for the \$9 million renovation of the African Meeting House. But few people have worked harder to make the renovation and rededication a reality than Beverly Morgan-Welch, the executive director of the Museum of African-American History. She has spent more than a decade spearheading the project, and I congratulate her for all her efforts on behalf of the Museum and the Meeting House and for the decades she has spent telling the unique and powerful story of African-Americans. It is an inspiring story about those whose spirits would not be broken by slavery, those who found ways to create families and communities under unimaginably brutal conditions, and those who managed-against all odds-to escape to freedom.

The African Meeting House reminds us that America has come a long way in making good on what Dr. King called "the promissory note" of our democracy—the right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" to all our citizens. It is a testament to the great strides we have made in outlawing the racial injustice that tainted the ideals of American society and helped make possible the election of our first African-American president and, in Massachusetts, our first African-American governor.

But the African Meeting House also reminds us of the work and the struggle that continues today. If we are to be fully emancipated from the consequences of slavery, we must understand its history, which played out so eloquently, so gallantly and so courageously at the African Meeting House.

DEFENSE LEGISLATIVE FELLOW PROGRAM

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I rise to recognize the Defense Legislative Fellow Program and honor the fellows whom I have come to know well during their service in my office since 2009. These individuals have been among our Nation's best and brightest and they come to Congress each year to impart their knowledge to Members and their staffs and leave with a better awareness of the political process and the tireless and often unheralded work that congressional staff undertake each and every day. In the past 2 years I have had the pleasure of having three defense fellows work in my office: LTC Brooks Tucker, U.S. Marine Corps; MAJ Vaughan Byrum, U.S. Army; and MAJ Brett Robinson, U.S. Air Force.

As a testament to their abilities, MAJ Vaughan Byrum, a 14-year Army officer, prior enlisted soldier, and veteran of the two deployments to Iraq, is now serving as one of a handful of promising and capable officers representing the Army in the Senate Liaison Office, and Major Robinson is completing his tenure in my office and preparing for another demanding assignment in the Washington, DC, area. As an officer in the Marine Corps Reserve, LTC Brooks Tucker started as a fellow

in my office in 2009, just when I was assigned a spot on the Senate Armed Services Committee. He has served on both my personal office and Veterans' Affairs Committee staffs, and he has been a tireless advocate for North Carolina's veterans and Active-Duty families and has been the critical lynchpin in my efforts to help the service-members and families who were impacted by contamination while serving at Camp Leieune.

I want to express my gratitude to all three of these defense fellows for their service to the U.S. Senate and the people of North Carolina.

Major Byrum came to my office after completing a tough and demanding tour of duty in Baghdad, training and mentoring the provincial police and assisting with the critical transition from coalition to Iraqi responsibility and control. Like many combat veterans whom I have met over the years, Major Byrum is the epitome of professionalism, possesses a warm sense of humor, and conducts himself with humility and impeccable bearing. A graduate of North Carolina A&T University and a leader in the Reserve Officer Training Corps, Vaughan has a heart as big as his linebacker frame. He is fondly remembered by my staff, who went out of their way to welcome him back to the Senate after an interim assignment serving in the Pentagon. His cando attitude and self-effacing demeanor will serve him well as he works with Senators and staff in the months ahead. I know his wife Andrea and daughter Victoria are very proud of him. I realize the Byrum family has made numerous sacrifices and endured lengthy separations, and they, like so many others in the military, have borne that burden quietly, with courage and grace.

Major Robinson has worked diligently in my Washington office for the past year and ably served the people of North Carolina. Before joining the Senate, Major Robinson served as the special operations program manager for the Air National Guard overseeing the special operations budget supporting over 1,000 personnel and 9 aircraft. As a traditional Air Guardsman, he serves as a C-130 pilot with the Pennsylvania Air National Guard. Prior to his recent assignments in Washington, DC, Major Robinson completed combat deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan and garnered operational experience on the African Continent, Europe, and Asia. A distinguished graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, he has served as a tactics officer, pilot, and flight commander and is the recipient of numerous personal decorations for meritorious service over his 13 years in uni-

His tireless work and patient manner has not gone unnoticed, whether it be helping a Vietnam combat veteran receive a long overdue decoration for valor, offering operational perspectives on air operations in Afghanistan and Libya, or working in concert with mili-

tary commanders and civilian leaders in North Carolina to address veterans' needs

And to Jori, his wife, who is also an Air Force officer, thank you for your support and sacrifice as you balance the demands and confront the challenges of life in service to this Nation. I enjoyed meeting you and your sons, Grayson and Kiernan, and I know Major Robinson couldn't do what he does without your love and support.

