The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. Foxx).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC, September 5, 2017.
I hereby appoint the Honorable VIRGINIA FOXX to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.
PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GAETZ) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

DACA

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Madam Speaker, I rise today because I am fired up. I am angry about the decision that the President made today on DACA.

I want to thank the thousands of people who have risen up across this country—from Houston, to Philly, to Los Angeles, to Denver—to say that they are going to have their voices heard. They need to continue to sound that voice.

What about the promise the government made to these young people that said: If you come forward and come out of the shadows, we are going to protect your information? What about that promise?

I want every DREAMer to know that I stand with them and that I am going to fight like hell here in Congress to make sure that we protect them and to make sure that we honor the promise that we made. These people are our doctors, our teachers, our neighbors, and, in my case, my cousin.

I call on Congress and my colleagues across the aisle who have been speaking up on this issue in support of DACA protections to do more than speak, and to act—to act now and to act fast.

CONGRESS SHOULD MAKE IMMIGRATION POLICIES

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, today President Trump delivered on last day’s proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof. Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

DACA

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Madam Speaker, I rise today because I am fired up. I am angry about the decision that the President made today on DACA.

I want to thank the thousands of people who have risen up across this country—from Houston, to Philly, to Los Angeles, to Denver—to say that they are going to have their voices heard. They need to continue to sound that voice.

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I call on Congress and my colleagues across the aisle who have been speaking up on this issue in support of DACA protections to do more than speak, and to act—to act now and to act fast.
his promise to the American people. He said he would discontinue the DACA immigration program, which allows hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants to stay in the country and receive work permits.

By siding with the unconstitutional DACA program, he has overturned the last of President Obama’s amnesty agenda and returned to the rule of law. President Obama, a former constitutional law professor, said many times that DACA was unconstitutional.

Congress should strengthen our laws against illegal immigration and ensure that our immigration policies put unemployed Americans first. The U.S. labor participation rate is at a 40-year low.

President Trump is right to discontinue the DACA program and let Congress address immigration policies, including securing the border.

**EDUCATION FUNDING**

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

Mr. MARSHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss education: the building block to a successful future.

As a father and, now, a grandfather for the second time, I know our education system is of the utmost importance. Education is truly one of the pillars of my life.

I am a strong advocate for limiting the scope of the Federal Government in education decisions. Our school boards and teachers understand what works best for these individual students, and providing them control to make their own decisions ensures the best results for our students.

I am encouraged to see the House retain and increase many of the Federal funding levels for education, including funding for career and technical education State grants. I am very pleased to see Congress increase funding for IDEA, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, by $200 million.

I urge my colleagues to also talk to their local teachers, administrators, and students to see what works and what doesn’t.

Educating the next generation is one of the most sacred responsibilities, and I thank those like I met with who dedicate their lives to that cause.

**RECESS**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule X, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 5 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o’clock and 8 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

☐ 1700

**AFTER RECESS**

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee) at 5 p.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

**RESTRAINING EXCESSIVE SEIZURE OF PROPERTY THROUGH THE EXPLOITATION OF CIVIL ASSET FORFEITURE TOOLS ACT**

Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1843) to amend title 31, United States Code, to prohibit the Internal Revenue Service from carrying out seizures relating to a structuring transaction unless the property to be seized was derived from an illegal source or the funds were structured for the purpose of concealing the violation of another criminal law or regulation, to require notice and a post-seizure hearing for such seizures, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1843
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act may be cited as the “Clyde-Hirsch-Sowers RESPECT Act” or the “Restraining Excessive Seizure of Property through the Exploitation of Civil Asset Forfeiture Tools Act”.

SEC. 2. INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE SERVIE REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO STRUCTURING TRANSACTIONS. Section 5317(c)(2) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “Any property” and inserting the following:

(a) IN GENERAL.—Any property; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

(b) INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO STRUCTURING TRANSACTIONS.—

(i) PROPERTY DERIVED FROM AN ILLEGAL SOURCE.—Property may only be seized by the Internal Revenue Service pursuant to subparagraph (A) of section 5324 if the property to be seized was derived from an illegal source or the funds were structured for the purpose of concealing the violation of a criminal law or regulation other than section 5324. Property may only be seized by the Internal Revenue Service pursuant to subparagraph (A) of section 5324 if the property to be seized was derived from an illegal source or the funds were structured for the purpose of concealing the violation of another criminal law or regulation other than section 5324.

(ii) NOTICE.—Not later than 30 days after property is seized by the Internal Revenue Service pursuant to subparagraph (A) of section 5324, the Internal Revenue Service shall—

(1) make a good faith effort to find all persons with an ownership interest in such property; and

(2) provide each such person with a notice of the seizure and of the person’s rights under clause (i).

(iii) EXTENSION OF NOTICE UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.—The Internal Revenue Service may apply to a court of competent jurisdiction for an order extending the time period referred to in clause (i) if the Internal Revenue Service determines that an extension is necessary to establish probable cause of an eminent threat to national security or personal safety necessitating such extension.

(iv) POST-SEIZURE HEARING.—If a person with a property interest in property seized pursuant to subparagraph (A) of the Internal Revenue Service requests a hearing by a court of competent jurisdiction within 30 days after the date on which notice is provided under subparagraph (ii) of such property and probable cause to believe that the property to be seized was derived from an illegal source or the funds were structured for the purpose of concealing the violation of another criminal law or regulation other than section 5324.

SEC. 3. EXCLUSION OF INTEREST RECEIVED IN ACTION TO RECOVER PROPERTY SEIZED BY THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE BASED ON STRUCTURING TRANSACTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part III of subchapter B of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting before section 140 the following new section:

SEC. 139G. INTEREST RECEIVED IN ACTION TO RECOVER PROPERTY SEIZED BY THE Internal REVENUE SERVICE BASED ON STRUCTURING TRANSACTION.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part III of subchapter B of chapter 1 of such Code is amended by inserting before the title relating to section 140 the following new item:

Sec. 139G. Interest received in action to recover property seized by the Internal Revenue Service based on structuring transaction.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to interest received on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. ROSKAM) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL) each will control 20 minutes. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material for H.R. 1843, currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, if a person deposits $10,000 or more into a financial institution, that institution must submit a current transaction report to the Treasury Department. Avoiding this reporting requirement by purposefully staying below the $10,000 limit is a Federal crime known as structuring.

Structuring was made illegal in 1986 to prevent large-scale criminal enterprise terrorists and money launderers from hiding their illegally earned money from authorities by consistently depositing just shy of that
$10,000 limit. This makes complete sense. When structuring is believed to have occurred, the Internal Revenue Service can use its civil asset forfeiture authority to seize funds and force the owner of the funds to prove that they were not illegally obtained. Let me tell you, I am not laying awake at night, and neither are my colleagues here, worrying about terrorists and mobsters not being able to get access to their money. So far, so good. The law makes sense.

But now let me tell you about somebody who had their money seized by the IRS. Andrew Clyde served three combat tours in Iraq, and then he came home and opened a store in Georgia. Mr. Clyde had an insurance policy that only covered up to $10,000 in off-premise losses. So, like any reasonable person, Mr. Clyde never brought more than $10,000 in cash with him when he made his nightly deposits. The IRS seized $90,000 from him.

Now, just marinate in that for a minute, Mr. Speaker. Imagine trying to run your business, and one day the Federal Government comes in and takes away all of your money. You don't touch it. It is just gone. You would assume that the IRS would then talk to Mr. Clyde, hear his rationale, and say: Well, it is my mistake. You are clearly not a mobster or a terrorist. Thank you for your service. Here is your life savings back.

But that is not what happened. Instead, the IRS threatened him with criminal structuring charges until he agreed to settle with the agency, and gave them $50,000, after he had spent nearly $100,000 in legal fees.

Andrew Clyde lost $150,000 simply because he wanted to make sure that his cash deposits were low enough to be insured. We are here today to make sure that this never happens again. The RESPECT Act makes commonsense changes to civil asset forfeiture practices. First and foremost, the IRS would have to show probable cause that the funds they are seizing were derived from or connected to an illegal source.

Additionally, it would provide protections for taxpayers whose money was taken, requiring a hearing within 30 days of the money being seized. These commonsense steps prevent the Federal Government from acting with impunity and harassing the very citizens that they are supposed to protect.

I want to thank a number of individuals for their work on this legislation. I would like to thank John Lewis, the ranking member of the Oversight Subcommittee. I want to thank Mr. Neal for his leadership, and I want to thank Chairman Brady.

We have been at this for a long time. We first started investigating this issue at an Oversight Subcommittee hearing in February of 2015, and we made some progress. IRS Commissioner Koskinen apologized to the victims of this practice on behalf of his agency. In fact, a year later, he changed the IRS procedures to restrict the use of civil asset forfeiture cases in which the money was earned illegally, a commonsense approach that we will codify with this legislation.

I am also heartened to say that in March of this year, the IRS finished its process of reviewing all 454 contested cases that occurred before the rule change. The IRS returned over $6 million to honest Americans who were victims of this government overreach.

While the IRS returned over $6 million, they have also recommended that the Department of Justice return a whopping $16 million. Unfortunately, the Department of Justice still has a long way to go to address the backlog of undecided cases. We will be addressing this issue with an amendment in the upcoming appropriations bill.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, Americans deserve to know that they can trust. I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this legislation to prevent future victims of abusive civil asset forfeiture practices, and fight for those who have been affected.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I stand today in support of H.R. 1843, the Restraining Excessive Seizure of Property through the Exploitation of Civil Asset Forfeiture Tools Act—more simply, the RESPECT Act.

Fundamentally, this legislation is about stopping abusive civil asset seizure practices. Too often, honest small business owners were treated like criminals and had their bank accounts seized by the Federal Government for making frequent deposits from cash sales.

The law at issue today is the Bank Secrecy Act, which set up new reporting requirements for certain activities, like depositing more than $10,000 in cash. The purpose of the law is to limit criminal business activity conducted in cash, money laundering, drug transactions, and criminal enterprises. Thus, systematically depositing amounts just short of this threshold, is deemed an attempt to structure bank transactions to avoid the reporting requirement.

Over the past 2 years, a number of law-abiding small businesses with high volumes of cash sales testified before the Ways and Means Committee on Oversight describing just how this law was being applied by the IRS and the Department of Justice to seize their bank accounts. Congressman on both sides of the aisle immediately demanded that the IRS certify that they have seized the amounts returned.

In October of 2014, the IRS changed its policy on enforcement. Now it only will seize funds of taxpayers where the money is being deposited from an illegal source. H.R. 1843 codifies this policy change, excludes interest received by taxpayers on the return of seized property from tax, and provides notice and hearing rights to taxpayers.

I thank Congressman ROSKAM, my friend; and the Democrat lead cosponsor, my friend as well, Congressman JOE CROWLEY, for their hard work on this legislation; and also the ranking member of the Oversight Committee, John Lewis, for his leadership on this issue.

In closing, I want to take a look at the way the position taken by the IRS and the Department of Justice affected a small bakery in Connecticut. For almost 100 years—three generations—the Vocatura family has operated a bakery in Norwich, Connecticut. They sell sandwiches and fresh bread, lots of low-dollar purchases. Until recently, they didn't accept credit cards; so most of their business was in cash.

When trying to produce reports, between March 2007 and April 2013, the Vocatura brothers made hundreds of deposits in amounts ranging from $7,000 to $9,900. The bank tellers told them that they had to fill out lots of extra paperwork for deposits over $10,000, so the Vocatura brothers made sure to deposit their receipts more often. They didn't realize they were breaking the law by consciously avoiding making deposits over $10,000.

In February of 2013, the IRS enforced the structuring laws and seized the bakery's checking account with more than $68,000 on hand. The IRS held on to the Vocatura's money for 3 years without ever bringing a case before a judge. The brothers filed a motion, demanding the return of their money; and in 2016, the IRS capitulated.

This story is similar to others that we have heard. This legislation would ensure that no other small business is put in this position. I urge support on both sides of the aisle for this legislation.

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

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the chairman yielding me the time, the ranking member for being here, and also Mr. ROSKAM and Mr. CROWLEY, both for their sponsorship and cosponsorship of this legislation.

H.R. 1843, the Clyde-Hirsch-Sowers RESPECT Act is one of those things
that you really, at times, have a hard
time understanding why we are debat-
ing on the floor of the House. It is that
much common sense. And as my grand-
mother used to say: Common sense is not
common.

So here we are. If anyone has any
doubt about the need to restrain the
forfeiture power of the IRS, they need
to look no further than what happened
to one of my constituents, as has al-
ready been mentioned, Andrew Clyde,
whose namesake is on the bill. He is a
law-abiding small business owner who
served multiple combat tours. He had
and has a successful gun store in north-
east Georgia when the IRS seized his
business bank accounts under a little-
known procedure called civil asset for-
feiture. Now, we already talked a moment
about just what that means, but let me
go into a little bit more depth about that.
What actually happened here is that
Mr. Clyde was not charged with a crime
when they seized his assets. In fact, he was never charged with a crime. In fact, the government’s only
allegation against him was he regu-
larly made large cash deposits.

In other words, following what his
own insurance would protect when he
made those off-premise accounts, he
was following good business practices.
Despite this, the IRS had the audacity
to negotiate with him about how much
of his own money they would give back
to him. The law, as it stands today, gives
the authority to do so; thus, the need for the legislation.

Now, rules have been changed and
put in place, but this needs to be codi-
fied. I sat with Mr. Clyde on several oc-
casions and talked about this case, and
to hear the pain in his voice when he
had to spend $100,000 in legal bills, plus,
at the same time, to get the IRS to
give back his money, he had to beg the
government for his own property.

No one had to go through this,
and that is why I respect the au-
thors of this legislation, and I appreci-
ate their hearings and concern about this.
Because whether it is a bakery, a
gun store, or any business, no Amer-
can should have to face the IRS or the
Justice Department when they have
never been charged with a crime—they
were never charged with a crime—and
had their money taken from them.

This is one that I am proud of to see
an American who stood up and said:
No, this is not right.

Unfortunately, it cost him money,
but today, this wrong is being righted.
We are going to continue to see this
pushed through.

Mr. Speaker, I yield respect Andrew Clyde,
his business, and all the others who
stood up and said: This is not right.

I applaud the authors, and I say: Now
is the time to finish this. Let’s make
sure that this never happens to another
American citizen.

Mr. Speaker, I yield myself
myself this time as I may consume.

Before I introduce the primary co-
sponsor of this legislation, I want to
respond to something the previous
speaker said.

Commissioner Koskinen said a num-
ber of times in testimony before the
Ways and Means Committee that he
doesn’t write the law. That is the ques-
tion of this moment. He says that the IRS follows the law, which we expect agencies to do at
the behest of those who are duly elect-
ed.

So in this instance, I would suggest
that while we don’t like what the IRS
has done, when we have examples that
have been correctly cited by both
sides, we also have the obligation to
alter, change, or amend the law so that
this doesn’t happen to the innocent
people who were never, ever charged with a crime. These actions culminated in
this bipartisan legislation that passed
the Ways and Means Committee unani-
mosously.

This bill, the Clyde-Hirsch-Sowers
RESPECT Act, aims to take what we
have learned and fix the system to bet-
ter protect all law-abiding citizens.
Specifically, it prohibits the IRS from
taking any asset related to structuring
unless the funds are from an illegal
source or the funds are never supposed
to conceal other criminal activity.

Additionally, to provide due process
to affected taxpayers, the bill requires
the IRS to notify an account holder of
a seizure within 30 days—fairly reason-
able. Once an account is seized, the bill
allows the person whose assets were
seized to seek a hearing within 30 days.
Now, we know that those engaged in il-
legal activity and illegal actions will
usually need to hide these assets in
forfeiture. This bill simply levels the playing field for
them.

My colleague, Mr. ROSKAM, and I will
continue to keep the pressure on the
Federal Government to return the
assets of those innocent tax-
payers—those who are not charged
with any crimes but whose bank ac-
counts and other items are still being
held by their own government.

But passage of this bill isn’t the last
part of the fight on wrongful asset for-
feiture. This bill is expected to pass
this House unanimously, as it did last
year, because we all recognize and be-
lieve that the basic judicial premis of innocent until proven
guilty. However, I am concerned by the
Trump administration’s statements
and those of Attorney General Jeff
Sessions, in particular, that the govern-
ment needs to increase these asset
forfeiture process.

Civil asset forfeiture is an important
tool that the IRS and other Federal
agencies use to go after ill-gotten funds
from drug dealers, human traffickers,
terrorists, and other criminals. This
bill will not weaken that vital law en-
forcement tool one iota, and that is an
important point to make. But this leg-
islation will codify into law much-
needed reforms to the process to stop
what we believe is an abuse of the asset
seizures practiced, abusive seizures
such as the government’s ability to
take a person’s bank account without
ever charging them with a crime.

The Oversight Subcommittee on
the Ways and Means Committee, under the
leadership of Mr. ROSKAM, undertook a painstaking, multiyear in-
vestigation to get to the bottom of
these abusive practices. This investiga-
tion included holding a series of con-
gressional hearings—that doesn’t al-
ways happen anymore around here.

PETE, as you know—meeting with of-
ficials from a number of Federal agen-
cies, including the IRS. I want to
thank Commissioner Koskinen for his
input and frankness as well, as the
ranking member has just indicated.

The subcommittee kept pushing the
IRS and the Justice Department to proactively reach out
and return any assets seized from peo-
ple who were never, ever charged with a crime. These actions culminated in
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mously.
With that, Mr. Speaker, I look forward to passage of this bill. I thank Mr. ROSKAM, again, for the sponsorship of this legislation working together in a very bipartisan way to get this bill out of committee to the floor and pass the House.

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, we have no remaining speakers on this side, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I think that this is a certain, forthright step on behalf of those who have been maligned in terms of reputation and their business activities in this moment.

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

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues, Mr. CROWLEY and Mr. NEAL hit the nail on the head, as did Mr. COLLINS.

Let me just sort of sum up then. This is a story about a citizen, a citizen who is scandalized by the Federal Government's inability to protect the citizen, and the citizen said: Do you know what? This doesn't seem right to me. You don't get to do this.

You can imagine what it was like for these people who got caught up in this and told by IRS agents and Department of Justice lawyers the nature of that intimidation and how heavy-handed and aggressive that is. Yet these people said: No, no, no. That is not right. That is not the way this country is supposed to work.

So they brought it to people's attention, and, Mr. Speaker, people on both sides of the aisle were scandalized by what they heard about this and were troubled by it and said: We can do something about this.

So as a result of this, you have got something that is moving through. Look, it is a tumultuous time in our public life, and there are many deep divisions within this House and across the country about all kinds of issues. But do you know what? Nobody is here defending the status quo of how these people were treated.

So the institution worked. The institution heard what was going on, and now we are going to come together on both sides of the aisle to move forward on this basis.

I want to echo Mr. NEAL's admonition to the Department of Justice. It is not good enough for the Department of Justice to go into a passive-aggressive mode and to say: Well, we are just going to wait these people out.

That is not good enough. We need to make sure that the Department of Justice is acting forthrightly, is reviewing these cases, and is moving them with dispatch.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. NEAL, and Chairman BRADY. I urge passage of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RATCLIFFE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. ROSKAM) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3110, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FINANCIAL STABILITY OVERSIGHT COUNCIL, or FSOC, was created as part of the Dodd-Frank Act. The general purpose of this regulatory body is to provide a forum for discussion of our financial markets and coordination of financial regulation.

Under existing law, the 10 voting members of the FSOC include an independent member with insurance expertise who is appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The independent member who has insurance expertise is appointed by the President to specifically serve on the council and is the only voting member which is expected to have insurance expertise.

Dodd-Frank established a 6-year term for the independent member whose term expires on September 30, 2017. Absent the appointment and confirmation of a successor, the expiration of the independent member’s term would leave the council without a voting member who has insurance expertise because Dodd-Frank did not make clear if the position can be filled by an acting official.

My legislation is about ensuring that the FSOC is able to benefit from the perspective of a voting member with insurance expertise without any unnecessary lapses, or to quote a letter that the National Association of Insurance Commissioners sent to the ranking members and me: ‘‘It is important that the council have members that have a deep understanding of the unique aspects of the insurance industry and our State-based insurance regulatory system.’’

I couldn’t agree more. In the case of Illinois, we have a very robust insurance market because of the carefully crafted regulatory system we have developed. This allows great companies to thrive and protects the interests of their policyholders. This might not be the case if the FSOC lacks sufficient understanding of our insurance markets and regulatory system.

What was not intended by Dodd-Frank is for the position to be vacant while the President and Senate work to confirm a new appointee. Other voting positions on the FSOC have the benefit of somebody being able to serve in an acting capacity until somebody new is confirmed.

In fact, the Dodd-Frank Act clearly states that positions on the FSOC can be filled by someone in an acting capacity.

The bill amends the Dodd-Frank Act to allow the Financial Stability Oversight Council’s independent member with insurance expertise to remain a voting member of the council beyond his or her term until a successor is appointed. The extended term would conclude at the earlier of either 18 months or until Senate confirmation of a successor.

The Financial Stability Oversight Council, or FSOC, was created as part of the Dodd-Frank Act. The general purpose of this regulatory body is to provide a forum for discussion of our financial markets and coordination of financial regulation.

Under existing law, the 10 voting members of the FSOC include an independent member with insurance expertise who is appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The independent member who has insurance expertise is appointed by the President to specifically serve on the council and is the only voting member which is expected to have insurance expertise.

Dodd-Frank established a 6-year term for the independent member whose term expires on September 30, 2017. Absent the appointment and confirmation of a successor, the expiration of the independent member’s term would leave the council without a voting member who has insurance expertise because Dodd-Frank did not make clear if the position can be filled by an acting official.

My legislation is about ensuring that the FSOC is able to benefit from the perspective of a voting member with insurance expertise without any unnecessary lapses, or to quote a letter that the National Association of Insurance Commissioners sent to the ranking members and me: ‘‘It is important that the council have members that have a deep understanding of the unique aspects of the insurance industry and our State-based insurance regulatory system.’’

I couldn’t agree more. In the case of Illinois, we have a very robust insurance market because of the carefully crafted regulatory system we have developed. This allows great companies to thrive and protects the interests of their policyholders. This might not be the case if the FSOC lacks sufficient understanding of our insurance markets and regulatory system.

What was not intended by Dodd-Frank is for the position to be vacant while the President and Senate work to confirm a new appointee. Other voting positions on the FSOC have the benefit of somebody being able to serve in an acting capacity until somebody new is confirmed.

In fact, the Dodd-Frank Act clearly states that positions on the FSOC can be filled by someone in an acting capacity.
My legislation would simply bring continuity with other FSOC voting members. This is especially timely given that the term of the individual currently filling this position, Roy Woodall, ends on September 30 of this year. Since President Trump has not yet announced who should fill this role, and given that the Senate will not likely have sufficient time to react between now and the end of September, we must have this signed into law without delay.

I understand that the Senate Banking Committee will be marking up companion legislation later this week, and I am hopeful it can quickly advance through this Chamber and the Senate Chamber so that this technical issue can be resolved before the end of Mr. Woodall’s term.

I again would like to thank Ranking Member Waters and all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for working on this large support of this noncontroversial legislation, and I am hopeful it can move swiftly to the President’s desk.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to thank Mr. HULTGREN and, as he mentioned, Ranking Member Waters and a number of members of the committee who are supporting this. I, myself, am a cosponsor of the legislation.

This is a bill that is quite simple: it makes a technical correction to Dodd-Frank to address an issue regarding the term of the independent member with insurance expertise on the Financial Stability Oversight Council, or FSOC. The current term, as Mr. HULTGREN mentioned, is set to expire on September 30, and it remains unclear as to whether a successor will be confirmed in a timely fashion.

Dodd-Frank does address how to fill a vacancy, pending the appointment of an agency head, but it does not address the question as it relates to the insurance member. As such, this bill would allow the current independent insurance member to remain a voting member of the FSOC for the earlier of either 18 months or the appointment of a successor. Of course, this will ensure that FSOC continues to have a member that can bring important insurance expertise to the discussions and that the entire roster of voting members on the FSOC is complete.

This, Mr. Speaker, I think, is a really good example of the cooperation that we can see across the aisle in order to make commonsense corrections to improve Dodd-Frank. Perhaps this is something that can form the basis of further work.

As my friend, Mr. HULTGREN, said, the bill passed the Financial Services Committee by a unanimous 60–0 vote. So I thank him for bringing this bill up. I thank the many Democrats and Republicans who have joined us in cosponsoring this legislation, and I look forward to swift enactment.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, noting the bipartisan nature of this bill, I suppose I ought to learn to quit while we are ahead. This is good legislation, it is common sense. It fixes a problem. It continues the continuity of the FSOC and makes sure we have a full membership of that committee, including insurance representation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I echo much of what my good friend from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE) has said. Again, I want to thank the ranking member for her work on this legislation with me.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HULTGREN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3110.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being necessary, the ayes have it.

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Clerk, I ask unanimous consent to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

BOB DOLE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1616) the Congressional Gold Medal to Bob Dole, in recognition for his service to the nation as a soldier, legislator, and statesman.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Bob Dole Congressional Gold Medal Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Bob Dole was born on July 22, 1923, in Russell, Kansas.

(2) Growing up during the Great Depression, Bob Dole learned the values of hard work and discipline, and worked at a local drugstore.

(3) In 1941, Bob Dole enrolled at the University of Kansas as a pre-medical student. During his time at KU he played for the basketball, football, and track teams, and joined the Kappa Sigma Fraternity, from which he would receive the “Man of the Year” award in 1943.

(4) Bob Dole’s collegiate studies were interrupted by WWII, and he enlisted in the United States Army. During a military of...

Bob Dole's collegiate studies were interrupted by WWII, and he enlisted in the United States Army. During a military of...

sensitive in Italy, he was seriously wounded while trying to save a fellow soldier. Despite his grave injuries, Dole recovered and was awarded two Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star with an Oak Cluster. He also received an American Campaign Medal, a European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, and a World War II Victory Medal.

(5) While working on his law degree from Washburn University, Bob Dole was elected into the Kansas House of Representatives, serving from 1951–1953.

(6) Bob Dole was elected into the U.S. House of Representatives and served two Kansas districts from 1961–1969.

In 1969, Bob Dole was elected into the U.S. Senate and served until 1996. Over the course of this period, he served as Chairman of the Republican National Committee, Chairman of the Finance Committee, Senate Minority Leader, and Senate Majority Leader.

(8) Bob Dole was known for his ability to work across the aisle and embrace practical bipartisanship on issues such as Social Security.

(9) Bob Dole has been a life-long advocate for the disabled and was a key figure in the passing of the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990.

(10) After his appointment as Majority Leader, Bob Dole set the record as the nation’s longest-serving Republican Leader in the Senate.

(11) Several Presidents of the United States have specially honored Bob Dole for his hard work and leadership in the public sector. This recognition is exemplified by the following:

(A) President Reagan awarded Bob Dole the Presidential Citizens Medal in 1989 stating, “Whether on the battlefield or Capitol Hill, Senator Dole has served America heroically. Senate Majority Leader during one of the most productive Congresses of recent time, he has also been a friend to veterans, farmers, and Americans from every walk of life. Bob Dole has stood for integrity, straight talk and achievement throughout his years of distinguished public service.”

(B) Upon awarding Bob Dole with the Presidential Medal of Presidential Clinton made the following comments, “Son of the soil, citizen, soldier and legislator, Bob Dole understands the American people, their struggles, their dreams . . . In times of conflict and crisis, he has worked to keep America united and strong . . . our country is better for his courage, his determination and his guidance to go the long course to lead America.”

(12) After his career in public office, Bob Dole became an active advocate for the public good. He served as Chairman of the World War II Memorial Campaign, helping raise over $197 million to construct the National WWII Memorial, and as Co-Chair of the Tunnel of Valor, a military fundraising campaign to help raise over $120 million for the educational needs of the families of victims of 9/11.


(14) In 2003, Bob Dole established The Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics at the University of Kansas to encourage bipartisanship in politics.

(15) Bob Dole is a strong proponent of international justice and received the Golden Medal of Freedom from the President of Kosovo for his support of democracy and freedom in Kosovo.

In 2007, President George W. Bush appointed Bob Dole to co-chair the President’s Commission on Care for America’s Returning
The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include them on the record.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 3 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, statesman, member of the Greatest Generation, lifetime public servant—these are fitting words as we consider S. 1616, unanimously passed legislation to honor Senator Bob Dole with a Congressional Gold Medal.

The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest expression of national appreciation for distinguished achievements and contributions that the Congress can bestow upon one of our fellow citizens.

I would like to thank Congresswoman LYNN JENNINGS and the 86 bipartisan cosponsors for coming together to introduce this legislation to honor Senator Bob Dole.

Recipient of the Congressional Gold Medal “have performed an achievement that has an impact on American history and culture that is likely to be recognized as a major achievement in the recipient's field long after the achievement.”

For Bob Dole’s lifetime of public service— as a soldier wounded in battle, State legislator; United States Representative; United States Senator; nominee for both President and Vice President; tireless advocate for the disabled, our veterans, and the hungry—awarding this great American with a Congressional Gold Medal is the least we can do today. I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this.

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

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a word about Mr. HULTGREN, who just took up the previous bill, H.R. 3110, the Financial Stability Oversight Council Insurance Member Continuity Act. I enjoyed working with him. It was a wonderful experience. I think we can do a lot more of that.

Mr. Speaker, having said that, I am pleased to rise today in support of S. 1616, legislation to award a Congressional Gold Medal to former Senator Bob Dole in recognition of his distinguished service to the Nation.

In his younger years, Bob Dole made clear that he truly exemplified the best of the Nation’s Greatest Generation. When his studies were interrupted by World War II, he enlisted in the United States Army, where he risked his own life to save a fellow soldier. In recognition of his brave service, which left him badly wounded by machine-gun fire and with a permanent disability, he was awarded two Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star with an Oak Cluster, among other honors.

Following his service in the U.S. Army, Senator Dole began a distinguished career in public office, serving first in the Kansas House of Representatives, followed by multiple terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. In 1999, Dole was elected to the United States Senate, where he served for 20 years and was the majority leader before running for President.

Over the course of his political career, Senator Dole developed a reputation as an outspoken and pragmatic leader who was willing to work across party lines to advance the health and welfare of the American public.

For example, in speaking about the importance of Social Security and the need to protect Medicare for America’s senior citizens, Dole said in a speech at the 1992 Republican National Convention: “And I have learned in my own life, from my own experience, that not every man, woman, or child can make it on their own. And that in time of need, the bridge between failure and success can be the government itself. And given all that I have experienced, I shall always remember those in need. . .”

In addition to working to safeguard important programs like Social Security and Medicare, former Senator Dole was also a strong advocate for the disabled, and he played a central role in passing the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Nation’s first comprehensive civil rights law to protect people with disabilities from discrimination in employment, public services, and public accommodations.

Although he was not elected President, as the nominee of the Republican Party, he made clear that he would not support any racial or religious intolerance, stating that if anyone had “mistakenly attached himself to our party in the belief that we are not open to citizens of every race and religion . . . the exits, which are clearly marked, are for you to walk out of . . .”

After leaving the Senate in 1996, former Senator Dole continued to dedicate himself to a range of causes, particularly those aimed at helping those in need. For example, Senator Dole served as co-chair of the Families of Freedom Scholarship Fund, which raised more than $100 million for the educational needs of the families of victims of 9/11, and he served as the co-creator of the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program, which aimed to alleviate child hunger.

While Senator Dole and I have had our share of policy differences over the years, it was always with the utmost respect for the civil disagreement that didn’t lead to disrespect. A true gentleman, statesman, and legislator, Senator Dole could debate the issues with the best of
Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Illinois for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleague, Ms. JENKINS, and I appreciate her support in leading this legislation as we support Senator Bob Dole, one of Kansas' proudest sons and one of the greatest men to serve and walk the Halls of Congress.

Born and raised in Russell, Kansas, Senator Dole attended my alma mater, the University of Kansas, where he excelled as a three-sport varsity athlete for the Jayhawks.

His college career was interrupted by World War II, when he answered his country's call and enlisted in the U.S. Army. He would distinguish himself in combat in Italy.

Although those wounds would cause a lifelong disability for him, Senator Dole did not shun the challenges they presented. He instead used that personal experience to help others, becoming a fierce advocate for disability rights and the father of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

His career in public service spanned over 46 years, with his first election to the Kansas House of Representatives in 1951 and ending with his Presidential campaign and retirement from the Senate in 1996. His legislative and political accomplishments during that time are almost too many to count.

His top priority has always been service to others, whether it is people with disabilities, Kansas farmers, or his fellow veterans. Senator Dole has always put our country ahead of himself, and he stayed grounded in his strong Kansas roots.

I can think of no one more fitting to be recognized with a Congressional Gold Medal. As a member of the Kansas delegation, I am truly honored to follow in the footsteps of Senator Bob Dole by serving our great State and our great country in Congress. He is an inspiration to me and an enduring example of what statesmanship and public service should look like.

