

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.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

NOTICE OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SOUTH SUDAN THAT WAS DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13664 OF APRIL 3, 2014—PM 3

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13664 of April 3, 2014, with respect to South Sudan is to continue in effect beyond April 3, 2017.

The situation in and in relation to South Sudan, which has been marked by activities that threaten the peace, security, or stability of South Sudan and the surrounding region, including widespread violence and atrocities, human rights abuses, recruitment and use of child soldiers, attacks on peacekeepers and humanitarian workers, and obstruction of humanitarian operations, continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13664 with respect to South Sudan.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 22, 2017.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:31 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 305. An act to amend title 4, United States Code, to encourage the display of the flag of the United States on National Vietnam War Veterans Day.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1297. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make technical corrections to the requirement that the Secretary of Homeland Security submit quadrennial homeland security reviews, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1353. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require certain additional information to be submitted to Congress regarding the strategic 5-year technology investment plan of the Transportation Security Administration.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1297. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make technical corrections to the requirement that the Secretary of Homeland Security submit quadrennial homeland security reviews, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 1353. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require certain additional information to be submitted to Congress regarding the strategic 5-year technology investment plan of the Transportation Security Administration; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

H.R. 1181. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the conditions under which certain persons may be treated as adjudicated mentally incompetent for certain purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communication was laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and was referred as indicated:

EC-1032. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Budget Blueprint of the United States Government for Fiscal Year 2018 received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 16, 2017; referred jointly, pursuant to the order of January 30, 1975 as modified by the order of April 11, 1986; to the Committees on the Budget; and Appropriations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. HOEVEN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

S. 249. A bill to provide that the pueblo of Santa Clara may lease for 99 years certain restricted land, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-8).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 693. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the number of permanent faculty in palliative care at accredited allopathic and osteopathic medical schools, nursing schools, social work schools, and other programs, including physician assistant education programs, to promote education and research in palliative care and hospice, and to support the development of faculty careers in academic palliative medicine; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KING (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 694. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the standard charitable mileage rate for delivery of meals to elderly, disabled, frail, and at risk individuals; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 695. A bill to avoid duplicative annual reporting under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself, Mrs. MCCASKILL, and Mr. HELLER):

S. 696. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to appropriately limit the authority to award bonuses to Federal employees; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. DAINES:

S. 697. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to lower the mileage threshold for deduction in determining adjusted gross income of certain expenses of members of reserve components of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 698. A bill to establish a national program to identify and reduce losses from landslide hazards, to establish a national 3D Elevation Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 699. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish mental and behavioral health care to certain individuals discharged or released from the active military, naval, or air service under conditions other than honorable, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BROWN, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 700. A bill to improve the reproductive assistance provided by the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs to severely wounded, ill, or injured members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and their spouses or partners, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. KING, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 701. A bill to improve the competitiveness of United States manufacturing by designating and supporting manufacturing communities; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. PERDUE):

S. 702. A bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act and the Labor Management

Relations Act, 1947 to deter labor slowdowns at ports of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. 703. A bill to extend the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to carry out the Equus Beds Division of the Wichita Project; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. CARDIN):

S. Con. Res. 11. A concurrent resolution recognizing the life and legacy of Henrietta Lacks during Women's History Month; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 158

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 158, a bill to eliminate the payroll tax for individuals who have attained retirement age, to amend title II of the Social Security Act to remove the limitation upon the amount of outside income which an individual may earn while receiving benefits under such title, and for other purposes.

S. 260

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) were added as cosponsors of S. 260, a bill to repeal the provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act providing for the Independent Payment Advisory Board.

S. 261

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 261, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to improve and clarify certain disclosure requirements for restaurants and similar retail food establishments, and to amend the authority to bring proceedings under section 403A.

S. 266

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 266, a bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Anwar Sadat in recognition of his heroic achievements and courageous contributions to peace in the Middle East.

S. 382

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 382, a bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop a voluntary registry to collect data on cancer incidence among firefighters.

S. 407

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin

(Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 407, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 425

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 425, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve the historic rehabilitation tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 534

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 534, a bill to prevent the sexual abuse of minors and amateur athletes by requiring the prompt reporting of sexual abuse to law enforcement authorities, and for other purposes.

S. 573

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 573, a bill to establish the National Criminal Justice Commission.

S. 591

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 591, a bill to expand eligibility for the program of comprehensive assistance for family caregivers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to expand benefits available to participants under such program, to enhance special compensation for members of the uniformed services who require assistance in everyday life, and for other purposes.

S. 636

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 636, a bill to allow Americans to earn paid sick time so that they can address their own health needs and the health needs of their families.

S. 637

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 637, a bill to amend titles XI and XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide greater transparency of discounts provided by drug manufacturers.

S. 672

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 672, a bill to require a report on designation of North Korea as a state sponsor of terrorism, and for other purposes.

S. 681

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 681, a bill to amend

title 38, United States Code, to improve the benefits and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs to women veterans, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 17

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 17, a joint resolution approving the discontinuation of the process for consideration and automatic implementation of the annual proposal of the Independent Medicare Advisory Board under section 1899A of the Social Security Act.

S.J. RES. 27

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 27, a joint resolution disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to "Clarification of Employer's Continuing Obligation to Make and Maintain an Accurate Record of Each Recordable Injury and Illness".

S. CON. RES. 6

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 6, a concurrent resolution supporting the Local Radio Freedom Act.

S. RES. 88

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 88, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the President and the Secretary of State should ensure that the Government of Canada does not permanently store nuclear waste in the Great Lakes Basin.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DAINES:

S. 697. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to lower the mileage threshold for deduction in determining adjusted gross income of certain expenses of members of reserve components of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, since 2001 our Nation has frequently called upon members of the National Guard and Armed Forces Reserve to confront our enemies and protect our interests around the globe.

Without the contributions from the Guard and Reserve components, the joint force would be far less capable and unable to perform many critical tasks.

Often, members of the Guard and Reserve incur out-of-pocket expenses to travel to and from their training locations. There are many challenges that these servicemembers face, but subsidizing the cost of training with after-tax income should not be one of them.

This issue is particularly relevant to Montana. My home State is widely recognized as having one of the highest