

achieved full equality under the law for all Washingtonians and all Americans. I wish to thank the countless organizations that have led us to the victories and accomplishments we celebrate in June. When we gather together in moments such as this, we speak with one unified voice for the cause of equality and give true meaning to our Founders' belief that all are created equal. I am proud to fight for the LGBT community in Washington and across the country, and I will continue to ensure the voices of LGBT Americans and their allies are heard in the United States Senate.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING COLORADO EXPORTERS

• Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate four outstanding businesses that have won the President's "E" Award for their role in advancing Colorado's export industry. The "E" Award was created by President John F. Kennedy in 1961 to recognize companies that have made significant contributions to increasing American exports. It is one of the highest honors an export company can receive.

Many of these companies are small- and medium-sized firms—the lifeblood of our economy—and we can proudly say that of the 57 businesses honored, 4 were from our home State of Colorado: Frederick Exports, World Trade Center Denver, Geotech Environmental Equipment, and Lightning Eliminators. These innovative companies are strengthening our State's economy, creating jobs, and paving the way for other businesses in the State interested in exporting their products and services overseas.

In 2012, American exports hit an all-time record high of \$2.2 trillion and Colorado exports increased by more than 10 percent growing to \$8.1 billion. These businesses are a perfect example of how companies across the State can take advantage of this trend by tapping the growing international market. These achievements not only benefit these individual businesses, but they increase economic development for our State.

The World Trade Center Denver and Frederick Export, both based in Denver, were honored for assisting and facilitating export activities. The World Trade Center Denver educates businesses throughout the Rocky Mountain region about international trade and connects these businesses to the more than 300 World Trade Centers located in 100 countries. With over 250 members locally, the World Trade Center Denver has helped countless local businesses expand their markets and build strategic partnerships.

Frederick Export is an export management company that has successfully helped more businesses in Colorado export their products and services

abroad and grow their customer base. Companies represented by Frederick Export have seen growth of 20 percent or more each year.

Denver-based Geotech Environmental Equipment and Boulder-based Lightning Eliminators were recognized for showing sustained export growth. Lightning Eliminators, a leading supplier of lightning protection and prevention products and services, has grown its exports by nearly 200 percent over the past 4 years. Lightning Eliminators exports its innovative, patented lightning protection technology to such faraway places as Bangladesh, Nigeria, and Taiwan.

Geotech Environment Equipment provides quality environmental equipment to more than 20,000 companies worldwide and employs almost 100 people. Its exports have grown 40 percent over the past 4 years.

The pioneering spirit and innovative nature of Coloradans like these are spurring new job growth, driving our economy, and moving our State forward. I join the White House in honoring the contributions these companies have made to both Colorado and the country. I look forward to seeing their future progress and thank them for the vital part they have played in helping our State thrive.●

RECOGNIZING EXCEPTIONAL NEVADA STUDENTS

• Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize three of Nevada's brightest students—Caolinn Mejza, Sharon Fang, and Justin Joseph—for earning the prestigious title of Presidential Scholar from the U.S. Department of Education. Presidential scholars are chosen for outstanding test scores, essays, grades, and community service commitments.

The White House Commission on Presidential Scholars named only 141 scholars throughout the United States this year. Caolinn Mejza, who attends the Las Vegas Academy of International Studies, Performing & Visual Arts, Sharon Fang of Clark High School, and Justin Joseph of Valley High School will represent Nevada as our State's winners. Each Presidential scholar will receive a medallion at a ceremony on June 16 in Washington, DC.

While honoring these students' academic achievements, it is also important to recognize the value and importance of education in our State. We must continue to support teachers and to improve our education system for students at all stages. I am dedicated to increasing the quality of education and ensuring that every student graduates prepared to enter college or the workforce.

On behalf of the residents of the Silver State, I am proud to recognize Caolinn, Sharon, and Justin for their accomplishments and their contributions to our State. They are undoubtedly some of the finest and most tal-

ented students in Nevada. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these exceptional young Nevadans.●

CONGRATULATING CEASAR SALICCHI

• Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate Ceasar Salicchi for being named a Distinguished Nevadan by the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents during the commencement ceremony at the University of Nevada, Reno, UNR. Mr. Salicchi is a military veteran and advocate for people with disabilities. He is truly deserving of this prestigious honor, which is awarded to current and former Nevadans who have made significant contributions to the cultural, economic, and scientific or social advancement of Nevada and its people.

Mr. Salicchi served in the U.S. Army from 1946 to 1947. After he contracted polio at the age of 25 in 1952, he became an advocate for others with disabilities. He is a founding member of the Elko Association for Retarded Children, established in 1969, and served as the office manager for Elko General Hospital from 1962 to 1970. Mr. Salicchi went on to serve four different Nevada Governors as a committee member for the Developmental Disabilities Act as well as the Employ the Handicapped Act. His lifetime dedication to serving those with disabilities is inspiring.