I ask my colleagues in the House to support this bill and to join me in working daily to uphold Senator Dole's legacy of service and civility in Congress.
proud to support this legislation. I con-
gratulate my colleague, Congress-
woman JENKINS, for leading this effort,
and I urge all my colleagues to support it.

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I yield
3 minutes to the gentleman from Kan-
sas (Mr. ESTES).

Mr. ESTES of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise
today to honor a true American hero
and one of Kansas’ most treasured
sons. I am pleased the House is acting
today to award Bob Dole with our Na-
tion’s highest civilian honor, the Con-
gressional Gold Medal. Bob’s life and
legacy stands strong, constant remind-
ers of the fundamental values that are
at the very core of Kansas and our Na-
tion: honor, hard work, sacrifice, and
a constant yearning to preserve our lib-
erty and many blessings for future gen-
erations.

When Bob was wounded by enemy
fire in the mountains of Italy while
trying to save a fellow soldier, his
brothers in arms didn’t know if he was
going to make it.

Bob, of course, wouldn’t give up. He
spent years recovering in hospitals and
continued putting his life in service to
others. And with distinction right here in
this House and in the United States Senate.
He also served in the Kansas House of Representatives
and as chair of the Republican National Committee.

Through it all, Bob Dole, a true serv-
ant leader, has stood as an example of
how things are when our politics are at
our best, when mutual respect is never
lost, and when joy and good humor al-
ways have a seat at the table.

Today, as Republicans and Demo-
crats, we come together to honor Bob,
not because we always agree, but be-
cause, like Bob, we agree that there are
greater causes than ourselves.

Addressing the Republican National
Convention as Presidential candidate
in 1996, Bob closed his remarks by say-
ing: “My life is proof that America is a
land without limits. And with my feet
on the ground and my heart filled with
hope, I put my faith in you and in the
God who loves us all. For I am con-
vincing that America’s best days are yet
to come.”

Thank you, Bob, for your faith, for
your most honored service to Kansas
and to our country, and for all you sac-
ificed to bring America closer to her best
day.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my col-
leagues to support this.

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California.
Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of
my time.

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I yield
3 minutes to the gentleman from Kan-
sas (Mr. MARSHALL).

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise
today to honor Kansas’ favorite son, a
hero and mentor of mine, and the former
occupant of the congressional office I
now hold, Robert J. Dole. Sen-
ator Bob Dole never forgot where he is
from, Russell, Kansas. Perhaps that is
what made him so effective and so be-
loved by his constituents.

Now at 94 years young, Senator Dole
continues to work every day for the
causes he supports. He continues as a
shining example of international lead-
ership, whether it is in the causes he
still champions or the work he did in
Congress to help feed millions of people
around the world. All this work, he
does with humility and wit that en-
deaored him to the Nation and that has
been engrained in him as a Kansan.

Many were still be seen greeting our Na-
ton’s veterans at the World War II Memorial, which
he helped build, and he works today on
promoting the national memorial to
President Eisenhower, his hero and an-
other great Kansan.

I cannot think of one living Amer-
ican more deserving of Congress’ high-
est civilian award, which is why I am
thrilled that tonight, this very night,
the House will join the Senate in pass-
ing the Bob Dole Congressional Gold
Medal Act.

I encourage the President to quickly
sign this. I look forward to this vote as
much as any I have taken. I am hon-
ored to call him friend. I am honored to
participate in this vote.

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California.
Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance
of my time.

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I also
have no further requests for time, and
I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I also
have no further requests for time, and
I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there
objection to the request of the gen-
tleman from Illinois (Mr. HULTGREN) and the gentle-
man from Indiana (Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH)? It is always
pleasure to bring good bipartisan leg-
sislation to the House floor, especially
when the bill is sponsored by my col-
leagues on the Financial Services Com-
mittee.

To continue this job growth and en-
sure that we have a stronger and
healthier economy with opportunities
for all Americans, we must encourage
small business growth, and this starts
with ensuring that they have access to
the capital and credit that they need to
grow.

This bipartisan bill will help the
American economy. It will make it
easier for companies, particularly
small businesses, to access capital.

This is incredibly important because
small businesses are the heart and soul of
the American economy.

In fact, they help to create more
than 60 percent of the Nation’s net new
jobs over the past 2 decades. This bi-
 partisan bill before us today carries
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forward the mission of another bipar-tisan bill, the JOBS Act of 2012, to in-
crease capital formation in our U.S.
markets so more American workers
would be able to find good paying jobs.

As a member of the JOBS Act, the Secu-
rities and Exchange Commission was di-
rected to expand something called Reg-
ulation A, which is a critical tool for
companies that are trying to raise
small amounts of money. And the aptly
named “Regulation A-Plus” the SEC
came up with has been effective.

With Regulation A-Plus, prospective
issuers have publicly filed 147 offerings
seeking up to $2.6 billion in financing.

As a comparison, in the 12 months
leading up to Regulation A-Plus, there
were only about 50 filings seeking to
raise $159 million.
As we see, Regulation A-Plus has opened up an avenue for these small companies to seek financing through the capital markets that will help grow their businesses.

And according to the SEC, these companies are small, early-stage businesses with assets of $100,000 in limited collateral, which often restricts their ability to obtain a bank loan or other financing. Unfortunately, not all are able to benefit from Regulation A-Plus. As part of its final rule implementing the JOBS Act, the SEC excluded some small companies. This was contrary to the intent of Congress when we approved the JOBS Act.

As a result of the SEC’s final rule, some smaller and midsize companies have been shut out from the benefits of Regulation A-Plus.

Additionally, smaller investors also suffer by not having the opportunity to participate in the public markets for early-stage companies and share in their growth.

H.R. 2864 is a simple bill that fixes the problem I just described. H.R. 2864 would amend Regulation A-Plus to direct the SEC to include companies that are doing business under the Securities Exchange Act. This will help more small businesses gain access to capital so they can grow and hire more workers. At the same time, it will give small investors greater investment opportunities.

H.R. 2864 was approved by the Financial Services Committee with the overwhelming support of both Republicans and Democrats. In fact, the vote in committee to favorably report H.R. 2864 was 59-0.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of H.R. 2864, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to start off by thanking Representative SINEMA and Representative HOLLINGSWORTH for working together to craft bipartisan legislation that will help smaller public companies raise the funds necessary to grow and thrive.

Specifically, H.R. 2864, the Improving Access to Capital Act, would narrowly expand the relief that we provided in the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act, or JOBS Act, to allow public companies to raise money under Regulation A-Plus.

Currently, Regulation A-Plus allows private companies to raise up to $50 million in capital by selling unregistered but freely tradable stock to the public in a quicker and less expensive alternative to a fully registered securities offering.

Extending Regulation A-Plus eligibility to public companies would provide them with an additional efficient method of raising capital. This is particularly critical to the small businesses across the Ninth District and across this country, but, in fact, it is something that they can use tomorrow. This creates another avenue for small businesses across the country to be able to raise the money that they need in order to innovate, in order to grow, in order to expand, in order to hire more Americans. This is just another arrow in the quiver for them to be able to grow and develop.

Small businesses account for the bulk of hiring across this country, they account for the bulk of innovation across this country, and we need to be doing everything we can to continue to promote them. That is exactly what Representative SINEMA and I have done with this particular legislation, is work hard to develop a bipartisan solution, one that was supported unani- mously out of the Financial Services Committee in order to provide those companies with more options and more opportunities to be able to grow.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation and let’s get America back to work again.

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, again, I would like to thank the cosponsors for their vision, for their work, and for the bipartisan effort that they so successfully put together.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), the lead sponsor of this bill.

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman HULTGREN and Ranking Member WATERS, and Congressman HOLLINGSWORTH for working with me on this bipartisan legislation to improve our capital markets and help more small companies succeed.

As part of the JOBS Act, Congress directed the Securities and Exchange Commission to amend Regulation A to allow small companies to raise up to $50 million in offerings exempt from full SEC registration and disclosure requirements, known as Regulation A-Plus, exclude certain potential issuers, including Exchange Act reporting companies.

As a result, thousands of companies that already meet the SEC’s high disclosure requirements are ineligible to use Regulation A-Plus to cost-effectively raise the funds they need to grow and hire employees.

That is why I introduced this legislation with Congressman HOLLINGSWORTH to allow SEC reporting companies access to Regulation A-Plus. It is a valuable pathway for small businesses to raise money in an efficient, public, and transparent manner.

I am committed to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to ensure that Arizona’s innovative small businesses have every opportunity to thrive, and I hope that Members will join us today in support of this bipartisan legislation.

Again, I thank Congressman HOLLINGSWORTH for working with me on this bipartisan legislation.

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I re- serve the balance of my time.
Mr. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, again, I thank Congresswoman SINE NEMA and Congressman HOLLINGSWORTH for their great work on this. This is an important step that will help our small businesses access the capital that they need to grow and to hire more workers.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage support on this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.
This is a 5-minute vote.
The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were yeas 403, nays 3, not voting 27, as follows:

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The Speaker pro tempore (Mr. Cot.lins of Georgia). Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2864) to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to allow certain issuers to be exempt from registration requirements, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

This is the SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HULGREN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
use of the Capitol Grounds for the District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 69
Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION OF USE OF CAPITAL GROUNDS FOR D.C. SPECIAL OLYMPICS LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN.

On October 6, 2017, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate may jointly designate, the 32nd annual District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run (in this resolution referred to as the “event”) may be run through the Capitol Grounds to carry the Special Olympics torch to honor local Special Olympics athletes.

SEC. 2. RESPONSIBILITY OF CAPITOL POLICE BOARD.

The Capitol Police Board shall take such actions as may be necessary to carry out the event.

SEC. 3. CONDITIONS RELATING TO PHYSICAL PREPARATIONS.

The Architect of the Capitol may prescribe conditions for physical preparations for the event.

SEC. 4. ENFORCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS.

The Capitol Police Board shall provide for enforcement of the restrictions contained in section 5104(c) of title 40, United States Code, concerning sales, advertisements, displays, and solicitations on the Capitol Grounds, as well as other restrictions applicable to the Capitol Grounds, in connection with the event.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

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

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

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1697

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

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

There was no objection.

SUPPORT DREAMERS

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, the tragic announcement made by the Trump administration to kill the DACA program is heartbreaking, reckless, and wrong. This decision means that our country is turning its back on 800,000 young, hardworking immigrants who only know America as their home. Each of these DREAMers has a compelling story and a desire to pursue their educational and professional opportunities, while strengthening our Nation. Mr. Speaker, that is why I am proud to have introduced the DREAM Act along with my good friend, Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard, to give these young individuals the certainty to plan for a future in our great country, their great country. For too long, their dreams have been put on hold and they have been living under constant fear.

I call on each one of my colleagues, Republicans and Democrats, to come together so that we can pass a legislative solution that is humane. This is long overdue, Mr. Speaker. Let’s not wait months for a vote. The lives of hundreds of thousands of bright, talented, patriotic young men and women are at stake.

Mr. Speaker, let’s show now that Congress does indeed have a heart.

HURRICANE HARVEY

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, to all of my colleagues and the American people, thanks so much for the outpouring of love from volunteers, first responders, and so many rescuers that came to Hurricane Harvey.

Let me thank my mayor, Mayor Turner; the county judge, Judge Emmett; all of the commissioners and council members. Let me thank, most of all, our first responders and all of those who sacrificed their lives; some who died, an officer who died. Let me thank the Marines, the Navy, the Army, and the Texas National Guard. Let me thank the people who suffered through and are still suffering through this disaster, the most significant historic natural disaster in the history of the United States.

They are needing food and shelter still. They are needing the help of this great Congress. They are needing love and prayers, and I am prayerful that we will go together, walking together, and providing the money that these victims need.

Let me give you a sad story. As I left Houston today, announcements were coming to those in apartments: You are evicted, with no place to go. Yes, the apartments were destroyed, but there is no place to go. We need a continuing effort to be able to help them. We need the EPA to inspect the various chemical plants, and we need FEMA to be staffed more, and to be able to address some of the funding needs that we have.

The debris is unbelievable; maybe $200-plus billion, but all I can say is that the lives were lost, but we are still prayerful.

God bless the people in the southeast where Irma might come.

Mr. Speaker, I conclude by simply saying: Please don’t let the DACA young people be thrown out in this devastating time. They, too, need to be embraced.

ANNUAL AUGUST BUS TOUR

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, each August, I conduct a bus tour of South Carolina’s Second Congressional District with my wife, Roxanne, and dedicated staff members from all offices. I would like to specifically recognize scheduler Emily Salesey for this year’s very meaningfully coordinated schedule.

It was humbling and inspiring to meet with constituents and visit 30 locations from small businesses and schools to local chambers of commerce and large employers. I took the opportunity to thank employees for their service, and employers for creating jobs in all five counties I represent.

Many of the businesses were multi-generational success stories, such as Freedom Tool Technology in Elgin, founded by Mike and Roxann Robbins; The Marwin Company in West Columbia led by Andy Davis; Anovotek in Barnwell founded by Don Alexander; and Hansen International in Lexington led by Lisa Beebe. The pro-development policies of South Carolina were also highlighted by Kimberly-Clark corporation’s largest manufacturing facility in North America located in Beech Island with 2,000 employees.

I am additionally grateful for Principal Anna Miller of Chapin Middle School; Dr. Sandra Jordan, chancellor of USC-Aiken; Director Sandra Sigmon of North Family Community School; and Principal Jacqueline Kasprowski of Cardinal Newman High School for their emphasis on proactive education across the district.

A final stop was to thank Gary David of WVOG Radio in promoting relief efforts for the recovery of Hurricane Harvey in Houston.

Additional stops included BAE Systems hosted by Michael Eaton, Aiken Rotary Club hosted by John McMichael, Jr., Hubbell Power Systems hosted by Pete Swales, Ahh Sunshine hosted by Jim Hanna, CVS Caremark...
Distribution Center hosted by Elizabeth Brooks, Frank Donaghy, and Tom Moriarty, Alley Downtown Taproom hosted by Norman Dunagan, Irmo Chamber of Commerce hosted by Kerry Powers, K2Tech hosted by Zach Minton, Cayce-West Columbia Rotary hosted by Marianne Robinson, Menchies’s Frozen Yogurt hosted by John Gonzales, Whitney Point Lake and dam hosted by Annette Sudduth, Coca-Cola hosted by Alison Patton, FN America hosted by Greg Butler, South Carolina Vocations & Individual Advancement (SCVIA), a division of Goodwill Industries of Upstate/Midlands, SC, Inc. hosted by Duck Donuts, Whitney Point Lake and dam hosted by Katie McCanna, Brittons of Columbia hosted by Perry Lancaster, Shealy’s Bar-B-Que hosted by Tommy Shelly, and Ansaldo STS hosted by Joseph Eiseman.

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

ENDING THE DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS PROGRAM

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, from its earliest days, the Trump administration has embraced disastrous immigration policies. First was the unconstitutional Muslim ban rooted in fear rather than fact. Then came the obsession with an ineffective and expensive border wall. But today we have reached a new low.

In our justice system, people are held responsible for their actions. With the announcement of the end of DACA, we are throwing aside this principle. Instead, we are punishing youth who, through the actions of their parents, happen to be in the country without authorization. The average DACA recipient was barely 6 when she came to the U.S., yet the administration today has stated that she should be deported to a land that she has never called home.

DACA recipients—the students, workers, and servicemembers in Rhode Island and around the Nation—are our friends. They are our neighbors. We cannot and we must not abandon them.

RECOGNIZING U.S. FOREST SERVICE CHIEF TIDWELL ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career of U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell, who has dedicated himself to public service for more than 40 years. Tom retired on Friday, September 1.

Over the last four decades, Chief Tidwell has climbed the ranks, starting as a firefighter, becoming a district ranger, then forest supervisor, before leading more than 30,000 employees of the U.S. Forest Service.

Chief Tidwell worked on collaborative approaches to combat wildfires, maintain support for forests and grasslands, and support community-based partnerships to reduce appeals and increase work.

Since Tom was named chief in 2009, the Forest Service has enhanced treatments to improve and protect the health and strength of our forests and grasslands. Because of Chief Tidwell’s vision, we have seen an emphasis on active management, forest products, and clean water.

Under Tom’s leadership, the agency has made strides in helping the ecosystem remain sustainable while addressing the many challenges threatening America’s forests, grasslands, and rural communities.

We are deeply grateful for Tom’s 40 years of commitment and service. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chief Tidwell for his friendship and his service, and I wish him the best in his retirement.

PROTECTING DREAMERS

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

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI. Mr. Speaker, today the President made clear that he refuses to protect DREAMers. It is now imperative that Congress acts to protect DREAMers before DACA ends.

This issue is personal for me because I, too, was brought to our country by my parents as a child. The hope for a better life which carried my parents here from oceans away was no different from that of the parents of DREAMers and generations of immigrants before.

DREAMers play a vital role in our economy, and ending DACA would cost our country nearly half a trillion dollars over 10 years. But the contributions of DREAMers go beyond any single statistic. DREAMers have built their lives here, started families here, built businesses here, and bled in uniform for the only home they have ever known.

I urge Speaker RYAN and my colleagues from both parties to come together to defend DREAMers and to develop a comprehensive approach to immigration built on American values.

TERMINATING DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, President Trump’s decision to end the DACA program is wrong. Today’s announcement impacts over 2,000,000 New Yorkers and over 800,000 people across the country. The primary beneficiaries of DACA are young people who were brought here to this country by no decision of their own.

In New Jersey, most DACA recipients are in the group of 18 to 21 years of age. At that age, they should be focused on college, developing trades, and overall sharpening their skills that will ultimately benefit our Nation.

Unfortunately, their future is now at the mercy of Congress. This issue transcends party, Mr. Speaker. Our decisions in the next 6 months will determine the future of hundreds of thousands of young people. We must make the right decision to protect DREAMers.

RECOGNIZING 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF WHITNEY POINT LAKE AND DAM

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

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of Whitney Point Lake and dam in Broome County, New York.

A popular tourist destination, Whitney Point Lake welcomes more than 115,000 people annually. The 4,578-acre lake offers fishing, swimming, trails, playgrounds, and more than 100 picnic sites.

As an important fixture in our communities, Whitney Point Lake and dam brings more than $3 million annually to our local economy and plays a pivotal role in limiting flood damage.

Unfortunately, as we have seen this year, our region is also subject to devastating floods. While it is impossible...
to prevent all floods, we can see some mitigation from the effects of flooding due to Whitney Point Lake and dam this year.

Since Whitney Point Lake was completed in 1942, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' project has prevented more than $717 million in potential flood damage.

For its continued benefits both to the local and downstream communities, as well as the hundreds of thousands that enjoy its recreational opportunities, it is an appropriate time to recognize the 75th anniversary of Whitney Point Lake and dam.

RECOGNIZING 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF SIXTH MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Mr. McEACHIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a pillar of the Richmond community. This year, Richmonders and parishioners celebrate the 150th anniversary of Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church.

Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church has been a central institution in our community since its founding in 1867 by Reverend John Jasper. The church was founded in an abandoned Confederate horse stable on Brown's Island and, since then, has been a pillar of our community.

The long history of supporting the community has continued under the leadership of six distinguished leaders, including the current pastor, Reverend Tyrone Nelson.

Reverend Nelson is a fellow alumnus of Virginia Union University's Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology, a member of Henrico County Board of Supervisors, and a longtime friend.

Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church has addressed the social concerns of the city's residents and was one of the first Black churches to have organized charity with a staff social worker available to help our community.

Mr. Speaker, Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church continues to assist community members with resources necessary to overcome life's obstacles. I pray that Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church will thrive in our community for another 150 years.

FIRES IN OREGON

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I support my friend from California in urging that this body focus on this crisis in the West. With the outrage that has happened with the DACA students and with the tragedy in Houston, there are lots of things to occupy our time. But the firefighting in the West has impacted thousands of people. I have people who are forced to evacuate in my community.

We have 24 large fires in Montana, 19 in Oregon, and 17 in California. But what is really outrageous is that the Republican leadership in the House refuses to treat these disasters the same way we would treat Hurricane Harvey or Hurricane Katrina being able to put disaster funding on the table.

We are going to completely exhaust those resources in a matter of days, and then we are going to cannibalize the Forest Service that could be used to strengthen forest protections, put people to work, and avoid problems in the future. That is outrageous.

We have bipartisan legislation that would pass if the Republican leadership would allow it, the floor of the House. But at a minimum, we should not have any disaster relief that doesn't have money for these tragic fires in the West.

LET US VOTE ON DACA

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

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today the Trump administration announced that it intends to crush the hopes of 800,000 DREAMers and cause them to live in fear each and every day, because that is what ending the DACA program will do.

Despite his many promises and saying that he has a heart, the President is persecuting young people who have done nothing more than come to this country in their parents' arms. They know no other language. They know no other country.

Ending the DACA program is opposed by 76 percent of the American public and by the majorities in both Chambers. It is opposed by the clear majority of the American people.

But this Congress can do something to fix this. I am confident that if we put the BRIDGE Act, the American Hope Act, and the American Dream Act on the floor, if the Republican leaders would allow a vote, then it would pass.

DACA is in our court now. Let's have a vote and keep this lifeline to the American Dream alive.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

FIRE IN THE WEST

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

Ms. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, during World War II, a wise admonition from our military read: "Loose lips sink ships." In other words, beware of unguarded talk.

Of late, our world has witnessed an unprecedented escalation in tension with North Korea and its deranged tyrant, including North Korea's recent firing of a missile over Japan. Yet President Trump's reaction to the ongoing North Korean crisis has been an unguarded yielding of dangerous words of war. His improvised remarks have stunnèd experts, allies, and even his own advisers.

Instead of thorough diplomatic pressure and international consensus building, President Trump has done the opposite. His unpredictable rhetoric lacks strategic thought. It puts American troops stationed in South Korea and our regional allies at greater risk.

This administration is understaffing our regional allies at greater risk.

This administration is understaffing the State Department, weakening its ability to handle the sort of diplomacy I am speaking of. In the President's 2018 budget, the State Department is really an afterthought, with major accounts cut to the bone.

Thankfully, there are voices of reason, including the respected Leadership Conference of Women Religious. Mr. Speaker, I include in the Record their statement against fear-mongering and advising dialogue is more productive than rhetoric, and connection more transformative than threats of destruction.

LCWR ASSEMBLY STATEMENT ON THE US—DPRK CRISIS

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, during World War II, a wise admonition from our military read: "Loose lips sink ships." In other words, beware of unguarded talk.

Of late, our world has witnessed an unprecedented escalation in tension with North Korea and its deranged tyrant, including North Korea's recent firing of a missile over Japan. Yet President Trump's reaction to the ongoing North Korean crisis has been an unguarded yielding of dangerous words of war. His improvised remarks have stunnèd experts, allies, and even his own advisers.

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LCWR ASSEMBLY STATEMENT ON THE US—DPRK CRISIS

This week, while tensions between the governments of the United States and the People's Republic of Korea quickly escalated,
Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, before I get into a rather elongated discussion about one fundamental issue that we are having to decide in the next few days, I would like to just mention that we have just heard severe criticism of our President. Let me just note about President Trump and his rhetoric supposedly making things worse in Korea. The rhetoric of our President has not made the situation worse in Korea.

What is it that makes Korea a major threat to our country and to our people and to the world was that, during the Clinton administration, President Clinton pushed through this Congress a package of aid for North Korea. Yes, we gave billions of dollars of aid in the form of energy and other types of issues and things that they needed. We gave them billions of dollars of aid under the agreement that North Korea would not be developing their nuclear weapons.

At that time, Chris Cox, a Member of the House of Representatives at the time, and myself fought aggressively against that deal. The North Koreans ended up being the recipient of billions of dollars of aid, even though they were the most undemocratic institution, the greatest threat, and the greatest tyrants in that part of the world.

Yes, they knew that they didn't have to worry about the United States of America. That is when they, again, slowly but surely, after receiving billions of dollars of aid from us, pushed through by President Clinton, that is how they have gotten to this point now where they are exploding weapons and launching rockets.

They are blaming that on our President, who just recently became President, and they are blaming it on his rhetoric rather than his policy? It is ridiculous.

The other thing we have heard about our President again is how heartless he is because he is not permitting young people who have been designated as DREAMers to stay here in the United States, even though they are in this country illegally, and they were brought here illegally.

Now, what is the impact? What will be the impact to those young people, who are probably wonderful young people? Most of them, I am sure, are wonderful young people. But the bottom line is, our moral obligation must be to the well-being of American young people. That includes American young people who are of every race and every religion and every ethnic group.

Approving the people who have come here illegally will hurt American young people, especially American-Hispanic young people. The DREAMers will be competing with their jobs and, yes, bidding down the wages of our own young people and our other people who are striving right now to get by. No, what the President has done is watch out for the right young people: Americans.

Yes, we have had millions of people—in fact, for the last few years, over a million people—legally immigrate into our country. We have nothing to be ashamed of, nothing to apologize for. We are the most generous when it comes to legal immigrants in our society of any country in the world. In fact, at times recently, the amount of legal immigration we have been allowing into our country represents more than all the other countries of the world in what they have permitted to legally immigrate into their society.

We all feel for young people throughout the world who deserve a better life. But if we permit people to come here as young people illegally then legalize their status, every parent in the world will see that decision. Every parent in the world will say: Oh, my gosh, that young person who comes from Guatemala, or wherever it is, made it to America. He went in illegally, and now he is going to college. He has had some health problems. The American taxpayers have paid for it. Why can’t I bring my children there?

Well, it will dawn on them that millions of people—hundreds of millions, perhaps—that if they are going to come to the United States illegally, you better bring the kids, because Americans think more of those kids than they do their own kids.

I applaud the President for what he has done to slow down this betrayal of American young people by allowing young people to come in here illegally and thus expect that they are going to get legal status by wearing us down and appealing to our emotions.

One thing we have to note, in closing on this issue, those young people, if they are legalized, that is not the end of the game. At that point, when they are legalized, they have a right to make applications so that their parents can have their status legalized. They can bring in family that they left back in their home countries. Now they can apply to have them come in under family reunification.

This isn't just about a group of young people who came in. Even to legalize their status would be wrong. Otherwise, millions of other people will come here. Remember the trainloads of young people who were put on trains headed to the United States? Yes, we can expect more of that. Why not? If you love your children and you live anywhere else than the United States and you are living a poor life, of course you want to bring your kids here.

We should not be encouraging that, and we should not be attacking the President of the United States for standing up for our own young people, rather than trying to bring in massive flood of illegal immigrant children into our society and pay for their education and their healthcare, et cetera.

With that said, the issue that I am hoping to discuss in detail tonight is something on a totally different level, in terms of issue. This is an issue, whether you are Republican or Democrat, you go across the board; whether
liberal or conservative, there should be a close look at what is happening right now in the House of Representatives.

A decision will soon be made by the House Rules Committee—they are meeting tonight and tomorrow—that will have a direct and significant impact on the lives of millions of Americans. Although the issue will have such severe consequences on so many people, Members of Congress may or may not have had the opportunity and may not have the opportunity in the future to vote on a provision that is being discussed tonight.

What I am talking about at issue is an amendment submitted to the Rules Committee. For those who don’t know, the Rules Committee is a committee here in Congress that decides what will come to the floor for a vote—what bills—and what will be included; what amendments will be permitted, what amendments won’t, and if there will be any.

That is their job. They do a good job of it, but it is important that they do a job that reflects the American people and the interests of the American people.

So what we have is an amendment that has been submitted to the Rules Committee for consideration with this week’s appropriations bill. What I am talking about is an amendment which prohibits any of the money or resources in the appropriations bill for the Department of Justice from being used to enforce the laws that have prevented people from using medical marijuana for medical purposes, now what we see is an effort to try to prevent that from happening.

In other words, the status quo for 4 years has been the Federal Government not using the Department of Justice’s resources to supersede a State that has legalized the medical use of marijuana.

Now, that is my amendment. That amendment has been around. As many of my colleagues know, this amendment has a long history. The House has considered this issue numerous times since former Representative Maurice Hinchey of New York introduced the first amendment of this nature in 2001. I joined him and supported that provision.

Eventually, I became the lead sponsor of the amendment when Mr. Hinchey left. That year, in 2012, my amendment failed in the House by a vote of 162–262.

So, this is my amendment, which would have legalized medical marijuana—basically, saying that you can’t have the Federal Government supersede States when they have legalized medical marijuana—lost by 162–262.

Two years later, I teamed up with Representative Sam Farr, who is now retired, and saw the amendment pass—the same very same amendment we were able to reach out to our colleagues and say that we do not want any of the money that is being allocated for the Department of Justice to be used to supersede States’ rights. That cannot supersede a State that has legalized the medical use of marijuana.

The passage of the amendment in 2014 led to the inclusion of this provision in last year’s omnibus appropriations bill, which was signed into law December 2014. The following year, the amendment passed by an even larger margin. Let me note that the last time it came here on a vote on the floor, it passed by 242–186.

What we are talking about is that the people of the United States, over these years, over and over again, have expressed themselves to the Federal Government in their own States to legalize the medical use of marijuana.

And now we have a move to try to prevent those reforms that we put into place for the last 6 years that insisted that the Federal Government respect the State laws that have been changed so that the State laws that have given their own people permission to use medical marijuana for medical purposes, now what we see is an effort to try to prevent that from happening.

In other words, the status quo for 4 years has been the Federal Government not using the Department of Justice’s resources to supersede a State that has legalized the medical use of marijuana. And the States, in these 4 years, over and over and over again, have reaffirmed their amended laws in place to legalize marijuana.

Changing the status quo here by not adding that amendment that has been in the bill for the last 4 years, we are changing the status quo in a way that undermines the rights of the States and the people therein to make their policy, a right that we had acknowledged for the last 4 years.

Since it was first enacted into law, the provision has been updated and extended through a series of continuing resolutions. That is the bill that says we will respect State marijuana laws and omnibus appropriations bills, the last of which was signed into law by President Trump on April 5.

So, on April 5, we signed the omnibus bill. In that bill was the amendment that said the Justice Department will not use its resources to supersede State law. And since the first vote in 2014, the Senate Appropriations Committee has taken up this bill and has adopted this amendment on a bipartisan basis every year for the last few years.

As a result of this provision, the Federal Government has been prohibited from arresting or attacking those providing cannabis for medical purposes in the States that have passed such laws through their State legislature or through a direct vote of their own people.

So, to date, what are we talking about? We are talking about 46 States that have legalized some form of cannabis for medical purposes.

Yet we see, today, this Republican Congress is seriously considering what? Superseding those States, 46 States that have actually said: We will determine what is good for our people, and our people have voted overwhelmingly to permit medical marijuana to be used by the people of this State.

Considering changing the status quo tonight by not permitting the amendment that always gave the rights to the States to make that decision.

With this movement by the States, we have witnessed the emergence of a new and a major industry in America. Billions of dollars now are being invested in the exploding cannabis industry, an industry where now marijuana is being grown to provide clinics, which then they work on the cannabis itself. They put it into and they catalog it in terms of strength and in terms of dosage, and they work with doctors to make sure that this can be used for helping people with their maladies.

Those involved, all who are doing this, the ones who are growing the cannabis, the guys who are processing it, the people who are selling it, the people who want to make sure that everything is designated right, the strength and the character of what is being sold, and of course, a bookkeeping system that makes sure everybody knows, total, who is doing what, all those involved in this new industry, billions of dollars’ worth of industry, are respectable businessmen and women.

Yes, they are seeking profit, but these are men and women who are eager to be, yes, seeking profit and to be responsible and transparent; and just like any other member of the business community, they want to do a business efficiently, and they want to be held accountable for what they are doing.

Money should be accounted for, yes. Ingredients of products must be listed and labeled, and best business practices ought to be applied, and, of course, taxes and regulations are part of that equation.

Well, throughout the country, this industry is taking the public away from gangsters, away from criminal drug dealers. Now, who is being helped? But first let me note on that.

If we eliminate this right of the States to basically legalize the medical use of marijuana and put it in the hands of those people whom I have just described, honest businessmen who are going to be held accountable and held with transparent types of operations, no, they will be replaced by whom? They will be replaced by drug dealers. They will be replaced by the Mexican drug cartel. That is who is being helped if we eliminate this provision that has been part of the appropriations bill for the Department of Justice for the last 3 years.

But first let me note on that.
about transferring those billions of dollars now in this industry directly into the pockets of the drug cartels? That is what the vote is.

The vote is not, oh, we are going to stop anybody from using marijuana because marijuana is bad. That is not the vote, that is what the result of the vote will be billions of dollars immediately transferred into the pockets of the drug cartel. That is what will happen.

So I plead my colleagues to look closely with this vote. I hope that the Rules Committee will see the error of its ways and permit a vote on the floor on this issue. If not, I will be calling on my colleagues to join me in opposing the rule that is coming to the floor that prohibits us from voting on this issue.

