858 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

5859

5860           \*The Chair. And the gentleman is recognized for five  
5861 minutes in support of the amendment.

5862           I will recognize you next.

5863           \*Ms. Matsui. Okay.

5864           \*The Chair. The gentleman is recognized.

5865           \*Mr. Hudson. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5866           H.R. 2037, the OpenRAN Outreach Act, helps pave the way  
5867 for greater U.S. competition with China by promoting  
5868 technology that encourages vendor diversity.

5869           Specifically, this legislation requires NTIA to provide  
5870 support to our small and rural telecom providers that want to  
5871 deploy OpenRAN technology. Promoting a more competitive  
5872 market of trusted vendors to provide 5G equipment remains an  
5873 important strategic component to protect U.S. networks.

5874           As an open network infrastructure, OpenRAN technology  
5875 can help diversify communications technology by allowing  
5876 multiple components from multiple manufacturers. This bill  
5877 will give small and rural providers information and support  
5878 to deploy OpenRAN technologies if providers would like to  
5879 implement this technology into their networks.

5880           My amendment in the nature of substitute simply makes  
5881 technical updates to the legislation, as well as expands the  
5882 definition of an OpenRAN network based on feedback received  
5883 -- we received at the end of last Congress.

5884           I want to thank Representative Troy Carter for working

5885 with me to reintroduce this legislation.

5886 I urge my colleagues to support the ANS and the  
5887 underlying bill.

5888 And Mr. Chairman, I would be happy to yield to Ms.  
5889 Matsui, or she can claim her own time.

5890 \*The Chair. The gentlelady from California.

5891 Oh, you are yielding your time, so yes, okay.

5892 \*Ms. Matsui. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Hudson. I move  
5893 to strike the last word and speak in support of this outreach  
5894 act.

5895 This bill would promote national security and  
5896 connectivity by helping our small telecom providers learn  
5897 about OpenRAN networks.

5898 I have long championed the development and deployment of  
5899 open, interoperable equipment to keep our networks secure and  
5900 competitive. That is why back in 2020 I joined Chairman  
5901 Pallone, then-Ranking Member Walden, and Congressman Guthrie  
5902 to introduce the USA Telecommunications Act which eventually  
5903 formed the foundation of the Public Wireless Supply Chain  
5904 Innovation Fund included in the CHIPS and Science Act. I am  
5905 glad to see that today's bill would inform small providers  
5906 about this critical grant program to help these networks  
5907 switch to OpenRAN and replace potentially insecure Chinese  
5908 equipment. This will help small providers benefit from more  
5909 secure and competitive wireless network landscape to bring

5910 connectivity to our rural and disadvantaged communities.

5911 With that I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and  
5912 I yield back the balance of my time.

5913 \*The Chair. The gentleman yields back?

5914 \*Mr. Hudson. I yield back.

5915 \*The Chair. The gentleman yields back. If there is no  
5916 further discussion, seeing no further discussion, the vote  
5917 occurs on the amendment.

5918 All those in favor shall signify by saying aye.

5919 All those opposed, nay.

5920 The ayes have it, and the amendment is agreed to.

5921 The question now occurs on adopting H.R. 2037, as  
5922 amended.

5923 All those in favor, say aye.

5924 Those opposed, no.

5925 The ayes have it, and the bill is agreed to.

5926 The chair calls H.R. 1717, and asks the clerk to report.

5927 \*The Clerk. H.R. 1717 --

5928 \*The Chair. Without objection, the first reading of the  
5929 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for  
5930 amendment at any point.

5931 So ordered.

5932

5933

5934

5935           [The bill follows:]

5936

5937       \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

5938

5939           \*The Chair. Does anyone seek to be recognized on the  
5940 bill?

5941           \*Mr. Menendez. Mr. Speaker?

5942           \*The Chair. For what purpose does the gentleman from  
5943 New Jersey seek recognition?

5944           \*Mr. Menendez. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
5945 word.

5946           \*The Chair. The gentleman is recognized for five  
5947 minutes to speak on the bill.

5948           \*Mr. Menendez. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased  
5949 that the committee is moving forward with the Communications  
5950 Safety Act which passed this committee in the full House last  
5951 Congress.

5952           With cybersecurity threats and natural disasters that  
5953 threaten critical infrastructure on the rise, we need expert  
5954 collaboration to protect American families' access to  
5955 communications networks. The FCC should have a permanent  
5956 advisory council that can provide recommendations regarding  
5957 both the rapid restoration of communication services in the  
5958 event of widespread or major network disruptions, and the  
5959 steps communications providers can take to help secure end  
5960 users and servers.

