

I thank the Presiding Officer for his attention. I think those of us who have been following this issue with great interest are concerned and are conflicted because we want to make sure we do right by our highway systems, but I also want to make sure we do right by our national energy security, and selling off 101 million barrels of Strategic Petroleum Reserve is foolhardy.

With that, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the en bloc consideration of Executive Calendar Nos. 219 through 223, 225 through 231, and 233 through 247, and all nominations on the Secretary's desk in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy; that the nominations be confirmed, 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; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions, and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

IN THE AIR FORCE

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

Maj. Gen. John N. T. Shanahan

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

Maj. Gen. Michael X. Garrett

IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 156:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Darse E. Crandall

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

To be vice admiral

Rear Adm. Joseph E. Tofalo

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment as the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., sections 601 and 154:

To be general

Gen. Paul J. Selva

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

To be general

Gen. Darren W. McDew

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

Maj. Gen. David J. Buck

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force 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. Tod D. Wolters

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force 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. Russell J. Handy

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 brigadier general

Col. Frank H. Stokes

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force 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. John W. Raymond

IN THE ARMY

The following Army National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

To be brigadier general

Col. James E. Porter, Jr.

The following named Army National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the 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

Maj. Gen. Daniel R. Hokanson

IN THE NAVY

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

To be vice admiral

Rear Adm. Kevin D. Scott

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of im-

portance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be vice admiral

Rear Adm. Kevin M. Donegan

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

Maj. Gen. Michael H. Shields

The following Army National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Victor J. Braden

IN THE NAVY

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

To be vice admiral

Rear Adm. Richard P. Breckenridge

IN THE AIR FORCE

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 David W. Ashley
 Colonel Jeremy O. Baenen
 Colonel Stephen F. Baggerly
 Colonel Samuel W. Black
 Colonel Christine M. Burckle
 Colonel David B. Burgy
 Colonel Janus D. Butcher
 Colonel John D. Caine
 Colonel Craig A. Campbell
 Colonel Joseph S. Chisolm
 Colonel Floyd W. Dunstan
 Colonel Douglas A. Farnham
 Colonel Laurie M. Farris
 Colonel Jerry L. Fenwick
 Colonel Dawn M. Ferrell
 Colonel Douglas E. Fick
 Colonel Arthur J. Flora
 Colonel Donald A. Furland
 Colonel Timothy H. Gaasch
 Colonel Kerry M. Gentry
 Colonel Jerome M. Gouhin
 Colonel Randy E. Greenwood
 Colonel Robert J. Grey, Jr.
 Colonel Edith M. Grunwald
 Colonel Gregory M. Henderson
 Colonel Elizabeth A. Hill
 Colonel John S. Joseph
 Colonel Jill A. Lannan
 Colonel James M. LeFavor
 Colonel Jeffrey A. Lewis
 Colonel Timothy T. Lunderman
 Colonel Eric W. Mann
 Colonel Betty J. Marshall
 Colonel Sherrie L. McCandless
 Colonel Kevin T. McManaman
 Colonel David J. Meyer
 Colonel Steven S. Nordhaus
 Colonel Scott W. Normandeau
 Colonel Richard C. Oxner, Jr.
 Colonel Kirk S. Pierce
 Colonel Theresa B. Prince
 Colonel David L. Romuald
 Colonel Edward A. Sauley, III
 Colonel Keith A. Schell
 Colonel Brian M. Simpler
 Colonel Charles G. Stevenson
 Colonel Bradley A. Swanson
 Colonel Dean A. Tremps
 Colonel William M. Valentine

Colonel Richard W. Wedan

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. Steven A. Schaick

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be brigadier general

Col. Jeffrey A. Doll

IN THE AIR FORCE

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

To be general

Lt. Gen. Carlton D. Everhart, II

The following named officer for appointment as the Chief of Chaplains, United States Air Force, and appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 8039:

To be major general

Col. Dondi E. Costin

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

Maj. Gen. Stephen R. Lyons

IN THE NAVY

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

To be vice admiral

Rear Adm. John C. Aquilino

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

To be vice admiral

Vice Adm. Robert L. Thomas, Jr.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Marine Corps 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

Maj. Gen. Lawrence D. Nicholson

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S
DESK

IN THE AIR FORCE

PN594 AIR FORCE nomination of Robert B. A. MacGregor, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 22, 2015.