If we vote on the issue, let’s all vote on the issue and let the voters hold us accountable for our vote, but don’t just let nobody have a vote on it and hide behind the cloak of anonymity. No, let’s tell the people what side we are on.

Do we want to have drug cartels being handed billions of dollars? That is what this is about.

Oh, yes, we are going to say, well, fewer police will use marijuana. No, I do not believe that for an instant. And especially people who are using it for medical purposes, there won’t be fewer of them. Those people still need medical marijuana, and they have arthritises and everything. They don’t have to use marijuana in the backyard.

But that is not the issue. The issue is whether States that have legalized the use of it should be superseded by us, and we are going to force another adult from using marijuana in his backyard.

Let me tell you something about how I didn’t know how the public would respond to the fact that I am one of the leaders in the country to try to get the medical use of cannabis.

You know, I was Ronald Reagan’s speechwriter, and I have been a Republican all my life. I get the top score on conservative groups that, you know, a conservative libertarian background. I was Ronald Reagan’s speechwriter for 7½ years in the White House.

I got elected in 1988, the last year of Reagan’s term in the White House, and I sort of slipped into this issue because I am one of the leaders in the country to try to get the medical use of cannabis.

And you know, I was Ronald Reagan’s speechwriter, and I have been a Republican all my life. I get the top score on conservative groups that, you know, a conservative libertarian background. I was Ronald Reagan’s speechwriter for 7½ years in the White House.

They saw him in his office off the VA hospital, and the guy said: Look, your son needs marijuana. Here is the prescription. Here is how to use it. Go do it.

And do you know what the guy said to me there in my office? He said: My son hasn’t had a seizure since that day. You wonder what I want to do about you being the point man on legalizing medical marijuana? I want to go over and give you a big hug.

That is what he said.

Now, I hope that my colleagues take this seriously because there are children on the floor having these seizures. There are veterans waiting there in seizures. There are old folks who are having arthritises and they can’t move their hands, or they have lost their appetites in these senior citizen homes.

There is nothing wrong with us using cannabis to help alleviate their pain. We have been doing that for 3 years, and now the Rules Committee may not even permit us to have a vote on it, and they will take it out of this bill. We will be taking this away, without even having our people have to vote on it or not.

Well, I say if you disagree with me, that is fine. If you don’t want to see any of them, some of these folks, they are enriched, fine. Come up and make your arguments.

When I lost this vote on a number of occasions, before we won 3 or 4 years ago, I lived with it. I said: Fine; I lost the vote. I respect those people’s opinion. I have to try to help them.

Well, I expect that is what a democracy is supposed to be all about. That is what it is supposed to be all about.
Let people be held accountable for this. Don’t take it out of the bill. If they take it out of the judiciary appropriations bill, I am asking my colleagues to stand up and vote against a rule that is shielding us from accountability, shielding us from having to have, basically, for spending billions of dollars over to the drug cartels.

Now the argument, of course, is: Oh, there is an opiate—you know, some kind of, what do they call it, an epidemic with that that is in America. Yes, yes, there is. When young people, or old people, are given opiates by their doctors, that is what happens: they get addicted to the opiates. If their doctors have no alternative, like cannabis, to provide their patients with something that might help them with their challenge, well, then you are going to get opiates, and that is what has happened. Our doctors have been passing out opiates as if they were candy.

It is the legalization of medical marijuana that makes it more likely that we will defeat the opiate epidemic and get our people back to a point where they can actually control their own lives. No one has ever died from an overdose of marijuana.

Now, I can tell you this. I understand that people really want to help young people, and others, not to get addicted to drugs. And I will say, no one has ever overdosed on cannabis. Yes, there are some serious concerns of why you don’t want young people, in particular, using cannabis.

But to make it illegal, to put people in jail for using this, for basically leaving the distribution of marijuana in the hands of criminals, is far worse in what happens than any of the things that happen if young people—or, well, if anybody—start smoking a joint.

And let me just say, I think young people talk to them seriously. When we tell them we don’t even think marijuana should be used for medical purposes, they tune out. But if we say, we know there are some legitimate uses for this, but when you are 20 years old, it is going to hurt your mind development, do not use marijuana until at least you are over 20 years old, and we are only making it legal now in this bill, or if you have some medical problems.

The same fact is that young people can understand that. That is one of the reasons why we have got to have re-search into cannabis, other than just leaving these opiates as the easy an-swer for doctors. In fact, one of the greatest sins, I believe, committed against the American people in the last 100 years has been a lack of re-search into cannabis as a potential healthcare device or, shall I say, entity so that, instead of doing research into cannabis for the last 100 years, re-search is suppressed.

There could be some really wonderful things, and we are learning about them now. A few years ago, for example, Israel had to lead the way on this and introduce a major research effort into cannabis, and their results have been spectacular.

Why does that happen in Israel and not here? Don’t we care about whether those things that they discovered there that affect our people will help our people as well? No, no. We couldn’t do that because we have people who are still living in the 1960s when to them cannabis—marijuana—means everybody growing their hair long, smoking marijuana in the park, and falling in life, becoming hippies, and all of that.

The bottom line is that image is destroying the well-being of millions of Americans today. We have got to get over that image because that is not what medical cannabis is all about.

And as I say, young people under 20 years of age, I have no problem outlawing it for them and having some kind of severe penalty for people selling that to them. We need to protect them because it does impact negatively on kids who are under 20 years of age, or in that age group.

But let me also note: those kids shouldn’t be drinking as well. The scientific community says marijuana will really hurt the development of their brains and affect their electrical system also says that when they overdrink at an early age it has that same type of impact. So these are things to protect us Americans from ourselves are well-inten tioned. They certainly understand these negative impacts, and there are negative impacts of everything. There are negative impacts of too much sugar; there are negative impacts of eating the wrong things, or not getting any exercise, or sitting down in front of your computer, or only sitting and watching TV.

But if we go down the road and we let the 100 million Americans who protect us from themselves, and that we are saying the government needs to just control our lives for us, no, that is not going to happen. That is not what our Founding Fathers were all about, and that is not what this country is all about.

Yes, there are things that we don’t want young people to be involved with when it comes to cannabis. It is true with so many other things. And, also, we can’t control that if we leave the drug cartels alone, to play.

Perhaps the most serious downside of using cannabis over the last 50 years has been the financing of these drug cartels in Mexico and developing countries. But now, with the continued enactment of Rohrabacher-Farr, the vast majority of States have charted another course, rather than what we have had before, before our things passed. Well, the billions of dollars, this multi-billion-dollar industry has been taking shape, and it is taking a huge market share away from the cartels and the gangs.

Number one, it is important that we make sure young people, veterans, older people, people who need this, people who are infirmed and need this help with cannabis and it can help them, first and foremost, let’s set the States decide whether or not that is going to be a right for people to try to treat themselves with cannabis in those States. Why not?

But, number two, let’s make sure that the money that is now being spent and organized to try to provide those people with their supply, and doing it in a very professional way with how money and what strange, getting, et cetera, and people held accountable, let’s not turn that off and eliminate that and just send these people to the drug cartels. It is ridiculous.

And, finally, for me and many of my conservative colleagues, this has always been an issue of federalism and freedom. This has always been an issue that goes right back to the fundamentals.

Our Founding Fathers did not expect that the Federal Government would assume such a prominent role when it comes to policing our lives. Rather, they intended the States to take the lead when exercising police powers.

The 46 States have, thus far, sought a different course when it comes to medical cannabis. These States should not be stymied by an all-powerful Federal Government dictating what we, and the citizens of this country, shall do in our private lives. The States, and the people therein, should make these decisions and to regulate these activities, or not regulate them, as they see fit.

What has happened now, because we have gotten away from this idea that Federalism will decide, the issue of Federalism, the 10th Amendment, what we have now are situations where we have different armies, like the DEA and others, who have had raids taking place throughout our country. This was not what our Founding Fathers had in mind.

This effort to try to put in jail anybody who is even using marijuana for anything, what we have done is in the Black and Chicano communities, in particular, minority communities who have less money, they have suffered the most because if their children—let’s say a 20-year-old young man gets arrested in the ghetto, well, he is not going to have a lawyer like that, like we have for people in more affluent areas. So that record will stick with him for the rest of his life.

We have wasted billions of dollars of their lives that they could have been doing better jobs 10 years down the road by hanging this on their back. We wonder why people can’t get jobs; well, somebody from a more affluent home, there is a lawyer waiting for them at the police station if he is ever caught with a baggy of marijuana.

Well, that is not good to have that young man, that ghetto, or anywhere else, or even in the affluent communities, have to have a criminal record for something that, yes, might
have a negative impact on him. We should instead—let me just offer this as a solution. Let’s go forward with some positive programs, rather than superseding State law with a heavy-handed, iron-fisted enforcement of laws that control our private drug use and their private consumption of what they want to consume. Let’s put our effort into offering a positive alternative.

For example, in high schools and colleges, we see schools that have drug testing. In our military, we can have drug testing. But it is not drug testing to put someone in jail. If you do it that way, you can’t do that legally. You can’t force someone to testify against themselves. But if you say: We want to see if you have a problem, and you are not going to get a driver’s license if you don’t pass drug free; and you can be given a drug test in high school at any time, and if your test comes back negative, you talk to the family of a young person who has been tested and has been using some kind of drug, We can do those types of things. We can do those things that aren’t aimed at obliterating someone’s future by giving them a felony conviction for having a little bit of marijuana on them. That is ridiculous.

And we don’t need to give the drug cartels all the money in making sure that people in the old folks’ home down the street don’t get to smoke mari-juana to take care of their arthritis. That is all ridiculous.

Now we are facing this challenge here. This will be a vote this week. I would ask my colleagues: Please, let us have the amendment that we have had for 3 years, keep the status quo of letting the States handle this issue, let the States do that. This is a States’ rights issue. Thomas Jefferson would be for us.

At the same time, if we do not get a vote on this and they try to hide behind it—we are not even going to get a chance to vote on it, thus we are not going to be held accountable for elimi-nating this freedom that we have and this federalism that we have—we if don’t get that vote. I am asking my colleagues, especially my Republican colleagues—and I ask the public to pay attention to how people vote—a vote for the rule if this amendment, if the Rohrabacher-Blumenauer amendment is not permitted, then a vote for the rule is a vote for giving money to the drug cartels, it is a vote for elimi-nating the law as it is today, which is leaving it up to the States and bringing the Federal Government back to our local and State areas in an enforce-ment mode. We don’t need that.

If we don’t get this, if my amend-ment, the Rohrabacher amendment, is not permitted, I would hope that my colleagues would join me in voting against the rule, which sends that bill back to the committee, to the Rules Committee, where they will then either add it or not, but at least gives us a chance to have a direct vote on it again if we defeat it the first time.

So I say strike a blow for freedom, make sure we have reaffirmed the idea of federalism, personal responsibility, not government controls over our lives, let’s do what our Founding Fathers did, let’s strike a blow for liberty.

That is what this is about: liberty. And it is not about having power in the hands of the Federal Government to come down and tell us how to run our lives and centralizing power in Wash-ington, D.C.

So I ask my colleagues to join me in voting for my amendment if it is per-mitted on the floor and, if it is not, to vote against the rule on the appropri-a-tions bill for the Justice Department.

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

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 8 o’clock and 15 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

Mr. COLE, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115-295) on the resolution (H. Res. 500) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3354) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2018; Providing for Consideration of Motions to Suspend the Rules; and Waiving a Requirement of Clause XIII with Respect to Consideration of Certain Resolutions Reported from the Committee on Rules

Mr. COLE, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115-295) on the resolution (H. Res. 500) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3354) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2018, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules; and waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to Mr. LAMBORN (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of flight delays.
H.R. 1843 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN:
H.R. 3672. A bill making supplemental appropriations for disaster relief requirements for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition, to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. COFFMAN:
H.R. 3673. A bill to impose a ban on the importation of certain petroleum products from Venezuela; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:
H.R. 3674. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to allow small business concerns, homeowners, or nonprofit entities to use certain Sandy grant funds or other disaster assistance received to repay certain disaster assistance provided by the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. COOPER (for himself, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. SCHRADER, and Mr. COHEN):
H.R. 3675. A bill to provide that Members of Congress shall be paid last whenever the Treasury is unable to satisfy the obligations of the United States (the appropriation power), which states: “No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law.” In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of Article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: “The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States.” Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.

By Mr. COFFMAN:
H.R. 3676. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:
H.R. 3677. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

By Mr. JONES:
H.R. 3678. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to designate the District of Columbia as an empowerment zone; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. PASCRELL):
H.R. 3679. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief for major disasters declared in any of calendar years 2012 through 2015, to make certain tax relief provisions permanent, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ZELDIN:
H.R. 3680. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide financial assistance for supportive services for very low-income veteran families in permanent housing; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

By Mr. VEASEY:
H. Res. 501. A resolution expressing support for designation of the month of September as “National Voting Rights Month”; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN:
H.R. 3672. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states: “No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law.” In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: “The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States.” Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.

By Mr. COFFMAN:
H.R. 3673. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:
H.R. 3674. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

By Mr. JONES:
H.R. 3675. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

By Mr. COOPER:
H.R. 3676. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

By Mr. JONES:
H.R. 3677. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

By Mr. ZELDIN:
H.R. 3680. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 19: Mrs. WAGNER.
H.R. 154: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DONOVAN, and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
H.R. 203: Mr. RICHMOND and Mr. SARBANES.
H.R. 246: Mr. WOMACK, Mr. WENSTRUP, and Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 252: Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 265: Mr. MESSER.
H.R. 350: Mr. ROSKAM.
H.R. 365: Ms. HERKERA BEUTLER.
H.R. 384: Ms. KAPTUR.
H.R. 389: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 392: Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. SCHRAER, Mr. O’HALLERAN, Mr. ROBINSON, Mr. SEWELL of Florida, Mr. DEFAGO, Mr. CORREA, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. FUDGE, and Mr. LONG.
H.R. 398: Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H.R. 453: Mr. CRAMER.
H.R. 548: Mr. DONOVAN.
H.R. 651: Mr. HARIN and Mr. RATCLIFFE.
H.R. 747: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 772: Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 785: Mr. DUNN.
H.R. 807: Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. COOK, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. PRACE.
H.R. 819: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.
H.R. 845: Mr. TED LIEU of California.
H.R. 919: Ms. SPEIER.
H.R. 980: Mr. CARHAJAL.
H.R. 982: Mr. DONOVAN.
H.R. 1007: Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. RUSH, Ms. MICHELLE LUAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, and Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 1038: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. THOTT, and Mr. COFFMAN.
H.R. 1041: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.
H.R. 1057: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 1065: Mr. LIVINSKI of New York, Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. POSRY, and Mr. LANCE.
H.R. 1150: Mr. LAMALFA.
H.R. 1153: Mr. COMSTOCK.
H.R. 1164: Mr. LAMALFA.
H.R. 1222: Mr. MEBHAN.
H.R. 1223: Ms. SHEA-PORTER and Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.
H.R. 1232: Mr. McNERNY.
H.R. 1241: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 1251: Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. POSRY, and Mr. LANCE.
H.R. 1266: Ms. LOPFRENN and Mr. McGOVERN.
H.R. 1360: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. STIVERS, and Mr. BACON.
H.R. 1368: Miss RICH of New York.
H.R. 1406: Mrs. LOWEY and Mr. GUTIERREZ.
H.R. 1456: Mr. CUMMINGS and Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas.
H.R. 1465: Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 1468: Mr. LANCE and Mr. COLLINS of New York.
The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

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

Let us pray.

Eternal and sovereign God, the Earth in its fullness belongs to You. Teach us to live by Your precepts and follow Your plans. Guide our lawmakers in the challenging decisions they face. May they build up rather than tear down, using their powers to keep dreams from becoming nightmares. Give them the wisdom to know that history will judge them by whether they act with courage or cowardice.

Lord, lead our Senators in their efforts to guide our citizens to the better angels of our nature. May our lawmakers make the commitment to stand for right though the heavens fall. And, Lord, we pray for those affected by Hurricane Harvey and for those bracing for Hurricane Irma.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1757) to strengthen border security, increase resources for enforcement of immigration laws, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

HURRICANE HARVEY DISASTER RELIEF AND OTHER ISSUES BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I want to begin by extending the Senate's heartfelt sympathies to those affected by Hurricane Harvey. We have seen the devastation across Texas, Louisiana, and the gulf coast. We know the recovery will not be easy, nor will it be quick.

We also understand the Federal Government's important role in assisting impacted communities. Last week, the President submitted a supplemental emergency funding request that will allow this critical work to continue. It will also allow our country to be better prepared for future natural disasters. It is especially important, given the potential for another major hurricane to strike our country this very week.

As I said when the President submitted his emergency funding request, the Senate will work closely with his administration and the House of Representatives to deliver that much needed relief. I am glad to see the House Appropriations Committee has already taken important steps to get us there, and I look forward to the House sending over legislation so the Senate can act on it as soon as possible.

I know that securing this emergency funding is very important for the President, and I know that preventing a default or shutdown amidst such a historic natural disaster is also very important to him—and even more so now with another major hurricane on the way.

These are the President's immediate priorities: pass disaster relief, prevent a default, and fund the government. These are my immediate priorities as well, and I am sure all of our colleagues feel the same way. We have to get all three of these things done, and we have to do it very quickly.

In the case of the debt limit, we need to act quickly, given the new uncertainty from the large costs of storm recovery. As the President's Budget Director wrote in his letter to Congress last week, "Given the need for additional spending as a result of disaster response and initial recovery from Hurricane Harvey, the Administration continues to urge Congress to act expeditiously to ensure that the debt ceiling does not affect these critical response and recovery efforts. Otherwise it may not be possible to get those critical resources to Americans who desperately need them."

Here is why. As Treasury Secretary Mnuchin explained, "[O]ur first priority is to make sure that the state gets money. It is critical, and to do that we need to make sure we raise the debt limit. So if Congress appropriates the money, but I don't have the ability to borrow more money and pay for it, we're not going to be able to get that money to the state."

He called for Congress to "put politics aside" and get these things done as quickly as possible. That was the Secretary of the Treasury.

I look forward to continuing to discuss these important issues with the President's team and congressional leaders of both parties at the White House tomorrow. I look forward to discussing other important and shared priorities as well.

Nominees, for instance. It was good to see the Senate clear a large package
of nominees before we left for the State work period. Now our work continues. There are other vacancies to fill. There are nominees, for instance, for positions that are critical to recovery from Hurricane Harvey. We have to work to get those nominees confirmed quickly, and we have to keep working together to fill other vacant positions in the Federal Government as well.

Another issue of extraordinary importance is tax reform. We will actually have another meeting at the White House today on that issue specifically. It is clear the President is very engaged on this issue. As he wrote in an op-ed over the weekend, "Our self-destructive tax code costs Americans millions of jobs, trillions of dollars and billions of hours spent on compliance and on paperwork. . . . We owe it to the American people to fix this broken system. American businesses want to prosper on our shores, and middle-class families are ready for more growth, more jobs, and higher pay."

That is the aim of tax reform, and that is the message I hope the President will continue to take around the country, including his trip this week to North Dakota. In the meantime, work will continue among Members and committees in both Chambers to keep moving forward on this important issue.

In addition to these issues, I also look forward to tomorrow’s discussion about the national security challenge that is before us. Administration officials will be coming to Congress later that day to give a briefing on challenges like North Korea and Afghanistan. I am looking forward to that important meeting. These are complicated issues, and they will require smart responses from both the administration and members of Congress.

Here in Congress, we will have an opportunity to address some of them soon as we work to pass related legislation such as the annual Defense authorization bill. The chairman of the Armed Services Committee, Senator McCain, will take the lead on that legislation. We have kept Senator McCain and his family in our thoughts over the State work period. We are glad to have him back with us. We know he will again manage this year’s legislation with skill and dedication.

There are obviously other important issues before us as well. There are many goals we share with the administration. There is a lot we want to get done, and we have three critically important things before us right now that we need to do quickly: pass disaster relief, prevent a default so those emergency resources can actually get to Americans who need them, and keep the government funded. Those are the three important things before us now.

We will continue working with the administration and our friends on both sides to accomplish those things.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Tillis). The Democratic leader is recognized.

HURRICANE HARVEY DISASTER RELIEF AND OTHER ISSUES BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, first, I welcome the Presiding Officer and every other Senator back from the district work period as we with know, much has happened since we last were here.

North Korea has tested several ballistic missiles and reportedly tested a nuclear weapon, alarming well-meaning nations around the world. In Charlottesville, neo-Nazis and White supremacists marched through the streets, reminding us we are not done fighting the darkest elements of American society—racism, bigotry, hate.

Right now, large parts of the fourth largest city in our country remain under water. I extend my most heartfelt sympathies to the people of Houston and to those across parts of Texas and Louisiana who are just beginning a long road to recovery from Hurricane Harvey. Having lived through Hurricane Sandy in my home State of New York, I remember the agonies of families who lost their homes, lost their businesses. Nearly in the first month, had a sense of helplessness about what had happened to them. Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone in Houston.

We thank all the first responders and the rescue organizations—the police and fire departments—that are on the scene, as well as those everyday American heroes. Americans always rise to the occasion to lend a hand, such as the folks who drove to Houston with boats to help rescue stranded families. In rough times, Americans pull together, and Congress will do its part to provide relief and aid to the people of Houston this month.

Needless to say, we have a busy work period ahead of us. In addition to a recovery package for Houston, we have to pass appropriations to keep the government open, raise the debt ceiling, protect the Dreamers, provide certainty on the cost-sharing program that helps lower premiums down, and much more. The to-do list is lengthy. Nearly all the items I mentioned will require votes from Senators from both sides of the aisle. The best way to tackle and ultimately pass legislation on those issues is for us to work in a bipartisan way this month.

Mr. President, on taxes, unfortunately, we are off to a very bad start because President Trump has scheduled a meeting on tax reform today with only Republican legislative leaders. Just as they did with healthcare, Republicans seem to be excluding Democrats from the legislative process from the very beginning.

The majority leader announced prior to the break that he would likely pursue changes to the Tax Code on reconciliation, meaning the Republicans would only need the votes of their own party. Now they are meeting about the issue without even inviting Democrats to join in preliminary discussions.

Very simply, if Republicans hope to avoid the same pitfalls that ultimately brought down their effort to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act, they ought to abandon the misguided idea that major changes to the Tax Code can be made without Republicans and Democrats working together.

Mr. President, on another matter, over the past 6 weeks, North Korea has repeatedly tested the resolve of the United States with the launch of several ballistic missiles. The rogue regime has threatened to launch a missile in close proximity to Guam, a U.S. territory, and has, in fact, fired a missile over the territory of our ally Japan.

The United States must respond to these increasingly bellicose actions with firmness and levelheadedness. The President of the United States has to lead the way. The President of the United States should be firm, level, and above all else, credible. The President’s words matter—especially on issues of national security—but thus far, President Trump has responded to North Korea with bluff and bluster, hyperbole and exaggerated language: “fire and fury like the world has never seen.”

That is the kind of language we typically hear from the North Korean regime, not from the President of the United States.

The harsh fact is that because President Trump bluffs and blusters, he will be much less effective in dealing with North Korea in the long run. Foreign leaders—especially our allies—don’t know whether they can trust his words when there is so much hyperbole involved, and it undermines his ability to lead in a geopolitical crisis.

I urge the President to speak with caution, to speak with prudence, and to always speak credibly as well as strongly. It is paramount that North Korea understand the position of the United States and that when the President of the United States makes a statement, it believe we are prepared to act accordingly.

Mr. President, finally, on the DACA Program, today the administration announced it would terminate the program after a period of 6 months. Most Americans know how heartless this DACA decision is, ripping families
apart, telling people who worked so hard for years to become Americans that they now have to leave the country. These are folks who were brought here as children through no fault of their own. They may have known no other country—our country—and have voluntarily registered themselves with the government in order to live, work, and give back to our great country. Make no mistake—they contribute greatly to our country. These hard-working people and their contributions are vital to our economy, vital to our communities, schools, and institutions, such as the military.

They are also vital to tens of thousands of businesses, small and large, that will be hurt if the administration’s order stands. Ninety-one percent of DACA recipients are employed, paying taxes and paying into Social Security. A study by the Center for American Progress earlier this year found that ending DACA would drain $633 billion from our national GDP over 10 years. Even the Libertarian Cato Institute estimated that ending DACA would cost employers nearly $2 billion over 2 years. The human and economic toll of rescinding DACA will be far-reaching.

It is telling that Attorney General Sessions—not President Trump—made the announcement today that the administration would be ending DACA, and he did it without taking a single question. It shows that President Trump is not proud of what the administration has done today; otherwise he would have come forward himself. It shows that he is probably ashamed of this decision.

It was with unbelievable hypocrisy that both Attorney General Sessions and the White House Press Secretary said today that the decision was about upholding the rule of law. If this White House had such reverence for the rule of law, the President would not have fired Sessions or attacked the Federal judiciary for ruling against the travel ban or pardoned Sheriff Joe Arpaio for no reason other than he was a political ally.

Congress now has an ability and an obligation to act. Democrats will do everything we can to prevent President Trump’s terribly wrong order from becoming reality. I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 5 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

H.J. RES. 76

The PRESIDING OFFICER. For the information of the Senate, pursuant to the order of August 3, 2017, the Senate received H.J. Res. 76 from the House of Representatives on August 4, 2017, and the joint resolution was passed, and the motion to reconsider was considered made and laid upon the table.

The Senator from Texas.

HURRICANE HARVEY

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I just returned from Texas, where, as the world knows, Hurricane Harvey has devastated the Gulf coast and now ranks among the costliest natural disasters in American history. Today I want to share with you what my State has experienced in the wake of this storm that has battered so many homes and broken so many hearts.

The storm calamitously resulted in the loss of at least 60 lives, with probably more to come as the water recedes and as people’s bodies are discovered. Of course, we would not want those families who have lost loved ones.

You have seen the pictures, but let me describe what my fellow Texans have experienced firsthand. It started when Harvey ran into a patch of warm water in the Gulf to the west before last. As Harvey rumbled toward Texas, the ocean churned and the storm grew in size and strength. By the time it made landfall in the Coastal Bend region south of Houston, the hurricane was a Goliath—Category 4. The rain poured down, and the water rose in towns like Rockport, Port Lavaca, and Aransas Pass. Streets became swamps, and homes filled up like bathtubs.

First were those smaller coastal communities that I just mentioned, but then one of the largest cities in the Nation, Houston, and nearby areas were hit. Third, let’s not forget places like Port Arthur, Beaumont—where I was yesterday with Majority Leader McConnell and a handful of House Representatives and my other colleagues— as well as other parts of Jefferson and Harris counties that were hit when the storm barreled east and then finally abated.

Five days and 50 inches of rainfall—every known record was shattered. The National Hurricane Center was awed by the storm that it called “relentless.” The Washington Post appropriately called it “merciless” because it was. Sunday, Monday, and the last day ever in Houston, where nearly a third of the yearly rainfall came in 24 hours. A third of our annual expected rainfall in Houston came in 24 hours. Not only that, we now know Harvey was the most extreme rainfall event in the history of the continental United States, a catastrophe so unheard of that it comes perhaps only once in 1,000 years. Let that sink in for a moment—a 1,000-year rain event.

Congressional testimony easily could have overwhelmed first responders, Medical, law enforcement, and rescue personnel easily could have said: You know, I am exhausted. I haven’t slept for days. I haven’t been able to change my clothes. I can’t do this anymore.

They could have easily said all of those things, but instead they kept wading into the water—the Harris County sheriff’s water rescue team, the Texas National Guard, the Coast Guard, people like Sergeant Steve Perez, a 34-year veteran of the Houston Police Department who drowned in his patrol car during the storm. His wife told him not to go to work on that day, but he went in because he felt President Trump’s response was “We’ve got work to do.” He drove for over 2 hours trying to find a safe route to allow him to report for duty and to protect the community he loved. I hope Sergeant Perez’s sacrifice will serve as an example to the rest of us to strive to serve others indiscriminately, no matter the potential cost.

Texas’s neighbors could have easily stayed home too—after all, our friends in Louisiana learned tough lessons of their own from Hurricane Katrina—but they did not. They mobilized. Calling themselves the Cajun Navy and the Cajun Coast Search and Rescue, they hitched their fishing boats to their pickup trucks and said: “GTT.” “Gone to Texas”—gone to Texas to join the other rescuers, both uniformed and volunteers.

What did they all do?

They saved people who were floating on air mattresses, the few belongings they could carry that were stuffed into garbage bags and who were stranded on rooftops. They navigated around submerged trees and stop signs and cars, working with little to no sleep, dripping wet with sweat pouring from their faces, and smelling like the murky water that surrounded them. It seems that I heard about these stories over and over again during my trips to Corpus Christi, Rockport, Austin, and all around the State. These are the stories I heard in Houston, Corpus Christi, and others. They were all devastated, but in none of them was their spirit destroyed.

My State and our Nation have responded to this terrible natural disaster. As I did a small part in loading bags of ice and water and serving spaghetti to evacuees in Austin, I was struck by how many people—public officials, volunteers, businesses, and nonprofits, great and small—had offered and given their support, and I want to say thanks to all of them.

In particular, Governor Greg Abbott’s leadership has been critical. He and his team of emergency management personnel, led by Chief Nim Kidd, were well prepared in advance, and they moved swiftly following the state of emergency being declared in more than 50 of the 254 Texas counties. Yet it was not just State and local officials who acted with such dispatch. The Federal Government stepped up, too, starting with the President of the United States, who personally flew in with the First Lady, made two trips to the affected region. He brought members of his Cabinet, who had previously called
As President Trump said last week, “Texas can handle anything.” I think the President is pretty much right. We have seen our share of catastrophes, and we have always bounced back. Texans are tough and resilient, and we always, always, always band together.

A few years ago, after another tragedy in West Texas that took the lives of a number of first responders in a terrible explosion, I remember running into a county commissioner who said: Texas doesn’t just describe where you come from; it describes who your family is.

I know we all love our States, and we love our country, but I am particularly proud of how my State and Texans have stepped forward to help each other in this time of need. I know that all of my colleagues in this Chamber have spent time with their families and their friends this past weekend in honor of Labor Day. As the summer now draws to a close, let’s remember that no one is celebrating that holiday. They are struggling in shelters, not knowing what is left of their homes that they have been forced to flee.

With August now behind us, our work, our efforts, is just beginning. Tomorrow, as I said, the House will vote on a, roughly, $3 billion aid package—first of several steps toward delivering relief to Texans. I appreciate House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, who traveled with me yesterday to Houston and Beaumont to survey the damage in Texas. He had previously been with me and the Governor in Austin and talked about coordinating the Federal and State response.

I look forward to working with Leader McCarthy and all of my colleagues in both Chambers of the Congress on addressing the needs caused by this terrible storm.

By the way, I appreciate all of the text—all of the comments and the emails—I have received from colleagues on both sides of the aisle throughout this terrible storm, expressing their concerns and offering their prayers and their help. I appreciate it.

My colleagues, I will just say this. Let’s remember Sergeant Steve Perez, the police officer who died in Houston, whom I described earlier, the officer who could have stayed home. As his wife said: It is just too dangerous to go out there amidst the flood. Like him, let’s do our duty and look for a way to work together.

Friends, let’s get to work and do our job, not only in providing relief for the victims of Hurricane Harvey, but there is so much more that we need to do, working together.

I will close because I see the distinguished Democratic whip here, who I know has made the condition of the Dreamers—the children who came with their parents when they came to the United States in violation of our immigration laws. Of course, children are not responsible for what their parents have done. I actually believe that the President has given us an opportunity by what he did today. After all, what President Obama did, no matter how much we understand it, was essentially declared illegal by a Federal court. The President has no authority to do this unilaterally. That is what the Federal courts would President Obama, so President Trump has appropriately now said: Congress, you do your job. And we will.

I look forward to the debate. I look forward to working on this important issue. I dare say addressing DACA and the Dreamers by themselves is not acceptable. We are going to do as much as we can to address our broken immigration system, to restore public confidence in our border security and the enforcement of our laws, and, once again, become a nation that is, yes, a nation of immigrants but also a nation of laws.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, at the outset, let me say that I share the feelings of so many across the Nation who really try to understand and appreciate the immensity of the tragedy that struck Texas, Louisiana, and nearby places with Hurricane Harvey.

We followed the news. I have family in Texas who, through emails, kept us informed as to what was occurring and the horrible stories of people who lost their homes, their businesses, their lives. There is the story that Senator CORNYN has told about Officer Perez, who lost his life in service to the people whom he represented as a law enforcement officer. It touched us. It touched us deeply. We know that there have been extraordinary cases of heroism and bravery by individuals across the board. Many of them will never be reported and will be known only to a handful of people, but it really was an amazing display of the American spirit—the Texas spirit—when it comes to fighting this disaster.

