

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING AND THE COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship be authorized to meet for a joint hearing during the session of the Senate on February 12, 2014, to conduct a hearing entitled "In Search of a Second Act: The Challenges and Advantages of Senior Entrepreneurship," in room SD-562 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building beginning at 10 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Maj. Leslie L. Semrau, a U.S. Air Force officer, who is currently serving as my defense legislative fellow this year, be granted floor privileges for the duration of S. 1982, the Comprehensive Veterans Health and Benefits and Military Pay Restoration Act of 2014.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 597, 598, 601, 602, 603, with the exception of COL Mark A. Baird and COL Robert W. Stanley II; and Nos. 604, 605, with the exception of COL Andrew E. Salas; No. 606, with the exception of BG Jon K. Kelk; and Nos. 607, 608, 609, 610, and 611, and all nominations on the Secretary's desk in the Air Force and Army; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Brad R. Carson, of Oklahoma, to be Under Secretary of the Army.

William A. LaPlante, Jr., of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following Air National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. William D. Cobetto

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the

grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Bart O. Iddins

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be brigadier general

Colonel Roy-Alan C. Agustin
Colonel Robert G. Armfield
Colonel Dieter E. Bareihs
Colonel Mitchel H. Butikofer
Colonel Mark D. Camerer
Colonel Douglas A. Cox
Colonel Stephen L. Davis
Colonel Eric T. Fick
Colonel Keith M. Givens
Colonel Paul H. Guemmer
Colonel Gregory M. Guillot
Colonel Gregory M. Guterman
Colonel Darren E. Hartford
Colonel David W. Hicks
Colonel Brian T. Kelly
Colonel David A. Krumm
Colonel Peter J. Lambert
Colonel Evan M. Miller
Colonel Thomas E. Murphy
Colonel David S. Nahom
Colonel Mary F. O'Brien
Colonel Stephen W. Oliver, Jr.
Colonel Scott L. Pleus
Colonel John T. Rauch, Jr.
Colonel Christopher M. Short
Colonel Kirk W. Smith
Colonel Mark E. Weatherington
Colonel Stephen C. Williams

The following Air National Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

To be brigadier general

Colonel Dennis J. Gallegos
Colonel David D. Hamlar, Jr.
Colonel John S. Tuohy

The following Air National Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

To be brigadier general

Colonel Paul D. Jacobs
Colonel Timothy P. O'Brien

The following Air National Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

To be major general

Brigadier General Cassie A. Strom
Brigadier General Kenneth W. Wisian

The following Air National Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

To be major general

Brigadier General Daryl L. Bohac
Brigadier General Robert M. Branyon
Brigadier General Michael B. Compton
Brigadier General James E. Daniel, Jr.
Brigadier General Matthew J. Dzialo
Brigadier General Richard N. Harris, Jr.
Brigadier General Worth S. Holt, Jr.
Brigadier General Gary W. Keefe
Brigadier General David T. Kelly
Brigadier General Donald A. McGregor
Brigadier General Robert L. Shannon, Jr.
Brigadier General Robert S. Williams

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be major general

Brigadier General Christopher J. Bence
Brigadier General Jack L. Briggs, II
Brigadier General David J. Buck
Brigadier General Thomas A. Bussiere
Brigadier General Stephen A. Clark
Brigadier General Stephen T. Denker
Brigadier General John L. Dolan
Brigadier General Michael E. Fortney
Brigadier General Peter E. Gersten
Brigadier General Gina M. Grosso
Brigadier General Jerry D. Harris, Jr.
Brigadier General Daryl J. Hauck
Brigadier General John M. Hicks
Brigadier General John P. Horner
Brigadier General James R. Marrs
Brigadier General Lawrence M. Martin, Jr.
Brigadier General John K. McMullen
Brigadier General Bradford J. Shwedo
Brigadier General Jay B. Silveria
Brigadier General Linda R. Urrutia-Varhall
Brigadier General Jacqueline D. Van Ovost
Brigadier General Mark W. Westergren

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be brigadier general

Col. Paul W. Tibbets, IV

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Lt. Gen. David D. Halverson

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 624, 3037, and 3064:

To be brigadier general, judge advocate general's corps

Col. Stuart W. Risch

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE AIR FORCE—C-PN

PN1303 AIR FORCE nomination of Teresa G. Paris, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 7, 2014.

PN1304 AIR FORCE nomination of Joel K. Warren, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 7, 2014.

PN1305 AIR FORCE nominations (2) beginning JEFFREY P. TAN, and ending CRISTALLE A. COX, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 7, 2014.

PN1306 AIR FORCE nominations (17) beginning ROBERT D. COXWELL, and ending SCOT L. WILLIAMS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 7, 2014.

PN1328 AIR FORCE nominations (14) beginning THERESE A. BOHUSCH, and ending JAMES A. STEPHENSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 9, 2014.

PN1331 AIR FORCE nominations (49) beginning RICHARD T. BARKER, and ending IAN P. WIECHERT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 9, 2014.

PN1333 AIR FORCE nominations (77) beginning JENARA L. ALLEN, and ending DERICK A. ZECH, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 9, 2014.

PN1334 AIR FORCE nominations (123) beginning ERIN E. ARTZ, and ending TODD K. ZUBER, which nominations were received by

the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 9, 2014.

PN1336 AIR FORCE nominations (276) beginning ADAM L. ACKERMAN, and ending KRISTEN P. ZELIGS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 9, 2014.

IN THE ARMY—C-PN

PN1307 ARMY nomination of David W. Bryant, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 7, 2014.

