

Of your sisters and brothers.
Be Americans!
Respecting one another.
No outside force
Will ever take this land.
But a "house divided,"
Cannot stand.
Blood has been shed
For this land of the Free
Be Americans!
Embrace your destiny.
Be that "City on a Hill."
Be that Light!
Lay down your anger.
Americans! Unite!●

RECOGNIZING TACTICAL MEDICAL SOLUTIONS

● Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, in South Carolina, there are approximately 400,000 small businesses operating throughout the State. They represent 97 percent of all employers and have had an amazing impact on the economy. Tactical Medical Solution, TacMed, in Anderson County is certainly a testament to that and epitomizes the very best our State has to offer.

Ross Johnson, a former Army Special Forces medic, founded TacMed in 2003. Mr. Johnson started the company because he wanted to make sure as many servicemembers made it home as possible. He made it his company's mission to create the best tactical medical equipment available, so our brave men and women in uniform and first responders are better equipped to handle their day-to-day missions. Johnson says that today his company's products help "the soldier on the battlefield, the officer on patrol, and the civilian caught in an unfortunate situation."

Over a decade later, TacMed has added 40 jobs to our State's economy and has become one of the largest suppliers of high-quality medical trauma kits and components for the military, law enforcement, and first responders.

In honor of National Small Business Week, as well as Military Appreciation Month, I am excited to recognize Tactical Medical Solutions for helping to keep our bravest citizens safe as they take on dangerous jobs. Whether it is our neighborhoods' first responders or those fighting for our freedoms overseas, TacMed's dedication to saving lives everyday makes me incredibly proud they have decided to call South Carolina home to their growing business.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:28 a.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 bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1180. An act to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide compensatory time for employees in the private sector.

H.R. 1679. An act to ensure that the Federal Emergency Management Agency's cur-

rent efforts to modernize its grant management system includes applicant accessibility and transparency, and for other purposes.

At 5:08 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agree to the amendments numbered 2 and 3 of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 244) to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes; and, further, that the House agree to the amendment numbered 1 of the Senate to the aforementioned bill, with an amendment.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 53. Concurrent resolution providing for a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 244.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1366. An act to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to terminate an exemption for companies located in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and any other possession of the United States; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1679. An act to ensure that the Federal Emergency Management Agency's current efforts to modernize its grant management system includes applicant accessibility and transparency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 35. A bill to transfer administrative jurisdiction over certain Bureau of Land Management land from the Secretary of the Interior to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for inclusion in the Black Hills National Cemetery, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-35).

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 99. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the President James K. Polk Home in Columbia, Tennessee, as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-36).

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 189. A bill to modify the boundary of the Fort Scott National Historic Site in the State of Kansas, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-37).

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 287. A bill to update the map of, and modify the maximum acreage available for inclusion in, the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument (Rept. No. 115-38).

S. 331. A bill to remove the use restrictions on certain land transferred to Rockingham County, Virginia, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-39).

S. 432. A bill to designate the Cerro del Yuta and Rio San Antonio Wilderness Areas in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-40).

S. 466. A bill to clarify the description of certain Federal land under the Northern Arizona Land Exchange and Verde River Basin Partnership Act of 2005 to include additional land in the Kaibab National Forest (Rept. No. 115-41).

S. 501. A bill to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of East Rosebud Creek in Carbon County, Montana, as components of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System (Rept. No. 115-42).

By Mr. CORKER, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

H.R. 534. An act to require the Secretary of State to take such actions as may be necessary for the United States to rejoin the Bureau of International Expositions, and for other purposes.

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 Mrs. CAPITO:

S. 1013. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax benefits for investments in gigabit opportunity zones; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 1014. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make grants to eligible organizations to provide service dogs to veterans with severe post-traumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mr. DONNELLY):

S. 1015. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to study the feasibility of designating a simple, easy-to-remember dialing code to be used for a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 1016. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Ms. HEITKAMP):

S. 1017. A bill to designate the Red River Valley Agricultural Research Center in Fargo, North Dakota, as the "Edward T. Schafer Agricultural Research Center"; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. NELSON, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 1018. A bill to provide humanitarian assistance for the Venezuelan people, to defend democratic governance and combat widespread public corruption in Venezuela, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 1019. A bill for the relief of Luis Barrios; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. REED, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WHITEHOUSE,

Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. WARREN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. MERKLEY, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 1020. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the proper tax treatment of personal service income earned in pass-thru entities; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 1021. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the United States Coast Guard; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 1022. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to facilitate assignment of military trauma care providers to civilian trauma centers in order to maintain military trauma readiness and to support such centers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. BURR, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. UDALL, and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 1023. A bill to reauthorize the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 through fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. TESTER, Mr. DAINES, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. UDALL, Mr. KING, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 1024. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to reform the rights and processes relating to appeals of decisions regarding claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. FLAKE (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 1025. A bill to reform the Federal Crop Insurance Act and reduce Federal spending on crop insurance; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. UDALL, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 1026. A bill to amend the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 to require full disclosure for entities receiving Federal funding; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. RISCH, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. GARDNER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. TESTER, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 1027. A bill to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. BENNET):

S. 1028. A bill to provide for the establishment and maintenance of a National Family Caregiving Strategy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 1029. A bill to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to exempt certain small hydroelectric power projects that are applying for relicensing under the Federal Power Act from the licensing requirements of that Act; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 1030. A bill to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to submit to Congress a report on certain hydropower projects; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. DAINES:

S. 1031. A bill to amend provisions in the securities laws relating to regulation crowdfunding to raise the dollar amount limit and to clarify certain requirements and exclusions for funding portals established by such an Act; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. ROBERTS:

S. 1032. A bill to amend the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 to provide for good neighbor agreements to conduct authorized restoration services on National Forest System land; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. ROBERTS:

S. 1033. A bill to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to provide for stewardship contracting projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BENNET, Ms. HIRONO, and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 1034. A bill to improve agricultural job opportunities, benefits, and security for aliens in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. CARPER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. BENNET, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 1035. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 with respect to the scope of employee pension benefit plans; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. KING, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 1036. A bill to promote research, development, and demonstration of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies, and for other purposes; 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. CASEY (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 150. A resolution recognizing threats to freedom of the press and expression around the world and reaffirming freedom of the press as a priority in efforts of the United States Government to promote democracy and good governance; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mrs. McCASKILL):

S. Res. 151. A resolution commending the Northwest Missouri State University Bearcats on their National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II national championship victories; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. HEITKAMP (for herself and Mr. CASEY):

S. Res. 152. A resolution expressing support for the designation of April 2017 as "National Donate Life Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. HEITKAMP (for herself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mrs. McCASKILL, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. CARPER, Mr. TESTER, Mr. PETERS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. KING, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. COONS, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. Res. 153. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that, during Public Service Recognition Week, public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the United States; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 128

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 128, a bill to provide provisional protected presence to qualified individuals who came to the United States as children.

S. 168

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 168, a bill to amend and enhance certain maritime programs of the Department of Transportation.

S. 223

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mrs. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 223, a bill to provide immunity from suit for certain individuals who disclose potential examples of financial exploitation of senior citizens, and for other purposes.

S. 236

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 236, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform taxation of alcoholic beverages.

S. 241

At the request of Mrs. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. STRANGE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 241, a bill to prohibit Federal funding of Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

S. 260

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mrs. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor 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. 275

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 275, a bill to allow the financing by United States persons of sales of agricultural commodities to Cuba.

S. 292

At the request of Mr. REED, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from