

As Congress confronts the dual challenges of ensuring our national security and putting our fiscal house in order, it must remember its profound responsibility to keep our Nation safe and care for its veterans. For well over 200 years, our servicemembers and veterans, like Maj. Nathan Kline, have steadfastly served our Nation and have set a stellar example for those who will follow in the generations to come.●

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 953. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to extend the reduced interest rate for undergraduate Federal Direct Stafford Loans, to modify required distribution rules for pension plans, to limit earnings stripping by expatriated entities, to provide for modifications related to the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund, 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-1461. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Horses Protection Act; Requiring Horse Industry Organizations To Assess and Enforce Minimum Penalties for Violations; Correction" ((RIN0579-AD43) (Docket No. APHIS-2011-0030)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 9, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1462. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Record-keeping for Approved Livestock Facilities and Slaughtering and Rendering Establishments" ((RIN0579-AC61) (Docket No. APHIS-2007-0039)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 9, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1463. A communication from the Management Analyst, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "United States Standards for Wheat" (RIN0580-AB12) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 9, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1464. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rules of Practice and Procedure; Adjusting Civil Money Penalties for Inflation" (RIN3052-AC87) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 7, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1465. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to three violations of the Antideficiency Act occurring with the Federal Highway Administration's Highway Infrastructure Investment and TIGER Grants accounts within the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 ap-

propriation; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-1466. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to several violations of the Antideficiency Act occurring with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's Administrative account, Motor Carrier Safety Grant account, and the Motor Carrier Safety Operations and Programs account; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-1467. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of two (2) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of major general and brigadier general, respectively, in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1468. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of twelve (12) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of major general and brigadier general, respectively, in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1469. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the training of the U.S. Special Operations Forces with friendly foreign forces during fiscal year 2012; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1470. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, a report of proposed legislation entitled "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1471. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995, with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1472. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13413 with respect to blocking the property of persons contributing to the conflict taking place in the Democratic Republic of the Congo; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1473. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency relative to the actions and policies of the Government of Sudan as declared in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1474. A communication from the Attorney, Office of the General Counsel, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Consumer Financial Civil Penalty Fund" ((RIN3170-AA38) (Docket No. CFPB-2013-0011)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 9, 2013; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1475. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Housing Administration (FHA): Section 232 Healthcare Facility Insurance Program—Strengthening Accountability and Regulatory Revisions Update Final Rule Amendment—Revision of Date of Applicability" (RIN2502-AJ05) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on

May 8, 2013; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1476. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Contractor Legal Management Requirements; Acquisition Regulations" (RIN1990-AA37) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 6, 2013; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1477. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act Regulations" (RIN1024-AD99) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 7, 2013; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1478. A communication from the Acting Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning operations at the Naval Petroleum Reserves for fiscal year 2012; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1479. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "U.S. Department of Education Fiscal Year 2012 Annual Performance Report and Fiscal Year 2014 Annual Performance Plan"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1480. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Wood River Levee System Reconstruction project, Madison, County, Illinois; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1481. A communication from the Chairman of the Administrative Conference of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2012 Performance and Accountability Report of the Administrative Conference of the United States; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1482. A communication from the Chief, Washington Field Office, U.S. Office of Special Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office's fiscal year 2012 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1483. A communication from the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Quarterly Report for April 2013; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1484. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Inspector General's Semiannual Report for the six-month period from October 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1485. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Civil Rights, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency's fiscal year 2012 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1486. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-54, "Permanent Supportive Housing Application Streamlining Temporary Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1487. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-59, "Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Time Extension Temporary Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1488. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-60, "Egregious First-Time Sale to Minor Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1489. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-63, "Captive Earthquake Property Insurance Temporary Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1490. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 19-632, "Local Budget Autonomy Amendment Act of 2012"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1491. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress on the Activities of the National Guard Counterdrug Schools for Fiscal Year 2012"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1492. A communication from the Chairman of the United States Commission on Civil Rights, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Strategic Plan for fiscal years 2014-2018; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1493. A communication from the Chair, U.S. Sentencing Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the amendments to the federal sentencing guidelines that were proposed by the Commission during the 2012-2013 amendment cycle; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1494. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Bureau of Prisons' compliance with the privatization requirements of the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1495. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report on applications made by the Government for authority to conduct electronic surveillance for foreign intelligence during calendar year 2012 relative to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1496. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Agency, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedules of Controlled Substances: Placement of Lorazepam Into Schedule IV" (Docket No. DEA-369) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 8, 2013; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1497. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Hart-Scott-Rodino Annual Report: Fiscal Year 2012"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. STABENOW, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, without amendment:

