

lives that have been touched by the great work of this Granite State organization.●

RECOGNIZING VETERANS COUNT

● Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I rise today to join the New Hampshire chapter of the Military Officers Association of America, MOAA, in recognizing the critical work of Veterans Count, a New Hampshire organization that has proven a critical ally in ongoing efforts to support servicemembers, veterans, and their families. On January 25, 2014, Veterans Count will receive the Granite State Warriors Award, given by the MOAA to New Hampshire organizations making the most significant contributions to the Armed Forces of the United States. A program of Easter Seals, Veterans Count helps servicemembers and their families throughout the deployment cycle and beyond.

The hallmark of Veterans Count's approach to providing support is their partnership with the Deployment Cycle Support Program, DCSP, which has assisted thousands of servicemembers and their families since its inception in 2007. The program was built on the understanding that the strains of a military deployment are shared and can both precede and outlast the deployment itself. Thanks to the work and collaboration of New Hampshire groups like Veterans Count, the DCSP has provided extraordinary support to veterans and their families.

Veterans Count also deserves recognition for their work addressing mental health and suicide awareness. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan wounded our warriors in ways that were not previously well understood and although mental health and suicide prevention efforts are ongoing, we must do more to help those soldiers and veterans in need. Veterans Count is at the forefront of these efforts and, in 2012 alone, the group intervened successfully in 29 suicide risk situations. Moreover, since the program's inception, none of its participants have committed suicide. Veterans Count's success in suicide prevention is due in large part to their work helping veterans secure permanent employment and easy access to mental health care.

I look forward to hearing more success stories as a result of Veterans Count's determined efforts, and I am pleased to congratulate them on a well-deserved award from the Military Officers Association of America.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, 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.)

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

S. 1931. A bill to provide for the extension of certain unemployment benefits, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 1950. A bill to improve the provision of medical services and benefits to veterans, 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-4343. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Releasing Information; General Provisions; Accounting and Reporting Requirements; Reports of Accounts and Exposures" (RIN3052-AC76) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 9, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4344. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tolfenpyrad; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9904-70) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 9, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4345. A communication from the Regulatory Specialist, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Appraisals for Higher-Priced Mortgage Loans" (RIN1557-AD70) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 10, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4346. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of a national emergency declared in Executive Order 13222 with respect to the lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4347. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security Annual Report for fiscal year 2013; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4348. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Commerce's 2014 Report on Foreign Policy-Based Export Controls; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4349. A communication from the President of the Federal Financing Bank, trans-

mitting, pursuant to law, the Bank's Annual Report for fiscal year 2013; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4350. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Director, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 10, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4351. A communication from the Administrator, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to mileage reimbursement rates for Federal employees who use privately owned vehicles while on official travel; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4352. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report from the Office of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4353. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report from the Office of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4354. A communication from the Chairwoman of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2013; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4355. A communication from the Chairman, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's fiscal year 2013 Performance and Accountability Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4356. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-232, "Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4357. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-233, "YMCA Community Investment Initiative Real Property Tax Exemption Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4358. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-234, "Transportation Infrastructure Mitigation Temporary Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4359. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-235, "Transportation Infrastructure Improvements GARVEE Bond Financing Temporary Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4360. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-236, "Department of Health

Grant-Making Authority for Clinical Nutritional Home Services Temporary Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4361. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-237, "Critical Infrastructure Freedom of Information Temporary Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4362. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-238, "Party Officer Elections Temporary Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4363. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-239, "Department of Corrections Central Cellblock Management Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4364. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-240, "Board of Elections Nominating Petition Circulator Affidavit Temporary Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4365. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-241, "Board of Ethics and Government Accountability Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4366. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-242, "Parent and Student Empowerment Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4367. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-247, "Controlled Substance, Alcohol Testing, Criminal Background Check and Background Investigation Temporary Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4368. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-248, "Distillery Pub Licensure Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4369. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-249, "Campaign Finance Reform and Transparency Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4370. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-250, "Prohibition on Government Employee Engagement in Political Activity Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4371. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-251, "Manufacturers' Sunday Sale Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4372. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Colum-

bia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-252, "Manufacturer Tasting Permit Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4373. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-253, "Funeral and Memorial Service Leave Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4374. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-254, "Focused Student Achievement Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4375. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-255, "Tax Clarity Equity Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4376. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-256, "Historic Music Cultural Institutions Expansion Tax Abatement Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4377. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-257, "Fair Student Funding and School-Based Budgeting Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4378. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-258, "Closing of a Portion of a Public Alley in Square 858, S.O. 12-03336, Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4379. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-259, "Earned Sick and Safe Leave Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4380. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-260, "Tax Exemption for Teacher Awards Temporary Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. BAUCUS, from the Committee on Finance:

Report to accompany S. 1871, An original bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the Medicare sustainable growth rate formula and to improve beneficiary access under the Medicare program, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113-135).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. WYDEN for the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

*Ellen Dudley Williams, of Maryland, to be Director of the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy, Department of Energy.

*Christopher Smith, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Fossil Energy).

*Elizabeth M. Robinson, of Washington, to be Under Secretary of Energy.

*Franklin M. Orr, Jr., of California, to be Under Secretary for Science, Department of Energy.

*Neil Gregory Kornze, of Nevada, to be Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

*Esther Puakela Kia'aina, of Hawaii, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

*Marc A. Kastner, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Science, Department of Energy.

*Jonathan Elkind, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (International Affairs).

*Steven Croley, of Michigan, to be General Counsel of the Department of Energy.

*Michael L. Connor, of New Mexico, to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior.

*Tommy Port Beaudreau, of Alaska, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

By Mr. LEAHY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Carolyn B. McHugh, of Utah, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit. Jeffrey Alker Meyer, of Connecticut, to be United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut.

Timothy L. Brooks, of Arkansas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Arkansas.

James Donato, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California.

Beth Labson Freeman, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California.

Pedro A. Delgado Hernandez, of Puerto Rico, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico.

Pamela L. Reeves, of Tennessee, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee.

James Maxwell Moody, Jr., of Arkansas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas.

Vince Girdhari Chhabria, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California.

Peter Joseph Kadzik, of New York, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

John B. Owens, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Michelle T. Friedland, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Nancy L. Moritz, of Kansas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit.

David Jeremiah Barron, of Massachusetts, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit.

Matthew Frederick Leitman, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Judith Ellen Levy, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Laurie J. Michelson, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Linda Vivienne Parker, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Christopher Reid Cooper, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

M. Douglas Harpool, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri.

Gerald Austin McHugh, Jr., of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Edward G. Smith, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Sheryl H. Lipman, of Tennessee, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee.