

time was president of the Wrangell Chamber of Commerce, was aboard the *Malaspina* for its maiden voyage to Petersburg. In its first year of service, the Marine Highway added the Taku and Matanuska ferries, which broadened service from Ketchikan to Petersburg, Sitka, Skagway, Wrangell and Prince Rupert, British Columbia. During that inaugural year the fleet moved more than 15,000 vehicles and 80,000 passengers.

In 2005, I attended the designation ceremony to name the Marine Highway as a National Scenic Byway—All American Road, the highest recognition that can be received under the Byways Program. This designation recognized that for Southeast Alaska, the ferry system is a piece of history, a tourist attraction, and a way of life. It is the primary transportation link for many of the 30 communities it serves that populates Alaska's 35,000 miles from Bellingham, WA, up the Inside Passage, across the Gulf of Alaska and out along the 1,000 mile stretch of the Aleutian Chain to the Bering Sea. It also enables Juneau to serve as the only United States capital city not accessible by road.

The Marine Highway directly affects our school system in Southeast Alaska. Over 15 rural schools are given an economically feasible way to travel so that students may participate in competitive academic and sporting events. This allows young Alaskans opportunities that would otherwise be impossible, providing the chance to interact and identify with communities, families and other students from across the State.

To commemorate this special occasion, this summer the M/V *Malaspina* will sail a special voyage inspired by the 1963 inaugural sailing. The celebration will include community events across Southeast Alaska showcasing the unique culture and heritage of each community.

Much like the blue and gold of Alaska's state flag, the blue and gold ships on the Alaska Marine Highway System embody the spirit and fortitude of Alaskans. What was once called one of the most important and permanent achievements for Alaska since statehood, the Marine Highway has grown alongside the people it serves to improve life in Alaska. We share pride for our unique State, and pride in the Alaska Marine Highway System.●

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

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13338 OF MAY 11, 2004, WITH RESPECT TO THE BLOCKING OF PROPERTY OF CERTAIN PERSONS AND PROHIBITION OF EXPORTATION AND RE-EXPORTATION OF CERTAIN GOODS TO SYRIA—PM 9

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

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1622(d), provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency, unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the actions of the Government of Syria declared in Executive Order 13338 of May 11, 2004—as modified in scope and relied upon for additional steps taken in Executive Order 13399 of April 25, 2006, Executive Order 13460 of February 13, 2008, Executive Order 13572 of April 29, 2011, Executive Order 13573 of May 18, 2011, Executive Order 13582 of August 17, 2011, Executive Order 13606 of April 22, 2012, and Executive Order 13608 of May 1, 2012—is to continue in effect beyond May 11, 2013.

While the Syrian regime has reduced the number of foreign fighters bound for Iraq, the regime's brutal war on the Syrian people, who have been calling for freedom and a representative government, endangers not only the Syrian people themselves, but could yield greater instability throughout the region. The Syrian regime's actions and policies, including pursuing chemical and biological weapons, supporting terrorist organizations, and obstructing the Lebanese government's ability to function effectively, continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue in effect the national emergency declared with respect to this threat and to maintain in force the sanctions to address this national emergency.

In addition, the United States condemns the Assad regime's use of brutal violence and human rights abuses and

calls on the Assad regime to stop its violent war and step aside to allow a political transition in Syria that will forge a credible path to a future of greater freedom, democracy, opportunity, and justice.

The United States will consider changes in the composition, policies, and actions of the Government of Syria in determining whether to continue or terminate this national emergency in the future.

BARACK OBAMA.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 7, 2013.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:19 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novtony, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 291. An act to provide for the conveyance of certain cemeteries that are located on National Forest System land in Black Hills National Forest, South Dakota.

H.R. 507. An act to provide for the conveyance of certain land inholdings owned by the United States to the Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona, and for other purposes.