5961           This bill would codify an existing FCC advisory council,  
5962 the Communications Security, Reliability, and  
5963 Interoperability Council, or CSRIC, which focuses on

5964 improving next-generation 911, emergency preparedness,  
5965 network security, resiliency, and interoperability. CSRIC  
5966 has improved the reliability, availability, and performance  
5967 of our communications networks during natural disasters,  
5968 terrorist attacks, and cybersecurity attacks.

5969         The bill specifies that CSRIC must include  
5970 representatives from a wide range of stakeholders from the  
5971 communications industry, academia, the public interest  
5972 sector, and state, local, and tribal governments.

5973         The bill would also require biennial reporting to the  
5974 FCC, Congress, and the public, with recommendations to  
5975 improve communications networks on such issues so that we can  
5976 stay informed of these issues, as well.

5977         Finally, I want to thank Representative Joyce for his  
5978 leadership on this important leadership -- legislation and  
5979 being a partner on it.

5980         I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield  
5981 back.

5982         \*The Chair. The gentleman yields back. The gentleman  
5983 from Pennsylvania, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

5984         \*Mr. Joyce. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
5985 word.

5986         \*The Chair. You are recognized for five minutes.

5987         \*Mr. Joyce. I want to thank my colleague, Congressman  
5988 Menendez, for helping to co-lead H.R. 1717, the

5989 Communications Security Act.

5990 More than ever, it is clear that we need to ensure that  
5991 our wireless networks are standing up to the highest  
5992 scrutiny. Salt Typhoon and other cyber attacks on our  
5993 networks have made it clear that these threat actors, like  
5994 China, will stop at nothing to gain access to our  
5995 communications networks. We need to ensure that we are  
5996 giving the Federal Communications Commission the right tools  
5997 to be able to combat threats, identify best practices, and  
5998 see what we can do to bolster our networks and our  
5999 infrastructure. This bill will do exactly that, and why more  
6000 -- allowance for the FCC to create a permanent council to  
6001 address these threats.

6002 I urge my colleagues to all vote in favor of H.R. 1717,  
6003 and I yield back.

6004 \*The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there  
6005 further discussion?

6006 Seeing none, the question now occurs on adopting H.R.  
6007 1717. A roll call has been requested, and the clerk will  
6008 call the roll.

6009 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

6010 [No response.]

6011 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith?

6012 \*Mr. Griffith. Aye.

6013 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

6014 Mr. Bilirakis?  
6015 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Aye.  
6016 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.  
6017 Mr. Hudson?  
6018 \*Mr. Hudson. Aye.  
6019 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.  
6020 Mr. Carter of Georgia?  
6021 \*Mr. Carter of Georgia. Aye.  
6022 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia votes aye.  
6023 Mr. Palmer?  
6024 [No response.]  
6025 \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn?  
6026 \*Mr. Dunn. Aye.  
6027 \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.  
6028 Mr. Crenshaw?  
6029 [No response.]  
6030 \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce?  
6031 \*Mr. Joyce. Aye.  
6032 \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.  
6033 Mr. Weber?  
6034 [No response.]  
6035 \*The Clerk. Mr. Allen?  
6036 \*Mr. Allen. Aye.  
6037 \*The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes aye.  
6038 Mr. Balderson?

6039           \*Mr. Balderson.   Aye.  
6040           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Balderson votes aye.  
6041           Mr. Fulcher?  
6042           \*Mr. Fulcher.   Fulcher is aye.  
6043           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Fulcher votes aye.  
6044           Mr. Pfluger?  
6045           \*Mr. Pfluger.   Aye.  
6046           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pfluger votes aye.  
6047           Mrs. Harshbarger?  
6048           \*Mrs. Harshbarger.   Aye.  
6049           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Harshbarger votes aye.  
6050           Mrs. Miller-Meeks?  
6051           \*Mrs. Miller-Meeks.   Aye.  
6052           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes aye.  
6053           Mrs. Cammack?  
6054           [No response.]  
6055           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Cammack?  
6056           \*Mrs. Cammack.   Aye.  
6057           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Cammack votes aye.  
6058           Mr. Obernolte?  
6059           [No response.]  
6060           \*The Clerk.   Mr. James?  
6061           \*Mr. James.   Aye.  
6062           \*The Clerk.   Mr. James votes aye.  
6063           Mr. Bentz?

6064           \*Mr. Bentz.   Aye.  
6065           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bentz votes aye.  
6066           Mrs. Houchin?  
6067           \*Mrs. Houchin.   Aye.  
6068           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Houchin votes aye.  
6069           Mr. Fry?  
6070           \*Mr. Fry.   Aye.  
6071           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Fry votes aye.  
6072           Ms. Lee?  
6073           [No response.]  
6074           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Langworthy?  
6075           \*Mr. Langworthy.   Aye.  
6076           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Langworthy votes aye.  
6077           Mr. Kean?  
6078           \*Mr. Kean.   Aye.  
6079           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Kean votes aye.  
6080           Mr. Rulli?  
6081           \*Mr. Rulli.   Aye.  
6082           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rulli votes aye.  
6083           Mr. Evans?  
6084           \*Mr. Evans.   Aye.  
6085           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Evans votes aye.  
6086           Mr. Goldman?  
6087           \*Mr. Goldman.   Aye.  
6088           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Goldman votes aye.