So I say to the Senator from Texas that I am not one of those Senators who picks and chooses natural disasters only in my State to support. I have supported Federal assistance for natural disasters all across the United States because I know what happened when they hit Illinois and when I needed others to stand by me. I am prepared to stand by Texas, stand by Louisiana, stand by all of those who are victims of Hurricane Harvey. I believe that, as an American family, we have a responsibility to stand together, and I thank the Senator from Texas for his statement.

DACA

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I want to tell a story about one of the great volunteers in Texas. His name is Jesus Contreras. He is a young man who has a great story, who was one of the heroes of Hurricane Harvey in his own small way.
At the age of 6, Jesus was brought from Mexico to the United States by his parents. It was not a family decision. His mom and dad made the decision and brought him to Houston, TX, where he grew up and got good grades in school. He wanted to go to college. He went to Lone Star College in Houston and became a paramedic—a paramedic who responded to Hurricane Harvey.

He spent 6 straight days out there, helping people who were in desperate need. During training as a paramedic, he was able to give them emergency first aid and insulin when they were suffering from the impact of diabetes, and he did it day after day after day. He would go home, take a shower, and go right back out again. He finally took a day off and got some rest, and he went back and did it all over again.

The important part of this story is that Jesus Contreras is a paramedic because of the DACA Program, which you have just heard described on the floor by the Senator from Texas. It was President Obama’s DACA Program that allowed him to stay in the United States, after having been brought here as a 6-year-old, and to go to school and become a paramedic. The DACA Program did that because it protected him from deportation, and it allowed him to legally work here in the United States as a paramedic. It was only because of DACA that this young man was able to step up and be part of that huge group of people who came forward in Houston, TX, and other cities and made such a difference in the lives of so many people.

So when I hear the DACA Program dismissed as just overreach by a President, illegal, and unconstitutional, I beg my colleagues: Take a look at the human side of this story for a moment. Take a look at the human side of 780,000 people, just like Jesus, who are just asking for a chance to be here. They have been protected from deportation, and it allowed him to make a difference in the lives of so many people.

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HURRICANE HARVEY AND THE AMERICAN SPIRIT

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, today I join my colleagues and all Arkansans in support of and in prayers for the people of Southeast Texas and all of the victims of Hurricane Harvey. I also want to take this time to thank the many people who served in whatever capacity they were able to help the people of Southeast Texas. They are an inspiration to all of us in this Chamber and, indeed, to all the world. They are the reason we can look to Houston, a city much embattled though not embittered, and take pride in what we see—not human devastation but human valor.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today I am pleased to support the nomination of Tim Kelly to be a judge on the DC district court. Tim serves as my chief counsel for national security, senior crime counsel, and majority staff director for the Caucus on International Narcotics Control. That is quite a professional title, isn't it? And he has done an excellent job serving not only this chairman of the Judiciary Committee but all of the Judiciary Committee.

Tim's career boasts a wide range of legal experience. After Tim graduated from Georgetown University Law Center in 1997, he served as a law clerk to Judge Buckwalter of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. He worked as an associate at Arnold & Porter, and he dedicated 6 months of his career to working with the Legal Defense Society. Tim spent a significant portion of his career serving as a Federal prosecutor, including several years as an assistant U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia, where he prosecuted a wide range of criminal cases in which he is being considered today. He also served as trial attorney in the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice, where he prosecuted public corruption cases. He has tried approximately 30 cases during his career, as well as negotiated dozens of guilty pleas.

Tim is a very talented attorney and is well liked by everyone—by staff and Members on both sides of the aisle. His collegiality and ability to get along with folks will serve him well on the bench. I know he will show proper respect to the litigants and attorneys who appear before him, as well as the staff who will serve his court.

Tim's counsel and advice have served the members of the Judiciary Committee. I am pleased to point to one example of his work on behalf of this committee. I would note he was the lead Senate Republican Judiciary staffer on
the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of last year, which happened to be signed into law by President Obama. This bill will help countless numbers of folks struggling with drug addiction.

Tim’s vast legal experiences and his thoughtful approach to his work will help him be an excellent Federal judge. I believe he has the temperament to hear any case that will come before him with a fair mind, seeking to do justice for all.

Of course, others have recognized Tim’s merits as well. The American Bar Association gave him a unanimous “well qualified” rating, which is the highest rating the ABA gives, and he has received awards for his work from the Department of Justice, the Department of Energy, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Tim will make an excellent judge, and I am honored to support his nomination today. I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of his nomination.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll. The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all time be yielded back.

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

All time is yielded back.

The question is, Will the Senate adjudge and consent to the Kelly nomination?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll. The legislative clerk called the roll.

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

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

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all time be yielded back.

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

All time is yielded back.

The question is, Will the Senate adjudge and consent to the Kelly nomination?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll. The legislative clerk called the roll.

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

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

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all time be yielded back.

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

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

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

All time is yielded back.

The question is, Will the Senate adjudge and consent to the Kelly nomination?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll. The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. RUBIO). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 94, nays 2, as follows:

YEAS—94

Cotton
Crapo
Cruz
Daines
Donnelly
Duckworth
Durbin
Enzi
Esin
Feinstein
Fischer
Flake
Franken
Gardner
Graham
Grassley
Harris
Hassan
Heitkamp
Heller
Hirono
Hoeven
Inhofe
Isakson
Johnson
Kaine
Kennedy
King
Klobuchar
Lamar
Leahy
Lee
Lankford
Markley
McConnell
McCaskill
McGhan
Merkel
Mikulski
Murkowski
Murphy
Nelson
Paul
Peterson
Portman
Portman
Risch
Roberts
Round
Rubio
Sanders
Sasse
Schatz
Schumer
Scott
Shelby
Shelby
Strange
Sullivan
Tillis
Toomey
Ulrich
Van Hollen
Warner
Whitehouse
Wicker
Wyden
Young

NAYS—2

Gillibrand
Warren
Cochran
Moran
Menendez
Shaheen

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The PRESIDENT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that with respect to the nomination of Timothy Kelly, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee’s intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY

COOPERATION AGENCY,

Arlington, VA.

HON. BOB CORKER,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 17–32, concerning the Navy’s proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Thailand for defense articles and services estimated to cost $24.9 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

GREG M. KAUSNER
(For Charles W. Hooper, Lieutenant General, USA, Director).

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17–32

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: The Government of Thailand

(ii) Total Estimated Value: Major Defense Equipment $23.2 million. Other $1.7 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Five (5) RGM–84L Harpoon Block II Surface Launched Missiles.

One (1) RTM–84L Harpoon Block II Exercis Missile.

Non-MDE includes: Also included are containers, spare and repair parts, support and test equipment, publications and technical documentation, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor representatives technical assistance, engineering and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (XX–P–AKP)

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any; TH–P–AKP.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 9, 2017.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Government of Thailand—RGM–84L Harpoon Block II Missiles

The Government of Thailand has requested the possible sale of up to five (5) RGM–84L Harpoon Block II Surface Launched Missiles and one (1) RTM–84L Harpoon Block II Exercise Missile. Also included are containers, spare and repair parts, support and test equipment, publications and technical documentation, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor representatives technical assistance, engineering and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated cost is $24.9 million.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to strengthen the U.S.-Thailand strategic relationship and to improve the security of an important partner.

The proposed sale will provide enhanced capabilities in effective defense of critical sea lines. Thailand intends to use the missiles on its DW3000 Class Frigate. The proposed sale of the Harpoon Block II missiles

[Name]

[Title]
and support will increase the Royal Thai Navy’s maritime partnership potential. Thailand has purchased Harpoon missiles previously and will have no difficulty absorbing, integrating, and deploying these into its armed forces.

The proposed sale will not alter the basic military balance in the region. The principal contractor will be the Boeing Company, St. Louis, MO. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require annual trips to Thailand involving U.S. Government personnel and contractor representatives for technical reviews, support, and oversight for approximately five years. There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17–36
Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii
(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:
1. The RGM-8L Harpoon Surface Launched Block II missile system, to include production of the proposed sale, training, support, and maintenance, and training to be conveyed by this proposed sale have the highest classification level of CONFIDENTIAL.
2. The following components being conveyed by the proposed sale are considered sensitive and are classified CONFIDENTIAL:
   a. The Radar Seeker
   b. The GPSANS System
   c. Operational Flight Program Software
   d. Missile operational characteristics and performance data.

These elements are essential for the Harpoon Block II missile to effectively engage hostile targets under a wide range of operational, tactical and environmental conditions. With respect to GPS, Thailand has been approved for Precision Positioning Service (PPS). If the proposed sale progresses, production, or by self-defense and support NATO defense goals.

The Government of Romania intends to use these defense articles and services to enhance its armed forces to strengthen its homeland defense and deter regional threats. This will contribute to Romania’s military goal of updating its capabilities and further enhance its compatibility with the United States and other NATO allies. Romania will have no difficulty absorbing this system into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support technology will not alter the basic military balance in the region. The prime contractors will be Lockheed-Martin in Grand Prairie, Texas and Camden, SC.

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii
(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:
1. The High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) Launchers.
4. Other $.350 billion.

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):
- Fifty-four (54) M1084A1P2 HIMARS Resupply Vehicles (RSVs) (5 ton, Medium Tactical Cargo Vehicle with Medium Handling Equipment).
- Fifty-four (54) M1095 MTV Cargo Trailers w/ RSV kit.

Additional included are thirty (30) Low Cost Reduced Range (LCRR) Practice Rockets, sub-systems, support equipment, communications equipment, sensors, spare and repair parts, test sets, batteries, laptop computers, publications and technical data, training equipment, systems integration support, power assurance teams and a Technical Assistance Fielding team, U.S. Government and contractor technical, engineering, and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistics and program support.

Military Department: Army.
Prior Related Cases: None.

Transmittal No. 17–36
Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii
(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:
1. The High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) is a highly mobile, all-weather indirect fire artillery system. The HIMARS mission is to supplement cannon artillery to deliver a large volume of firepower within a short time against critical time-sensitive targets. At shorter ranges, HIMARS complements tube artillery with heavy barrages against assaulting forces as well as in the counter-fire, or de-suppression mission.

testing of the end item is SECRET; the highest level that must be disclosed for production, maintenance, or training is CONFIDENTIAL. Reverse engineering could reveal CLASSIFIED information. Fire Direction System, Data Processing Unit, and special Application software is classified SECRET. Communications Distribution Unit software is classified CONFIDENTIAL. The system specifications and limitations are classified CONFIDENTIAL. Software system architecture, vulnerability/susceptibility analyses, and threat definitions are classified SECRET or CONFIDENTIAL.

5. The software source code and design specifications: executable code, training manuals, user manuals, and system documentation such as external system architecture diagrams, high level software architecture diagrams, the Version Description Document, and the System Administrator Manual as customized for each individual configuration of the FM System are considered highly resistant to reverse engineering. Detailed knowledge of the technical capabilities of the system could enable an enemy to tailor defenses and adjust tactics to counter the system. Susceptibility of ATACMS Unitary M57 FMS Variant is SECRET, based upon the software.

6. The GMLRS–AW is over 90% common with the M31A1 GMLRS Unitary hardware. Operational range is between 15–70 kilometers. Accuracy of less than 15 meters is required in all ranges, when using inertial guidance with Global Positioning System (GPS) augmentation. Uses a proximity sensor fuze mode with a 10 meter height of burst. The Alternative Warhead carried a 200 pound fragmentation assembly filled with high explosives which, upon detonation, accelerates two layers of pre-formed tungsten fragments optimized for effectiveness against large area and imprecisely located targets. The GMLRS–AW provides a fire support weapon system that is compatible with all other U.S. Army, Marine Corps, and Air Force combat systems.

7. The GPS PPS component of the HIMA (GMLRS Unitary Alternative Warhead, and ATACMS Unitary) is also contained in the Fire Direction System, is classified SECRET, and is considered SENSITIVE. To that end, no GPS PPS design information, including GPS software algorithms, will be disclosed in the course of this sale to country. Susceptibility of GMLRS to diversions or exploitation is considered low risk. Components of the system are also considered highly resistant to reverse engineering. Detailed knowledge of the technical capabilities of the system could enable an enemy to tailor defenses and adjust tactics and procedures to minimize the effectiveness of the system. The GPS PPS component is considered secret and is classified SECRET.

8. The software source code and design specifications: executable code, training manuals, user manuals, and system documentation such as external system architecture diagrams, high level software architecture diagrams, the Version Description Document, and the System Administrator Manual as customized for each individual configuration of the FM System are considered highly resistant to reverse engineering. Detailed knowledge of the technical capabilities of the system could enable an enemy to tailor defenses and adjust tactics and procedures to minimize the effectiveness of the system. Training and user manuals are unclassified but considered sensitive and not for general release to foreign nationals, except that they will be disclosed to Romania. After the system is procured through foreign military sales, installation instructions are unclassified but considered sensitive and not for general release to foreign nationals, except that they will be provided with the system when the system is procured through FMS.

9. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software, the information could be used to develop countermeasures, which could result in a reduction in the effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the enclosed Military Policy Justification. Moreover, the benefits to be derived from the sale of the system and the potential damage that could result if the sensitive technology were revealed to unauthorized persons. A determination has been made that Romania can provide the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government.

11. All defense articles and services listed in this transmission have been authorized for release and export to Romania.

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY, Arlington, VA.

Hon. Bob Corker, Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the request for approval of the Foreign Military Sales (FMS) system known as the Advanced Fire Support System (AFSS) and the Army Fire Support System (AFATDS), including AFATDS-related FMS goods, services, and technical support, Lieutenant General, USA, Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, USA, Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, sent a request to the Secretary of Defense on August 30, 2017, proposing to release and export to Romania.

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY, Arlington, VA.

Sincerely,

CHARLES W. HOOPER,
Lieutenant General, USA, Director

Enclosures:

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17–45

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 17–45, concerning the Navy’s proposed Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Australia

(ii) Total Estimated Value: $360 million

Total $360 million.

Major Defense Equipment/MD&E: None.

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Major Defense Equipment (MDE) is a program to procure twenty-four (24) MH–60R Multi-Mission Helicopters and associated training devices, spare and repair parts, support and test equipment, engineering and technical services, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services, Engineering Change Proposals (ECPs), ECPs for training devices, classified software (JMPs/MDLs), Engineering Technical Assistance (ETA), Logistics Technical Assistance (LTA), Other Technical Assistance (OTA), supply and delivery of support equipment, and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (AT–PGR)


(vi) Sales Commission. Fee, etc., Paid, Of–fering: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex

Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 30, 2017

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.
Australia—Upgrade Program for (24) MH–60R Multi-Mission Helicopters

The Government of Australia has requested a follow-on case for a possible ten-year upgrade program for twenty-four (24) MH–60R Multi-Mission Helicopters and associated training devices, spare and repair parts, support and test equipment, engineering and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services, Engineering Change Proposals (ECPs), ECPs for training devices, classifying and appraising Helicopter Engineer- ing Technical Assistance (ETA), Logistics Technical Assistance (LTA), Other Technical Assistance (OTA), supply support, support equipment, related element, logistics and program support. The total estimated program cost is $890 million.

This sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a major non-NATO ally that continues to be an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Western Pacific. It is vital to the U.S. national interest to assist our ally in developing and maintaining a strong and ready self-defense capability.

The proposed upgrades to the MH–60R helicopters will improve Australia’s antisubmarine and surface warfare capability, provide an improved search and rescue capability, enhance its anti-ship surveillance capability, and will help it carry out international commitments for transport, surveillance, and search and rescue operations with the United States and other allies. The proposed upgrades will also provide Australia the resources necessary to properly maintain its modern fleet of helicopters. Australia will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Sikorsky, a Lockheed Martin Company, Stratford, CT and Lockheed Martin, Owego, NY. There are no offsets proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Australia.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17–45
Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer and Request for Quotations
Annex Item No. vii

POLICY JUSTIFICATION
Australia—Upgrade Program for (24) MH–60R Multi-Mission Helicopters

The Government of Australia has requested a follow-on case for a possible ten-year upgrade program for twenty-four (24) MH–60R Multi-Mission Helicopters and associated training devices, spare and repair parts, support and test equipment, engineering and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services, Engineering Change Proposals (ECPs), ECPs for training devices, classifying and appraising Helicopter Engineer- ing Technical Assistance (ETA), Logistics Technical Assistance (LTA), Other Technical Assistance (OTA), supply support, support equipment, related element, logistics and program support. The total estimated program cost is $890 million.

This sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a major non-NATO ally that continues to be an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Western Pacific. It is vital to the U.S. national interest to assist our ally in developing and maintaining a strong and ready self-defense capability.

The proposed upgrades to the MH–60R helicopters will improve Australia’s antisubmarine and surface warfare capability, provide an improved search and rescue capability, enhance its anti-ship surveillance capability, and will help it carry out international commitments for transport, surveillance, and search and rescue operations with the United States and other allies. The proposed upgrades will also provide Australia the resources necessary to properly maintain its modern fleet of helicopters. Australia will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Sikorsky, a Lockheed Martin Company, Stratford, CT and Lockheed Martin, Owego, NY. There are no offsets proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Australia.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17–45
Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer and Request for Quotations
Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:
1. The Commonwealth of Australia require- ment for spiral upgrades to the twenty-four (24) Multi-Mission MH–60R Helicopters could include:
   e. Mission Capability Areas for Develop- ment: Kinematic Performance/Airborne Sur- vivability
   f. Mission Capability Areas for Develop- ment: Obsolescence Management
   g. Mission Capability Areas: Surveillance/ Data Management & Data/Air Vehicle Serv- ice Life
   h. Software Lab
   i. USN Test Maintenance Cost
   j. The spiral development case may con- tain sensitive technology; however, defined requirements are not known at this time and will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.
   k. A determination has been made that Australia can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive tech- nology being released as the U.S. Govern- ment. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national secu- rity objectives outlined in the Policy Justifi- cation.
   l. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to Australia.

NATIONAL SENIOR CENTER MONTH

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, September marks National Senior Center Month. More than 11,000 senior centers across the country serve more than 1 million older adults every day. For many older Americans, senior centers are the heart of their communities, offering a place for everything from meals to recreational activities to health screenings. For Veteran Senior Centers, these also create a sense of comity and community, giving older Americans a place to connect while reducing the social isolation that often burdens our older citizens.

This month, as Ranking Member of the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging, I visited numerous senior centers across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in rural, urban, and suburban areas, to discuss the issues on the minds of older Pennsylvanians. At each stop, older Pennsylvanians told me about the important role that senior centers play in their daily lives, as a gathering place and a resource, providing not only necessary nutrition and wellness programs, but also counseling, employment assistance, volunteer opportunities, transportation assistance, and so much more.

Senior centers and senior center staff deserve our support. Communities piece together numerous sources to fund their senior center operations, including Federal, State, and local government resources, private-sector donations and grants, and the man-hours of countless volunteers. Many of the county commissioners who joined me during these visits expressed their support for the Community Development Block Grant, which regretfully is slated for elimination by the administration. Counties throughout Pennsylvania depend on the Community Development Block Grant program to fund important infrastructure in our communities. Now is not the time to scale back our investment in these needs. I stand with our community leaders in support of the Community Development Block Grant program, and I will fight to protect these vital resources from elimination.

I am delighted to join with leaders from across the aging network in Pennsylvanian and throughout the country in honoring the work of senior centers and recognizing September as National Senior Center Month.

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CAR- IBOU COMMUNITY-BASED OUT- PATIENT CLINIC

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, 30 years ago, Caribou, ME, served as the proving ground upon which America has built a nationwide system of community-based outpatient clinics that delivers much improved access to medical services for America’s rural veterans. The anniversary celebration on September 7 recognizes the determined commitment of Cary Medical Center, the Department of Veterans Affairs, local veterans, and an entire community that transformed healthcare for the men and women who defend our Nation and our freedom.

Our Nation’s first CBOC held its formal opening in Caribou, my hometown, on June 13, 1987. The impact was immediate—no longer would the veterans of Aroostook County have to endure an up-to-10-hour round trip to the nearest VA hospital for a medical exam or to meet with a VA physician. Today the Caribou CBOC treats a veteran population of 3,500 men and women who served our country, with more than 9,000 care visits annually. The pio- neering work done to get these benefits for America’s 3.5 million rural veterans who now receive care closer to home at more than 950 CBOCs throughout the country.

The story of the great advancement in healthcare began 8 years before that formal opening, when seven Aroostook County veterans devoted themselves to the mission of improving access to critical healthcare services in this region. The original members of Aroostook County Veterans Medical Facility Research and Development, Inc.—Percy Thibeault, Meo Bosse, John Rowe, Ray Guerrette, Wesley Adams, Walter Corey, and Leonard Woods, Jr.—faced many obstacles along the way and overcame them all. These patriots exemplified a special quality of the American veteran: they continued to contribute long after their service in uniform was done.

That great mission would not have been accomplished without the dedica- tion and expertise of Cary Medical Cen- ter and the involvement of Bill Flagg. As the American Hospital Association noted in its Award of Honor presentation in 2011, Cary Medical Center has made exemplary contributions in the critical area of veteran care, and has established a national model. In addition to playing a vital role in es- tablishing the VA’s first CBOC in Caribou, Cary Medical Center was one of five pilot sites for the highly successful Access to Care for Veterans, at Home, or ARCH, program. Most recently, led by Kris Doody and a tremendous team of professionals, has been called a standard bearer for how to provide...
rural veterans access to the care they need in their communities. Before he became VA Secretary, I had the opportunity to join Dr. David Shulkin on a visit to both the Caribou CBOC and Cary Medical Center, where he praised the hard work being done by dedicated individuals done to provide veterans with top-quality healthcare close to where they live. Veterans in Aroostook County and throughout America are grateful for Cary’s leadership.

Our State has a long history as a leader in working to expand and improve veterans’ access to quality healthcare. One year ago, we celebrated the 150th anniversary of the very first national hospital for veterans: Togus, in Maine, which opened its doors in November of 1866. In 2014, we celebrated the opening of the women’s clinic at Togus in recognition of the fact that more and more women serve our country in uniform.

I am determined to continue those early efforts on behalf of our rural veterans. The recent enactment of the VA Choice and Quality Employment Act of 2017, which I cosponsored with my Maine colleague Senator Angus King, is an important step toward keeping this obligation to our veterans, both urban and rural. As well as providing additional funding for healthcare access in the community, the legislation authorizes 28 leases for VA facilities across the country, including a much-needed CBOC in Portland. The result of this crucial legislation is increased access to quality care for all who have defended our freedom.

Maine has more than more than 125,000 veterans. To put that in perspective, Maine has more veterans per capita than all but two of the other States in the country. We are proud of our State’s contributions to protecting our Nation and of Maine’s impressive record in caring for our veterans.

President Abraham Lincoln signed the legislation establishing a national network of hospitals for Civil War veterans in 1866. The very next day, he concluded his second inaugural address with a commitment “to bind up our nation’s wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle....”

We must uphold that commitment. Our veterans have sacrificed so much for our country. We owe them all that we can do to ensure they receive the best care possible. The veterans and grateful citizens who fought for the Caribou CBOC knew that, and, on this 30th anniversary, we honor their dedication by carrying on their work.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL FREDRICK B. “BEN” HODGES

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to a great leader and an exceptional Army officer, LTG Federick B. “Ben” Hodges who is currently serving as the commanding general of the U.S. Army Europe in Wiesbaden, Germany, as he prepares for his transition and retirement from Active Duty.

LTG Ben Hodges has served our Army and our Nation for more than 35 years. He has been a true professional and a dedicated soldier, leader, and officer. Throughout his career, he has commanded our great soldiers at many levels, he has deployed to combat numerous times in defense of the Nation, and he has been assigned the most critical positions in our Army. Lieutenant General Hodges continues to provide outstanding leadership, advice, and sound professional judgment on numerous critical issues of enduring importance to the Army, Congress, and this Nation.

A native of Quincy, FL, Lieutenant General Hodges graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in May 1980 and was commissioned as a second lieutenant of infantry. After his first assignment in an infantry unit in Germany, he commanded infantry units at the company, battalion, and brigade levels in the 101st Airborne Division and in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom during the initial invasion of Iraq as Bastogne 6, leading the 327th Infantry Regiment.

Throughout his magnificent career, Lieutenant General Hodges has served in a variety of important positions within the U.S. Army, proving over and over again his exceptional leadership and staff skills. These positions include service as a tactics Instructor at the Infantry School, commanding the Supreme Allied Commander Europe, and service as both the deputy chief and then chief of legislative, liaison for the U.S. Army in Washington, D.C.

Lieutenant General Hodges’ assignments as a general officer include deputy commander for stability, Regional Command-South, International Security Assistance Force supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan from August 2009 until October 2010. Before arriving in Germany, Lieutenant General Hodges was the Deputy Commander of the U.S. Army Europe, serving as the first commander of Allied Land Command, Izmir, Turkey, from November 2012 to October 2014.

For the past 3 years, Lieutenant General Hodges has been the commanding general of United States U.S. Army Europe. During this period of extraordinary change and challenge in Europe’s security environment, Lieutenant General Hodges has improved relationships with NATO allies and European partners. Through his leadership, Lieutenant General Hodges has successfully led his command through some of the most complex issues our Army has faced in recent years with unparalleled results. While increasing the transparency of Army operations within Europe, Lieutenant General Hodges has led his command through the rapid growth in the frequency and complexity of multinational training exercises, thus increasing interoperability and strengthening NATO’s commitment to deter potential aggression. The foundations set by Lieutenant General Hodges will allow NATO and our Army to meet every mission requirement in Europe.

On behalf of Congress and the United States of America, I thank LTG Ben Hodges, his wife, Holly, and their entire family for their continued commitment, sacrifice, and contribution to this great Nation. I join my colleagues in wishing him future success in all aspects of life and I am sure that many soldiers will continue to emulate him as a role model for service, sacrifice, and leadership.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING PHYLLIS SCHLAFLY

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, today I am proud to stand to honor Phyllis Schlafly, a woman who was not only an incredible Missourian, but an incredible American. She was a strong conservative, engaged citizen, proud wife and mother, powerful speaker, passionate lawyer, devout Catholic, and good friend of mine. We lost her a year ago, and I take this moment today to recognize the kind of woman and the impact she had on our Nation.

There is no doubt that the name Phyllis Schlafly will be mentioned in the history of conservatism.

Upon Phyllis’s receiving of the Women of Achievement Award in 1963, publisher of St. Louis Globe-Democrat Richard Amberg stated that “Phyllis Schlafly stands for everything that has made America great and for those things which will keep it that way.” Our late President, Ronald Reagan, said to Phyllis Schlafly, “Eagle Forum has set a high standard of volunteer participation in the political and legislative process. . . . You’ve been out front on so many of the most important issues of our time. The work you do is an example to all those who would struggle for an America that is prosperous and free. . . . Our nation needs the kind of dedicated individual volunteer service you and Eagle Forum have demonstrated over the last 20 years.”

Phyllis was born and raised in St. Louis, MO. She attended college at Washington University and received her master of arts degree at Radcliffe College. She married John Fred Schlafly, Jr., in 1949 and had six children. In 1972, Phyllis established Eagle Forum, and her work to strengthen conservative principles flourish from there. Her voice became the conservative conscience of the GOP, and she was never afraid to let me or any other member of the Republican Party know when she felt we were not true to those ideals.

While I wish today to commemorate her upon the anniversary of her death, I would be remiss if I didn’t point out that her passing did not end her life’s work.

Her legacy of strong conservative values continues today through organizations, books, and through the passion
she ignited in fellow conservatives. Whether or not one agrees or disagrees with her points of view, one must acknowledge her crucial part in the history of American politics.

When she began speaking publicly in the 1960s, Phyllis blazed a trail and encouraged women and mothers everywhere to step into American politics and issues of the day. She wasn’t afraid to voice the thoughts she had that others agreed with, yet were too afraid to speak; nor was she afraid to challenge those with whom she disagreed. Phyllis demonstrated to all of us that every voice matters and reminded us that a powerful voice lies not in whoever is talking the loudest but whoever sees potential for change.

Phyllis was a pioneer for women in the world of politics, especially for conservative women, and simultaneously encouraged all Americans to get involved in issues bigger than themselves.

She advocated tirelessly throughout her life and never retired. She was one of the first conservatives to publicly endorse then-candidate Donald Trump. At her 2016 funeral, President Trump said, “Her legacy will live on every time some underdog—outmatched and outgunned—defies the odds and delivers a win for the people.”

Phyllis Schlafly lived a life of dedication and perseverance. She continuously served our Nation through her inspiring encouragement, attitude, and passion for the future. We miss her and thank her for all the work she has done. Today we honor her and her legacy and take a moment to recognize the longstanding impact she has had on our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JERRY C. DAVIS

• Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to Dr. Jerry C. Davis, president of the College of the Ozarks in Point Lookout, MO. Dr. Davis is the recipient of the prestigious E. Burr Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award, given by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, CASE.

The lifetime achievement award honors individuals in higher education who have made a significant and lasting impact in the field of institutional advancement through their professional accomplishments and also honors those who have earned the deep respect and admiration of their professional colleagues.

Dr. Davis is one of the longest sitting college presidents in the entire United States, serving for over 40 years. He became president of Alice Lloyd College in Kentucky in 1977 and served until 1988, when he became president of the College of the Ozarks, where he remains today.

Throughout his tenure as president, he has transformed the College of the Ozarks into a unique higher education institution with an endowment over $500 million. Nearly every student receives debt-free by working at on-campus jobs—a significant achievement at a time when student loans are a major burden for many students and families around the country.

Dr. Davis is also responsible for creating The College of the Ozarks Patriotic Travels Program. This program pairs college students with families around the country to help instill appreciation for the sacrifices of American servicemembers and women by traveling back to the battlefields of our Nation’s wars. To date, over 1,500 students have traveled to Vietnam, Japan, and South Korea with over 150 veterans.

Dr. Davis’s deep love for his country is also reflected by his work to honor those who have sacrificed for our Nation by building memorials on campus. Under Dr. Davis’s leadership, the college built memorials honoring Missouri Vietnam veterans, the heroes of 9/11, and Missouri Gold Star families. In the spring of 2018, the college will dedicate a new memorial honoring the Korean war.

Dr. Davis has received many awards and accolades for both his specific institutions and in the realm of higher education. He has been active at multiple levels of both the Southern and Middle States Conference in addition to the American Association of Colleges and Universities.

In 2015, Dr. Davis and the College of the Ozarks received the National Freeport Award. This award is the highest honor given by the U.S. Department of Defense to employers for support of National Guard and Reserve Employees.

Dr. Davis’s leadership has truly transformed the College of the Ozarks, and there is no doubt why he was selected to receive this lifetime achievement award. I know that the students, faculty, and parents who are all those connected to the College of the Ozarks are grateful for his leadership, as am I. Thank you.

TRIBUTE TO GAIL BATES

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Gail Bates and not only wish her a happy birthday but also reflect on her years of service to the State of New Hampshire and our country.

Gail Bates was born Gail Oberlin in Cleveland, OH, on June 10, 1917 and received a degree from Vassar College in Italian and art history, then was awarded her master’s in social work from Columbia University.

When the United States of America joined the Allies and went to war in 1941, Gail answered her country’s call, serving in the American Red Cross from 1942 to 1946. She trained overseas and worked long hours, supporting aircrews and soldiers from 6 AM to midnight. As a member of the Aero Club, Gail worked to provide food, coffee, music, and other reminders of home to American soldiers stationed so far from our shores.

On D-Day, Gail first heard of the Allied landings in Normandy while eating a breakfast in a London cafe. She would soon join the Allied armies in continental Europe, arriving in Sainte-Mère-Église, France, in July, where she hosted a party for the children of Sainte-Mère-Église, providing a brief respite from war for the first liberated town in France. Following Allied victories in eastern France and Belgium, Gail accompanied General George Patton and his Third Army into Germany and was one of only two women who served in the Red Cross Aero Club in Berlin.

After the war, while working at the American Alpine Association, Gail met and then married Bob Bates, an educator and mountaineer, and they traveled the world together. Both avid mountaineers, they traveled to many remote areas around the world, including the Andes, the Himalayas, and the Karakorum Range. In 1962, Bob was recruited by Sargent Shriver to be director of the Peace Corps. In 1966, Gail accompanied General George Patton to the opening of the Peace Corps in Nepal. Gail and Bob Bates lived together in Kathmandu, where they made many lifelong friends and invited a young Nepali woman, Tsering Yangdon, who is now a member of their extended family, to study at the University of New Hampshire.

As much as the world called to them, however, Bob and Gail never lost their attachment to and love for their local community. They protected historic New Hampshire buildings and preserved our open spaces and beautiful, wild areas of nature. In 1996, Gail established an endowed fund to permanently support the Robert H. Bates Mountaineering Room at Phillips Exeter Academy in the Class of 1945 Library.

Their collection contains many of Bob’s collected mountaineering books and memorabilia.

As Senator for New Hampshire, I want to honor Gail’s lifetime of service and good citizenship. I join with Gail’s friends and family, as well as many, many people across the Granite State, in wishing her a very happy 100th birthday.