S. 954. An original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. MENENDEZ for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

*Deborah Kay Jones, of New Mexico, 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 Libya.

Nominee: Deborah Kay Jones.

Post: Libya.

(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: None
2. Spouse: None
3. Children and Spouses: None
4. Parents: None
5. Grandparents: None
6. Brothers and Spouses: None
7. Sisters and Spouses: None

*James Knight, of Alabama, 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 Chad.

Nominee: James Knight.

Post: N'Djamena, Republic of Chad.

(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: James Knight, \$200, Mar 2008, Barack Obama; \$200, Mar 2008, Hillary Clinton; \$200, Mar 2008, John McCain; \$200, Sep 2008, Barack Obama; \$200, Sep 2008, John McCain.

2. Spouse: Amelia Bell Knight; 0.

3. Children and Spouses: Mary Amelia Walker; 0; Christopher P. Alvarez; 0; Richard Adrian Walker III—unmarried, (deceased); James Davis Knight, \$50, 2008, John Edwards; \$200, 2008, Barack Obama; Cheryl Knight, 0; James Lee Knight—unmarried, 0.

Parents: Father Kimo C. V. Courtenay—deceased; Mother Perry Nell Jones—deceased; Stepfather Roy Arthur Knight—deceased.

5. Grandparents: Maternal grandfather Perry W. Caraway—deceased; Paternal grandfather James Crosby Little—deceased; Maternal grandmother Bessie Mae Caraway—deceased; Paternal grandmother Marjorie Elder Little—deceased.

6. Brothers and Spouses: Brooke Courtenay, 0; Spouse name unknown, 0; Paul K. Lindo, 0; Spouse name unknown, 0.

7. Sisters and Spouses: Kathryn Marie Harris, 0; Hugh G. Harris, 0.

Tamsen N. F. Courtenay no response to query for contributions since 2008 unmarried Note: Brooke Courtenay, Paul K. Lindo, and Tamsen N. F. Courtenay are half-siblings with whom I had no contact prior to father's terminal illness in 2011, hence not reported earlier.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed sub-

ject 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 Mr. HELLER (for himself, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 936. A bill to increase oversight of small business assistance programs provided by the Small Business Administration; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. FLAKE (for himself, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 937. A bill to prohibit the Internal Revenue Service from applying disproportionate scrutiny to applicants for tax-exempt status based on ideology, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MORAN:

S. 938. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to allow certain veterans to use educational assistance provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs for franchise training, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. BEGICH):

S. 939. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to treat certain misfiled documents as motions for reconsideration of decisions by the Board of Veterans' Appeals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. UDALL of New Mexico:

S. 940. A bill to provide grants to States to improve high schools and raise graduation rates while ensuring rigorous standards, to develop and implement effective school models for struggling students and dropouts, and to improve State policies to raise graduation rates, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. HELLER, Mr. VITTER, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. RISCH, Mr. COATS, Mr. KIRK, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. SESSIONS):

S. 941. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prevent discriminatory misconduct against taxpayers by Federal officers and employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. HARKIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. FRANKEN, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 942. A bill to eliminate discrimination and promote women's health and economic security by ensuring reasonable workplace accommodations for workers whose ability to perform the functions of a job are limited by pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. UDALL of Colorado (for himself and Mr. BENNET):

S. 943. A bill to establish an alternative accountability model; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself and Mr. BURR):

S. 944. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require courses of education provided by public institutions of higher education that are approved for purposes of the