

of later action. Ask yourselves how this gracious reception of our petition comports with these nearly 60 million lives lost in this country alone, which cover our waters and darken our lands. Is taking an unborn life a work of love and reconciliation? Is subjecting to pain a 5-month-old child as no other nation save six on the Earth allowed to happen? Let us not deceive ourselves. These are the implements of death and destruction.

I ask what means this perpetual delay of voting? What is its purpose? What is the force of inaction? Can gentlemen assign another possible motive for it than to ensure that it never occurs?

Destruction? No, sir, destruction. They are set to send and perpetuate this loss of life, and have so long supported this loss of life, and now an opportunity presents itself to vote, and what do we have to oppose inaction? Mr. Speaker, we have our voices. Shall we try again and again? Shall we bring this bill back next year? We have been trying that for 40 years. Have we anything new to offer upon the subject? Nothing.

We have held this subject in every light of which it is capable. It has all been, to this date, in vain. Shall we resort to entreaty and supplication? What terms shall we find that have not already been exhausted? Let us not, I beseech you, Mr. Speaker, deceive ourselves.

We have done everything that we could do to avert this death that has claimed nearly 60 million lives and 14 to 20 million unborn lives after the age of 5 months in utero every single year. We have petitioned, we have remonstrated, we have supplicated, we have prostrated ourselves and have implored its inner position to arrest the tyrannical hands of the abortion industry and its champions in Washington, and our petitions have been slighted. Our remonstrations produce additional death and insult. Our supplications have been disregarded, and we have been spurned with contempt from the floor of the Chamber of the opposing body. In vain these things we may indulge the fond hope of life and justice.

If we support life, if we mean to preserve and violate this fundamental right for which we have been so long arguing, if we mean not basely to abandon this noble struggle which we have been so long engaged in, in which we have pledged ourselves to never abandon until the glorious object of our contest shall be obtained, we must hope the American people demand the Senate hold a vote. We must hope the American people demand the Senate hold a vote.

An appeal to democracy and to the Lord of hosts is all that is left to us. Suffer not yourselves to be betrayed with a promise of later action. Ask yourselves how this gracious reception of our petition comports with the nearly 60 million lives ended.

We can be heard in numbers across the fruited plain. A vote should be held

for or against life. Let us have it. Let us have it. In this vein, sir, to extenuate the matter, gentlemen may cry: Later; later; next year. But there is no later. The killing has continued for over 40 years. The next gale that sweeps to the North will bring to our ears cries of the yet born. The House has voted. Why is the Senate idle? What is it that they wish? What would they have? Is political victory so dear or a title so sweet as to be purchased at the price of human life? Forbid it, Almighty God.

Mr. Speaker, I know not what course others may take, but as for me, my hope is that there is a vote. My hope is that we stand for life.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for October 4 after 8 p.m. and for the balance of the week on account of personal reasons.

Ms. ROSEN (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of work in district relating to tragic shooting in Las Vegas.

SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to enrolled bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 178. An act to prevent elder abuse and exploitation and improve the justice system's response to victims in elder abuse and exploitation cases.

S. 652. A act to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a program for early detection, diagnosis, and treatment regarding deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 23 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, October 6, 2017, at 10:30 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2774. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Importation of Fresh Persimmons From New Zealand Into the United States [Docket No.: APHIS-2015-0052] (RIN: 0579-AE26) received October 4, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2775. A letter from the Under Secretary, Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, Department of Defense, transmitting a deter-

mination that a negotiated comprehensive subcontracting plan did not meet the subcontracting goals negotiated in their prior fiscal year, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 637 note; Public Law 114-92, Sec. 872(d)(2); (129 Stat. 939); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2776. A letter from the Under Secretary, Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, Department of Defense, transmitting notification that in FY 2017 and FY 2018, the Department proposed no military construction projects under the Sec. 2803(c)(1) of the Defense Laboratory Modernization Pilot Program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2777. A letter from the Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's report on the Availability of Credit to Small Businesses, September 2017, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 252(a)(1); Public Law 104-208, Sec. 2227(a)(1); (110 Stat. 3009-417); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2778. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing and Paying Benefits received October 4, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

2779. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to significant malicious cyber-enabled activities that was declared in Executive Order 13694 of April 1, 2015, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2780. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Sudan that was declared in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2781. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to South Sudan that was declared in Executive Order 13664 of April 3, 2014, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2782. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Office of the Under Secretary, Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's intent to sign the Memorandum of Understanding Among the Department of Defence of Australia, and the Ministry of Defence of the Kingdom of Denmark and the Department of Defense of the United States of America, Transmittal No. 01-17, pursuant to Sec. 27(f) of the Arms Export Act, and Executive Order 13637; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2783. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the annual report entitled "Report of U.S. Persons Expropriation Claims and Certain Other Commercial and Investment Disputes", dated October 2017, pursuant to Sec. 527(f) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995, Public Law 103-236 dated October 2017; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2784. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of

