

The bill incorporates the definition in Section 1204 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, which includes “an individual involved in crime and juvenile delinquency control or reduction, or enforcement of the criminal laws (including juvenile delinquency), including, but not limited to, police, corrections, probation, parole, and judicial officers.” As a result, a Blue Alert could be issued for a state court bailiff, a state parole officer, or an officer within a state’s juvenile corrections facility, if injured in the line of duty.

Finally, I do not believe the federal government has the authority under the Constitution to provide federal funds to coordinate the tracking of state and local fugitives or to establish national protocols to apprehend suspects accused of injuring or killing state and local law enforcement officers. Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution enumerates the limited powers of Congress, and nowhere are we tasked with funding or becoming involved with state and local criminal issues.

There is no question those suspected of injuring or killing a state or local law enforcement officer in the line of duty should be aggressively pursued and prosecuted. However, I believe this issue is the responsibility of the states and not the federal government. Despite these Constitutional limitations, if Congress does act in this area, like most American individuals and companies must do with their own resources, we should evaluate current programs, determine any needs that may exist, and prioritize those needs for funding by cutting from the federal budget programs fraught with waste, fraud, abuse, and duplication.

Sincerely,

TOM A. COBURN, M.D.,
United States Senator.

TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER GEORGE KOVATCH

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee will soon bid farewell to our congressional fellow, Coast Guard CDR. George Kovatch, who has served the Committee on Appropriations over the past 3 years. Unfortunately, Commander Kovatch is retiring, so not only is his departure a loss for the Committee on Appropriations, but it is also a loss for the Coast Guard.

Commander Kovatch has been detailed to the committee from the U.S. Coast Guard since 2010 and is a key member of our professional staff. Commander Kovatch performed admirably in his role on the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee. He did everything we asked of him, with pinpoint accuracy, and always beat the deadlines given to him. I would also add that he served the committee during interesting times, perhaps more interesting than he imagined when he accepted the job. He was here for the Deepwater Horizon oilspill, the Times Square bombing attempt, the air cargo printer scare, Hurricanes Isaac and Sandy, and the Boston marathon bombing.

The Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee has greatly benefited from the experience Commander Kovatch gained as a Coast Guard officer, in particular his insights into the operations of a complex military orga-

nization that is combined with a large domestic agency. He has superb analytical skills that have been critical in our review of a \$39 billion budget request and in developing complex spreadsheets that synthesize funding issues into easily understood documents we have used in hearings, closed briefings, in full committee, and on the floor. He made critical recommendations that were adopted to improve key components within the Department of Homeland Security, most notably carefully overseeing integrity efforts following the rapid hiring of agents and officers at Customs and Border Protection as well as Immigration and Customs Enforcement to ensure that all agents, but especially new hires, receive comprehensive training in ethics and public integrity. His unqualified professionalism, perception, superb analytic focus and technical skills, combined with a keen sense of humor, a cool head, and a modesty rarely seen on Capitol Hill, have helped keep the momentum for these bills moving forward. His high standards of professionalism and thoroughness are beyond reproach, and his contributions have been highly valued.

Through all of this, George maintained the decorum and professionalism that we have all come to expect from our military officer corps, and he has represented the Coast Guard with the highest integrity and competence. Commander Kovatch has served me, this subcommittee, and the Senate well. We are sorry to see him leave and will miss him as our colleague but are glad to count him as a friend. Each of us on the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee wish George all the best as he moves forward in the next phase of his career, where we anticipate seeing great things of him in the coming years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HAM RADIO IN ALASKA

• Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, the American Radio Relay League is the national association for amateur radio, connecting ham radio operators around the world. Each year, the league sponsors a 24-hour Field Day in June. The weekend of June 22 to 23 was chosen for 2013.

Ham radio has a variety of uses from private recreation, to roundtable discussions, self-training to emergency correspondence. Throughout its history, amateur radio has been a tool for inventors and hobbyists to share experiences and spread ideas. Notable enthusiasts include the late Walter Cronkite, “CBS Evening News” anchor, and Nobel Prize-winning physicist Dr. Joseph H. Taylor. In the past, just by signing on one could converse with a foreign dignitary or even bounce radio waves off the Moon or aurora borealis to speak with cosmonauts aboard the International Space Station.

In Alaska, there are 16 ham radio clubs. These clubs provide a vital communication link that may otherwise not be available. This link includes checkpoint updates for the Yukon Quest and Iditarod sled dog races, support for local organizations such as the Boy Scouts, and critical forecast information to and from the National Weather Service.

In 2011, a superstorm in the Bering Sea crippled communities along the west coast of Alaska. Ham radio operators took up the task of providing real time data to local, State, and Federal weather services, as well as to emergency responders, on the condition of residents. As ham radio can operate independent of AC power or internet connection, it is well-suited to communities in rural Alaska.

Indeed, ham radio operators have been there throughout our Nation’s times of need: the 1964 Good Friday earthquake in Alaska and more recently Hurricane Katrina in the lower 48. These operators are deeply committed to public service, and they work tireless unpaid hours to maintain the flow of information.

As Alaska’s Field Day approaches, let us remember the vital role ham radio operators have played in education, science, survival, entertainment, and relationship-building in the United States.●

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL F. ADAMS

• Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to Dr. Michael F. Adams, president of my alma mater, the University of Georgia, which is the first State-chartered university in America. Dr. Adams is stepping down as president on June 30, 2013, after 16 very successful years leading Georgia’s flagship university.