PN1308 ARMY nominations (14) beginning JOSEPH B. BERGER, III, and ending WILLIAM D. SMOOT, III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 7, 2014.

PN1337 ARMY nominations (29) beginning JOSEPH A. ANDERSON, and ending D011695, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 9, 2014.

PN1338 ARMY nominations (67) beginning VICTOR M. ANDA, and ending JOSHUA A. WORLEY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 9, 2014.

PN1339 ARMY nominations (159) beginning TRACY K. ABENOJA, and ending DANIEL J. YOURK, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 9, 2014.

PN1340 ARMY nominations (185) beginning HARRIS A. ABBASI, and ending DAVID M. ZUPANCIC, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 9, 2014.

PN1360 ARMY nominations (2) beginning STEPHEN E. FORSYTH, JR., and ending ERIC J. FRYE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 16, 2014.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREE- MENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at a time to be determined by me, with the concurrence of Senator MCCONNELL, the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 561; that there be 20 minutes for debate equally divided in the usual form; that upon the use or yielding back of that time the Senate proceed to vote without intervening action or debate on the nomination; that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDING THE HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM AND HYPOXIA RESEARCH AND CONTROL AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2013

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to Calendar No. 248.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1254) to amend the Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Nelson amendment which is at the desk be agreed to; the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed; the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 2741) was agreed to, as follows:

On page 2, line 25, insert “and Prevention” after “Centers for Disease Control”.

The bill (S. 1254), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1254

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Amendments Act of 2013.”

SEC. 2. REFERENCES TO THE HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM AND HYPOXIA RESEARCH AND CONTROL ACT OF 1998.

Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998 (16 U.S.C. 1451 note).

SEC. 3. INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE ON HARM- FUL ALGAL BLOOMS AND HYPOXIA.

Section 603(a) is amended—

(1) by striking “the following representatives from” and inserting “a representative from”;

(2) in paragraph (11), by striking “and”;

(3) by redesignating paragraph (12) as paragraph (13);

(4) by inserting after paragraph (11) the following:

“(12) the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and”;

(5) in paragraph (13), as redesignated, by striking “such”.

SEC. 4. NATIONAL HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM AND HYPOXIA PROGRAM.

The Act is amended by inserting after section 603 the following:

“SEC. 603A. NATIONAL HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM AND HYPOXIA PROGRAM.

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Amendments Act of 2013, the Under Secretary, acting through the Task Force, shall establish and maintain a national harmful algal bloom and hypoxia program, including—

“(1) a statement of objectives, including understanding, detecting, predicting, controlling, mitigating, and responding to marine and freshwater harmful algal bloom and hypoxia events; and

“(2) the comprehensive research plan and action strategy under section 603B.

“(b) PERIODIC REVISION.—The Task Force shall periodically review and revise the Program, as necessary.

“(c) TASK FORCE FUNCTIONS.—The Task Force shall—

“(1) coordinate interagency review of the objectives and activities of the Program;

“(2) expedite the interagency review process by ensuring timely review and dispersal

of required reports and assessments under this title;

“(3) support the implementation of the Action Strategy, including the coordination and integration of the research of all Federal programs, including ocean and Great Lakes science and management programs and centers, that address the chemical, biological, and physical components of marine and freshwater harmful algal blooms and hypoxia;

“(4) support the development of institutional mechanisms and financial instruments to further the objectives and activities of the Program;

“(5) review the Program's distribution of Federal funding to address the objectives and activities of the Program;

“(6) promote the development of new technologies for predicting, monitoring, and mitigating harmful algal bloom and hypoxia conditions; and

“(7) establish such interagency working groups as it considers necessary.

“(d) LEAD FEDERAL AGENCY.—Except as provided in subsection (h), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall have primary responsibility for administering the Program.

“(e) PROGRAM DUTIES.—In administering the Program, the Under Secretary shall—

“(1) promote the Program;

“(2) prepare work and spending plans for implementing the research and activities identified under the Action Strategy;

“(3) administer merit-based, competitive grant funding—

“(A) to maintain and enhance baseline monitoring programs established by the Program;

“(B) to support the projects maintained and established by the Program; and

“(C) to address the research and management needs and priorities identified in the Action Strategy;

“(4) coordinate and work cooperatively with regional, State, tribal, and local government agencies and programs that address marine and freshwater harmful algal blooms and hypoxia;

“(5) coordinate with the Secretary of State to support international efforts on marine and freshwater harmful algal bloom and hypoxia information sharing, research, prediction, mitigation, control, and response activities;

“(6) identify additional research, development, and demonstration needs and priorities relating to monitoring, prevention, control, mitigation, and response to marine and freshwater harmful algal blooms and hypoxia, including methods and technologies to protect the ecosystems affected by marine and freshwater harmful algal blooms and hypoxia;

“(7) integrate, coordinate, and augment existing education programs to improve public understanding and awareness of the causes, impacts, and mitigation efforts for marine and freshwater harmful algal blooms and hypoxia;

“(8) facilitate and provide resources to train State and local coastal and water resource managers in the methods and technologies for monitoring, preventing, controlling, and mitigating marine and freshwater harmful algal blooms and hypoxia;

“(9) support regional efforts to control and mitigate outbreaks through—

“(A) communication of the contents of the Action Strategy and maintenance of online data portals for other information about harmful algal blooms and hypoxia to State, tribal, and local stakeholders; and

“(B) overseeing the development, review, and periodic updating of the Action Strategy;