H.R. 588. An act to provide for donor contribution acknowledgments to be displayed at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitor Center, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 32. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 672(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112-239), the Minority Leader appoints the following individuals to the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission: Mr. Christopher Carney of Dimock, Pennsylvania and General Peter W. Chiarelli of Seattle, Washington.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 291. An act to provide for the conveyance of certain cemeteries that are located on National Forest System land in Black Hills National Forest, South Dakota; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 507. An act to provide for the conveyance of certain land inholdings owned by the United States to the Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 888. A bill to provide end user exemptions from certain provisions of the Commodity Exchange Act and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-9. A concurrent resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio urging Congress to maintain operation of the 179th Airlift Wing at Mansfield-Lahm Regional Airport in Mansfield, Ohio; to the Committee on Armed Services.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4

Whereas, The United States Air Force 179th Airlift Wing is a military airlift organization assigned to the Ohio Air National Guard and stationed at Mansfield-Lahm Regional Airport; and

Whereas, Due to its superior record, the 179th Airlift Wing received a mission to operate the C-27J Spartan aircraft, a twin turbo-prop aircraft with short takeoff and landing capabilities, ideal for the nation's current military needs and for providing rapid response support for homeland emergencies; and

Whereas, The United States Air Force has published proposed personnel actions associated with plans to retire more than 300 aircraft nationwide, including the C-27J; and

Whereas, The United States Air Force has plans to move personnel positions among stations to mitigate the impact of the reductions; and

Whereas, The United States Air National Guard, including the 179th Airlift Wing, is responsible for homeland defense, and the C-27J is an important tool in accomplishing this mission; and

Whereas, The 179th Airlift Wing has made United States Air National Guard history by deploying the C-27J in Afghanistan in Operation Enduring Freedom; and

Whereas, Closing the Air National Guard Station at Mansfield-Lahm, relocating its personnel, and diverting or retiring its C-27J aircraft would create discontinuity and weaken national defense and homeland disaster readiness; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Congress of the United States is urged to maintain operation of the 179th Airlift Wing at Mansfield-Lahm Regional Airport to ensure Ohio and our nation will continue to benefit from the unique experience and capabilities of its personnel and the region; and be it further

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, to the President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate, to the Speaker and the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, to the members of the Ohio Congressional delegation, and to the news media of Ohio.

POM-10. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of New Mexico urging Congress to reauthorize the Water Resources Development Act of 2007, section 5056, and to appropriate sufficient funds to carry out the purposes of the act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 7

Whereas, the Rio Grande basin spans the territory of three states, Colorado, New Mexico and Texas, and twenty-two Native American tribes and pueblos and is one of the most rapidly growing areas in the United States; and

Whereas, the Rio Grande runs the entire length of New Mexico, for more than four hundred fifty river-miles, and major tributaries to the Rio Grande are located in New Mexico, including the Pecos river, the Rio

Chama, the Jemez river and the Rio Puerco, and many other smaller tributaries too numerous to list; and

Whereas, the Rio Grande mainstem and tributaries provide a renewable water supply for irrigation and drinking water and support nationally significant ecosystems for fish and wildlife and renowned tourism destinations; and

Whereas, the water quality of the Rio Grande and the Pecos river and other tributaries is impaired, in part, by high concentrations of dissolved salts and elevated levels of bacteria that can limit available water supply for municipal and agricultural use; and

Whereas, the Rio Grande and Pecos watersheds in New Mexico have the highest total number of New Mexico species of greatest conservation need across all taxa and are predicted to contain some of the greatest diversity of aquatic species of greatest conservation need; and

Whereas, water quality, supply, conveyance and delivery; ecosystem degradation; and flooding are major issues in the Rio Grande basin in New Mexico, and state and local funding to address these issues is inadequate; and

Whereas, while the United States army corps of engineers has nationwide watershed assessment and construction authorities to study problems, recommend solutions and construct projects to restore the health of rivers, all Rio Grande basin projects must compete nationally for these limited federal funds; and