TRIBUTE TO SHANE DOAN

• Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to honor a National Hockey League—NHL—legend, an Olympian, and a point of pride for Arizona. After 21 seasons, 1,540 games, and 972 points scored, Shane Doan can now retire his skates with pride. A pillar in the Arizona community and a legend to hockey fans worldwide, Shane has left an indelible mark on the game, inspiring future generations of hockey players.

Shane’s career started in 1992 in the Western Hockey League’s Kamloops Blazers—during which the team won
back-to-back Memorial Cups. The 1995 Memorial Cup secured Shane the Stafford Smythe Memorial Trophy, honoring him as tournament’s Most Valuable Player, MVP. Later that year, Shane was picked up by the NHL as a first-round draft pick with the Winnipeg Jets. Shane excelled with the team, who played him in the Stanley Cup, eventually naming him “Rookie of the Year.”

Shane moved with his team to Phoenix, AZ, where he would remain until the end of the season, the 2016–17 season. Throughout his years as an Arizona Coyote, Shane accomplished many personal awards and franchise records, including selection for the 2006 Canadian Olympic Hockey Team, the King Clancy Trophy in 2009–10, the Mark Messier NHL Leadership Award in 2011–12, and selection for the NHL All-Star Team in 2003–04 and again in 2008–09. In December 2015, Shane secured the franchise record for career goals, at 379 goals, and again in February 2016 for franchise points, at 929 points. Upon his retirement, Shane was the longest serving active captain in the NHL, having lead the Coyotes for 14 years.

As an avid sports fan, I am honored to have had Shane playing for the Arizona Coyotes for 20 years. I have been privileged to get to know Shane over the course of his career and can confidently say that he is a model of leadership and sportsmanship to those around him, both on and off the ice. I join with hockey fans across the world in congratulating Shane on his illustrious career and wish him, his wife, Andrea, and his kids Gracie, Josh, Karys, and Carson all the best as they enter this new chapter of life.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

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

THE FOLLOWING MESSAGES RECEIVED AT 3:32 p.m.:

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:32 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to section 4005(e) of the 21st Century Cures Act (Public Law 114–255), the Majority Leader appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Health Information Technology Advisory Committee: Mr. Arlen Malec of Oakland, California.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1757. A bill to strengthen border security, increase resources for enforcement of immigration laws, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on August 7, 2017, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 114. An act to authorize appropriations and to appropriate amounts for the Veterans Choice Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to improve hiring authorities of the Department, to authorize medical facility leases, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2462. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Beta Cyclodextrin, Methyl Ethers;
Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance” (FRL No. 9963–58) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2463. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Cyclaniliprole; Pesticide Tolerances and Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance” (FRL No. 9963–02) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2464. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval of California Air Plan Revisions, San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District” (FRL No. 9966–59) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2465. A communication from the Senior Official performing the duties of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics), Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the Department of Defense 2017 Major Automated Information System (MAIS) list of cyber threat indicators under the MAIS list of 35 MAIs; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2466. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the export to the People’s Republic of China of items not deterritorial to the U.S. space launch industry; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2467. A communication from the Acting Assistant Director of the Office of Revision Control, Drug Enforcement Agency, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Designation of Alpha-Phenylacetone, Methamphetamine, and Amphetamine, as a List I Controlled Substance” (RIN1117–ZA0) (Docket No. DAA–379) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2017; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–2468. A communication from the Acting Chief Privacy and Civil Liberties Officer, Office of Privacy and Civil Liberties, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Revisions to Test Methods, Performance Specifications, and Testing Regulations for Air Emission Sources: Technical Correction” (RIN3063–QAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2469. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; Connecticut; Infrastructure Requirement for the 2010 Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standard” (FRL No. 9965–02–Region 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2470. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; Kentucky; Infrastructure Requirements for the 2012 PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standard” (FRL No. 9965–20–Region 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2471. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Georgia; New Source Review, and Permitting Updates” (FRL No. 9965–66–Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2472. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval of California Air Plan Revisions, San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District” (FRL No. 9965–36–Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2473. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; Nevada; Regional Haze Progress Report” (FRL No. 9964–74–Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2474. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants: Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming; Negative Declaration” (RIN1117–ZK2) (Docket No. 9965–11–Region 8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2475. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval of the California Air Plan Revisions; San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District” (FRL No. 9966–59) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2476. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, “The Department of General Services Needs Guidance in the Fiscal Year 2017” (RIN1117–ZL7) (Docket No. FEMA–2017–0002) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 3, 2017; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–2477. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, “Approval of California Air Plan Revisions, San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District” (FRL No. 9965–36–Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.


EC–2479. A communication from the Associate General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Deputy Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 9, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2480. A communication from the Associate General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, region 8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 9, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2481. A communication from the Associate General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 9, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2482. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of rear admiral (lower half) in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2483. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of major general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2484. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Joseph P. Aucoin, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.


EC–2486. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of major general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2487. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Suspension of Community Eligibility (Delaware County, IN, Unincorporated Areas)” (44 CFR Part 64) (Docket No. FEMA–2017–0002) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 3, 2017; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2488. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Recordkeeping Requirements for Qualified Financial Contracts” (RIN3064–AE54) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 9, 2017; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2489. A communication from the RegulatoLy Liaison, Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Enforcement, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Repeal of Consolidated Federal Oil
and Gas and Federal and Indian Coal Valuation Reform” (RIN1012-AA20) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 4, 2017; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2490. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation, and Public Works, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedure for Dedicated-Use Gas and Public Works” (FRL No. 9964–18–Region 10) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 4, 2017; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2491. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval of California Air Plan Revisions, Placer County Air Pollution Control District” (FRL No. 9963–34–Region 9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 4, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2492. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Revision to Allegheny County Regulations” (FRL No. 9963–73–Region 4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 4, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2493. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “SC: Revisions to New Source Review Rules” (FRL No. 9963–85–Region 4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 4, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2494. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “NAAQS: Air Plan Approval; Idaho: Logan Municipal Air Quality Reporting Program, Survey Team Composition, and Correction of the Performance Period for the 2010 RCP InFluenza Vaccination Rate Long-Term Care”) (CMS–1672–F) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 4, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2495. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Medicare Program; Prospective Payment System and Consolidated Billing for Skilled Nursing Facilities for Fiscal Year 2018, SNF bundled payments”) (CMS–1675–F) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 4, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2500. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approvals, Idaho: Logan Municipal Air Quality Reporting Program, Survey Team Composition, and Correction of the Performance Period for the 2010 RCP InFluenza Vaccination Rate Long-Term Care”) (CMS–1672–F) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 4, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2501. A communication from the Deputy Director, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Medicare Program; Fiscal Year 2018 Inpatient Psychiatric Facilities Prospective Payment System—Rate Update” (RIN0938–AS97) (CMS–1673–NC) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 4, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2502. A communication from the Correspondence and Regulation Specialist, Committee on Finance, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Medicare Program; Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Prospective Payment System for Federal Fiscal Year 2018” (RIN0938–AS99) (CMS–1671–F) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 4, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2503. A communication from the Correspondence and Regulation Specialist, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Medicare Program; Fiscal Year 2018 Hospice Wage Index and Payment Rate Update and Hospice Quality Reporting Requirements” (RIN0938–AT00) (CMS–1675–FR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 4, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2504. A communication from the Chief of the Office of Counsel, Office of the Treasurer, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Information Reporting Requirements Under a Catastrophic Plan” (Notice 2017–41) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2505. A communication from the Chief of the Exempt Organizations and Governmental Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “One-Year Delay in Implementation of Section 6103(f)” (Notice 2017–36) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 17, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2506. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Extension of the Phase-In Period for the Enforcement and Administration of Section 871(m)” (Notice 2017–42) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2507. A communication from the Deputy Director, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Medicare Program; Hospital Inpatient Prospective Payment Systems for Acute Care Hospitals Fiscal Year 2018, SNF bundled payments”) (CMS–1675–F) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 4, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2508. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Medicare Program; Fiscal Year 2018 Inpatient Psychiatric Facilities Prospective Payment System—Rate Update” (RIN0938–AS97) (CMS–1673–NC) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 4, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2509. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislative, Regulation, and Public Works, Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Teacher Quality Improvement; Teacher Evaluation” (RIN0938–AS97) (CMS–1673–NC) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 4, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2510. A communication from the General Counsel, National Endowment for the Humanities, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to the designation of a group as a Foreign Terrorist Organization by the Secretary of State (OSAS–2017–866); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2511. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Critical Work of the Child Fatality Review Committee Should Build on Recent Reforms”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2512. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office’s final rule on the Reopening of the Physicians’ Comparability Allowance (PCA) program; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

For a copy of the rule, contact the Chair- man of the Committee of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report
Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Promulgation of State Implementation Plan Revisions: Infrastructure Requirements for 2010 SO2 and 2012 PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standards; South Dakota" (FRL No. 9965-05–Region 8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2568. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Delaware: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program (FRL No. 9965-46–Region 1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2569. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Clean Water Act Methods Update Rule for the Analysis of Effluent" (FRL No. 9967-32–Region 4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2571. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Vermont; Regional Haze Five-Year Progress Report" (FRL No. 9966-37–Region 1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2572. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "SC: Standards for Volatile Organic Compounds and Oxides of Nitrogen" (FRL No. 9966-22–Region 4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2573. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; NC; Air Curtain Burners" (FRL No. 9966-24–Region 4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2574. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Non-attainment New Source Review Permit Requirements for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standard" (FRL No. 9966-92–Region 1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2575. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval SC: Multiple Revisions to the South Carolina State Implementation Plan" (FRL No. 9966-20–Region 4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2576. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval SC: Multiple Revisions to the South Carolina State Implementation Plan" (FRL No. 9965-23–Region 4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2577. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval: North Carolina; Transportation Conformity" (FRL No. 9966-31–Region 1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2578. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Alabama; PSD Replacement Units" (FRL No. 9966-47–Region 1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2579. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; AL; VOC Definitions" (FRL No. 9966-39–Region 1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2580. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Iowa; Amendment to the Administrative Consent Order, Grain Quality Assurance Program for Iowa" (FRL No. 9966-59–Region 7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2581. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; SC; Miscellaneous Revisions to Multiple Rules" (FRL No. 9966-34–Region 4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2582. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Community Right-to-Know; Adopting 2017 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Codes for Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Reporting" (RIN2070–AK32) (FRL No. 9964-77) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2583. A communication from the National Permits Coordinator, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii" (RIN1018–AZ69) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 17, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2584. A communication from the Wild- life Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Use of Inedible Bird Parts in Authentic Alaska Native Handicrafts for Sale" (RIN1018–BB24) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 17, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2585. A communication from the Wild- life Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Use of Inedible Bird Parts in Authentic Alaska Native Handicrafts for Sale" (RIN1018–BB24) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 17, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2586. A communication from the Direc- tor of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants from the Portland Cement Manufacturing Industry: Alternative Monitoring Method" (FRL No. 9966-64–OAR) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 17, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2587. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Healthcare Payment and Access; Final Disparities Report"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2589. A communication from the Assis- tant Secretary, Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Teacher Preparation Issues" (RIN1840–AD07) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 17, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2590. A communication from the Chair- man of the Council of the District of Colum- bia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 22–123, "Childhood Lead Exposure Prevention Amendment Act of 2017"; to
the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–2591. A communication from the Chair-
man of the Council of the District of Colum-
bia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 22–126, “Duvall Court Designa-
tion Act of 2017”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Af-
fairs.

EC–2592. A communication from the Chair-
man of the Council of the District of Colum-
bia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 22–139, “Brishell Jones Way Des-
ignation Act of 2017”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Af-
fairs.

EC–2593. A communication from the Chair-
man of the Council of the District of Colum-
bia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 22–140, “McGill Alley Designa-
tion Act of 2017”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Af-
fairs.

EC–2594. A communication from the Chair-
man of the Council of the District of Colum-
bia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 22–128, “Ehoben Court Designa-
tion Act of 2017”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Af-
fairs.

EC–2595. A communication from the Chair-
man of the Council of the District of Colum-
bia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 22–137, “Glick Court Designa-
tion Act of 2017”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Af-
fairs.

EC–2596. A communication from the Chair-
man of the Council of the District of Colum-
bia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 22–141, “Duvall Court Designa-
tion Act of 2017”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Af-
fairs.

EC–2597. A communication from the Dis-
trict of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pur-
suant to law, a report entitled, “Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report on Advisory Neighborhood Commissions”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–2598. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel, General Law, Ethics, and Regulation, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–2599. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel, General Law, Ethics, and Regulation, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–2600. A communication from the Execu-
tive Secretary, U.S. Agency for Interna-
tional Development (USAID), a report rel-
ative to a vacancy in the position of Assis-
tant Administrator, Bureau of Legislative and Public Affairs, U.S. Agency for Interna-
tional Development (USAID), received during adjournment of the Senate in the Of-

ICE of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Foreign Rela-
tions.

EC–2601. A communication from the Execu-
tive Secretary, U.S. Agency for Interna-
tional Development (USAID), a report rel-
ative to a vacancy in the position of Assis-
tant Administrator, Bureau of Legislative and Public Affairs, U.S. Agency for Interna-
tional Development (USAID), received during adjournment of the Senate in the Of-

ICE of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Foreign Rela-
tions.

EC–2602. A communication from the Execu-
tive Secretary, U.S. Agency for Interna-
tional Development (USAID), a report rel-
ative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Global Health, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2603. A communication from the Execu-
tive Secretary, U.S. Agency for Interna-
tional Development (USAID), a report rel-
ative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Global Health, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2604. A communication from the Execu-
tive Secretary, U.S. Agency for Interna-
tional Development (USAID), a report rel-
ative to a vacancy in the position of Deputy Administrator, Bureau for Global Health, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2605. A communication from the Execu-
tive Secretary, U.S. Agency for Interna-
tional Development (USAID), a report rel-
ative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2606. A communication from the Execu-
tive Secretary, U.S. Agency for Interna-
tional Development (USAID), a report rel-
ative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2607. A communication from the Execu-
tive Secretary, U.S. Agency for Interna-
tional Development (USAID), a report rel-
ative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2608. A communication from the Execu-
tive Secretary, U.S. Agency for Interna-
tional Development (USAID), a report rel-
ative to a vacancy in the position of Deputy Administrator, U.S. Agency for Interna-
tional Development (USAID), received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2609. A communication from the Execu-
tive Secretary, U.S. Agency for Interna-
tional Development (USAID), a report rel-
ative to a vacancy in the position of Admin-
istrator, U.S. Agency for International De-
velopment (USAID), received during adjourn-
ment of the Senate in the Office of the Presi-
dent of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2610. A communication from the Execu-
tive Secretary, U.S. Agency for Interna-
tional Development (USAID), a report rel-
ative to a vacancy in the position of Admin-
istrator, U.S. Agency for International De-
velopment (USAID), received during adjourn-
ment of the Senate in the Office of the Presi-
dent of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2611. A communication from the Assist-
ant Secretary for Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, two (2) reports entitled “Indian Dam Safety” and “Irrigation”; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC–2612. A communication from the Bu-
deo of Legislative Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule entitled “Visas: Documentation of Nonimmigrants Under the Immigration and Nationality Act, as Amended” (RIN1605–AD0) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 14, 2017; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–2613. A communication from the Ad-
mnistrator of the Federal Aviation Admin-
istration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report rel-
ative to the foreign aviation authorities to which the Administration provided services during fiscal year 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2614. A communication from the Man-
gagement and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthi-
ness Directives; Airspace Airplanes” ((RIN2120– AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2016–9593)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2615. A communication from the Man-
gagement and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthi-
ness Directives; Airbus Airplanes” ((RIN2120– AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2016–9572)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2616. A communication from the Man-
gagement and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthi-
ness Directives; Airbus Airplanes” ((RIN2120– AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2016–9508)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2617. A communication from the Man-
gagement and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthi-
ness Directives; Boeing Company Air-
planes” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2016–9567)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2618. A communication from the Man-
gagement and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthi-
ness Directives; Boeing Company Air-
planes” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2016–9516)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2619. A communication from the Man-
gagement and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthi-
ness Directives; The Boeing Company Air-
planes” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2016–9501)) received during adjournment of
the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

**EC-2620.** A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes” (RIN 2120-AA64 (Docket No. FAA–2016–6968)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

**EC-2621.** A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes” (RIN 2120-AA64 (Docket No. FAA–2016–6968)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

**EC-2622.** A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation Helicopters” (RIN 2120-AA64 (Docket No. FAA–2016–6968)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

**EC-2623.** A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation Helicopters (Type Certificate Previously Held by Schweizer Aircraft Corporation)” (RIN 2120-AA64 (Docket No. FAA–2016–6968)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

**EC-2624.** A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation Helicopters (Type Certificate Previously Held by Schweizer Aircraft Corporation)” (RIN 2120-AA64 (Docket No. FAA–2016–6968)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

**EC-2625.** A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Services B.V. Airplanes” (RIN 2120-AA64 (Docket No. FAA–2016–6968)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

**EC-2626.** A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes” (RIN 2120-AA64 (Docket No. FAA–2017–0969)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

**EC-2627.** A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Bell Helicopter Textron, Inc. (Bell) Helicopters” (RIN 2120-AA64 (Docket No. FAA–2017–0761)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

**EC-2628.** A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Bell Helicopter Textron, Inc. (Bell) Helicopters” (RIN 2120-AA64 (Docket No. FAA–2017–0761)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

**EC-2629.** A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; CFM International S.A. Turboshaft Engines” (RIN 2120-AA64 (Docket No. FAA–2016–6968)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

**EC-2630.** A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; International Aero Engines AG Turboshaft Engines” (RIN 2120-AA64 (Docket No. FAA–2016–6968)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

**EC-2631.** A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minima and Obstacle Departure Proced- ures; Miscellaneous Amendments (70); Amdt. No. 3753” (RIN 2120-AA65 (Docket No. FAA–2017–0157)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

**EC-2632.** A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minima and Obstacle Departure Proced- ures; Miscellaneous Amendments (199); Amdt. No. 3753” (RIN 2120-AA65 (Docket No. FAA–2017–0157)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

**EC-2633.** A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Disaggregation Rules and Policies for Certain Wireless Radio Services” (WT Docket EC–2623). A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Albany, GA” (RIN 2120-AA66 (Docket No. FAA–2016–9480)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

**EC-2634.** A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Fayetteville, TN” (RIN 2120-AA66 (Docket No. FAA–2017–0870)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

**EC-2635.** A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Medford, OR” (RIN 2120-AA66 (Docket No. FAA–2017–0195)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

**EC-2636.** A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Asbury, GA” (RIN 2120-AA66 (Docket No. FAA–2013–0422)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

**EC-2637.** A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class D and E Airspace for the following Texas Towns; Sherman, TX; and Temple, TX, and Establishment of Class E Airspace at Temple, TX” (RIN 2120-AA66 (Docket No. FAA–2016–9544)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

**EC-2640.** A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Parts 1, 22, 24, 27, 74, 80, 90, 95, and 101 To Establish Uniform License Renewal, Discontinuance of Operation, and Ge- neral Spectrum Disaggregation Rules and Policies for Certain Wireless Radio Services” (WT Docket...
transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Medical Device Classification Procedures; Change of Address; Technical Amendment’’ (Docket No. FDA–2013–N–1529) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 24, 2017; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–2652. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Food Additives Permitted in Feed and Drinking Water of Animals; Gamma-Linolenic Acid Safflower Oil’’ ((BFR Part 580–2017–P–0949)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2017; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–2653. A communication from the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, an amendment to a certification, of the proposed sale or export of defense articles and/or defense services to a Middle East country (OSS–2017–0909); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2654. A communication from the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, an amendment to a certification, of the proposed sale or export of defense articles and/or defense services to a Middle East country (OSS–2017–0909); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2655. A communication from the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, an amendment to a certification, of the proposed sale or export of defense articles and/or defense services to a Middle East country (OSS–2017–0909); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2656. A communication from the Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report to Congress on the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program and the National Cord Blood Inventory Program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–2657. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ‘‘Fiscal Year 2016 Report on the Preventive Medicine, Health Training Grant and Integrative Medicine Programs’’; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–2658. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ‘‘Schedule for Rating Disabilities; Dental and Oral Conditions’’ (RIN2969–AP08) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2017; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

EC–2659. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ‘‘Schedule for Rating Disabilities; Dental and Oral Conditions’’ (RIN2969–AP08) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2017; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

EC–2660. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Schedule for Rating Disabilities; Dental and Oral Conditions’’ (RIN2969–AP08) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2017; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

EC–2661. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Foreign Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Schedule for Rating Disabilities; Dental and Oral Conditions’’ (RIN2969–AP08) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2017; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

EC–2662. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Schedule for Rating Disabilities; Dental and Oral Conditions’’ (RIN2969–AP08) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2017; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–2663. A communication from the Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, an amendment to a certification, of the proposed sale or export of defense articles and/or defense services to a Middle East country (OSS–2017–0909); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2664. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Foreign Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Schedule for Rating Disabilities; Dental and Oral Conditions’’ (RIN2969–AP08) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2017; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

EC–2665. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Schedule for Rating Disabilities; Dental and Oral Conditions’’ (RIN2969–AP08) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2017; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

EC–2666. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Safety Zone; Port Huron Float-Down, St. Clair River, Port Huron, MI’’ (RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2017–0737)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2667. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Safety Zone; Lake Owego, OR’’ (RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2017–0776)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2668. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Safety Zone; Port Huron Float-Down, St. Clair River, Port Huron, MI’’ (RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2017–0735) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2669. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Safety Zone; Port Huron Float-Down, St. Clair River, Port Huron, MI’’ (RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2017–0735) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
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(Docket No. USCG–2017–0690) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2017, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2669. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Safety Zone: Great Lakes—Regulated Navigation Areas and Safety Zones’’ ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2017–0690)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2017, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2671. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Safety Zone: Demolition of SC–41 Bridge, Wando River, Charleston, SC’’ ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2017–0348)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2017, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2673. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Safety Zone: Stampede TLP, Green Canyon Block 648, Outer Continental Shelf on the Gulf of Mexico’’ ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2017–0119)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2017, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2674. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Special Local Regulation; Choptank River, Cambridge, MD’’ ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2017–0051)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2017, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2675. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Special Local Regulation; Mobile River, Mobile, AL’’ ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2017–0110)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2017, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2676. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Special Local Regulation; Islamorada Grand Prix of the Seas, Islamorada, FL’’ ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2017–0556)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2017, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2677. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Special Local Regulation; Potomac River, National Harbor, MD’’ ((Docket No. USCG–2017–0554)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2017, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2678. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, New Smyrna Beach, FL’’ ((RIN1625–AA09) (Docket No. USCG–2017–0205)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2017, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2679. A communication from the Acting Chairman of the Commission on Proceedings, Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Regulations Governing Intracoastal Waterways Performed in Connection with Licensing and Related Services—2017 Update’’ ((Docket No. EP 542)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2017, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.


EC–2681. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Connect America Fund: ETC Annual Reports and Certifications’’ ((FCC 17–78) (WC Docket No. 10–90 and WC Docket No. 14–58)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2017, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2682. A communication from the Assistant Bureau Chief for Management, International Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Implementation of 25.281(b) Transmitter Identification Requirements for Video Uplink Transmitters’’ ((Docket No. CC2017–12–267)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2017, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2683. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Policy and Rules Division, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘‘Amendment of Parts 1, 2, 15, 90, and 121 of the Commission’s Rules to Permit Radar Services in the 76–81 GHz Band’’ ((FCC 17–94) (ET Docket No. 15–25)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2017, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2684. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary/Administrator, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2017, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2685. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary/Administrator, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2017, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of August 3, 2017, the following reports of committees were submitted on August 18, 2017:

By Mr BURR, from the Select Committee on Intelligence, without amendment:

S. 176. A bill to amend the PROTECT Act to make Indian tribes eligible for AMBER Alert grants (Rept. No. 115–147).

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr HEOVEN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

S. 772. A bill to amend the PROTECT Act to make Indian tribes eligible for AMBER Alert grants (Rept. No. 115–147).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted on August 3, 2017:

By Ms MURKOWSKI for the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

*Brenda Burman, of Arizona, to be Commissioner of Reclamation.

*Douglas W. Domenech, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

*Susan Combs, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

*Paul Dabbar, of New York, to be Under Secretary for Science, Department of Energy.

*Mark Wesley Menezes, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Energy.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee’s commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)
INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS DURING ADJOURNMENT

On August 18, 2017, under the authority of the order of the Senate of August 3, 2017, the following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BURR:

S. 1761. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes; from the Select Committee on Intelligence; placed on the calendar.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. TESTER:

S. 1762. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to clarify when certain academic assessments shall be administered; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. PEYTON:

S. 1763. A bill for the relief of Maria Guadalupe Mendoza Sanchez, Eusebio Sanchez Mejia, and Vianney Escolasti Mendoza, to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. PAUL, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. LEE, Mr. FRANKEN, and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 1764. A bill to extend the principle of federalism to State drug policy, provide access to medical marijuana, and enable research into the medicinal properties of marijuana; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 199

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 109, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of pharmacist services.

S. 170

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 170, a bill to provide for non-preemption of measures by State and local governments to divest from entities that engage in commerce-related or investment-related boycott, divestment, or sanctions activities targeting Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 206

At the request of Mr. KANE, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 206, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to allow the Secretary of Education to award job training Federal Pell Grants.

S. 377

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 337, a bill to provide paid family and medical leave benefits to certain individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 379

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. NYE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 379, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the five month waiting period for disability insurance benefits under such title for individuals with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

S. 397

At the request of Mr. ISAACSON, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 397, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure fairness in Medicare hospital payments by establishing a floor for the area wage index applied with respect to certain hospitals.

S. 425

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 425, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve the historic rehabilitation tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 430

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 430, a bill to provide for compliance enforcement regarding Russian violations of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, and for other purposes.

S. 431

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 431, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand the use of telehealth for individuals with stroke.

S. 526

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PORTENS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 526, a bill to amend the Small Business Act to provide for expanded participation in the microloan program, and for other purposes.

S. 537

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 537, a bill to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration.

S. 611

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) was added as a cosponsor of S. 611, a bill to amend the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to meet the needs of homeless children, youth, and families, and honor the assessments and priorities of local communities.

S. 693

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senators from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) were added as cosponsors of S. 693, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the number of permanent faculty in palliative care at accredited allopathic and osteopathic medical schools, nursing schools, social work schools, and other programs, including physician assistant education programs, to promote education and research in palliative care and hospice, and to support the development of faculty careers in academic palliative medicine.

S. 705

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 705, a bill to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to S. 808, a bill to provide protections for certain sports medicine professionals who provide certain medical services in a secondary State.

S. 811

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 811, a bill to ensure that organizations with religious or moral convictions are allowed to continue to provide services for children.

S. 816

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 816, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow rollovers from 529 programs to ABLE accounts.

S. 817

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 817, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the age requirement with respect to eligibility for qualified ABLE programs.

S. 838

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 818, a bill to amend the...
Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow individuals with disabilities who need long-term services and supports, and for other purposes.

S. 1292
At the request of Mr. Rubio, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. Menendez) was added as a co-sponsor of S. 1292, a bill to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to monitor and combat anti-Semitism globally, and for other purposes.

S. 1437
At the request of Mrs. Gillibrand, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. Warren) was added as a co-sponsor of S. 1437, a bill to modernize voter registration, promote access to voting for individuals with disabilities, protect the ability of individuals to exercise the right to vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes.

S. 1538
At the request of Mr. Peters, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. Gillibrand) was added as a co-sponsor of S. 1538, a bill to amend the Small Business Act to establish awareness of, and technical assistance for, the creation of employee stock ownership plans, and for other purposes.

S. 1568
At the request of Mr. Markey, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. Wyden), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Cardin), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. Schatz), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. Sanders), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. Coons), the Senator from New York (Mrs. Gillibrand), the Senator from California (Mrs. Feinstein), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. Hirono), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Van Hollen) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. Whitehouse) were added as co-sponsors of S. 1568, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of President John F. Kennedy.

S. 1580
At the request of Mr. Duckworth, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. Durbin) was added as a co-sponsor of S. 1050, a bill to amend a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the Chinese-American Veterans of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated service during World War II.

S. 1308
At the request of Ms. Duckworth, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. Durbin) was added as a co-sponsor of S. 1050, a bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson of the rule submitted by Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection relating to “Arbitration Agreements”.

S. RES. 47
At the request of Mr. Crapo, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. Crapo) was added as a co-sponsor of S. 1752, a bill to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to expedite wildfire prevention projects to reduce the risk of wildfire on certain high-risk Federal land, and for other purposes.

S. 1718
At the request of Mr. Nelson, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. King) was added as a co-sponsor of S. 1718, a bill to authorize the minting of a coin in honor of the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II, and for other purposes.

S. 1676
At the request of Ms. Stabenow, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. Blumenthal) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Cardin) were added as co-sponsors of S. 1742, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an option for any citizen or permanent resident of the United States age 55 to 64 to buy into Medicare.

S. 1589
At the request of Mr. Heller, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. Crapo) was added as a co-sponsor of S. 1752, a bill to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to expedite wildfire prevention projects to reduce the risk of wildfire on certain high-risk Federal land, and for other purposes.

S. 1732
At the request of Mr. Johnson, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. Baldwin) was added as a co-sponsor of S. Res. 154, a resolution promoting awareness of motorcycle profiling and encouraging collaboration and communication with the motorcycle community and law enforcement officials to prevent instances of profiling.
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AMENDMENT NO. 522

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 522 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Energy, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 523

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a co-sponsor of amendment No. 523 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 526

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 526 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 527

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 527 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 528

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 528 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 529

At the request of Ms. WARRREN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 529 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 677

At the request of Mr. WARRREN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 677 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

STATMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 1763 A bill for the relief of Maria Guadalupe Mendoza Sanchez, Eusebio Sanchez Mejia, and Vianney Esbeydi Sanchez Melin; and to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, today I offer private immigration relief legislation to provide an immigrant visa or lawful permanent resident status to Maria Mendoza Sanchez, Eusebio Sanchez, and Vianney Sanchez. The family represents the essence of the American dream. I believe they merit Congress’ special consideration for this relief.

In August 2014, my office assisted Maria and Eusebio with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) during their request for a stay of removal. Under the Obama administration, ICE found that their case was worthy of a favorable exercise of discretion. This was an acknowledgement that they posed no public safety risk, had no criminal records, and therefore should not be priorities for deportation.

Despite this, in 2017, the Trump administration, told Maria and Eusebio that they were no longer eligible for a stay of removal and that they should prepare for deportation. Maria and Eusebio pled with ICE to reconsider this sudden policy and I supported their request—believing it would be senseless and callous to remove them from our Country. However, all possible avenues to delay their deportation were denied by immigration officials.

In August 2017, after living productive lives in this Country for 23 years, Maria and Eusebio were deported back to Mexico. Their deportation was truly heartbreaking for me, their family, and their community. I met Maria and Eusebio and can attest that they are the kind of people we should welcome into the United States with open arms. They are hardworking, law-abiding people who have been self-supporting, have paid their taxes, and owned a home in East Oakland.

Prior to her deportation, Maria worked as a registered nurse in a local hospital in Oakland, CA. She provided care to patients afflicted with conditions such as heart disease, cancer. Her supervisor said that her “genuine compassion, appreciation for her work, and deep knowledge of nursing practices made her an excellent addition to [our hospital].” Another letter of support said that Maria “is a great asset to our hospital, community, and country. She is the epitome of what Americans should be.” Maria’s bilingual skills made her a strategic asset in assisting patients at work, which serves uninsured, underserved, and low-income populations. Deportation is a great loss to many of the patients that relied on her critical assistance as they went through medical treatment.

Similar to Maria, Eusebio was a hardworking contributor to their community. He was a truck driver for a San Francisco-based company, and his employer has described him as “very reliable, trustworthy, [a] team player, and exceptional worker.” His friends describe him as someone who “is a good person, responsible at work, willing to help when we need assistance.”

Together, Eusebio and Maria have raised four children—three of whom are U.S. citizens. Their oldest daughter, Vianney, age 23, has protection under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, DACA, program. She graduated from the University of California at Santa Cruz with a degree in psychobiology. She has been pursuing her education to work in public service and help her community. She is passionate about doing work that allows her to focus on improving the lives of residents of Oakland and the Bay Area.

As a result of Maria and Eusebio’s deportation, Vianney will be assuming responsibility of her two younger sisters. I believe that Vianney’s determination to make sure her sisters are properly cared for, after dealing with the crushing experience of being separated from her parents, is a testament to her remarkable strength and resilience, and a sign of the kind of values instilled in her by her now deported parents.

The Sanchez’s second daughter, Melin, age 21, is a U.S. citizen. She is currently enrolled at the University of California at Santa Cruz, where she is studying molecular cell and developmental biology. She dreams of becoming a pediatrician. Maria and Eusebio paid her college tuition and supported her as she studied for the MCAT and volunteered at a hospital. Their deportation leaves Melin’s college tuition in peril.

