

the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13581 with respect to transnational criminal organizations.

BARACK OBAMA.
THE WHITE HOUSE, *July 21, 2015.*

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:03 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2898. An act to provide drought relief in the State of California, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 1238(b)(3) of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (22 U.S.C. 7002), as amended, and the order of the House of January 6, 2015, the Speaker appoints the following individuals on the part of the House of Representatives to the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission, for a term expiring on December 31, 2016: Mr. Larry Wortzel of Williamsburg, Virginia, and Mr. Peter Brookes of Springfield, Virginia.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 4:42 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 971. An act to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an increase in the limit on the length of an agreement under the Medicare independence at home medical practice demonstration program.

At 5:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 984. An act to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide Medicare beneficiary access to eye tracking accessories for speech generating devices and to remove the rental cap for durable medical equipment under the Medicare Program with respect to speech generating devices.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 2898. An act to provide drought relief in the State of California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following joint resolution was discharged pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 2159(i) and Section 601(b)(4) of Public Law 94-329, and placed on the calendar:

S.J. Res. 19. Joint resolution to express the disfavor of Congress regarding the proposed agreement for cooperation between the

United States and the People's Republic of China transmitted to the Congress by the President on April 21, 2015, pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

H.R. 3038. An act to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund, 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-2313. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Thiabendazole; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions" (FRL No. 9929-95) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 15, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2314. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Novaluron; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9929-57) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 15, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2315. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Distillates, (Fischer-Tropsch), heavy, C18-C50, branched, cyclic and linear; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9929-27) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 15, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2316. A communication from the Chairman, Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Corporation's annual report for calendar year 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2317. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Noel T. Jones, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2318. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Clarifications and Corrections to the Export Administration Regulations (EAR): Control of Spacecraft Systems and Related Items the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)" (RIN0694-AG59) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 14, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2319. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, General Law, Ethics, and Regulation, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report rel-

ative to a vacancy in the position of Deputy Under Secretary (Legislative Affairs), received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 14, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2320. A communication from the Chair of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's semiannual Monetary Policy Report to Congress; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2321. A communication from the Assistant Director for Legislative Affairs, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to pre-dispute arbitration clauses in consumer financial markets; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2322. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, reports entitled "The District's School Modernization Program Has Failed to Comply with D.C. Code and Lacks Accountability, Transparency and Basic Financial Management" and "Audits of Public School Construction Programs: A Literature Review"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2323. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Connecticut; Prevention of Significant Deterioration and Nonattainment New Source Review" (FRL No. 9927-32-Region 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 15, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2324. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Illinois; Midwest Generation Variances" (FRL No. 9929-71-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 15, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2325. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Redesignation Request and Associated Maintenance Plan for the Lancaster Nonattainment Area for the 1997 Annual and 2006 24-Hour Fine Particulate Matter Standard" (FRL No. 9930-56-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 15, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2326. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Virginia; Revision to the Definition of Volatile Organic Compounds" (FRL No. 9930-63-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 15, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2327. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; North Carolina; Nitrogen Dioxide and Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standards Changes" (FRL No. 9930-76-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 15, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2328. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Texas; Low Reid Vapor Pressure Regulations" (FRL No. 9930-79-Region 6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 15, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2329. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Washington; Interstate Transport Requirements for the 2008 Lead and 2010 Nitrogen Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standards" (FRL No. 9930-69-Region 10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 15, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2330. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "OPEN PHASE CONDITIONS IN ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEM" (BTP 8-9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 14, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2331. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "PHYSICAL SECURITY—REVIEW OF PHYSICAL SECURITY SYSTEM DESIGNS—STANDARD DESIGN CERTIFICATION AND OPERATING REACTOR LICENSING APPLICATIONS" (SRP 13.6.2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 14, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2332. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Strategies and Guidance to Address Loss of Large Areas of the Plant Due to Explosions and Fires" (NUREG-0800, SRP Section 19.4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 14, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2333. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision of Fee Schedules; Fee Recovery for Fiscal Year 2015" ((RIN3150-AJ44) (NRC-2014-0200)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 14, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2334. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Transaction of Interest Notice for Basket Contacts" (Notice 2015-48) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 14, 2015; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2335. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Listing Notice for Basket Option Contacts" (Notice 2015-47) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 14, 2015; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2336. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to sections 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC

14-133); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2337. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2014 annual report on voting practices in the United Nations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2338. A communication from the Deputy Director, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Coverage of Certain Preventive Services Under the Affordable Care Act" ((RIN0938-AS50) (CMS-9940-F)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 15, 2015; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2339. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Veterinary Feed Directive; Correction" ((RIN0910-AG95) (Docket No. FDA-2011-N-0155)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 14, 2015; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2340. A communication from the Rules Administrator, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Transfer of Offenders to Foreign Countries" (RIN1120-AB65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 14, 2015; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2341. A communication from the Rules Administrator, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Commutation of Sentence: Technical Change" (RIN1120-AB54) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 14, 2015; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2342. A communication from the Acting Director of Regulation Policy and Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards; Updating References" (RIN2900-AP22) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 14, 2015; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-2343. A communication from the Acting Director of Regulation Policy and Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Agency Interpretation of Prosthetic Replacement of a Joint" (RIN2900-AP38) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 14, 2015; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-2344. A communication from the Secretary of the Commission, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "16 CFR PART 305—ENERGY AND WATER USE FOR LABELING FOR CONSUMER PRODUCTS UNDER THE ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT ('ENERGY LABELING RULE')" (RIN3084-AA74) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 14, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2345. 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 Assistant Secretary/Administrator, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security, received in the Office of the

President of the Senate on July 14, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2346. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone—Oil Exploration Staging Area in Goodhope Bay; Kotzebue Sound, AK" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0267)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 14, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2347. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulated Navigation Area; 4th of July, Biscayne Bay, Miami, FL" ((RIN1625-AA11) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0450)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 14, 2015; 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-50. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana memorializing the United States Congress to eliminate the current ban on crude oil exports; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 94

Whereas, the efficient exploration, production, and transportation of oil in Louisiana prevents waste of the state's natural resources; contributes to the health, welfare, and safety of the general public; and promotes the prosperity of the state; and

Whereas, the tax revenues and economic prosperity deriving from this Louisiana energy renaissance have greatly benefited Louisiana public schools, higher education, critical infrastructure development, and public health and safety programs; and

Whereas, improved technologies and abundant resources have made the United States of America the world's leading oil and natural gas producer, overtaking Saudi Arabia and Russia; and

Whereas, the 1970s-era federal law prohibiting crude oil exports is a relic from an era of scarcity and flawed price control policies; and

Whereas, allowing American crude oil exports will strengthen U.S. geopolitical influence by giving our trading partners a more secure source of supply, and allowing the export of American crude oil will make our allies less dependent on crude oil from Russia and the Middle East; and

Whereas, the world's other major developed nations allow crude oil exports, making the U.S. the only nation that does not take full advantage of trading a valuable resource in what is an otherwise global free market; and

Whereas, crude oil exports will benefit the U.S.'s national security interests by decreasing the likelihood that global oil supply can be used internationally as a strategic weapon; and

Whereas, numerous studies have found that allowing American crude oil into the world's free market will benefit U.S. trade and American consumers while creating more high-paying jobs for Louisianians; and

Whereas, the U.S. is the largest exporter of refined petroleum products and would benefit even more substantially from the export of both crude oil and refined petroleum products; and