6089 Mrs. Fedorchak?  
6090 \*Mrs. Fedorchak. Aye.  
6091 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes aye.  
6092 Mr. Pallone?  
6093 \*Mr. Pallone. Aye.  
6094 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes aye.  
6095 Ms. DeGette?  
6096 \*Ms. DeGette. Aye.  
6097 \*The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes aye.  
6098 Ms. Schakowsky?  
6099 \*Ms. Schakowsky. Aye.  
6100 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.  
6101 Ms. Matsui?  
6102 \*Ms. Matsui. Aye.  
6103 \*The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes aye.  
6104 Ms. Castor?  
6105 \*Ms. Castor. Aye.  
6106 \*The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes aye.  
6107 Mr. Tonko?  
6108 \*Mr. Tonko. Aye.  
6109 \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes aye.  
6110 Ms. Clarke?  
6111 \*Ms. Clarke. No.  
6112 \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.  
6113 Mr. Ruiz?

6114           \*Mr. Ruiz.   Aye.  
6115           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Ruiz votes aye.  
6116           Mr. Peters?  
6117           \*Mr. Peters.   Aye.  
6118           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Peters votes aye.  
6119           Mrs. Dingell?  
6120           [No response.]  
6121           \*Voice.   Mrs. Dingell?  
6122           \*Mrs. Dingell.   Aye.  
6123           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Dingell votes aye.  
6124           Mr. Veasey?  
6125           \*Mr. Veasey.   Aye.  
6126           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Veasey votes aye.  
6127           Ms. Kelly?  
6128           \*Ms. Kelly.   Aye.  
6129           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kelly votes aye.  
6130           Ms. Barragan?  
6131           \*Ms. Barragan.   Aye.  
6132           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Barragan votes aye.  
6133           Mr. Soto?  
6134           \*Mr. Soto.   Aye.  
6135           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Soto votes aye.  
6136           Ms. Schrier?  
6137           \*Ms. Schrier.   Aye.  
6138           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schrier votes aye.

6139 Mrs. Trahan?  
6140 \*Mrs. Trahan. Aye.  
6141 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.  
6142 Mrs. Fletcher?  
6143 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Aye.  
6144 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.  
6145 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?  
6146 \*Ms. Ocasio-Cortez. Aye.  
6147 \*The Clerk. Ms. Ocasio-Cortez votes aye.  
6148 Mr. Auchincloss?  
6149 \*Mr. Auchincloss. Aye.  
6150 \*The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.  
6151 Mr. Carter of Louisiana?  
6152 \*Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Aye.  
6153 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes aye.  
6154 Mr. Menendez?  
6155 \*Mr. Menendez. Aye.  
6156 \*The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes aye.  
6157 Mr. Mullin?  
6158 \*Mr. Mullin. Aye.  
6159 \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
6160 Mr. Landsman?  
6161 \*Mr. Landsman. Aye.  
6162 \*The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes aye.  
6163 Ms. McClellan?

6164           \*Ms. McClellan.   Aye.

6165           \*The Clerk.   Ms. McClellan votes aye.

6166           Chairman Guthrie?

6167           \*The Chair.   Aye.

6168           \*The Clerk.   Chairman Guthrie votes aye.

6169           \*The Chair.   Mr. Latta, how is he recorded?

6170           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Latta is not recorded.

6171           \*Mr. Latta.   Latta votes aye.

6172           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Latta votes aye.

6173           \*The Chair.   Who is seeking recognition to vote?

6174           Mr. Weber?

6175           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Weber is not recorded.

6176           \*Mr. Weber.   Aye.

6177           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Weber --

6178           \*The Chair.   Mr. Palmer?

6179           \*The Clerk.   -- votes aye.

6180           \*The Chair.   Palmer is not --

6181           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Palmer is not recorded.

6182           \*Mr. Palmer.   Aye.

6183           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Palmer votes aye.

6184           \*The Chair.   Mr. Crenshaw?

6185           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw is not recorded.

6186           \*Voice.    He is coming, he is coming.

6187           \*The Chair.   He is coming.

6188           Is anybody on your side need to vote?  No?  Okay.  You

6189 are all here.

6190 The clerk will report.

6191 \*The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie, on that vote there were  
6192 50 ayes and 1 no.

6193 \*The Chair. Fifty ayes and one no, the ayes have it and  
6194 the bill is adopted.