The Sanchez’s third daughter, Elizabeth, age 16, is a U.S. citizen and is currently enrolled at the NEA Community Learning Center in Alameda. Elizabeth was diagnosed with speech delay and learning disabilities at a young age, but with the support of her parents, was able to make great progress and is doing well in school. She needs the support of her parents and continuing to separate her from them will significantly affect her ability to pursue her dreams.

The Sanchez’s son, Jesus, age 12, is a U.S. citizen. He was born with a congenital heart disease, which requires continued medical care. The family has accompanied his parents on their return to Mexico. Maria and Eusebio’s deportation will have an extraordinary impact on Jesus. He can no longer continue his education in the U.S., the only country he has ever known. Additionally, Jesus obtained health insurance coverage for his medical condition through his parents. As a result of their deportation, he will lose access to medical care.

Maria, Eusebio, and Vianney have become respected members of their community in California. This is exemplified in the overwhelming support they received to shield them from deportation. Separating the family from what our country stands for. Maria and Eusebio want nothing more than to continue to provide for their children and continue contributing to this great country they called home. Their deportation has greatly affected their ability to do so.

I believe that Maria and Eusebio’s deportation has been a tremendous loss.
for their children and community. In addition, I believe Vianney needs further protection. This family warrants our compassion, and I will keep fighting for them. I ask my colleagues to support this private bill.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 774. Ms. BALDWIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 775. Ms. KLOBUCHAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 776. Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. PAUL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 777. Mr. HINCHIK (for himself and Mr. UNDALL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 778. Mr. HINCHIK (for himself and Mr. UNDALL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 779. Mr. GARDNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 780. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 781. Mr. TILLIS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 782. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 783. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 784. Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. TRENCH, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 785. Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. TRENCH, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 786. Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. GRASSLEY) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1107, to authorize the appointment of additional bankruptcy judges, and for other purposes.

SA 787. Mr. DAINEIS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 774. Ms. BALDWIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

SEC. REPORT ON THE GLOBAL FOOD SYSTEM AND VULNERABILITIES RELEVANT TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE MISSIONS.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall, in consultation with the heads of such components of the Department of Defense as the Secretary considers appropriate, submit to the congressional defense committees an assessment of Department of Defense policies and operational plans for addressing the national security implications of global food system vulnerabilities.

(b) CONTENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include, at a minimum, the following:

(1) An evaluation of vulnerabilities in the global food system that may affect the national security of the United States and the Department of Defense, including planning scenarios, operational plans, theater cooperation plans, and other relevant planning documents and procedures, account for food system vulnerabilities as precursors to and tools for state conflicts, civil wars, insurgencies, or terrorism.

(2) A characterization of how Department of Defense strategy, policies, and plans, including the Unified Command Plan, defense planning scenarios, operational plans, theater cooperation plans, and other relevant planning documents and procedures, account for food system vulnerabilities as precursors to and tools for state conflicts, civil wars, insurgencies, or terrorism.

(3) An evaluation of United States interests, including the interests of allies and strategic partners, and potential United States military operations, including thresholds for ordering such operations, in regions where food system instability represents an urgent and growing threat, including due to the presence of destabilizing non-state actors who may weaponize access to food.

(4) An identification of opportunities to initiate or further develop cooperative military to military relationships to build partner capacity to avoid, minimize, or control global and regional food system shocks.

SA 775. Ms. KLOBUCHAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

SA 776. Mr. HINCHIK (for himself and Mr. UNDALL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title I, add the following:

SEC. FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION FOR PROCUREMENT OF GROUND MOBILITY VEHICLE OF THE ARMY.

The Secretary of the Army shall initiate a full and open competition during fiscal year 2018 for the procurement of the initially available off-the-shelf Ground Mobility Vehicle that meets Army Airborne Infantry Brigade Combat Team requirements.

SA 776. Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. PAUL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title XV, add the following:

SEC. REPORT ON BUDGET REQUESTS FOR FUNDING FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FOR OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) In a January 18, 2017 report issued by the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) on the Department of Defense’s Overseas Contingency Operations, the GAO found that the criteria developed in 2010 by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in collaboration with the Department of Defense (DoD) for determining whether items belonged in the base budget or in OCO were outdated.

(2) The GAO also found that these outdated criteria did not address the full scope of activities included in DoD’s fiscal year 2017 OCO budget request.

(3) According to the GAO, DoD officials agree that updated guidance is not needed but noted that OMB deferred the decision to update criteria until the new administration was in place in 2017.

(4) The GAO also found that, without re-evaluating and revising the criteria, decision makers may be hindered in their ability to set priorities and make funding trade-offs.

(5) In response to these findings, the GAO recommends that OMB, in collaboration with the Congress, update and administer criteria for determining what can be included in OMB’s OCO budget requests; and that OMB develop a complete and reliable estimate of enduring OCO costs to report in future budget requests.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than December 31, 2017, the Secretary of Defense shall, with the concurrence of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, submit to the congressional defense committees a report setting forth the following:

(1) The criteria used by the Department of Defense to determine whether funds requested for the Department for a fiscal year for purposes of the budget of the President for the fiscal year (as submitted to Congress pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code) are to be requested as funds for the Department for programs, activities, and operations for the fiscal year for overseas contingency operations.

(2) A current estimate of the recurring annual costs of the Department for programs, activities, and operations for overseas contingency operations.
to the bill H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of section 3101, add the following:

(c) MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITY TO CARRY OUT ALBUQUERQUE COMPLEX UPGRADES CONSTRUCTION PROJECT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator for Nuclear Security may enter into an incrementally funded contract for Project 16-D-515, the Albuquerque Complex upgrades construction project, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

(2) LIMITATION.—The total cost for the Albuquerque Complex upgrades construction project may not exceed $174,700,000.

(3) FUNDING OF INCREMENTS.—

(A) INCREMENT 1.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 3101 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328; 130 Stat. 2754) for fiscal year 2017 and available for Project 16-D-515 as specified in the funding table in section 4701 of that Act (Public Law 114–328; 130 Stat. 2890) shall be deemed to be an amount authorized to be appropriated for increments 1 of the Albuquerque Complex upgrades construction project.

(B) INCREMENT 2.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by this section for fiscal year 2018 and available for Project 16-D-515 as specified in the funding table in section 4701 of this Act shall be available for increments 2 of the Albuquerque Complex upgrades construction project.

SA 778. Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. UDALL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

SEC. 3116. PLUTONIUM CAPABILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator for Nuclear Security shall submit to the congressional defense committees and the Secretary of Defense a report on the recommended alternative endorsed by the Administrator for recapitalization of plutonium science and production capabilities of the Nuclear Security enterprise. The report shall identify the recommended alternative endorsed by the Administrator and contain the analysis of alternatives, including costs, the Administrator relied in making such endorsement.

(b) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which the Secretary of Defense—

(1) submits to the Secretary of Defense and the Nuclear Weapons Council and meets the requirements of the Secretary for plutonium pit production capacity and capability;

(2) is likely to meet the pit production timelines and milestones required by section 4219 of the Atomic Energy Defense Act (10 U.S.C. 2538a); and

(3) is likely to meet pit production timelines and requirements responsive to military requirements;

(b) PROHIBITION ON CONTRACTS.—The Secretary of Defense may not enter into a contract with a covered contractor on the list described under subsection (a).

(c) REMOVAL FROM LIST.—Any covered contractor may submit a request to the Director to have such contractor in such list determined appropriate. Upon certification of the request, the Director shall remove the covered contractor from the list.

(d) Program Evaluation of the Department of Energy in the business case analysis of plutonium pit production capability issued in 2013; and

(2) the Administrator has—

(A) documented the assumptions and constraints used in the analysis of alternatives described in subsection (a); and

(B) tested and documented the sensitivity of the cost estimates for each alternative to key risks and changes in key assumptions.

(e) ASSESSMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall develop a list of covered contractors, to be updated as frequently as necessary.

(2) the accuracy of such alternatives; and

(3) the Administrator has—

(A) documented the assumptions and constraints used in the analysis of alternatives described in subsection (a) and the alternatives described in subsection (a).

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with respect to contracts of a covered contractor entered into on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 780. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. 3116. INCREASED TERM LIMIT FOR INTERGOVERNMENTAL SUPPORT AGREEMENTS TO PROVIDE INSTALLATION SUPPORT SERVICES.

Section 2679(a)(2)(A) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking “five years” and inserting “ten years.”

SA 781. Mr. TILLIS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subsection A of title XXXI, add the following:

(b) PROHIBITION ON CONTRACTS.—The Secretary of Defense may not enter into a contract with a covered contractor on the list described under subsection (a).

(c) REMOVAL FROM LIST.—Any covered contractor may submit a request to the Director to have such contractor in such list determined appropriate. Upon certification of the request, the Director shall remove the covered contractor from the list.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act, and shall apply with respect to promotion selection boards convened on or after that date.
for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

SA 783. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:


There is appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to the Temporary Office of Bankruptcy Judges Authorized by the Bankruptcy Judges Act of 2017—

(b) For purposes of applying sections 1225(a)(4), 1228(b)(2), and 1228(b)(1) to a claim described in subsection (a) of this section, the amount that would be paid on such claim if the debtor's discharge were denied in a case under chapter 7 of this title shall be the amount that would be paid by the estate in a chapter 7 case if the claim were an unsecured claim arising before the date on which the petition was filed and were not entitled to priority under section 507.

(c) For purposes of applying sections 522(a), 1228(a)(2), and 1228(c)(2) to a claim described in subsection (a) of this section, the claim shall not be treated as a claim of a kind specified in subparagraph (A) or (B) of section 522(a)(1).

(4)(ii) A governmental unit may file a proof of claim for a claim described in subsection (a) that arises after the date on which the petition is filed.

(ii) If a debtor files a tax return after the filing of the petition for a period in which a claim described in subsection (a) arises, and the claim relates to the tax return, the debtor or trustee shall serve notice of the claim on the governmental unit charged with the responsibility for the collection of the tax at the address and in the manner designated in section 505(b)(1). Notice under this paragraph shall specify that the holder of the claim under this chapter, state the name and location of the court in which the case under this chapter is pending, state the amount of the claim, and include a copy of the filed tax return and documentation supporting the calculation of the claim.

(3) If notice of a claim has been served on the governmental unit in accordance with paragraph (2), the governmental unit may file a proof of claim not later than 180 days after the date on which such notice was served. If the governmental unit has not filed a timely proof of claim, the debtor or trustee may file a proof of the claim that is consistent with the notice served under paragraph (2). If a proof of claim is filed by the debtor or trustee under this paragraph, the governmental unit may not amend the proof of claim.

(4) A claim filed under this subsection shall be determined and shall be allowed under subsection (a), (b), or (c) of section 502, or disallowed under subsection (d) or (e) of section 502, in the same manner as if the claim had arisen immediately before the date of the filing of the petition.

SEC. 5. CLARIFICATION OF RULE ALLOWING DISCHARGE TO GOVERNMENTAL CLAIMS ARISING FROM THE DISPOSITION OF FARM ASSETS UNDER CHAPTER 12 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE

(a) In general. Subchapter II of chapter 12 of title 11, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “(I) in paragraph (2), by striking “unless” and inserting “unless the holder”;

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking “and” at the end;

(3) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(b) For purposes of applying sections 1225(a)(4), 1228(b)(2), and 1228(b)(1) to a claim described in subsection (a) of this section, the amount that would be paid on such claim if the debtor's discharge were denied in a case under chapter 7 of this title shall be the amount that would be paid by the estate in a chapter 7 case if the claim were an unsecured claim arising before the date on which the petition was filed and were not entitled to priority under section 507.

(ii) shall not be entitled to priority under section 507.

(iii) shall be provided for under a plan; and

(iv) shall be discharged in accordance with section 1228.
FOREIGN TRAVEL FINANCIAL REPORTS

In accordance with the appropriate provisions of law, the Secretary of the Senate herewith submits the following reports for standing committees of the Senate, certain joint committees of the Congress, delegations and groups, and select and special committees of the Senate, relating to expenses incurred in the performance of authorized foreign travel:

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*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 501(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.
### Consolidated Report of Expenditure of Funds for Foreign Travel by Members and Employees of the U.S. Senate, Under Authority of SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), Committee on Armed Services for Travel from Apr. 1 to June 30, 2017

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### CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22

#### U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2017—Continued

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*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

**Senator John Thune,**
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, Aug. 2, 2017.

### CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22

#### U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2017

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**Chairman, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation,**

**Senator John Thune,**

### CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22

#### U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2017

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*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

**Senator Lisa Murkowski,**
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, June 28, 2017.

### CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22

#### U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FINANCE FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2017

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*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

**Senator Lisa Murkowski,**
Chairman, Committee on Finance, June 28, 2017.

**Senator John Thune,**
Chairman, Committee on Finance, July 27, 2017.
### Delegation Expenses

*Delegation Expenses include Embassy Overtime, Security, Transportation, as well as official expenses in accordance with the responsibilities of the host country.*

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- **U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2017—Continued**

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### Delegation Expenses: *

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*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

**U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2017**

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**SENATOR BOB CORNER, Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, July 26, 2017.**

### Consolidated Report of Expenditure of Funds for Foreign Travel by Members and Employees of the U.S. Senate, Under Authority of Sec. 22, P.L. 95–384—22

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*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

**SENATOR RON JOHNSON, Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, July 22, 2017.**

### Consolidated Report of Expenditure of Funds for Foreign Travel by Members and Employees of the U.S. Senate, Under Authority of Sec. 22, P.L. 95–384—22

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*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

**SENATOR JAMES E. RISCH, Chairman, Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, July 26, 2017.**
### Delegation Expenses

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**Note:** Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1997.
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Total: 150,603.32

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1978.

SENATOR ROGER WICKER,

CONsolidated Report of Expenditure of Funds for Foreign Travel By Members and Employees of the U.S. Senate, Under Authority of Sec. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), international narcotics Control Caucus for Travel from Apr. 1 to June 30, 2017

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<th>Name and country</th>
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SENATOR CHUCK GRASSLEY,
Chairman, Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control, June 28, 2017.

CONsolidated Report of Expenditure of Funds for Foreign Travel By Members and Employees of the U.S. Senate, Under Authority of Sec. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), Democratic leader for Travel from Apr. 1 to June 30, 2017

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SENATOR CHARLES E. SCHUMER,

CONsolidated Report of Expenditure of Funds for Foreign Travel By Members and Employees of the U.S. Senate, Under Authority of Sec. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), Majority leader for Travel from Apr. 1 to June 30, 2017

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BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIP ACT OF 2017

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. 1107 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Grassley substitute amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the amendment (No. 787) in the name of Senators BENNET and CANTWELL.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, before I begin, now that we have returned from the August break, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the devastation caused by Hurricane Harvey. I know the thoughts of everyone in this Chamber are with the thousands of Americans who are waiting to return home and restart their lives. I hope the Senate will act quickly to allow them to do so.

I would also say that we know there is a lot of concern in the President's Office about what is yet to come, so we need to get about our business.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2017

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Wednesday, September 6; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each until 12:30 p.m.; finally, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senators BENNET and CANTWELL.

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

The Senator from Colorado.

HURRICANE HARVEY

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, before I rise to address another issue—the Trump administration’s decision to end the program known as DACA.

DACA provided deportation relief to nearly 800,000 undocumented immigrants who came to this country as children. Those kids grew up in America alongside America’s children, playing on our Little League teams, running for student government, marching in the school band. Just like America’s kids, they showed up to class, they did their homework, and they pushed forward with every expectation of building a future for themselves and for their communities. The only difference between them is that the kids covered by DACA came to America as undocumented immigrants.

Many of these kids didn’t even know they didn’t have legal status. I know this firsthand because I used to be the Superintendent of the Denver Public Schools. It was about ninth grade that children would realize—children who had no country other than the United States as their home—that they didn’t have legal status because they had come here through no fault of their own without documented status.

A lot of these kids found out the hard way, applying for jobs that asked for papers they didn’t have, applying for financial aid they were ineligible to receive, and coping with the possibility of being ripped away from friends and family at any time. DACA ended that. It stopped it. Nationwide, it protected nearly 800,000 young adults from deportation and gave the hundreds of thousands of undocumented individuals in the only country they knew to build a future. That is precisely what they have done.

Since DACA was enacted, the young people who enrolled in the program have grown into young adults. They have jobs. They have families. They have started businesses. They have bought homes. They are raising families.

In Colorado, over 17,000 young people came forward to take the government at its word, to share their information, and to apply for deferred action. Each one of them placed their faith in us to protect them and their families until we came to a long-term solution about their status. Today, President Trump has betrayed that trust. Worse, his decision to rescind DACA betrays the very character of our country.

America does not strip parents from their children. We do not strip brothers from sisters. America does not round up neighbors to send them to places they have not known since they were 2 years old or 6 months old, if they knew them at all. We do not use kids and families as some kind of bargaining chip for legislation. That is not who we are. This decision will not only hurt families and communities, but it will hurt our economy, as 90 percent of DACA recipients work, and 7 in 10 have bachelor’s degrees or higher. They pay taxes. Over the next 2 years, ending DACA could force hundreds of thousands of people to lose their jobs. Colorado alone stands to lose over $850 million in economic activity every single year as a result of this rash decision. That is why business leaders all across my State have decried this decision as not only cruel but costly.

President Trump campaigned to strengthen families and our economy. With this decision, he is taking aim at both. Now parents all across America are planning where to send their kids if they are deported. Young professionals worry about what will happen to their mortgages, their car payments, and their student loans if they are fired and
forced to leave. Business owners wonder how they will make up for the hard workers whom they have come to rely on over the years. Once again, President Trump has unleashed needless anxiety and uncertainty across America.

This weekend, I was thinking we would never have been in this position if Congress had acted to fix our broken immigration system to ensure legal status for everybody protected by deferred action for childhood arrivals. I was part of the Gang of 8, which wrote the immigration bill in the Senate. It was four Democrats and four Republicans who worked together over a period of 8 months in a process that I think the American people would be justifiably proud of. For once in Washington, people sat down in a bipartisan way to actually solve the problems that face this country. We were not making trades. We were not holding each other hostage in that room. We knew the bill was the only important good, and we knew a pathway to citizenship was an important good.

We delivered both to the floor of this Senate. In fact, the bill had very meaningful bipartisan support. It is the only bill that has passed either the House or the Senate that has had any border security and internal security as well and, as I mentioned, a pathway to citizenship for the undocumented people who are here, including everybody who is protected by DACA. It was a good bill—I think it was a great bill—and it got 68 votes in the Senate. If the House had done what the American people had wanted us to do, it would have passed our bill, and we would not have had to go through the agony of what the Trump administration is doing to immigrants in this country right now.

I think Congress needs to act swiftly to clean up the damage the administration would do if it were to seize on this young man’s talent and commitment to our country. It would recognize in Marco and Marissa the best qualities of America—hard work, family, perseverance, and service. Instead—and I regret this—we have the Trump administration, which threatens to rip them from their families, tear apart the communities they have built in Colorado, and deprive our Nation of their obvious and considerable talent.

The administration’s decision today has thousands and thousands of people like Marco and Marissa into needless chaos and fear. For what—to satisfy the smallest fringe of the far right? A majority of the Republicans in my State not only support the Dream Act but support a pathway to citizenship for the undocumented people who are here. Unfortunately, today’s decision is just the latest example of the violence this President has done to our country’s tradition.

Because of his rhetoric against immigrants, against Muslims, his equivocation about White nationalists, there is a deep unease in this country. I have heard it in townhalls across Colorado. I have heard it in the halls of this Chamber—of all of us—not just on the people in the Senate—put our hands on someone else’s shoulder and say: I am glad you are here. Thank you for the contribution you have made by working in our fields and in our factories. We are grateful for what you have done for our communities. We are glad you are studying at the University of Denver or CU or CSU. Though we need legislation to undo the administration’s actions today, this goes way beyond any law on the books. It goes to who we are as a nation.

Earlier this year, at my home, I hosted five college students who had received protection under DACA. I made them breakfast, and we sat around the backyard to talk. I heard the worries they had that no young person in this country should have to bear, but I also heard an incredible sense of aspiration that any American would recognize—dreams of finishing college, launching a business, leading a nonprofit, starting a family. That is no surprise because these kids are American in every way that counts, and like young people across the country, they envision a bright future for themselves. We have taught them to do that since they were kids. Now we should let them realize it.

I thank my colleague from Washington for her patience. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DAINES). The Senator from Washington, Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I join my colleague from Colorado to come to the floor to talk about the President’s misguided decision earlier today to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program.

This program, put in place by the last administration, gave the certainty and predictability to so many young children who were brought to the United States through not their own actions but through theirs. As my colleague talked about, there is story after story of young people who have literally applied for college aid only to find out they were not here legally and could not pursue that kind of financial assistance. That is why, since 2001, I have been a supporter of the Dream Act. Tonight, I cannot believe this is the message from this President.

In a remarkable act of courage and trust, 17,500 young DACA recipients are working and contributing to the economy in my State, the State of Washington. These recipients must submit
biographical information and biometric information, and allow State Department, Homeland Security, and other Federal agencies to complete background checks. They have never committed a felony, and they must have a job, be in school, or have served in the military. So ending this program is literally taking workers out of our State, taking the gross domestic product of over $1 billion that it will cost our Nation over the next several years. The other decision to end DACA runs counter to the longstanding and proud history in our State of welcoming immigrants. Dreamers invest in their communities. They pay State and local taxes. In fact, the Chamber of Commerce supports this program because it does a majority of Americans, and over 300 business leaders agree that Dreamers help us build a better and more prosperous America. Just today, one of our Microsoft executives—one of the key Microsoft executives—one of our businesses—and I said he and rather have legislation to protect these individuals in immigration reform than to have tax reform. That is how important it is to our State.

I write to my colleagues Senators Durbin and Graham held a bipartisan press conference to talk about supporting this important legislation to move forward.

Tonight, as we are returning to the U.S. Senate, with lots of priorities, we need to make sure we are giving young people—young people who have benefited from the security of participating in our economy—the certainty that they will continue to be here in the United States and serve in our military. I hope my colleagues will take this seriously and move toward legislation.

We have worked on a bipartisan basis on this legislation for more than a decade. Yet it is simple. You either want to protect these young individuals or you do not. I hope my colleagues will give us a chance to rectify this as soon as possible.

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION RULING

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I would also like to say a word about the World Trade Organization’s announcement that was just made yesterday, one in which the World Trade Organization said that the Boeing 777X Program did not receive prohibited subsidies. I won four of the eight cases involving employees in the State of Washington as well as for the 1,700 suppliers and individual businesses across our State who support our strong aerospace economy.

It is also a loss to the European Union in its efforts to retaliate against the United States for our challenge to illegal launch aid to Airbus that began more than 10 years ago. This shows it was right to raise these concerns by the United States and that the retaliation by Airbus was wrong.

Last year, the WTO ruled that the EU had not taken steps to comply with

its previous ruling regarding $17 billion in illegal launch aid to Airbus, and that it had given another $5 billion in illegal launch aid to the A350 Program even after these kinds of subsidies had been declared illegal.

We need an aerospace market that is truly competitive, one that is not distorted by illegal subsidies. So these cases matter because the outcome impacts jobs here in the United States, and aerospace is one of the biggest manufacturers in the United States.

We know that there are lots of challenges and there is lots of competition, but we want that competition to be on a level playing field. We want to make sure that, in the aerospace industry, people are playing by the rules. This is the third time the WTO has said that the massive illegal subsidies the EU has provided to Airbus are wrong, that they have failed to take the steps to comply, and that they need to change their behavior.

If the EU does not follow the rules, then we should take the necessary steps to force an end to these anti-competitive schemes. I say this because the WTO’s ruling today—while I know many of my colleagues think this process placed out all too long—did resolve the issue as it related to the EU gave Airbus.

Enforcement of these trade rules is important to U.S. competitiveness. I want to continue to strengthen our ability to enforce trade rules, and continue to make sure that the U.S. Government has all the resources and personnel it needs to make sure our trading partners meet their commitments, and our aerospace workforce in the United States is second to none. I want to continue to fight every battle to make sure they can be competitive. I thank everyone at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative for working so hard on this case for more than a decade. I very much look forward to moving on and to make sure that the EU is in line with these past WTO rulings and that we continue to fight for a fair and competitive aerospace market. I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 A.M., September 6, 2017, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

GREGORY IRACH, OF NEBRASKA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE FOR COMMODITIES AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH, VICE EDWARD M. AVALOS, RESIGNED.

WILLIAM NORTHBY, OF IOWA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE FOR FOOD AND PERSONAL SERVICE, VICE KATHRYN L. BURGER, RESIGNED.

STEPHEN ALEXANDER VALENZUELA, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, VICE JEFFREY MICHAEL PRIETO.
JENNIFER GILLIAN NEWSTEAD, OF NEW YORK, TO BE LEGAL ADVISER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, VICE BRIAN JAMES KIM, RESIGNED.

DAVID DALE RASMUSSEN, OF OHIO, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA, AND TO SERVE CONSECUTIVELY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES.

CHRISTOPHER SMITH, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SEVENTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

ERIC E. MURPHY, OF ILLINOIS, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

CHERYL MAE STANTON, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, VICE DAVID W. WESEL, RESIGNED.

DAVID G. ZETEKO, OF WEST VIRGINIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF LABOR FOR MINES AND HEALTH, VICE JOSHER A. MAIN.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

FREDERICK M. NUTT, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE CONTROL COUNSEL, OFFICE OF FEDERAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, VICE DAVID ARTHUR MADER.

FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY

JAMES R. LORING, OF ARIZONA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS EXPIRING JULY 1, 2024, VICE PATRICK H. DAVISON, RESIGNED.

COLLEEN KIKO, OF NORTH DAKOTA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS EXPIRING JULY 20, 2022, VICE ERNST W. DUBESTER, TERM EXPIRED.

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

EMILY WHITNEY MURPHY, OF MISSOURI, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF GENERAL SERVICES, VICE DENISE TURNER BOWDITCH.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

MARGARET WEISHER, OF GEORGIA, TO BE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, FOR MANAGEMENT, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, VICE BETH B. COBERT.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

CHRISTOPHER R. SHARPLEY, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE IN-FOUNDER, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, VICE DAVID B. BUCKLEY, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JOHN C. DEMERS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, VICE JOHN P. CARLIN, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

ANDRE IANCU, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, VICE MICHELLE K. LEHMAN, RESIGNED.

PRIVATE AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT BOARD

RAYMOND A. KEIN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBER OF THE PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 20, 2024.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

TOM MARINO, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, VICE ADAM I. KLEIN, RESIGNED.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

TOMMASO I. MASON, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF VETERANS APPEALS FOR A TERM OF SIX YEARS, VICE JAMES PHILIP TERRY, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

CHRISTOPHER S. WALKER, OF KANSAS, TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF VETERANS APPEALS FOR A TERM OF SIX YEARS, VICE JAMES PHILIP TERRY, RETIRED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 401:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. JACQUELINE D. VAN OOST

The following named air national guard of the United States air force for appointment in the reserve of the air force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. JEFFREY L. BUTLER

COL. NATHAN B. ALJOSKIN

COL. BRIAN G. ARMSTRONG

COL. C. MICHAEL R. ARMSTRONG

COL. ROBERT L. BELL

COL. SHAWN S. BETTON

COL. JEFFREY L. BUTLER

COL. MICHAEL L. CASEY

COL. KEVIN J. CAMPBELL

COL. THOMAS G. CANTY

COL. LAWRENCE L. CHRISTENSEN

COL. SHAWN A. CLOUTHER

COL. DARWIN L. CRANE

COL. ROBERT C. DESMONT

COL. ROBERT W. DIXON

COL. ROBERT E. DOOGENBOS

COL. DAVID M. DOUGAN

COL. RANDAL K. EFFERSON

COL. ROBERT L. ELLIS

COL. JED J. FRENCH

COL. HOWARD L. EISSLER III

COL. RANDAL K. EFFERSON

COL. KEVIN M. DONOVAN

COL. ROBERT D. DUGAN

COL. ROBERT A. DUKE

COL. ROBERT P. DURBIN

COL. KYLE M. DURST

COL. THOMAS W. DAVIS

COL. JAMES D. DAVIS

COL. PAUL S. DAVISON

COL. GREGG A. DAWSON

COL. KEVIN M. DONOVAN

COL. RANDALL K. EMMERSON

COL. ROBERT C. DESMONT

COL. JAMES R. DENT

COL. GEORGE A. DICKMAN

COL. ROBERT G. DICKSON

COL. KEVIN J. FALK

COL. WILLIAM B. FARRIS

COL. MICHAEL C. FAULKNER

COL. ROBERT R. FELTON

COL. SHAUN DOUGHERTY

COL. JEFFREY L. BUTLER

COL. ROBERT G. DICKSON

COL. WAYNE C. DAVIS

COL. JEFFREY L. BUTLER

COL. ROBERT G. DICKSON
To be major

S4965

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

September 5, 2017
THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

ASHLEY R. SELLERS
The following named officer for appointment to the grade indicated in the united states navy under title 10, u.s.c., section 624:

To be major

ELIAS M. CHELLA
The following named officer for appointment to the grade indicated in the united states navy under title 10, u.s.c., section 624:

To be captain

MARK W. CANARY
The following named officer for appointment to the grade indicated in the united states navy under title 10, u.s.c., section 624:

To be lieutenant commander

ROBERT P. L. BAILEY
The following named officer for appointment to the grade indicated in the united states navy under title 10, u.s.c., section 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

MARIAH C. SMITH
The following named officer for appointment to the grade indicated in the united states navy under title 10, u.s.c., section 624:

To be major

ANTHONY P. RANDALL
The following named officer for appointment to the grade indicated in the united states navy under title 10, u.s.c., section 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

REJOHN J. BOYD
The following named officer for appointment to the grade indicated in the united states navy under title 10, u.s.c., section 624:

To be captain

VICTOR R. SQUIRES
The following named officer for appointment to the grade indicated in the united states navy under title 10, u.s.c., section 624:

To be lieutenant commander

ANTON A. ADAM
The following named officer for appointment to the grade indicated in the united states navy under title 10, u.s.c., section 624:

To be colonel

BERNIE C. LAU
The following named officer for appointment to the grade indicated in the united states navy under title 10, u.s.c., section 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

BRIAN D. CLARK
The following named officer for appointment to the grade indicated in the united states navy under title 10, u.s.c., section 624:

To be major
The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Navy under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

NAME

J. BEDROCK

To be lieutenant commander
The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Navy under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be lieutenant commander

Brooke T. Ablstom
Hiroo Ako
Michael J. Batcheller
Mathew W. Biedick
Kent J. Bishop
Carlo A. V. Cafaro
Justin J. P. Carlock
Dennis N. Chu
Jeffrey M. Clark
Mark J. Deissere
Jessica R. Dillon
Kim T. Do
James S. Feliz
Koby R. Ferguson
Tyler J. Finlayson
Alyx W. Fleming
Tyler P. Fleming
Daniel L. Forrest
Stephen W. George
Jennifer C. Giffith
Elizabeth A. Griffs
Ashley N. Hales
Dustin B. Hatz
Amie M. Hein
Ryan A. Hedges
Ryan C. Holmes
Ryan A. Hershey
Francis M. Im
Timothy W. Howarth
Ryan C. Johnson
Evans Y. Kang
Joshua C. Kats
Inga M. Kettler
Elizabeth A. Klanderman
Jonathan J. Kolon
Molly R. Kopacz
Christian F. Laves
Grant R. Layton
KT T. Le
James B. Linkous
Mirha F. Lockey
Danielle M. Marquis
Rodney D. Martin
Tori A. Matyak
Christopher J. Mclellan
P. J. McRae
Erissa E. Merritt
Robin C. Nara
Jonathan A. Nebron
Mandy M. Olson
Justin C. Orr
Christopher R. Ostiz
Justin G. Page
Seth L. Perkins
Elizabeth A. Polak
Yamila A. Ramirez
Steven R. Rassi
Brenda Y. Serig
Edmond B. Ruxa
Omeed A. Rezaietirabadi
Samuel L. Richards
Tim Es. Richards
Christopher T. Boyer
Gregory E. Bowlin
Jacques M. Bouchard
James M. Boykin
Gregory E. Bowlin
Christopher T. Boyer
Daniel S. Brennan
Michelle L. Brennan
Alyson J. Brennan
Amber L. Brittian
Carr L. Brown
Nathaniel A. Brown
Amanda E. Buxton
AI H. Bui
Kenneth L. Bull
Brian J. Burke
Evan R. E. Butlin
Joseph P. Caizzi
Rabey F. Calisch
Carlos H. Casamalhuapa
Bianca K. Chen
Seamus C. Corbie
Maxwell L. Cooper
Brandon M. Costello
Gregory B. Czeja
Aaron J. Daley
Daniel J. Deans
Sarath M. Dolen
Michael M. Dodge
Jacob L. N. Duong
Christian C. Droholt
Lauren K. Ehrlichman
Christa A. Hickoff
Jeffrey C. Hickhoff
Kristin A. Englard
Shams Fallah
David A. Feaker, Jr.
Michael J. Fecheria
Robert T. Fernandez
Robert D. Feller
Michael T. Finnerin, Jr.
Laura M. Flock
Craig B. Folsom
Brian S. Ford
Andrew J. Friski
Joel A. Fulkeron
Melissa C. Farber
Michael C. Gardner
Jason M. Garton
James P. Gastwirth
Meghan E. Green
Sara K. Godwin
Jennifer F. Gregory
Daniel W. Griffen
Felipe R. Grimaldo
Charles L. Guion, Jr.
Darrin M. C. Hall
Joyce M. Hall
Matthew T. Hall
Michael D. Hannah
Joseph P. Happler
Jason M. Hardwick
David H. Hardwick
Kyle M. Harvey
Richard J. Herold
Sergio Hickey
Brandon L. Hill
David H. Hill
Karen B. Hink
Isaac I. Ila
Kathryn E. Irb
Sydlevper C. Irar
Marcela Jacoborubio
Stephanie M. Jakiewicz
Jetha T. Johnson
Christie A. Joy
Ryan E. Kachur
Jason A. Kaisen
Alexander V. Killery
Matthew W. Kelly
Richard A. Kanon
Jeremy R. Kenson
Brian J. Kenna
Elizabeth D. Kerr
Daniel Kne
Thomas B. Kinner
Bradley J. Kinn
Eric J. Koch
Krista G. Koch
Jennifer F. Kutter
Sebastian W. Lara
Deer T. Larson
Paul R. Lewis II
John P. Lovejoy
Emily B. Lipsky
Andrew F. Loomis
Michael J. Luca, Jr.
Eric M. Lubrins
Donovan L. Major
Joshua W. Major
Samuel A. Malin
Brittany B. Marshall
Jack K. Martin
Jonathan A. Mayhew
Tara C. Mccluskey
Debra L. Mcker
Brian R. McInney
Kenneth D. McNamara
Nicholas J. Michals
Boonie C. Mickelson
John M. Miek
Benjamin T. Miller
Alan R. Miner
Cesar R. Mota
Javier A. Moore
John B. Moor
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