PN602 AIR FORCE nominations (18) beginning JANE E. BOOMER, and ending MATTHEW D. VAN DALLEN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN604 AIR FORCE nominations (48) beginning AFSANA AHMED, and ending REGGIE D. YAGER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN605 AIR FORCE nominations (13) beginning JOHN C. ROCKWELL, and ending STEPHEN J. TORRES, which nominations were

received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN606 AIR FORCE nominations (2) beginning ANA M. APOLTAN, and ending ALDO TTNOCO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN607 AIR FORCE nominations (57) beginning BRIAN H. ADAMS, and ending MARY JEAN WOOD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN666 AIR FORCE nominations (91) beginning ALLEN KIPP ALBRIGHT, and ending BRADLEY DUNCAN WHITE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2015.

IN THE ARMY

PN609 ARMY nomination of David G. Jones, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN610 ARMY nomination of Raymond L. Phua, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN611 ARMY nomination of John M. Bradford, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN612 ARMY nominations (5) beginning STEVE J. CHUN, and ending BENJAMIN R. SIEBERT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN613 ARMY nomination of Steven L. Isehour, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN614 ARMY nomination of Joseph D. Gramling, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN615 ARMY nomination of Mark S. Snyder, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN616 ARMY nomination of Keith J. McVeigh, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN617 ARMY nomination of Lisa M. Stremel, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN618 ARMY nominations (2) beginning MICHAEL N. CLEVELAND, and ending MICHAEL W. SUMMERS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN619 ARMY nominations (2) beginning MATTHEW H. BROOKS, and ending JAY D. HANSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN620 ARMY nominations (5) beginning GIL A. DIAZCRUZ, and ending SOLIMAN G. VALDEZ, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN635 ARMY nominations (7) beginning NICHOLAS R. CABANO, and ending JAMES W. PRATT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 8, 2015.

PN636 ARMY nominations (17) beginning KIMBERLY D. BRENDA, and ending CARRIE A. STORER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 8, 2015.

PN637 ARMY nominations (90) beginning ERIC J. ANSORGE, and ending D011713, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 8, 2015.

PN638 ARMY nominations (65) beginning JOHN L. AMENT, and ending WENDY G.

WOODALL, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 8, 2015.

PN639 ARMY nomination of Laura M. Hudson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 8, 2015.

PN667 ARMY nomination of Mark R. Read, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2015.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

PN625 MARINE CORPS nomination of John R. Barclay, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

IN THE NAVY

PN621 NAVY nomination of Thomas F. Murphy, III, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN622 NAVY nominations (2) beginning ARSLAN S. CHAUDHRY, and ending ANDREW D. SILVESTRI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN623 NAVY nomination of Benjamin M. Boche, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN624 NAVY nomination of Michael J. Elliott, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 24, 2015.

PN640 NAVY nominations (42) beginning CHRISTOPHER N. ANDREWS, and ending NICHOLAS J. VANDYKE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 8, 2015.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

NOTICE ACT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 876 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 876) to amend Title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require hospitals to provide certain notifications to individuals classified by such hospitals under observation status rather than admitted as inpatients of such hospitals.

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

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I applaud the Senate passage of H.R. 876, the Notice of Observation Treatment and Implication for Care Eligibility, NOTICE, Act. Representative LLOYD DOGGETT of Texas introduced H.R. 876. Senator ENZI and I introduced an identical companion bill in the Senate, S. 1349, which the Finance Committee reported unanimously by voice vote on June 24, 2015. This important legislation requires hospitals to give notice to Medicare beneficiaries who are classified as "outpatient observation" status