Defense, transmitting Transmittal No. 17-44, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2785. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Updated Statements of Legal Authority for the Export Administration Regulations to Include the Continuation of Emergency Declared in Executive Order 13222 [Docket No.: 170316279-7279-01] (RIN: 0694-AH38) received October 4, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2786. A letter from the Auditor, Office of the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting a report entitled, "Significant Improvements Needed in DCRA Management of Vacant and Blighted Property Program", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 455(d); (87 Stat. 803); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2787. A letter from the Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts, transmitting the Endowment's FY 2017 Commercial and Inherently Governmental Activities Inventory, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 501 note; Public Law 105-270, Sec. 2(c)(1)(A); (112 Stat. 2382); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2788. A letter from the Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting the Board's annual submission regarding agency compliance with the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act and revised Office of Management and Budget Circular A-123; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2789. A letter from the Acting Branch Chief, Unified Listing Team, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Species Status for Pearl Darter [Docket No.: FWS-R4-ES-2016-0037; 4500030113] (RIN: 1018-BB55) received October 4, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2790. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Negotiated Non-competitive Agreements for the Use of Sand, Gravel, and/or Shell Resources on the Outer Continental Shelf [Docket ID: BOEM-2010-0041] (RIN: 1010-AD90) received October 4, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2791. A letter from the Acting Manager, Species Assessment Team, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for Guadalupe Fescue; Designation of Critical Habitat for Guadalupe Fescue [Docket No.: FWS-R2-ES-2016-0099 and FWS-R2-ES-2016-0100; 4500030113] (RIN: 1018-BA74) received October 4, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2792. A letter from the SAT Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Species Status for the Iwi (*Drepanis coccinea*) [Docket No.: FWS-R1-ES-2016-0057; 4500030113] (RIN: 1018-BB54) received October 4, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2793. A letter from the SAT Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for Sonoyta Mud Turtle [Docket No.: FWS-R2-ES-2016-0103; 4500030113] (RIN: 1018-AZ02) received October 4, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2794. A letter from the Chief, Branch of FS, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Correction for Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-ES-2017-0026; 4500090024] (RIN: 1018-BC64) received October 4, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2795. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, Office of Protected Resources, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's notice — Subsistence Taking of Northern Fur Seals on the Pribilof Islands; Final Annual Subsistence Harvest Levels for 2017-2019 [Docket No.: 170303228-7752-02] (RIN: 0648-BG71) received October 4, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2796. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting a report regarding settlements and consent decrees/orders, approved by an officer of the Department of Justice (Second Quarter 2017), pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 530D(a)(1); Public Law 107-273, Sec. 202(a); (116 Stat. 1771); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2797. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Revised Guidance Related to Obtaining and Reporting Taxpayer Identification Numbers and Dates of Birth by Financial Institutions [Notice 2017-46] received September 29, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2798. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Publications Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Treatment Under Section 956(c) of Certain Inventory Temporarily Located in the United States Following Hurricane Irma or Hurricane Maria [Notice 2017-55] received September 29, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2799. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Fringe Benefits Aircraft Valuation Formula (Revenue Ruling 2017-19) received October 4, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2800. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Extended Due Date under Notice 2017-10 for Participants Affected by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, or Maria [Notice 2017-58] received October 4, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2801. A letter from the Chairman, U.S. International Trade Commission, transmitting the 23rd report of the Caribbean Basin

Economic Recovery Act: Impact on U.S. Industries and Consumers and on Beneficiary Countries, pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2704(a)(1); Public Law 102-182, Sec. 206(a) (as amended by Public Law 106-200, Sec. 211(d)(2)); (114 Stat. 287); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2802. A letter from the Inspector General, Office of Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report on Medicare payments for clinical diagnostic laboratory tests, pursuant to the Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014, Public Law 113-93; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. GOWDY: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 2989. A bill to establish the Frederick Douglass Bicentennial Commission; with an amendment (Rept. 115-340). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. DELBENE (for herself, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. COHEN, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. NORTON, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. HECK, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. EVANS, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. POCAN, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, and Ms. BONAMICI):

H.R. 3963. A bill to provide for the establishment of a pilot program to encourage the employment of veterans in manufacturing positions; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. ROE of Tennessee (for himself, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. MACARTHUR, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, and Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico):

H.R. 3964. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to establish additional registration requirements for prescribers of opioids, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. RUTHERFORD (for himself and Mr. LAWSON of Florida):

H.R. 3965. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make grants to eligible organizations for the provision of transition assistance to members of the Armed Forces recently separated from active duty service and spouses of such members; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PALMER (for himself, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. BIGGS, and Mr. BRAT):

H.R. 3966. A bill to provide that provisions of title 46, United States Code, popularly