September 5, 2017

NATHAN A. MOSS
Kathryn M. MONTY
RENÉE N. NADOLSKY
SEMMON L. NAKI
MARY A. NELSON
JOHN J. NEVIN
JANET M. NUNN
ROBERT M. OBRYAN
ROBERT J. OLEJNIK
ADAM J. OLEWNIK
JENNIFER L. OTTINO
MARY S. PADEN
ERIC A. PARMA
RAYMOND A. PATRICK
ANDREW S. PERKINS
PHILIP D. PETERSON
GHERAN J. PERELMUTER
JULIO R. POLJUZ
CHAD B. PUSATERI
ROBERT M. PUTTO
CHRISTOPHER H. RENNINGER
JEFFREY M. RICE
JANELLE K. RILEY
TYRONE L. ROBINSON
REBECCA J. ROHRER
NICHOLAS J. ROHRHOFF
JOHN W. ROMAN
FRANCIS L. ROSARIO
JIN O. SANDERSON
ALIVE E. SANOU
SAMEER K. SAKENA
RAYMOND W. SCHUMACHER
SARAH A. SHERBY
SEEMA A. SHANT
SWAPNIL SHARMA
BRENNA J. SHUTT

EDMUND J. SIEBEL
JESSECA J. SIEGEL
SEAN M. SIMMONS
ANTHONY J. SKINNER
NICHOLAS E. SKINNER
SHAUN A. SLAYTON
RYAN L. SLOAD
ANDREW B. SMITH
RUTH E. SMITH
KATHLEEN A. SNYDER
JOANNE D. SO
YEVAN D. STAMCEL
JORDANA M. STARK
MARY K. STEWART
DAVID S. STOCHEL
HALEY T. STRICKLAND
ANDREW J. SULLIVAN
JOSHUA C. TATUM
EVAN N. K. TENGSTER
ANDREW A. TOTH
ANNA M. TOPHISON
BRIAN D. TRAN
JAN M. VANGEL
DOMINIC L. VANHELEN
MATTHEW C. YASZIE
CARY B. VINCENT
BENJAMIN S. VYPER
JOHN D. WAGNER
SCOTT A. WALLACE
MARGARET H. WALTERS
JASON M. WANG
JASON N. WHITE
ueva B. WIER
KENNEDY R. WILLIAMS
CLAY W. WINKLER
MARK W. WHITE
KATHRYN R. WOLF
ANDREA C. WURZER
SAMIRA ZAMANI
ASHLEY L. ZANDER
ZACHARY A. ZANFES

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MA-
RINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

MEGAN L. BUSTIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MA-
RINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

ROBERT M. BARCLAY

FOREIGN SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN
SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTER-
ATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TO BE A FOREIGN SERVICE
OFFICER, A CONSULAR OFFICER, AND A SECRETARY IN
THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA

MICHAEL ASKHOURI, OF VIRGINIA
JILL HUTTER-JONES, OF MARYLAND
JOHN H. PEGOUL, OF VIRGINIA
JEFFREY BLUNT DE GRAFFENRIED, JR., OF FLORIDA
OMAR ROLES, OF CALIFORNIA

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate September 05, 2017:

THE JUDICIARY

TIMOTHY J. KELLY, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DIS-
TRICT OF COLUMBIA.
EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RETIREMENT OF REVEREND PHARIS D. EVANS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I take this time to recognize and honor Reverend Pharis D. Evans and to wish him well upon his retirement as Pastor of Clark Road Missionary Baptist Church in Gary, Indiana. For his 56 years of service and devotion to his congregation and to the community in Gary and beyond, Reverend Evans is to be highly commended. In his honor, two special worship services are being held at the church on Sunday, October 8, 2017 and October 15, 2017. In addition, a celebratory retirement banquet will take place at the Gary Genesis Convention Center on Friday, October 13, 2017.

Pharis Evans graduated from Haywood High School in Brownsville, Tennessee. As a young boy, his passion for theology grew from the church services he attended, and he knew early on that he was destined to be a preacher. He studied theology at Chicago Baptist Institute and continued his studies at Calumet College of Saint Joseph in Whiting. It was on the first Sunday in April 1961, when Pharis D. Evans was first selected to lead Clark Road Missionary Baptist Church. For the past 55 years, he has administered spiritual guidance to a congregation that presently serves more than 800 parishioners. Pastor Evans’s impact through his spiritual teaching has been immeasurable, and those he has mentored can all attest to his generous nature. Throughout the years, he has been a tireless advocate for his church and the community. Since 1963, Pastor Evans has coordinated and maintained Radio Broadcast Outreach Ministry. From 2009 to the present, he has also served as “Spiritual Advisor” for the Baptist Ministers Conference of Gary and Vicinity, and in 2008, he was awarded the prestigious community service Drum Major Award by the Gary Frontiers Service Club. Additionally, Pastor Evans has served as President and Vice President of the Progressive National Baptist Convention for the state of Indiana and been a chaplain for the Gary Police Department. A passionate and proven leader, Pastor Evans has provided counsel for many young ministers in search of guidance and direction. For his selfless devotion to aiding those in need of spiritual guidance, Pastor Evans is to be commended.

Reverend Evans’s exceptional dedication to the church and to his community is exceeded only by his devotion to his wonderful family. He and his beloved late wife, Ann, raised five wonderful children (one deceased). Reverend Evans is also a devoted grandfather and great-grandfather.

I am privileged to call Pastor Evans my friend. More importantly, Reverend Pharis D. Evans has been a friend to all, the epitome of what we consider a Man of God. He is a man of service who has led a life we should all seek to emulate. His vision, his work, and his spirit have provided all of us with a guide to an improved and gentler future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Pastor Evans on his retirement as Pastor of Clark Road Missionary Baptist Church. His fifty-six years of complete dedication, leadership, and selfless service to others is truly inspiring. I ask that you join me in congratulating him and wishing him well upon his retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE 2ND ANNUAL NICK’S RIDE FOR HEAL

HON. JOHN KATKO
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 2nd annual Nick’s Ride for the Heroin Epidemic Action League (HEAL) of Cayuga County.

The Heroin Epidemic Action League is a local organization in Cayuga County whose mission is to promote awareness of the deadly dangers of heroin and drug addiction. In its second year, Nick’s Ride for HEAL honors the life of Nick Campagnola, who lost his struggle with heroin addiction in December 2015 at the young age of 20.

The motorcycle ride and block party supports the important efforts of HEAL, including providing a meeting space for those struggling with addiction, funding Nick’s Underdog Scholarships, and supporting other organizations with complementary missions.

I am proud to recognize the important efforts of the Heroin Epidemic Action League of Cayuga County to combat the heroin and synthetic drug epidemic that is plaguing Central New York and the rest of the country. By remembering Nick Campagnola with this outstanding community event, it is my hope that we can one day put an end to this deadly epidemic.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE BOWDEN CENTER DEDICATION

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication of the Bowden Center in Keller, Texas on Sunday, August 20, 2017. This space was generously donated by Don Bowden and the late Linda Bowden, and now is operated by the Greater Keller Women’s Club Foundation. The Bowden Center is an event space that will allow local charities and schools to hold functions, as well as host weddings and other social gatherings.

All profits from the Bowden Center will go to the Greater Keller Women’s Club Foundation, which will direct the funds back into the community through charities the club supports. Through the generosity of the Bowdens, the Greater Keller Women’s Club Foundation will have sustained opportunities to enrich the Keller community.

This building and its dedication pay tribute to Linda Bowden, a very special leader in our Keller community, who passed away in May 2017. This building honors her legacy, and further her life work of giving back to others. From her years at the PTA to this year, she never stopped seeking out ways to help others. The dedication of this space is a fitting tribute to thank Linda Bowden for her generosity, not just with the new Bowden Center, but all she did for the people in Keller, Texas. We are grateful to Don and Linda Bowden, and look forward to using this space to honor their spirit of generosity and further support the good work achieved by the Greater Keller Women’s Club Foundation.

COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. JOSEPH’S CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. WARREN DAVIDSON
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize and celebrate the 150th Anniversary of St. Joseph’s Catholic Church. St. Joseph’s Catholic Church is the oldest Catholic parish in the city of Hamilton, Ohio and has served as a unifying force in the community since its founding. In the 1800s, Ohio was home to many German and British Catholics who sought refuge in America after having fled religious persecution in Europe. Due to differences in their national origin and their language, English and German Catholics attended separate services. At the time of its founding in 1867, the church was known as a “German Catholic Church,” but through shared faith and the passing of time, these differences faded.

St. Joseph’s Catholic Church continues to be a pillar of the community as a school, community center, and as a place of worship. Today, St. Joseph’s Catholic Church stands as a testament to the unifying power of faith in our communities both historically and in the present. I applaud St. Joseph’s Catholic Church for its 150 years of service to Hamilton, Ohio.
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR DR. VIDYA KORA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with sincere admiration that I recognize the Indian Medical Association of Northwest Indiana, which will host its 36th Annual Gala on Saturday, September 9, 2017, at the Halls of Saint George in Schererville, Indiana. The Indian Medical Association of Northwest Indiana has always been an outstanding asset to Northwest Indiana. Its members have dedicated themselves to providing quality medical services to the residents of Northwest Indiana while focusing on compassion for others, improving patient care, and lighting the way for change.

At this year’s Annual Gala, the Indian Medical Association will present the Lifetime Achievement Award to one of Northwest Indiana’s finest citizens, and my good friend, Dr. Vidya Kora. For his outstanding contributions to his community, he is to be commended. As a young boy in India, Vidya Kora’s passion for his field emerged, leading him toward a lifelong devotion to the medical community. It was after completing his studies at Gandhi Medical School in Hyderabad, India, in 1978, that Dr. Kora came to the United States. He completed his internship at Edgewater Hospital and Medical Center in Chicago, followed by his residency in internal medicine at Chicago’s Cook County Hospital. Dr. Kora was selected to serve as chief resident from January to July of 1986. Upon completion, he joined the team at the Marion VA Medical Center in Marion, Illinois, where he served our nation’s veterans.

Dr. Kora’s remarkable résumé reflects not only his profession but also his devotion to public service. As a member of the Indiana Medical Association, he has served on its Commission on Legislation, as both Vice-Speaker and Speaker of its House of Delegates, and as the President of the Indiana State Medical Association from 2006 to 2007. He is also a current delegate to the American Medical Association. A tireless advocate for the improvement of his community, Dr. Kora is also a board member for Unity Foundation of LaPorte County and chairs the Northern Indiana Regional Board of the Franciscan Alliance. He has further served the residents of Michigan City and LaPorte County in numerous capacities. He has been a board member for the Michigan City Area Schools and served two terms as LaPorte County Coroner, while also completing two terms as LaPorte County Democratic Chairman. Dr. Kora has continued to seek an improved quality of life for his community while in his second term as LaPorte County Commissioner. As a public servant, Dr. Kora has dedicated his life to the betterment of our nation’s health care system, so it is no surprise that he is also very active in the American Medical Association and Board of Indiana Medicine’s political action committees.

Dr. Kora’s passion for medicine and commitment to the people he serves is exceeded only by his personal warmth and kindness. Dr. Kora and his loving wife, Sudha, have one daughter, Shilpa, and one son, Rishi, both of whom are physicians specializing in internal medicine and have made their parents very proud as they follow in their father’s footsteps. Dr. Kora is committed to his family, to improving the lives of the patients he treats, and serving selflessly to enhance the quality of life for all those who live in Northwest Indiana. His is a life we should all seek to emulate. It is an honor to call Dr. Kora my friend. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending the members of the Indian Medical Association of Northwest Indiana, as well as this year’s Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, Dr. Vidya Kora, for their outstanding contributions to the medical field, as well as to their communities and beyond. Their unwavering commitment to improving the quality of life for the people of Northwest Indiana and throughout the United States is truly inspirational, and I am proud to serve as their representative in Washington, D.C.

IN HONOR OF SIRVART HOVNANIAN ON THE OCCASION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAINT STEPanos ARMENIAN APostoLIC CHURCH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.
OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Sirvart Hovnanian as he is honored by the Saint Stepanos Armenian Apostolic Church in Elberon, New Jersey with an award to be presented by His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian. I would also like to join with the Saint Stepanos parish in commemorating the 30th anniversary of the church and marking the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Armenian parish in Elberon.

The Saint Mary Church parish in Elberon began 60 years ago, with 25 members worshiping during summer services. As the Armenian population in the area continued to grow, Kevork and Sirvart Hovnanian saw a need for a larger and rejuvenated place of worship. Born of the vision and philanthropic support of the Hovnanians, Saint Stepanos Armenian Apostolic Church stands on the site of the former Saint Mary Church. Saint Stepanos was consecrated on June 14, 1967 and the church hall was named “Kevork and Sirvart Hovnanian Hall” in honor of the benefactors.

Sirvart Hovnanian is a beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother and carries on the philanthropic spirit she shared with her husband. Sirvart, along with her late husband, has always recognized the meaning of generosity and has spent her life working to make a difference in the world. An esteemed member of the Armenian community and a passionate philanthropist, Sirvart has been a supporter and partner in the many charitable endeavors of Saint Stepanos Armenian Apostolic Church, including the establishment of The Fund for Armenian Relief following the country’s 1988 earthquake, the building of the Alton A. Hovnanian Emergency Care Center at Riverview Medical Center, and the donation of the K. Hovnanian Children’s Hospital at Jersey Shore University Medical Center, among many others.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in recognizing Saint Stepanos Armenian Apostolic Church, the Armenian parish of Elberon and Sirvart Hovnanian for their continued support of the Armenian people and culture. I know that I join with all who know Sirvart in expressing my sincere gratitude for her warm and giving nature and her immeasurable contributions to our community.

HONORING MR. VEASEY
OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Robert Hughes, local Fort Worth legend, for helping to bridge the divide of the segregated basketball community in Texas and for his commitment to developing all-star athletes on and off the court. Robert Hughes was born May 15, 1928 as the youngest of five brothers. A phenomenal man who served our country during the Korean War, Coach Hughes is widely recognized for his successful basketball career. Hughes played college basketball at Texas Southern University. In 1955, he was drafted to the Boston Celtics, but instead played for the Harlem Magicians. During his time with the Harlem Magicians, Coach Hughes ruptured his Achilles tendon and began his legendary coaching career.

From 1958 to 1973, Hughes coached the then-segregated Fort Worth I.M. Terrell High School basketball team, with an astonishing record of 378–84. The I.M. Terrell team played in the Prairie View Interscholastic League
Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in thanking Ruth Hyman for her immeasurable contributions to the community. Ms. Hyman’s tireless efforts and dedication to philanthropy are truly deserving of this body’s recognition.

RETIEMENT OF MR. MARCUS W. MALCZEWSKI, SR.

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I take this time to recognize Mr. Marcus W. Malczewski, Sr. and to wish him well upon his retirement from his position as Lake County Highway Superintendent. Mr. Malczewski’s fifty-five years of service to the people of Lake County are to be commended. In honor of Marcus’s lifetime of service, a surprise retirement celebration was held on Thursday, August 31, 2017, at Gamba Ristorante in Merrillville, Indiana.

Marcus W. Malczewski was born in 1937 and raised in Gary, Indiana. After graduating from high school, he worked in construction in Alaska, which had not yet obtained its statehood. Marc went on to attend Indiana University before beginning his career as a driver for the Lake County Highway Department in 1962. Two years later, he transferred to the engineering department. In 1982, Marc was appointed assistant superintendent, a position he held until 1993, before being named superintendent of the Lake County Highway Department.

Throughout his remarkable fifty-five-year career, Marc has been an outstanding leader and helped build an economy in Northwest Indiana. Among his many accomplishments, Marc directed the repair and improvement of more than 1,000 miles of roads and over 100 bridges. Throughout the years, Mr. Malczewski worked to ensure a safe work environment, providing a plethora of assistance for all highway employees. Given his concerns for employee safety and to maximize their efficiency, Marc developed and implemented a program designed to test the skills of drivers and operators. Also, he oversaw the installation of GPS systems in all department automobiles, trucks, and powered equipment. He continued to implement new products and techniques for maintenance and construction and developed a positive relationship between the highway department and other county agencies. For his unwavering dedication to public service, Marcus Malczewski is worthy of the highest praise.

Marc’s excellence in his field is exceeded only by his devotion to his amazing family. He and his beloved late wife, Marilyn, have three wonderful children, seven grandchildren, and three adoring great-grandchildren, with three wonderful children, seven grandchildren, and three adoring great-grandchildren, with three more on the way.

I am honored to call Marcus Malczewski my friend. We should all be blessed with such wonderful friendships. More importantly, Marc has been a friend to all, a gentleman in the truest sense of that word, and the epitome of a public servant. His is a life we should all seek to emulate.

IN HONOR OF KENDRA LEE MURRAY ADAMS

HON. GWEN MOORE
OF WISCONSIN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Kendra Lee Murray Adams, who passed away on July 30, 2017, at the age of 39, following a brave battle with cancer. Originally from Pennsylvania, Kendra attended Gettysburg College, where she majored in political science. Upon graduation, her passion for politics brought her to Washington, D.C. and placed her on a bright and fulfilling career path.

I am speaking today because I had the good fortune of being a stop along that path. Kendra served as my scheduler and office manager when I first came to Congress in 2005. I’ve had many fine and dedicated staff members during my time in public service, and Kendra stands out among them. At a time when I was learning the protocols and procedures of this great institution, this blonde bombshell immersed herself in the details, and in many ways, was the heart of the operation.

She embodied the essence of grace under fire, there was no need, demand, or logistical crisis that could ruffle her feathers. She would simply execute and make the whole process look effortless.

That, in and of itself, was exemplary. But Kendra was integral to our office family beyond that. She was a den mother of sorts on one hand, and she was our comedic relief and levity on the other. She was the kind of person one comes to rely on not only professionally, but also to sooth the soul. She left my office family and service, and indeed the life, of Kendra Adams, who was taken from us, far too soon.

Kendra was a privilege to know, a fantastic and dedicated worker with a terrific heart, whether serving with Horton’s kids or just helping a friend through a tough time. Whether you knew her for years or just met her, you got the best of her from minute one.

In words written before her death, Kendra urged those she loved to not mourn but rather to “live life, go to the beach, go rock climbing, and skydiving. Do the things you want to do!” That exemplifies her spirit, her courage, and her life.

My heart, prayers, and condolences go out to Kendra’s family, including her son, daughter, husband, father and sister, who were her pride and greatest joy.
HONORING SAMUEL HUGH MATTHEWS

HON. JEFF DENHAM
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor long-time newspaper editor and community member, Samuel Hugh Matthews, who announced his retirement after more than 60 years of service.

After serving in the United States Army, Mr. Matthews devoted himself to a career in the newspaper business. He started at the Tracy Press in 1957 and quickly became co-publisher in 1964, transitioning to editor in 1967. When it was sold to Golden State Publishing Co. in 2012, Sam remained on staff as a columnist and reporter. His extensive commitment to reporting in his community and his devout integrity made him fundamental to the success of the Tracy Press.

Throughout Sam’s years of accomplishments and engagements, he has had the loving support of his wife, children, and grandchildren. In addition, Mr. Matthews has been recognized numerous times, both locally and statewide, for his service and philanthropy.

During his career, Sam displayed an avid commitment to his community through various positions in local active and newspaper organizations. His unwavering dedication to the community extends beyond his impressive news career and his work as a civic servant.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending Samuel Hugh Matthews for his many years of service, devotion, and outstanding contributions to his community. We wish him continued success in his retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF NEW ORLEANS FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATOR GREGORY J. HOWARD, SR.

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND
OF LOUISIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of New Orleans Fire Department Operator Gregory “G” Joseph Howard, Sr., a New Orleans, Louisiana native, who passed away on August 26, 2017 at the age of 36.

Mr. Howard was born on October 20, 1980 in New Orleans, Louisiana. He was raised in the 7th Ward and graduated from Sarah T. Reed High School in 1999. He was a nine year veteran of the New Orleans Fire Department. He spent most of his career with the fire department at the Engine 6 station on Old Gentilly Road, in the Desire neighborhood.

Mr. Howard went to Memphis, Tennessee, with his colleagues, to compete in the Memphis Finest Hoops Fest basketball tournament for first responders and law enforcement. While out with some of his colleagues after the first set of games, Mr. Howard was struck by a stray bullet and died instantly.

Mr. Howard loved the city and the people of New Orleans. His legacy will forever be a part of the city and his dedication to community embodies the spirit of New Orleans. We cannot match the sacrifices made by Mr. Howard, but surely we can try to match his sense of service. We cannot match his courage, but we can strive to match his devotion.

Operator Gregory “G” Joseph Howard, Sr. survivors include his wife Dominique Howard, two sons: Gregory J. Howard, Jr. and Dillion Howard; his parents: Sam Howard and Gregory Newman, Sr., his sister Brittany Howard, a host of siblings, aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I celebrate the life and legacy of Operator Gregory “G” Joseph Howard, Sr. a beloved husband, father, and son.

GRADUATE FEEDER SCHOLARS PROGRAM

HON. AL LAWSON, JR.
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Mr. LAWSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, many students have the aspiration to further their education with graduate school, but do not have the means to enroll. Florida A&M University provides qualified students with an opportunity to further their education through the Graduate Feeder Scholars Program (GFSP).

The success of the Graduate Feeder Scholars Program has enabled Florida A&M University to lead the nation’s Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) in the number of students who acquire post-graduate degrees.

The program is celebrating 30 years of excellence at this year’s 2017 Graduate Feeder Scholars Conference, which will take place Wednesday, September 6 through Friday, September 8, on FAMU’s campus. I would like to commend everyone who has worked tirelessly and diligently in making sure our children have the opportunity to pursue their dreams and advance their education.

It is time to expand the Feeder Scholars program to more HBCUs and I know Florida A&M is ready to assist in the process.

I am proud to support this wonderful program and acknowledge Florida A&M’s hard work over the years. Again, congratulations on 30 successful years and to many more to come.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF MARKTOWN

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to instruct the Secretary of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development to deem areas within the District of Columbia as empowerment zones.

This bill would effectively reauthorize the tax incentives for business investment in the District, which expired in 2011, yet are timelier than ever today. These were the only tax incentives for a big city that were not extended, even though they were initially created by Republicans, with a few Democrats. The wisdom of these bipartisan, modest, targeted tax incentives has been amply and visibly demonstrated in the economic resurgence in many parts of the nation’s capital. However, the D.C. tax incentives were cut off before the poorest neighborhoods were ready to make use of them.

Congress has recognized that the benefits of incentives for investment in economically
Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the outstanding achievement of Joseph R. D’Arco, whose family and friends celebrated his 80th birthday on August 31, 2017.

Joseph R. D’Arco was born on August 31, 1937, at Passaic General Hospital. As a child, he was raised in Clifton’s Historic Botany Village and attended the Clifton Public Schools. In 1957, Joseph volunteered to join the U.S. Army. He was honorably discharged in 1959.

In 1961, Joseph joined the Clifton Fire Department. For the first half of Joseph’s fire career, he graciously worked two jobs in order to provide for his four sons-Joseph, Michael, Steven, and Kevin. Over these opportunities to attend private schools. During his 34-year journey with the Department, Joseph ascended through the ranks, and inspired many people, earning him the Clifton Jaycees’ Fireman of the Year Award. During his tenure as Deputy Chief, Joseph served as the Department’s Administrative Officer, his first assignment away from the streets of Clifton. Joseph represented Clifton with Passaic County’s Mutual Aid and was additionally an instructor at the Passaic County Fire Ranger school from Jersey City State College. Furthermore, he taught as an Adjunct Professor of Fire Science at Passaic County Community College to give back to the educational forum.

One of the greatest examples of Joseph’s passion for ensuring the safety of our public are advocating for legislation that would allow E.M.T.s the use of portable defibrillation units. This piece of legislation passed, allowing the use of these units to become widespread throughout the state and nation. The passing of this legislation has significantly helped save countless lives, which is ultimately Joseph’s foremost concern.

Joseph and his wife, Patricia, currently reside in St. Lucie, Florida. Even during his retirement, Joseph continues his service for his community, remaining an active life member of the New Jersey State Firemen’s Mutual Benevolent Association, as well as the Clifton Firemen’s Mutual Benevolent Association. Joseph is also notably a member of both the Board of Directors for Deborah Hospital in Trenton and the Deborah Hospital Foundation Board of Directors since 2002. He has continued to be a conscientious advocate for healthcare, spreading the word of Deborah’s cardiac testing for First Responders, an initiative of “A Gift from Captain Buscio” program.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing and commemorating individuals who have dedicated their lives to serving the people. Joseph’s commitment to public service is truly commendable.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues to celebrate the 80th birthday of Joseph R. D’Arco, in which we can appreciate his accomplishments.
wrapped up yesterday, marked a truly special milestone for the dining hall.

Beginning in 1897, a group of women from the Hamline Methodist Episcopal Church Ladies Aid Society decided to raise money for their congregation by hopping in the back of a church member’s coal wagon and heading to the Minnesota State Fair to sell sandwiches they had made in their basement. Thus began a great ritual of feeding fairgoers that has continued through two World Wars, the Great Depression, and dramatic demographic changes in Minnesota.

Throughout its 120 years, Hamline Methodist Church has served meals from various locations on the fairgrounds. Its current home site was purchased from the East Immanuel Norwegian Evangelical Church of Saint Paul in 1944. That building was replaced by the current building in 1968, with an addition added in 1983 to accommodate its increasing popularity.

While the physical venue of the dining hall has changed over the years, the heart of the operation has remained its volunteers. Every year more than 60 volunteer servers and food prep workers a day fill over 700 shifts. There, they prepare and serve its signature Hamline Ham Loaf, Swedish Meatballs, famous breakfasts, and bottomless cups of coffee. Delicious food has brought together generations of Minnesotans and other visitors from across the country. It also helped to fund reconstruction of the Church’s sanctuary on Englewood Avenue in Saint Paul, after a Christmastime fire destroyed it in 1925. The dining hall remains popular with fairgoers because it offers a place to take a break, sit down, and use real silverware and a plate rather than just food on a stick.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing this proud Minnesota State Fair tradition. I wish the congregation of Hamline United Methodist Church all the best as they plan for the next 120 years of hospitality at the Hamline United Methodist Church Dining Hall.

HONORING CAPTAIN RICHARD A. KIBBEE AND THE AIRMEN ABOARD THE JOLLEY GREEN 05

HON. BILL POSEY
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, to recognize POW/MIA Day, on September 15, 2017, the Department of the Air Force, 920th Rescue Squadron, will honor the life and sacrifices of Captain Richard A. Kibbee, MA, by presenting his Dog Tags to his surviving family at Patrick Air Force Base in Cocoa Beach, FL.

Captain Kibbee was one of four aircrew members aboard the HH–3E helicopter, call sign JOLLEY GREEN 05, on a mission to rescue downed pilot Lucius L. Heiskell. On February 6, 1967, despite poor weather and limited visibility, Kibbee and his crew succeeded in picking up Captain Heiskell, but they were hit repeatedly by 37mm AAA fire. The burning HH–3E flew for about a mile before colliding head-on with a limestone cliff.

Of the four aircrew aboard JOLLEY GREEN 05, only one survived—pararescueman Dwayne Hackney, who was found after the incident. The other four airmen were designated as Missing in Action: Major Patrick H. Wood, pilot; MA: Captain Richard A. Kibbee, copilot; MA: SSgt Donald J. Hall, flight engineer, MA; and Captain Lucius L. Heiskell, 0–1F pilot, MA.

Although the four men were carried in MA status for some years, an Air Force review board ultimately determined that all available evidence indicated that they had died in the crash. Captain Kibbee’s Dog Tags were recently discovered near the accident site by a local farmer and were transferred to the U.S. authorities.

Captain Kibbee and the crew of the JOLLEY GREEN 05, including Captain Heiskell, laid their lives down on the altar of freedom for the benefit of our nation and our way of life. Posthumously, for his actions, Captain Kibbee was promoted to Colonel and awarded the Silver Star and the Purple Heart. On behalf of the United States Congress I would like to express my sincere appreciation for their sacrifices. At my request, on August 30, 2017, the Architect of the Capitol flew the United States Flag over our Capitol Building to further honor the sacrifice of Captain Richard A. Kibbee and his crew.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting these brave airmen, and their families, for their commitment to serving our nation and protecting our freedom.

RECOGNIZING EDWIN GILROY

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX
OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize—and say farewell—to a member of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce staff who has dedicated more than 20 years of public service to the People’s House. Edwin Gilroy began his congressional career on the staff of former Congressman Rod Chandler of Washington, and he would then go on to serve as Professional Staff Member for the Committee. But most of us know Ed for his nearly 16 years of service as the Committee’s Director of Workforce Policy.

It was in this capacity Ed led our efforts to expand access to affordable health care for small business employees; provide moms and dads more flexibility in the workplace; protect the rights of workers and employers; and hold officials accountable for how our nation’s health and safety laws are enforced.

Ed has also had a remarkable impact on policies affecting the retirement security of working families. He was instrumental in our bipartisan efforts to strengthen the defined benefit pension provisions of the Pension Protection Act in 2006, and again with enactment under President Obama of the Multiemployer Pension Reform Act in 2014. And he has played a vital role in ensuring all Americans have access to affordable retirement advice.

He has guided us through countless hearings, markups, floor debates, field hearings, member briefings, round-table discussions, and stakeholder meetings, and through it all, he has been a trusted adviser, dedicated public servant, distinguished colleague, and an invaluable member of our Committee family.

Ed Gilroy, on behalf of my colleagues, we are deeply grateful for his many years of service to the American people and the U.S. House of Representatives, and we wish him all the best in the years ahead.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF SOJOURNER TRUTH HOUSE

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and admiration that I recognize the Sojourner Truth House as the organization celebrates its 20th anniversary. In honor of this special occasion, the Sojourner Truth House will host an open house followed by a celebration mass at the Cathedral of the Holy Angels on September 16, 2017. The organization will then conclude its day of celebration with a reception at Avalon Manor in Merrillville, Indiana.

The Sojourner Truth House, a not-for-profit organization located in Gary, Indiana, serves an average of 2,092 homeless and at-risk women and children per month. The outstanding and compassionate employees and volunteers at the Sojourner Truth House assist and encourage their clients to regain their dignity and sense of purpose for themselves, their children, and their communities. The organization’s dedication to its four core values—Openness to the Spirit, Community, Simplicity, and Dignity and Respect for all—fosters a safe and supportive environment for their clients to identify and overcome the barriers in their lives. Clients are provided with access to resources, classes, counseling, and various activities aimed at healing the mind, body, and spirit. Among the organization’s numerous and important contributions, the Sojourner Truth House has clothed over 2,000 clients and has provided meals for nearly 15,000 people in need. Clients of the Sojourner Truth House share their appreciation for the warm, welcoming assistance they receive at the Sojourner Truth House, which only further reinforces the positive and lasting impact the organization has on the community of Gary and the entirety of Northwest Indiana. Recently, they have become a special limited partner in the Village of Hope, a 40-unit apartment building for homeless individuals and families with mental illness and/or addiction.