Whereas, the United States congress and president of the United States established a Rio Grande basin-specific funding authority in the Water Resource Development Act of 2007 under Section 5056, called the Rio Grande environmental management program, which authorized federal funding of up to fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) annually for the Rio Grande mainstem and tributaries and directed the secretary of the army to rehabilitate and enhance fish and wildlife habitat in partnership with local sponsors and to implement long-term monitoring, data collection and analysis, applied research and adaptive management; and

Whereas, the Rio Grande environmental management program authority expired in September 2011 before any funds could be appropriated to carry out the program, and congress is considering draft language for the next water resource development act; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Legislature of the State of New Mexico that congress be requested to reauthorize Section 5056 of the Water Resource Development Act of 2007 and to appropriate sufficient funds to carry out work related to that legislation; and be it further

Resolved that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the president of the United States, the speaker of the United States house of representatives, the president of the United States senate, the members of the New Mexico congressional delegation, the commanding general of the United States army corps of engineers, the assistant secretary of the army (civil works), the district commander of the United States army corps of engineers, Albuquerque district, and the chair of the president's council on environmental quality.

POM-11. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of New Mexico requesting Congress to continue funding its appropriate share of the costs associated with the benefits received by Indian tribes and the United States, as trustee, from settling Indian water rights disputes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 22

Whereas, the United States government has a trust responsibility to American Indians established through treaties and agreements with Indian tribes and affirmed by the United States supreme court; and

Whereas, Indian tribes gave up lands in return for goods, money and other resources promised by the United States government; and

Whereas, in exchange for taking Indian land and Indian resources, the United States made binding legal agreements that tribes would exercise sovereign authority within their reservation boundaries and be funded in perpetuity by the United States government; and

Whereas, pursuant to the trust responsibility, the United States has a legal obligation to protect Indian tribes' assets and provide needed services to Indian people; and

Whereas, the United States supreme court, in *Winters v. United States*, established that, when the United States government established reservations for Indian tribes, it also, by implication, reserved appurtenant water, then unappropriated, to the extent needed to satisfy both present and future needs of the reservations; and

Whereas, the United States government has supported settlement negotiations that are consistent with its trust responsibilities to Indian tribes in the Aamodt, Taos and Navajo Nation water rights settlements; and

Whereas, the Aamodt, Taos and Navajo Nation water rights settlements contain appropriate funding and cost-sharing by the United States government proportionate to the benefits received by all parties benefiting from the settlements; and

Whereas, continuing to provide adequate funding for pending Indian water rights disputes in the same cost-sharing proportions as past Indian water rights settlements provides certainty for all stakeholders; and

Whereas, the New Mexico legislature created the Indian water rights settlement fund to aid the implementation of the state's portion of Indian water rights settlements based on the cost-sharing proportions of the Aamodt, Taos and Navajo Nation water rights settlements; and

Whereas, the fund is used to pay the state's portion of the cost necessary to implement Indian water rights settlements approved by the legislature and the United States congress; and

Whereas, there are still pending Indian water rights disputes in New Mexico that need to be settled to satisfy both present and future water needs of the Indian tribes, nations and pueblos of New Mexico; and

Whereas, the New Mexico legislature requires continued full funding and cost-sharing by the United States government to reach settlements in the pending Indian water rights disputes in New Mexico; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Legislature of the State of New Mexico that congress be requested to provide full funding to cover the costs associated with the benefits received by Indian tribes and the United States, as trustee, in the same cost-sharing proportions as the Aamodt, Taos and Navajo Nation water rights settlements; and be it further

Resolved that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the speaker of the United States house of representatives, the president pro tempore of the United States senate, the New Mexico congressional delegation, the assistant secretary for Indian affairs of the department of the interior and the state engineer.

POM-12. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of New Mexico requesting reauthorization of the Federal Violence Against Women Act 1994; to the Committee on the Judiciary.