Not only is Mr. Salicchi a strong advocate and proponent for those with disabilities, but he is also a dedicated public servant. He has served the people and community of Elko County with dignity and honor as the county treasurer from 1971 to 2006.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ceasar Salicchi for his accomplishments and contributions to Nevada. I hope Mr. Salicchi's example of public service and advocacy will be an example to all of us of the power that one individual can have on the positive progression of the Silver State and its people. He is a truly a distinguished Nevadan and has earned our admiration and gratitude.●

TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR H. WILSON

• Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I rise to ask that this body pay high tribute to an outstanding leader and trusted advocate for our nation's injured and ill veterans, their families, and survivors. I am referring to Arthur H. Wilson, the chief executive officer and national adjutant of the Disabled American Veterans. Mr. Wilson, after dedicating 47 years of service to our nation's veterans, is retiring as leader of that august group of 1.2 million veterans. His steadfast devotion and dedication in leading DAV has made the organization the Nation's premier veterans service organization offering assistance, compassion, and support to our injured heroes.

DAV is a service organization representing the brave men and women

who have suffered and survived wartime military service. Founded in 1920 by those wounded in World War I, DAV has been a devoted advocate for 92 years on behalf of those who have sacrificed for our freedom.

Mr. Wilson served with distinction in the U.S. Air Force as a runway construction specialist from 1962 to 1966, including service in Southeast Asia. He joined DAV as a national service officer trainee in Atlanta following his honorable discharge in 1966. He was subsequently assigned as a national service officer in Buffalo, NY, and Philadelphia, PA, and later held supervisory positions in DAV's national appeals office at the Department of Veterans Affairs' Board of Veterans Appeals in Washington, DC, in 1974.

In 1976, Mr. Wilson was promoted to management duties at DAV's National Service and Legislative Headquarters in Washington, DC, serving for 12 years as national service director before being appointed Executive Director of the Washington headquarters in 1993.

For the past 19 years, Mr. Wilson has served as national adjutant and chief executive Officer of DAV.

He is retiring from his distinguished career as only the sixth national adjutant in the history of the organization. He also serves as president of the Disabled Veterans' LIFE Memorial Foundation working to build the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial in Washington, DC, and is a member of the board of trustees of the USS Intrepid Museum Foundation.

I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our nation's thanks to Arthur Wilson for his dedication and commitment to our nation's veterans and his leadership of DAV. His devotion to America's wartime heroes serves as a brilliant example to all citizens of our nation.●

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.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:25 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, 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. 126. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement to

provide for management of the free-roaming wild horses in and around the Currituck National Wildlife Refuge.

H.R. 885. An act to expand the boundary of the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1206. An act to grant the Secretary of the Interior permanent authority to authorize States to issue electronic duck stamps, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1919. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 622. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to reauthorize user fee programs relating to new animal drugs and generic new animal drugs.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following resolution:

H. Res. 242. Resolution relative to the death of the Honorable Frank R. Lautenberg, a Senator from the State of New Jersey.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 885. An act to expand the boundary of San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1206. An act to grant the Secretary of the Interior permanent authority to authorize States to issue electronic duck stamps, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 1919. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following bill was discharged from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, and referred as indicated:

S. 993. A bill to authorize and request the President to award the Medal of Honor to James Megellas, formerly of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and currently of Colleyville, Texas, for acts of valor on January 28, 1945, during the Battle of the Bulge in World War II; to the Committee on Armed Services.

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-1732. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "United States Standards for Grades of Almonds in the Shell" (Docket No. AMS-FV-11-0046) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 28, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1733. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Serv-

ice, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pork Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Program; Section 610 Review" (Docket No. AMS-LS-07-0143) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 28, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1734. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Lamb Promotion, Research, and Information Order; Amendment to the Order to Raise the Assessment Rate" (Docket No. AMS-LS-11-0038) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 28, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1735. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling of Beef, Pork, Lamb, Chicken, Goat Meat, Wild and Farm-Raised Fish and Shellfish, Perishable Agricultural Commodities, Peanuts, Pecans, Ginseng, and Macadamia Nuts" (Docket No. AMS-LS-13-0004) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 28, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1736. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision of Regulations Defining Bona Fide Cotton Spot Markets" (Docket No. AMS-CN-12-0024) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 28, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1737. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Milk in the Northeast and Other Marketing Areas; Order Amending the Orders" (Docket No. AMS-DA-07-0026; AO-14-A77) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 28, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1738. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Milk in the Northeast and Other Marketing Areas; Termination of Proceeding on Proposed Amendments to Tentative Marketing Agreements and Orders" (Docket No. AMS-DA-13-0016; AO-14-A74) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 28, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1739. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cranberries Grown in States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, and Long Island in the State of New York; Changing Reporting Requirements" (Docket No. AMS-FV-12-0002; FV12-929-1 FIR) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 28, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1740. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Oranges and Grapefruit Grown in