I would like to take time to mention some of the inspiring leaders in Northwest Indiana who have worked with the Sojourner Truth House to bring about positive, impactful change and to inspire the community. They include Executive Director Sister Peg Spindler, Chairwoman Judith Stanton, and the rest of the current Board of Directors: Leo Barron, Regina Biddings-Muro, Susan Cohen, Denise Dillard, James Donovan, Sister Michele Dvorak, Mike Gluszewski, Jason Griffin, Roxanne Morton, Stephanie Schreiber, and Michelle Taylor, Scott Yahne and Pamela Ytti.

I am also grateful for the sponsorship of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ, who work tirelessly to spread the goodwill and hope the Sojourner Truth House exudes.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating the Sojourner Truth House on its 20th anniversary. For the past 20 years, the staff and leadership have touched the lives of the people in Northwest Indiana.
HONORING THE FORT WORTH ASSOCIATION OF FEDERATED WOMEN’S CLUBS 100 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. MARC A. VEASEY OF TEXAS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Fort Worth Association of Federated Women’s Clubs (FWAFWC) for its 100 years of service to Fort Worth and the greater Tarrant County community.

The FWAFWC was founded in 1917 with Mrs. Fannie Mae Connally-Winn serving as the first president of the organization. Mrs. Winn created the organization because she wanted the “colored” women of Fort Worth to have the opportunity to be known for their service throughout the community. The organization has lived up to its founding mission and grown substantially over the decades.

The FWAFWC continues its commitment to ensuring that African-American women are aware of their civic duties, social issues in the community, family health matters, and the importance of educating youth for a better future. As part of their mission, FWAFWC members volunteer for the Annual Prom Dress Give Away each year and collect hundreds of donated items for local high school girls.

Additionally, FWAFWC has sponsored an annual cotillion for over 10 years, which provides young ladies with the skills to be successful later in life. The Cotillion also serves as a scholarship fundraiser event aimed at empowering young women to pursue their higher education aspirations.

Along with volunteering throughout the community, the group makes monetary donations to numerous local charities and community service organizations throughout the year, including a $500 college scholarship to graduating African American high school seniors.

I honor the Fort Worth Association of Federated Women’s Clubs and its century of service to the Fort Worth and Tarrant County community.

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ OF NEW YORK IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Detective Bruno Vidal, as he retires after 25 years of law enforcement service.

Det. Vidal began his law enforcement career in 1992 as a Police Officer with New York City’s Finest, the NYPD. In 1993 he was assigned to the 90th Precinct in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. In 1995, he joined the Community Patrol Officer Program (CPOP). A program designed to promote collaborative problem solving efforts between the community and police department. This program enabled Det. Vidal to patrol a dedicated geographic location within the community where he successfully worked with residents in identifying areas with serious quality of life conditions. As the CPOP Officer, his approach, mannerism and ability to communicate with the public, young and old; has been instrumental in fortifying the trust between the 90th Precinct and the greater community.

This achievement led to his appointment as the precinct’s Community Affairs Officer. In this capacity, he worked extensively within Williamsburg community. Det. Vidal established strong relationships with schools, faith-based and local organizations, small businesses, housing leaders and elected officials. He has earned numerous awards and the respect of the community and members of the service. In 2007 he was promoted to the well-deserved rank of Detective. And in 2015, he earned the new rank of Detective Specialist 2nd grade.

For twenty-five years, Det. Bruno Vidal has been an exemplary role model and dedicated public servant who served with pride and honor. I am proud to know and have worked with him on local issues. He is a loyal representative of New York’s Finest. I also want to thank his family, Mrs. Arisleida Vidal-Abreu and their three children Matthew, Carolyn and Adam for supporting his career. Please join me in saluting Detective Bruno Vidal from the 90th Precinct in New York City.

RECOGNIZING NORTHWEST INDIANA’S NEW CITIZENS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY OF INDIANA IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate thirty individuals who took the oath of citizenship on Friday, August 11, 2017. This memorable occasion, presided over by Magistrate Judge John E. Martin, was held at the Courthouse and Federal Building in Hammond, Indiana. America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. Oath ceremonies are a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On August 11, 2017, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, took their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Feda Izzedin Aljobeh, Mahmoud Ibrahim Almakharza, Mosa Maher Awad, Roberto Barraza, Manuel de Jesus Castaneda, Maria Ariminda de Leon, Jose Jorge Garcia, Lucio Chan Gudmalin, Wendy Lane Harris, Nora Ibrahim, Delia Ruiz, Ma Olivia Avila de Torres, Eduardo Torres, Victor Hugo Vargas Sanchez, Jose Jesus Vargas, Anna Onobiru Amadi and Silvia Andrea Alvarez, Guijuan Niu, Shanqin Chen, Hamida Brkovik, Eric Kwadwo Ofori, Ling Zhou, Jose Luis Castro Vazquez, Julio Alvarez Gonzalez, Hong Tuyet Thi Nguyen, Juana Irma Diaz de Soliano Garcia, Ruth Mwihaki Chege, Jose Martin Hernandez, Hannah Rose Babbini, and Prabhakar Himatram Jani.

Although each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country “… of the people, by the people, and for the people.” They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals who became citizens of the United States of America on August 11, 2017. They, too, are American citizens, and they, too, are guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INCORPORATED

HON. MARK POCAN OF WISCONSIN IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation:

Whereas Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated is a sisterhood of more than 200,000 women from countries around the world, established in 1913 by two bold and visionary women who saw the urgent need for a chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated in Madison, Wisconsin; and

Whereas the Madison Alumnae Chapter was chartered on August 27, 1977 by twenty-two bold and visionary women who saw the urgent need for a chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated in Madison, Wisconsin to create a collective shift in thinking for African American residents: to cultivate and educate the minority community in political, educational, cultural, economic and social spheres; and has continued to thrive, empower, and lead for forty years using sisterhood, scholarship and service as the guide; and

Whereas the Madison Alumnae Chapter has participated in Delta Days in the nation’s capital to meet with me and my staff to discuss...
is quietly and proudly serving his community.

EMERGENCY ROOM NURSE ALEX WUBBELS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON
OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to give brief remarks about Alex Wubbel, the emergency room nurse at University of Utah Hospital in Salt Lake City, Utah who was arrested for doing her job on July 26. As a non-practicing registered nurse, this story shocked and upset me. I cannot fathom being handcuffed in my workplace for following hospital policy and the law.

Ms. Wubbel stood her ground and remained calm during the encounter, which was caught on body camera footage. Hospital policy requires that the patient be under arrest, the police have a warrant, or the patient consent in order to draw blood. Since none of those requirements were met, Ms. Wubbel refused to draw the patient's blood, with the support of several managers, administrators, and her supervisor.

While I understand that the Salt Lake City Police Department is currently taking steps to prevent incidents like this, I find it unconscionable that an officer of the law felt it appropriate to treat a health professional in this manner. I do believe that implementation of new hospital procedure, such as requiring law enforcement officials to check in to the front desk of the hospital, are positive and I encourage other hospitals to adopt similar policies.

Ms. Wubbel remained focused on providing care to her patient and ultimately, no charges were filed against her. She is encouraging health professionals and law enforcement to use this incident to “open a civic dialogue.” As a nurse, I am proud to stand with individuals like Ms. Wubbel who turn negative events into positive learning experiences, always put patient well-being above all else, and stand their ground in the face of adversity.

IN SUPPORT OF AWARDEEING THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO SENATOR ROBERT DOLE

HON. NANCY PELOSI
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, we recognize Senator Dole, a patriot whose life and career embody superior public service. The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest award we can bestow. We confer this honor to men and women who grace our nation with exceptional achievements and contributions.

Senator Bob Dole is a leader of great integrity, a public servant of deep dignity and an American hero of extraordinary courage. Before the people of Kansas brought him to Capitol Hill, Bob Dole fought for our country in the mountains of central Italy during the Second World War.

For his courage and immense sacrifice, he was awarded Two Purple Hearts and the Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster for Valor. Bob Dole’s bravery was not limited to the battlefield. When he came to Congress, he fought relentlessly to ensure that every person in uniform would receive the care they needed upon coming home.

It is a special source of pride that Bob Dole first came to Washington to serve in the House of Representatives.

There, as a proud representative of western Kansas, he proved his mettle as a tenacious fighter for American families and American values.

Later, in the Senate, as Majority Leader, he continued to champion the vital causes central to our identity and our ideals as Americans.

Senator Dole was a champion of justice, battling to expand the civil rights of every American during the 1960s. He was a champion for working families, reaching across the aisle to expand eligibility for food stamps.

He was a champion for equality, fighting for passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act. After he left Capitol Hill, he continued the fight. He has advocated tirelessly on behalf of veterans, disabled Americans and families struggling with hunger and poverty in every part of the world.

Twenty years ago, President Clinton awarded the Senator our nation’s other highest civilian honor: The Presidential Medal of Freedom. Receiving this award, he said, “Our challenge is not to question American ideals or place them, but to act worthy of them.”

Senator Bob Dole: for a lifetime spent defending, advancing and exemplifying our proudest American ideals, we are grateful.

This Congress thanks you. We send our warmest congratulations to your incredible wife Elizabeth—a fierce champion for our hidden heroes: our military caregivers—and to the entire Dole family.

TRIBUTE TO EMMETT TILL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON
OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, sixty-two years ago, on August 28, 1955, in Money, Mississippi, a young African-American child by the name of Emmett Till was murdered while visiting from Chicago. Till’s life was taken from him after a white woman alleged he had whistled at her. Following her claim, the woman’s husband and brother found Till and assassinated him. The two men took Till from the home of his great uncle and shortly after, his body was found mutilated and disfigured. Yet, the murderers of Emmett Till were found not guilty by an all-white jury. Recently, the allegations against Till have been found to be untrue. The accuser herself recanted her accusations in July of this year. Six decades later, she finally admits that she lied while under oath about Till’s actions on the day she alleged he made advances toward her.

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Today, we also mourn the death of Simeon Wright, Emmett’s cousin, and one of the last people to see Till before he was abducted and murdered. The story of Emmett Till is a blunt reminder of racial inequality, as well as the inefficacy of our justice system; which we must continue to combat. As we continue the fight to overcome racial injustice, white supremacy and police brutality, let us do so by
honing the legacy of Emmett Till and many other African-Americans in Mississippi and throughout this country who have suffered from racial discrimination.

IN HONOR OF 125 YEARS OF AUBURN WOMEN

HON. MIKE ROGERS
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize the 125th Anniversary of women attending Auburn University. Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama, had its first females attend the school on September 13, 1892. The first three women were: Willie Gertrude Little, Katherine C. Broun and Margaret Kate Teague.

Little was the daughter of Auburn's mayor and graduated from Auburn University with a bachelor's degree and honors. A hall in the Upper Quad is named in her honor. Broun was the daughter of Auburn University President William L. Broun (1882 to 1902) and as an inaugural female student had to take tests in English, Latin, history and mathematics. She was most notably Auburn's first graduate student after receiving her bachelor's degree in 1894. Teague moved from Arkansas to Auburn after her mother's death and graduated with honors. She also has a hall named in her honor in the Upper Quad.

The 125th Anniversary of Auburn Women campaign recognizes and celebrates the accomplishments of the women who have graduated from Auburn University since 1892. The ground floor of Ralph Brown Draughon Library, located on campus, will have a display of unique artifacts on the history of women at Auburn. During the week of October 23, Auburn's campus will culminate several events in honor of this anniversary.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating this important milestone, 125th Anniversary of Auburn Women. War Eagle.
HIGHLIGHTS

See Résumé of Congressional Activity.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4917–S4969

Measures Introduced: Four bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1761–1764. Page S4939

Measures Reported:

Reported on Friday, August 18, during the adjournment:

S. 1761, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System.

Reported on Tuesday, September 5:

S. 772, to amend the PROTECT Act to make Indian tribes eligible for AMBER Alert grants. (S. Rept. No. 115–147) Page S4938

Measures Passed:

Bankruptcy Judgeship Act: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. 1107, to amend title 28, United States Code, to authorize the appointment of additional bankruptcy judges, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

McConnell (for Grassley) Amendment No. 787, in the nature of a substitute. Page S4956

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 94 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. EX. 188), Timothy J. Kelly, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia. Pages S4923, S4969

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Gregory Ibach, of Nebraska, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Regulatory Programs.

William Northey, of Iowa, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services.

Stephen Alexander Vaden, of Tennessee, to be General Counsel of the Department of Agriculture.

Robert Behler, of Pennsylvania, to be Director of Operational Test and Evaluation, Department of Defense.

Thomas B. Modly, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of the Navy.

Dean L. Winslow, of Delaware, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Mark L. Greenblatt, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Export-Import Bank.

Robert J. Jackson, Jr., of New York, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for the remainder of the term expiring June 5, 2019.

Suzanne Israel Tufts, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

James Bridenstine, of Oklahoma, to be Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Timothy Gallaudet, of California, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere.

Bruce J. Walker, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability).

Steven E. Winberg, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Fossil Energy).

Jeffery Martin Baran, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the term of five years expiring June 30, 2023.

Matthew Z. Leopold, of Florida, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

David Ross, of Wisconsin, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Larry Edward Andre, Jr., of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Djibouti.
Thomas L. Carter, of South Carolina, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America on the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization.

Michael T. Evanoff, of Arkansas, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Diplomatic Security).

Nina Maria Fite, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Angola.

Daniel L. Foote, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Zambia.

Richard Grenell, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Germany.

Kenneth Ian Juster, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of India.

W. Robert Kohorst, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia.


Edward Masso, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Estonia.

Edward T. McMullen, Jr., of South Carolina, to be Ambassador to the Swiss Confederation, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Principality of Liechtenstein.

Jennifer Gillian Newstead, of New York, to be Legal Adviser of the Department of State.

David Dale Reimer, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Mauritius, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Seychelles.

Christopher Smith, of New Jersey, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Seventy-second Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Eric P. Whitaker, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Niger.

Cheryl Marie Stanton, of South Carolina, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor.

David G. Zatezalo, of West Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Mine Safety and Health.

Frederick M. Nutt, of Virginia, to be Controller, Office of Federal Financial Management, Office of Management and Budget.

James Thomas Abbott, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years expiring July 1, 2020.

Colleen Kiko, of North Dakota, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years expiring July 29, 2022.

Emily Webster Murphy, of Missouri, to be Administrator of General Services.

Margaret Weichert, of Georgia, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget.

Christopher R. Sharpley, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Central Intelligence Agency.

John C. Demers, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

Andrei Iancu, of California, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Adam I. Klein, of the District of Columbia, to be Chairman and Member of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board for the remainder of the term expiring January 29, 2018.

Adam I. Klein, of the District of Columbia, to be Chairman and Member of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board for a term expiring January 29, 2024.

Tom Marino, of Pennsylvania, to be Director of National Drug Control Policy.

Jonathan F. Mitchell, of Washington, to be Chairman of the Administrative Conference of the United States for the term of five years.

Cheryl L. Mason, of Virginia, to be Chairman of the Board of Veterans’ Appeals for a term of six years.

60 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

8 Army nominations in the rank of general.


Messages from the House:

Pages S4958–69

Measures Placed on the Calendar:

Pages S4917, S4929

Enrolled Bills Presented:

Pages S4929

Executive Reports of Committees:

Page S4938

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S4939–41

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S4941–42

Additional Statements:

Pages S4927–29

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S4942–46

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—188)

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—188)

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:47 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, September 6, 2017. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S4956.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.
House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 9 public bills, H.R. 3672–3680; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 501, were introduced.

Additional Cosponsors:

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

- H.R. 1843, to amend title 31, United States Code, to prohibit the Internal Revenue Service from carrying out seizures relating to a structuring transaction unless the property to be seized derived from an illegal source or the funds were structured for the purpose of concealing the violation of another criminal law or regulation, to require notice and a post-seizure hearing for such seizures, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–286, Part 1);
- H.R. 2616, to amend the Mineral Leasing Act and the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to repeal provisions relating only to the Allegheny National Forest (H. Rept. 115–288);
- H.R. 2083, to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to reduce predation on endangered Columbia River salmon and other nonlisted species, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–289);
- H.R. 2611, to modify the boundary of the Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–290);
- H.R. 2768, to designate certain mountain peaks in the State of Colorado as “Fowler Peak” and “Boskoff Peak” (H. Rept. 115–291);
- H.R. 2864, to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to allow certain issuers to be exempt from registration requirements, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–292);
- H.R. 3110, to amend the Financial Stability Act of 2010 to modify the term of the independent member of the Financial Stability Oversight Council, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 407 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 439;
- H.R. 3388, to provide for information on highly automated driving systems to be made available to prospective buyers, with amendments (H. Rept. 115–294); and
- H. Res. 500, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3354) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2018, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules; and waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules (H. Rept. 115–295).

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Foxx to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Recess: The House recessed at 2:08 p.m. and reconvened at 5 p.m.

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

- Clyde-Hirsch-Sowers Restraining Excessive Seizure of Property through the Exploitation of Civil Asset Forfeiture Tools Act: H.R. 1843, amended, to amend title 31, United States Code, to prohibit the Internal Revenue Service from carrying out seizures relating to a structuring transaction unless the property to be seized derived from an illegal source or the funds were structured for the purpose of concealing the violation of another criminal law or regulation, and to require notice and a post-seizure hearing for such seizures;
- Financial Stability Oversight Council Insurance Member Continuity Act: H.R. 3110, to amend the Financial Stability Act of 2010 to modify the term of the independent member of the Financial Stability Oversight Council, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 407 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 439;
- Bob Dole Congressional Gold Medal Act: S. 1616, to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Bob Dole, in recognition for his service to the nation as a soldier, legislator, and statesman; and
- Improving Access to Capital Act: H.R. 2864, amended, to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to allow certain issuers to be exempt from registration requirements, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 403 yeas to 3 nays, Roll No. 440.

Recess: The House recessed at 6:05 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. tomorrow, September 6.

Recess: The House recessed at 8:15 p.m. and reconvened at 11:47 p.m.

Discharge Petition: Representative Coffman presented to the clerk a motion to discharge the Committee on the Judiciary from the consideration of H.R. 496, to provide provisional protected presence to qualified individuals who came to the United States as children (Discharge Petition No. 4).

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H6643 and H6644. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 11:48 p.m.

Committee Meetings

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2018

Committee on Rules: Full Committee began a hearing on H.R. 3354, the “Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2018” [Make America Secure and Prosperous Appropriations Act, 2018]. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–3, a structured rule for H.R. 3354. The rule provides two hours of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115–31, modified by Rules Committee Print 115–32 and the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, for failure to comply with clause 2 or clause 5(a) of rule XXI, except beginning with the colon on page 327, line 22, through “crime” on page 328, line 2; beginning with the semicolon on page 335, line 12, through “(12 U.S.C. 3907(b)(2).)” on page 356, line 14; and section 7080. The rule provides that where points of order are waived against part of a section, a point of order may only be raised against the exposed provision and not the entire section. The rule makes in order only those further amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report, amendments en bloc described in section 3 of the resolution, and pro forma amendments described in section 4 of the resolution. Each further amendment printed in the report may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before action thereon, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in part B of the report or against amendments en bloc described in section 3 of the resolution. The rule provides that shall be in order at any time for the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of amendments printed in the report not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their designees, shall not be subject to amendment, except as provided by section 4 of the resolution, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule provides that the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees may offer up to 20 pro forma amendments each at any point for the purpose of debate. The rule provides that no further consideration of the bill shall be in order except pursuant to a subsequent order of the House. The rule provides that during consideration of H.R. 3354, it shall not be in order to use a decrease in Overseas Contingency Operations funds to offset an amendment that increases an appropriation not designated as Overseas Contingency Operations funds or vice versa, but does not apply to amendments between the Houses. The rule provides that it shall be in order at any time through the legislative day of September 9, 2017, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules and that the Speaker or his designee shall consult with the Minority Leader or her designee on the designation of any matter for consideration pursuant to this section. The rule Waives clause 6(a) of rule XIII (requiring a two-thirds vote to consider a rule on the same day it is reported from the Rules Committee) against any resolution reported through the legislative day of September 9, 2017. Testimony was heard from Chairman Frelinghuysen and Representatives Lowey, Rogers of Kentucky, Roybal-Allard, Carter of Texas, Diaz-Balart, Price of North Carolina, Aderholt, Bishop of Georgia, Hastings, Polis, Lee, Barr, Bass, Buchanan, Blumenauer, Budd, Jackson Lee, Gaetz, Schiff, Mitchell, Perry, and Rothfus.
No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D881)

H.R. 3298, to authorize the Capitol Police Board to make payments from the United States Capitol Police Memorial Fund to employees of the United States Capitol Police who have sustained serious line-of-duty injuries, and for other purposes. Signed on August 4, 2017. (Public Law 115–45)

S. 114, to authorize appropriations and to appropriate amounts for the Veterans Choice Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to improve hiring authorities of the Department, to authorize major medical facility leases, and for other purposes. Signed on August 12, 2017. (Public Law 115–46)

H.R. 2210, to designate the community living center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Butler Township, Butler County, Pennsylvania, as the “Sergeant Joseph George Kusick VA Community Living Center”. Signed on August 16, 2017. (Public Law 115–47)

H.R. 3218, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes. Signed on August 16, 2017. (Public Law 115–48)

H.R. 374, to remove the sunset provision of section 203 of Public Law 105–384, and for other purposes. Signed on August 18, 2017. (Public Law 115–49)

H.R. 510, to establish a system for integration of Rapid DNA instruments for use by law enforcement to reduce violent crime and reduce the current DNA analysis backlog. Signed on August 18, 2017. (Public Law 115–50)

H.R. 873, to authorize the Global War on Terror Memorial Foundation to establish the National Global War on Terrorism Memorial as a commemorative work in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes. Signed on August 18, 2017. (Public Law 115–51)

H.R. 2430, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to revise and extend the user-fee programs for prescription drugs, medical devices, generic drugs, and biosimilar biological products, and for other purposes. Signed on August 18, 2017. (Public Law 115–52)


H.J. Res. 76, granting the consent and approval of Congress for the Commonwealth of Virginia, the State of Maryland, and the District of Columbia to enter into a compact relating to the establishment of the Washington Metrorail Safety Commission. Signed on August 22, 2017. (Public Law 115–54)

H.R. 2288, to amend title 38, United States Code, to reform the rights and processes relating to appeals of decisions regarding claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes. Signed on August 23, 2017. (Public Law 115–55)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2017

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, business meeting to markup an original bill entitled, “Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2018”, 11 a.m., SD–124.

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, business meeting to markup an original bill entitled, “Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2018”, 2:30 p.m., SD–124.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine addressing the risk of waste, fraud, and abuse in the Federal Communications Commission’s Lifeline Program, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Finance: business meeting to consider the nominations of Gilbert B. Kaplan, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade, and Matthew Bassett, of Tennessee, to be an Assistant Secretary, and Robert Charrow, of Maryland, to be General Counsel, both of the Department of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine priorities and challenges in the United States-Turkey relationship, 10:30 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine stabilizing premiums and helping individuals on the individual insurance market for 2018, focusing on state insurance commissioners, 10 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the history and current reality of the United States health care system, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Amy Coney Barrett, of Indiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, Joan Louise Larsen, of Michigan, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, William L. Campbell, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Tennessee, Thomas Lee Robinson Parker, to be United
States District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee, and Eric S. Dreiband, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–226.

House

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Full Committee, hearing entitled ‘The Sharing Economy: Creating Opportunities for Innovation and Flexibility’, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.


Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Terrorism and Illicit Finance, hearing entitled “Low Cost, High Impact: Combating the Financing of Lone-Wolf and Small-Scale Terrorist Attacks”, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing on H.R. 2661, the “State Mineral Revenue Protection Act”; H.R. 2907, the “Planning for American Energy Act”; and H.R. 3565, the “Federal Land Freedom Act”, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, continue hearing on H.R. 3354, the “Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2018” [Make America Secure and Prosperous Appropriations Act, 2018], 2 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Environment; and Subcommittee on Oversight, joint hearing entitled “Examining the Scientific and Operational Integrity of EPA’s IRIS Program”, 10 a.m., 2518 Rayburn.


Subcommittee on Social Security, hearing entitled “Determining Eligibility for Disability Benefits: Challenges Facing the Social Security Administration”, 10 a.m., 2020 Rayburn.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of September 6 through September 8, 2017

Senate Chamber

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Appropriations: September 6, Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, business meeting to markup an original bill entitled, “Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2018”, 11 a.m., SD–124.

September 6, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, business meeting to markup an original bill entitled, “Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2018”, 2:30 p.m., SD–124.

September 7, Full Committee, business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, “Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2018”, and an original bill entitled, “Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2018”, 10:30 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: September 7, business meeting to consider S. 1463, to amend the Financial Stability Act of 2010 to modify the term of the independent member of the Financial Stability Oversight Council, and the nominations of Joseph Otting, of Nevada, to be Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, and Randal Quarles, of Colorado, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Reappointment), and to be Vice Chairman for Supervision of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; to be immediately followed by hearings to examine evaluating sanctions enforcement and policy options on North Korea, 9:30 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: September 6, to hold hearings to examine addressing the risk of waste, fraud, and abuse in the Federal Communications Commission’s Lifeline Program, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: September 7, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Joseph Balash, of Alaska, to be an Assistant Secretary, and Ryan Douglas Nelson, of Idaho, to be Solicitor, both of the Department of the Interior, and Richard Glick, of Virginia, and Kevin J. McIntyre, of Virginia, both to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 10:30 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Finance: September 6, business meeting to consider the nominations of Gilbert B. Kaplan, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade, and Matthew Bassett, of Tennessee, to be an Assistant Secretary, and Robert Charrow, of Maryland, to be General Counsel, both of the Department of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD–215.

September 7, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the Children’s Health Insurance Program, focusing on the path forward, 10 a.m., SD–215.
Committee on Armed Services: September 6, to hold hearings to examine priorities and challenges in the United States-Turkey relationship, 10:30 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: September 6, to hold hearings to examine stabilizing premiums and helping individuals on the individual insurance market for 2018, focusing on state insurance commissioners, 10 a.m., SH–216.

September 7, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine stabilizing premiums and helping individuals in the individual insurance market for 2018, focusing on governors, 9 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: September 6, to hold hearings to examine the history and current reality of the United States health care system, 10 a.m., SD–342.

September 7, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold oversight hearings to examine Federal infrastructure permitting and the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on the Judiciary: September 6, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Amy Coney Barrett, of Indiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, Joan Louise Larsen, of Michigan, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, William L. Campbell, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Tennessee, Thomas Lee Robinson Parker, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee, and Eric S. Dreiband, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–226.

September 7, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 705, to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a national criminal history background check system and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, and the nominations of Kurt G. Alme, to be United States Attorney for the District of Montana, Donald Q. Cochran, Jr., to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Tennessee, Russell M. Coleman, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, Bart M. Davis, to be United States Attorney for the District of Idaho, Robert J. Higdon, Jr., to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina, Brian J. Kuester, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Oklahoma, and R. Trent Shores, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Oklahoma, all of the Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: September 7, closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing to examine certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH–219.

House Committees

Committee on Armed Services, September 7, Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces; and Subcommittee on Readiness, joint hearing entitled “Navy Readiness—Underlying Problems Associated with the USS Fitzgerald and USS John S. McCain”, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, September 7, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled “The Broadcast Incentive Auction: Update on Repacking Opportunities and Challenges”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.


Committee on Foreign Affairs, September 7, Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, hearing entitled “Maintaining U.S. Influence in South Asia: The FY 2018 Budget”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

September 7, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Non-proliferation, and Trade, hearing entitled “U.S. Department of State Counterterrorism Bureau: The FY 2018 Budget”, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, September 7, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2142, the “International Narcotics Trafficking Emergency Response by Detecting Incoming Contraband with Technology Act”; H.R. 3101, the “Strengthening Cybersecurity Information Sharing and Coordination in Our Ports Act of 2017”; H.R. 3551, to amend the Security and Accountability for Every Port Act of 2006 to reauthorize the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism Program, and for other purposes; and H.R. 3669, the “Securing General Aviation and Commercial Charter Air Carrier Service Act of 2017”, 10 a.m., HVC–210.


Committee on the Judiciary, September 7, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 3229, to protect the safety of judges by extending the authority of the Judicial Conference to redact sensitive information contained in their financial disclosure reports, and for other purposes; H.R. 620, the “ADA Education and Reform Act of 2017”; and H. Res. 488, resolution of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Attorney General to transmit, respectively, certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the removal of former Federal Bureau of Investigation Director James Comey, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, September 7, Subcommittee on Government Operations, hearing entitled “Examining the Shipment of Illicit Drugs in International Mail”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, September 7, Subcommittee on Space, hearing entitled “Private Sector Lunar Exploration”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, September 7, Full Committee, markup on H. Res. 479, of inquiry directing the Secretary of the Treasury to provide to the House of Representatives the tax return information of President Donald J. Trump as well as the tax returns of each business entity disclosed by Donald J. Trump on his Office of Government Ethics Form 278c", 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.
Résumé of Congressional Activity

FIRST SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

The first table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the Senate and House. The second table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation.

### DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

**January 3 through August 31, 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Senate</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Days in session</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time in session</td>
<td>770 hrs., 41'</td>
<td>544 hrs., 11'</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congressional Record:</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pages of proceedings</td>
<td>4,913</td>
<td>6,650</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extensions of Remarks</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>1,150</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public bills enacted into law</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private bills enacted into law</td>
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<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bills in conference</td>
<td>...</td>
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<td>...</td>
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<tr>
<td>Measures passed, total</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>452</td>
<td>668</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senate bills</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>11</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>House bills</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate joint resolutions</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>House joint resolutions</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senate concurrent resolutions</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>House concurrent resolutions</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Simple resolutions</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>103</td>
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<tr>
<td>Measures reported, total</td>
<td>*199</td>
<td>*278</td>
<td>477</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senate bills</td>
<td>153</td>
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<td>House bills</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>205</td>
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<td>House joint resolutions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senate concurrent resolutions</td>
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<tr>
<td>House concurrent resolutions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Simple resolutions</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>67</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special reports</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>Conference reports</td>
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<tr>
<td>Measures pending on calendar</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>58</td>
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<tr>
<td>Measures introduced, total</td>
<td>2,070</td>
<td>4,358</td>
<td>6,428</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bills</td>
<td>1,751</td>
<td>3,667</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joint resolutions</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>116</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concurrent resolutions</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>77</td>
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<tr>
<td>Simple resolutions</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>498</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quorum calls</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yea-and-nay votes</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>206</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recorded votes</td>
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<td>231</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bills vetoed</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vetoes overridden</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*These figures include all measures reported, even if there was no accompanying report. A total of 146 written reports have been filed in the Senate, 282 reports have been filed in the House.

### DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

**January 3 through August 31, 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Civilian nominations</th>
<th>Other Civilian nominations</th>
<th>Air Force nominations</th>
<th>Army nominations</th>
<th>Navy nominations</th>
<th>Marine Corps nominations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>699</td>
<td>3,075</td>
<td>5,420</td>
<td>2,089</td>
<td>1,310</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unconfirmed</td>
<td>179</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Withdrawn</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summary:

- Total nominations carried over from the First Session: 0
- Total nominations received this Session: 12,963
- Total confirmed: 12,725
- Total unconfirmed: 208
- Total withdrawn: 30
- Total returned to the White House: 0
Next Meeting of the SENATE
10 a.m., Wednesday, September 6

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will be in a period of morning business.
(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 a.m., Wednesday, September 6

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 3354—"Make America Secure and Prosperous Appropriations Act, 2018" (Subject to a Rule). Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

McCollum, Betty, Minn., E1159
McEnchin, A. Donald, Va., E1159
Meng, Grace, N.Y., E1162
Moore, Gwen, Wisc., E1157
Norton, Eleanor Holmes, The District of Columbia, E1158
Pallone, Frank, Jr., N.J., E1156, E1157
Pascrell, Bill, Jr., N.J., E1159
Pelosi, Nancy, Calif., E1162
Pocan, Mark, Wisc., E1161
Posey, Bill, Fla., E1160
Richmond, Cedric L., La., E1158
Rogers, Mike, Ala., E1163
Thompson, Bennie G., Miss., E1152
Veasey, Marc A., Tex., E1156, E1161
Velasquez, Nydia M., N.Y., E1156, E1161
Visclosky, Peter J., Ind., E1155, E1156, E1157, E1158, E1160, E1161

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