Dr. Adams was named president of UGA on June 11, 1997, and immediately focused on making the university one of America’s best. Under his leadership, student quality has risen dramatically, research production has increased significantly, and UGA is serving the people of Georgia and our Nation in new and innovative ways. As a result, U.S. News & World Report has ranked it as one of America’s top 20 public research universities in 8 of the past 10 years.

The UGA campus has been transformed during Dr. Adams’ presidency, with more than \$1.2 billion in new construction, renovation, and infrastructure undertaken. He created the UGA Real Estate Foundation as a funding mechanism for much needed campus projects. His dedication to making UGA’s campus one of the most breathtaking in the country is apparent. When approaching Sanford Stadium from the west end, two of the capital projects that Dr. Adams has undertaken are visible. Not only are the Richard B. Russell Special Collections Libraries and the expansion of the Tate Center a testament to the growth of the university’s physical campus, but

they also show the president's commitment to ensuring that UGA's students have access to state-of-the-art facilities. It is "a place of the quality to which we aspire should look the part," as he has said.

Dr. Adams has also overseen the construction of the Paul D. Coverdell Center for Biomedical and Health Sciences, a new Lamar Dodd School of Art, an expansion of the Georgia Museum of Art, and the first new residence halls on campus in more than 30 years, the East Campus Village.

There has been an expansion of the infrastructure and physical footprint under Dr. Adams, and he has also directed an increase in growth and diversity of the academic program. Five new colleges or schools have been established during his tenure: the School of Public and International Affairs, the College of Environment and Design, the College of Public Health, the Eugene P. Odum School of Ecology, and the College of Engineering. Additionally, the UGA Health Sciences campus on the former campus of the U.S. Navy Supply Corps School houses the College of Public Health, as well as the Georgia Regents University-University of Georgia Medical Partnership, granting medical degrees in Athens for the first time.

Understanding, appreciating, and sharing the passion with which Georgians cheer for the "Dawgs," Dr. Adams has also made sure that UGA athletics continue the tradition of fielding the most gifted and dominant teams and athletes in the country. UGA athletes have won 27 national championships, 58 Southeastern Conference titles, and 125 national individual titles while Dr. Adams has been president. He also understands that the balance between academics and athletics is not a zero-sum game but that each plays a unique role in defining the identity of the university.

Dr. Adams has been an outstanding leader of this institution. During his tenure, he has personally or on behalf of the university received more than 50 awards in higher education, including the Knight Foundation Award for Presidential Leadership and the James T. Rodgers Award, the highest honor bestowed by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

I would like to thank and recognize University of Georgia president Michael F. Adams for his extraordinary service to the University of Georgia and our great State.●

REMEMBERING HENRY T. "HANK" WILFONG, JR.

● Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, as chair of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I join the small business community throughout our country in mourning the death of Mr. Henry T. "Hank" Wilfong, Jr., president of the National Association of Small Disadvantaged Businesses, NASDB. Mr. Wilfong was a

valued partner in promoting, improving, and increasing opportunities for firms owned by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals. He not only was a CPA, with an MBA from UCLA, he also served in a number of capacities for Presidents, Governors, and local municipalities. Most notably, Mr. Wilfong was the first Black Pasadena City Councilman. He was also a three-time Presidential appointee, which included the Small Business Administration's Associate Administrator of the 8(a) Program. Later, he founded NASDB, a trade organization representing over 300 minority, women-owned, service-disabled, veteran-owned, and HUBZone small businesses.

Whether it was his advocacy for parity among the set-aside programs or his passion for strengthening the women-owned small business and 8(a) Programs, we have all been touched by his legacy, which promotes equal opportunity for all small businesses to succeed and live the American dream of entrepreneurship. With his passing, we also lose a U.S. Army Korean War veteran. He was a fighter his entire life, and we are all grateful for his service to our country, both in the military and as an advocate. Our deepest condolences go out to his family and all those whose lives he touched. We will greatly miss Hank Wilfong, Jr., who served as the voice for so many small businesses that deserved to be heard.●

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1121. A bill to stop the National Security Agency from spying on citizens of the United States and for other purposes.

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.

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-1783. A communication from the Program Manager, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Information Required in Prior Notice of Imported Food" (RIN0910-AG65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1784. A communication from the Secretary of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Process for a Designated Contract Market or Swap Execution Facility to Make a Swap Available to Trade under Section 2(h) (8) of the Commodity Exchange Act; Swap Transaction Compliance and Implementation Schedule; Trade Execution Requirement under Section 2(h) of the CEA" (RIN3038-AD18) received in

the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1785. A communication from the Director of Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Community Connect Broadband Grant Program" (RIN0572-AC30) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 4, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1786. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Unincorporated Business Entities" (RIN3052-AC65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 4, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1787. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Sedaxane; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9386-9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 4, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1788. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Imidacloprid; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9387-9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 4, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1789. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Diisopropyl adipate; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9387-8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 4, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1790. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Propamocarb; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9388-1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 4, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1791. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "1,3-Propanediol; Exemptions from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9386-8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1792. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Kendall L. Card, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1793. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Gerald R. Beaman, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1794. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Francis J. Wiercinski, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.