

Colorado—Branislav M. Notaroš, Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Colorado State University;

Connecticut—Hisae Kobayashi, Senior Lecturer in Japanese, Connecticut College;

District of Columbia—Heidi Elmendorf, Associate Professor of Biology, Georgetown University;

Delaware—Beth Morling, Professor of Psychological and Brain Sciences, University of Delaware;

Florida—Rosany H. Alvarez, Mathematics Professor, Miami Dade College;

Georgia—John A. Knox, Associate Professor and Undergraduate Coordinator, Department of Geography, University of Georgia;

Idaho—Karen Launchbaugh, Professor of Rangeland Ecology, University of Idaho;

Illinois—Dan Gebo, Professor of Anthropology, Northern Illinois University;

Indiana—Michelle A. Whaley, Teaching Professor, Biological Sciences, University of Notre Dame;

Kentucky—Cindy S. Tucker, Associate Professor, Computer and Information Technologies, Bluegrass Community and Technical College;

Maryland—KenYatta Rogers, Professor of Theatre, Montgomery College Rockville Campus;

Massachusetts—Beth McGinnis-Cavanaugh, Professor of Physics and Civil Engineering Technology, Springfield Technical Community College;

Michigan—Cynthia Wade, Math Professor, St. Clair County Community College;

Minnesota—Kyja Kristjansson-Nelson, Professor of Film, Minnesota State University Moorhead;

Mississippi—Kenneth Sufka, Professor of Psychology and Pharmacology, University of Mississippi;

Missouri—Andrea Nichols, Professor of Sociology, St. Louis Community College at Forest Park;

Nebraska—Greg W. Zacharias, Professor of English and Director, Center for Henry James Studies, Creighton University;

New Jersey—Darrin M. York, Professor of Chemistry, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey;

New York—Cynthia Jones, Lecturer, English Department, Hostos Community College of The City University of New York;

North Carolina—Karen Hornsby, Associate Professor of Philosophy, North Carolina A&T State University;

Ohio—Elizabeth George, Professor of Physics, Wittenberg University;

Oregon—Jennifer Corpus, Professor of Psychology, Reed College;

Pennsylvania—Richard L. Wallace, Professor of Environmental Studies, Ursinus College;

South Carolina—Milind N. Kunchur, Professor, Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of South Carolina;

Texas—Collin Thomas, Professor of Biology, Collin College;

Virginia—Paul Hanstedt, Professor of English, Roanoke College;

West Virginia—Kateryna A.R. Schray, Professor, Department of English, Marshall University; and

Wisconsin, Scott Cooper, Professor of Biology and Director of Undergraduate Research and Creativity, University of Wisconsin—La Crosse.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:48 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, 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. 3398. An act to authorize the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to provide assistance to support the rights of women and girls in developing countries, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3583. An act to expand the number of scholarships available to Pakistani women under the Merit and Needs-Based Scholarship Program.

H.R. 4012. An act to prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency from proposing, finalizing, or disseminating regulations or assessments based upon science that is not transparent or reproducible.

H.R. 5448. An act to amend the John F. Kennedy Center Act to authorize appropriations for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

H.R. 5681. An act to provide for the approval of the Amendment to the Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for Cooperation on the Uses of Atomic Energy for Mutual Defense Purposes.

H.R. 5728. An act to amend the Communications Act of 1934 and title 17, United States Code, to extend expiring provisions relating to the retransmission of signals of television broadcast stations, and for other purposes.

At 11:58 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 119. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 3398. An act to authorize the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to provide assistance to support the rights of women and girls in developing countries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 4012. An act to prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency from proposing, finalizing, or disseminating regulations or assessments based upon science that is not transparent or reproducible; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 3583. An act to expand the number of scholarships available to Pakistani women under the Merit and Needs-Based Scholarship Program.

#### 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-7899. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Civil Penalty Inflation Adjustment for Commercial Space Adjudications; Second Amendment" ((RIN2120-AK55) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0822)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7900. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Proposed Establishment of Class E Airspace; Alma, NE" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0745)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7901. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Proposed Establishment of Class E Airspace; Cando, ND" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0746)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7902. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Proposed Establishment of Class E Airspace; Encinal, TX" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0741)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7903. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class E Airspace; Thomas, OK" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0263)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7904. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revocation of Restricted Areas R-4105A and R-4105B; No Man's Land Island, MA" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0760)) received

during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7905. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Change of Controlling Agency for Restricted Areas; California" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0722)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 13, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7906. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airplane and Engine Certification Requirements in Supercooled Large Drop, Mixed Phase, and Ice Crystal Icing Conditions" ((RIN2120-AJ34) (Docket No. FAA-2010-0636; Amdt. Nos. 25-140 and 33-34)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7907. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Orders of Compliance, Cease and Desist Orders, Orders of Denial, and Other Orders" ((RIN2120-AK43) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0505; Amdt. No. 13-36A)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7908. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Departing IFR/VFR When Weather Reporting Is Not Available; Confirmation of Effective Date" ((RIN2120-AK49) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0502; Amdt. No. 135-131)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7909. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Fiberglass-Technik Rudolf Lindner GmbH and Co. KG Gliders" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0292)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7910. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0287)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7911. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0581)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7912. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0140)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7913. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Beechcraft Corporation (Type Certificate Previously Held by Hawker Beechcraft Corporation; Raytheon Aircraft Company; Beech Aircraft Corporation) Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0345)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7914. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce plc Turbofan Engines" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0705)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7915. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Pacific Aerospace Limited Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0532)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7916. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Honeywell International Inc. Air Data Pressure Transducers" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0285)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7917. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters (Previously Eurocopter France) Helicopters" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0832)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7918. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0451)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7919. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal

Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Company Turbofan Engines" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2007-28413)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7920. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0548)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7921. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0431)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7922. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Lockheed Martin Corporation/Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0290)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 13, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7923. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0283)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 13, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7924. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters, Inc. (Previously Eurocopter France) Helicopters" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0757)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 13, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7925. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Alexandria Aircraft LLC Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0438)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 13, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7926. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Brantly International, Inc. Helicopters" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2012-1093)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 13,

2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7927. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Empresa Brasileira de Aeronautica S.A. (EMBRAER) Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0740)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 13, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7928. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Pacific Aerospace Limited Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0516)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 13, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7929. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Pacific Aerospace Limited Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0494)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 13, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7930. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0654)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 13, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7931. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0650)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 13, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7932. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0058)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 13, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7933. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Harmonization of Airworthiness Standards—Miscellaneous Structures Requirements" ((RIN2120-AK13) (Docket No. FAA-2013-0109)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 13, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### 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-351. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Alaska urging the

United States Congress to provide a means for consistently and equitably sharing with all oil and gas producing states adjacent to federal outer continental shelf areas a portion of revenue generated from outer continental shelf oil and gas development on the outer continental shelf to ensure that those states develop necessary infrastructure to support outer continental shelf development and preserve environmental integrity; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

#### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 26

Whereas oil and gas development in federal areas, both onshore and offshore, requires additional investment in state infrastructure and increases demand on state and local government resources; and

Whereas, under the Mineral Lands Leasing Act of 1920, the federal government recognizes the effects of oil and gas development in federal onshore areas by sharing with the states 50 percent of revenue from mineral production on federal land within each state's boundaries; and

Whereas, under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, the federal government recognizes the effect oil and gas development in federal near-shore areas has on states by sharing with those states 27 percent of revenue collected from federal oil and gas leases within three miles of the states' coastlines; and

Whereas, under the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006, the federal government recognizes the effect that oil and gas development in federal offshore areas has on the states of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas, and recognizes the contributions to national energy, security, and economic interests made by sharing with those states 37.5 percent of revenue from federal oil and gas leases in outer continental shelf areas adjacent to each state; and

Whereas the federal government fails to recognize the same effects on and contributions made by other oil and gas producing states adjacent to federal outer continental shelf areas, including this state and California; and

Whereas the Alaska outer continental shelf region encompasses the Beaufort, Chukchi, and Bering seas, Cook Inlet, and the Gulf of Alaska, includes over 1,000,000,000 acres, and contains more than 6,000 miles of coastline, which is more coastline than the rest of the United States combined; and

Whereas there are presently 607 active oil and gas leases and more than 3,300,000 acres of leased land in the Alaska outer shelf continental region; and

Whereas federal government grants do not adequately address the need for additional investment in state infrastructure or the increased demands on state and local government resources resulting from outer continental shelf development, especially in this state, which has more coastline, more rural communities, and less infrastructure than any other state; and

Whereas outer continental shelf revenue sharing would allow states to build infrastructure such as marine ports, airports, utilities, and housing, and increase state services, such as oil spill and emergency response and environmental monitoring and mitigation, which would likely lead to expanded, safer exploration and development activity and increase overall revenue to the federal government; and

Whereas additional state infrastructure and increased availability of state and local government resources would likely increase interest in and bids during future federal outer continental shelf oil and gas lease sales, which have generated over \$2,750,000,000 in revenue for the federal gov-

ernment in the Alaska outer continental shelf region alone since 2005; and

Whereas outer continental shelf revenue sharing could provide a stable funding source for and help fulfill the mission of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, a national fund created to safeguard natural areas, water resources, and cultural heritage and to provide recreation opportunities: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Alaska State Legislature urges the United States Congress to provide a means for consistently and equitably sharing with all oil and gas producing states adjacent to federal outer continental shelf areas a portion of revenue generated from outer continental shelf oil and gas production to ensure the states develop necessary infrastructure to support outer continental shelf development and preserve environmental integrity.

Copies of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States; the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Sally Jewell, United States Secretary of the Interior; the Honorable John Boehner, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Eric Cantor, Majority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Harry Reid, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Mitch McConnell, Minority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Mary Landrieu, Chair of the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; the Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the Honorable Mark Begich, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress; and all other members of the 113th United States Congress.

POM-352. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Alaska urging the United States Congress to enact legislation that would require approval by Acts of the Alaska State Legislature and the United States Congress before establishing an international designation of land or water in the State of Alaska; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

#### SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 15

Whereas Alaska and the Russian Far East are close neighbors across the Bering Sea, and archaeologists believe that the area was a migration route used by many peoples moving from Asia and populating North and South America; and

Whereas some of the indigenous peoples of Western Alaska and the Russian Far East speak the same language and share the same customs and traditions but have, until recent times, been separated by political differences between their respective countries; and

Whereas, in recent years, various events and exchanges have been organized to reconnect the residents of Western Alaska and those of the Russian Far East; and

Whereas the areas of Western Alaska and the Russian Far East have been referred to as Beringia; and

Whereas, in 2010, the United States and Russia began negotiations to develop a Memorandum of Understanding for the purpose of establishing an international protected area in the Bering Strait region that would include the Bering Land Bridge National Preserve, the Cape Krusenstern National Monument, and, in the Chukotka region of Russia, the yet-to-be-created Beringia International Park; and

Whereas the National Park Service identifies and defines Beringia as the area bounded