I have gotten to know Major Robinson and Major Byrum quite well in the past 2 years. For men with so many rich life experiences and career accomplishments to be proud of, they truly epitomize the moniker "quiet professional" and exude a measured demeanor, consistent competency, and genuine modesty that has made them trusted advisers to me and my staff and garnered our admiration and affection. In sum, they are superb examples of the finest military in the world.

From interns in my office to constituents in the State, to all of my staff in North Carolina, Major Byrum and Major Robinson have impressed us at every turn and succeeded in educating us about the honor, tradition, and sacrifices made every day by our service men and women overseas, especially those of the National Guard.

Thank you, MAJ Vaughan M. Byrum and MAJ Brett B. Robinson, for your distinguished year of service to the people of North Carolina and for your continued commitment to protecting our Nation and the prosperity of all Americans.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

S. 1917. A bill to create jobs by providing payroll tax relief for middle class families and businesses, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 384. A bill to amend title 39, United States Code, to extend the authority of the United States Postal Service to issue a semipostal to raise funds for breast cancer research (Rept. No. 112-97).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. KERRY for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

*Mari Carmen Aponte, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of El Salvador.

Nominee: Mari Carmen Aponte.

Post: El Salvador.

(The following is a list of all members of my immediate family and their spouses. I

have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions made by Mari Carmen Aponte since January 1, 2007: Amigos de Juan Cancel, 01-24-07, \$150; Serrano for Congress, 02-23-07, \$250; Anibal 2008, 02-26-07, \$1000; Solis for Congress, 03-01-07, \$250; Bill Richardson for Governor, 03-02-07, \$200; Del Toro for Delegate, 03-26-07, \$250; Ctee to Re-Elect N Velazquez, 03-30-07, \$1000; Acevedo Vila Comisionado 2000, 03-27-07, \$1000; Friends of Ramona Martinez, 04-24-07, \$500; Byron Dorgan for Senate, 05-25-07, \$400; Del Toro for Delegate, 06-13-07, \$250; Del Toro for Delegate, 09-28-07, \$250; Puerto Rico Contra 11-28-07, Salazar Corrupción, \$200: Comisionado 2008, 12-28-07, \$2000.

Partido Popular de PR, 02-26-08, Anibal 2008, 02-26-08, \$1000; Hillary Clinton for President, 02-29-08, \$1000; Tadeo for Congress, 3-05-08, \$150; McMahon for Congress, 06-10-08, \$200; Salazar Comisionado 2008, 06-10-08, \$800; DCCC, 06-26-08, \$500; PODER PAC, 09-19-08, \$5000; Ctee to Re-elect Jim Graham, 08-30-08, \$250; Medalla LMM (Partido Popular), 09-15-08, \$200; Partido Popular, 09-17-08, \$800; Obama Victory Fund, 10-30-08, \$5000; Poder PAC, 12-05-08, \$1000.

Becerra for Congress, 03-03-09, \$1000; Pleitez for Congress, 03-18-09, \$500; Friends of Rick Montano, 04-18-09, \$100; Ctee to Re-elect N Velazquez, 04-24-09, \$500; DSCC, 05-11-09, \$500; Amigos A Salazar, 06-29-09, \$100; Ctee to Reelect Diana Reyna, 08-10-09, \$200; DSCC, 09-11-09, \$250; Menendez for Senate, 10-20-09, \$1000; Ctee to Re-elect N Velazquez, 11-05-09, \$1000; Ctee to Re-elect N Velazquez, 11-18-09, \$900; PODER PAC, 02-22-10, -\$1000; Hickenlooper for Colorado, 05-06-10, \$50; Joe Garcia for Congress, 05-12-10, \$200; D.C. State Democratic Cmte, 06-01-10, \$150; Parraz for Change, 06-09-10, \$200.

Contributions made by Grandparents since 2007: All four grandparents deceased before 2007: no contributions made by Grandparents.

Contributions made by father—Rene Aponte: Father deceased on June 17, 1989; no contributions made by father.

Contributions made by mother—Maria Cristina Rodriguez since 2007: DNC, 09-15-08, \$35

Contributions made by sister—Maria T 2007: Aponte Aloma since Salazar Comisionado 2008, 12-28-07, \$1000.

Contributions made by step sister—Kate Wood since 2007: Obama for America, 09-17-08. \$300: Obama for America, 09-30-08, \$250.

Contributions made by step brother—Bill Wood since 2007: None.

*Adam E. Namm, of New York, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Ecuador.

Nominee: Adam E. Namm.

Post: Quito.

(The following is a list of all members of my immediate family and their spouses. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount. date. donee: 1. Self: None

- 2. Spouse:
- Mei HUANG: \$100, 5/1/08, MoveOn.org; \$250, 06/9/08, Emily's List.
- 3. Children and Spouses: Rebecca NAMM (daughter): None
- 4. Parents: Arnold NAMM (father-died in May 2010): None; Susan SPENCER (mother): \$500, 12/13/07, Sen. Tom Harkin; \$1,000, 11/04/

08. Sen. Tom Harkin; \$250, 05/19/10, Sen. Tom Harkin; \$150, 11/24/10, Sen. Tom Harkin; \$100, 01/05/07, Emily's List; \$2,500, 01/08/07, Emily's List; \$1,000, 02/15/07, Emily's List; \$500, 02/16/07, Emily's List; \$500, 02/16/07, Emily's List; \$500, 05/30/07, Hillary Clinton via Emily's List; \$2,500, 01/14/08, Emily's List; \$350, 05/09/08, Emily's List; \$1,500, 04/16/09, Emily's List; \$1,000, 03/18/10, Emily's List; \$1,000, 03/09/11, Emily's List; \$1,250, 03/28/11, Lois Frankel for Congress; \$250, 06/10/11, Tom Harkin; \$1,000, 05/30/07, Hilary Clinton for President; \$1,300, 12/14/07, Hillary Clinton for President.

- 5. Grandparents: N/A (all deceased).
- 6. Brothers and Spouses: N/A.
- 7. Sisters and Spouses: Leslie COPLIN (sister): \$250, 08/08/08 (est), MoveOn.org; \$200, 09/ 01/08 (est), Obama for America.
- *Michael Anthony McFaul, of California, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Russian Federation.

FEDERAL CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION REPORT

Nominee: Michael McFaul.

Post: U.S. Ambassador to Russia.

The following is a list of all members of my immediate family and their spouses. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.

Contributions, amount, date, and donee:

- 1. Self: \$250, 9/26/07, Obama for America; \$250, 12/08/07, Obama for America.
- 2. Spouse: \$100, 9/27/08, Obama for America; \$100, 11/1/08, Obama for America.
- 3. Children and Spouses: Luke McFaulnone; Cole McFaul—none.
- Parents: Kip McFaul-none; Helen McFaul-none.
- 5. Grandparents: Deceased.
- 6. Brothers and Spouses: Patrick McFaul none: Chris McFaul—\$100, 2008, Obama for America; Shawn McFaul-none; Katherine Heekin, \$225, 12/21/10, Amer. Assoc for Justice (AAJPAC); \$100, 2008, Merkley for Senate; \$250, 2/9/08, Hillary Clinton for President; \$250, 5/10/08, Hillary Clinton for President; \$50, 2007/2008, John Edwards for President; Tim McFaul—none; Heather Fox—none.
- 7. Sisters and Spouses: Christie Martelnone; Tony Martel, \$500, 5/24/11, Montanans for Rehberg; \$250, 10/7/10, Assoc. General Contractors of America PAC; \$250, 8/30/10, Rehberg for Congress; \$6000, 9/17/08, McCain-Palin Victory CA.

*Roberta S. Jacobson, of Maryland, a Career Member of the Senior Executive Service, to be an Assistant Secretary of State

(Western Hemisphere Affairs). *Elizabeth M. Cousens, of Washington, to be Representative of the United States of America on the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador.

*Elizabeth M. Cousens, of Washington, to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America on the Economic and Social Council of the United

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, for the Committee on Foreign Relations I report favorably following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORD

on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

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

*Foreign Service nominations beginning with John Ross Beyrle and ending with Daniel J. Weber, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 15, 2011.

*Foreign Service nominations beginning with Timothy M. Bashor and ending with Rafaela Zuidema, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on October 3, 2011.

*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.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 1918. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to prescribe regulations imposing a fee on air carriers that charge passengers for a first checked bag or a first carry-on bag, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. REID:

S. 1919. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide penalties for transporting minors in foreign commerce for the purposes of female genital mutilation; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE:

S. 1920. A bill to save money and reduce tragedies through prevention grants; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts:

S. 1921. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for the retrofit conversion of a nonhybrid motor vehicle to a hybrid: to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself and Mr. VITTER): S. 1922. A bill to clarify the application of

section 14501(d) of title 49, United States Code, to prevent the imposition of unreasonable transportation terminal fees: to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 1923. A bill to prevent Internet stalking and domestic violence; to the Committee on the Judiciary

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

> By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. Res. 337. A resolution designating December 10, 2011, as "Wreaths Across America Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. McConnell):

S. Res. 338. A resolution to authorize the production of records by the Committee on