6195 Unfortunately, we now have votes on the floor, time  
6196 constraints later this afternoon and evening, and a full  
6197 committee hearing tomorrow. So I move to adjourn the markup  
6198 and return at a later date to complete the health portion of  
6199 the markup.

6200 And I now recognize the ranking member for five minutes.

6201 \*Mr. Pallone. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am going to  
6202 try to be brief, because I know we have to go to vote, but as  
6203 I mentioned previously, we can't go through the motions and  
6204 pretend everything is normal and hold bipartisan markups  
6205 while career scientists, public health experts, and essential  
6206 personnel who are working to fight cures, fight diseases, and  
6207 protect us are being terminated.

6208 Unfortunately, HHS is refusing to respond to my multiple  
6209 written requests for information on the department's recent  
6210 actions, and that is unacceptable.

6211 Now, I understand that you scheduled a bipartisan staff  
6212 briefing later this week on Friday, and the Democratic staff  
6213 will be going to that. But this is not sufficient. We

6214 need --

6215 \*The Chair. We need order --

6216 \*Mr. Pallone. Thank you.

6217 \*The Chair. -- so the gentleman can be heard.

6218 \*Mr. Pallone. This is not sufficient. The members  
6219 absolutely need to hear directly from the Secretary himself.

6220 So last week I asked you to hold a hearing on the  
6221 Secretary's actions and cutting all the staff at HHS, or the  
6222 25 percent, and you responded by quoting, and I quote, my  
6223 point was "well taken," and that "this committee should be  
6224 doing oversight." So my question is, do you plan to  
6225 schedule a hearing with Secretary Kennedy soon?

6226 \*The Chair. We have not set a date or plans to. There  
6227 will be a hearing. We are going to have a budget hearing  
6228 like we normally do. As you know, we have requested a  
6229 bipartisan briefing, and we are -- currently we don't have a  
6230 scheduled hearing with the --

6231 \*Mr. Pallone. Right. Well, I don't know whether that  
6232 is a yes or no, but I would ask you again to have a hearing  
6233 with Secretary Kennedy.

6234 I also requested a hearing on the measles outbreak  
6235 almost a month ago. Another child has died. Are you  
6236 planning on holding a hearing soon on these measles  
6237 fatalities?

6238 \*The Chair. There is no schedule for that.

6239           \*Mr. Pallone. Well, again, I would ask you to hold a  
6240 hearing on that, as well.

6241           I have to stress that having this bipartisan briefing  
6242 with the staff on Friday just doesn't cut it. We need to  
6243 hear from the Secretary himself. We need to hear from him on  
6244 both the cuts at HHS, and we need to hear him -- from him on  
6245 the measles and these other problems that I suggested. You  
6246 know, we pride ourselves on bipartisan achievements, and we  
6247 have to get back to the essential oversight of this  
6248 committee, and I don't understand what is happening with  
6249 these departments. I don't think you do, as well. And so I  
6250 am going to continue to make these requests until this  
6251 committee is sufficiently informed of the department's plans,  
6252 how they are going to impact public health, and what it means  
6253 for the American people. I don't think we have the answers,  
6254 and this -- just having the staff go to a briefing doesn't  
6255 cut it, Mr. Chairman.

6256           \*Ms. DeGette. Will the gentleman yield?

6257           \*Mr. Pallone. Yes.

6258           \*Ms. DeGette. Thank you very much for raising this  
6259 issue, Mr. Pallone, because, with the devastating cuts we are  
6260 seeing to biomedical research and to vaccines and everything  
6261 else, we need the Secretary here.

6262           Every single member of -- Democratic member of the  
6263 Health Subcommittee requested the Secretary to come and talk

6264 to us in person shortly after his confirmation in February,  
6265 and he has still yet to come. And so I just -- I will join  
6266 you on behalf of the Health Subcommittee to say we need the  
6267 Secretary here sooner, rather than later. And a staff  
6268 briefing at 4:00 on a Friday afternoon is not what we need  
6269 for -- in this great urgency.

6270 I yield back.

6271 \*Mr. Pallone. And Mr. Chairman, understand I am not  
6272 worried about the timing. I just think that having a staff  
6273 briefing is not sufficient. We need the Secretary to come  
6274 before the members at a hearing. And that is -- you know,  
6275 you still seem to suggest that is going to happen. I hope  
6276 that you follow through on it.

6277 \*The Chair. Thank you. I appreciate your comments.

6278 So documents for the record for the full committee  
6279 markup, the documents are as -- on this list.

6280 Without objection, so ordered to be entered into the  
6281 record.

6282 [The information follows:]

6283

6284 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

6285

6286           \*The Chair. And without objection, staff is authorized  
6287 to make technical and conforming changes to the legislation  
6288 approved by the committee today.

6289           So ordered.

6290           And without objection, the committee stands adjourned.

6291           [Whereupon, at 2:28 p.m., the committee was adjourned.]