

(Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 473, a bill the amend title 38, United States Code, to make qualification requirements for entitlement to Post-9/11 Education Assistance more equitable, to improve support of veterans receiving such educational assistance, and for other purposes.

S. 540

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 540, a bill to limit the authority of States to tax certain income of employees for employment duties performed in other States.

S. 569

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 569, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide consistent and reliable authority for, and for the funding of, the Land and Water Conservation Fund to maximize the effectiveness of the Fund for future generations, and for other purposes.

S. 654

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 654, a bill to revise section 48 of title 18, United States Code, and for other purposes.

S. 656

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 656, a bill to help individuals receiving disability insurance benefits under title II of the Social Security Act obtain rehabilitation services and return to the workforce, and for other purposes.

S. 712

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 712, 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.

S. 720

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 720, a bill to amend the Export Administration Act of 1979 to include in the prohibitions on boycotts against allies of the United States boycotts fostered by international governmental organizations against Israel and to direct the Export-Import Bank of the United States to oppose boycotts against Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 765

At the request of Mr. PERDUE, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 765, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for penalties for the sale of any Purple

Heart awarded to a member of the Armed Forces.

S. 838

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 838, a bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to include retrofit loans such as property assessed clean energy loans, and for other purposes.

S. 916

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 916, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with regard to the provision of emergency medical services.

S. 926

At the request of Mrs. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 926, a bill to authorize the Global War on Terror Memorial Foundation to establish the National Global War on Terrorism Memorial as a commemorative work in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

S. 976

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 976, a bill to restore States' sovereign rights to enforce State and local sales and use tax laws, and for other purposes.

S. 978

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 978, a bill to direct the Secretary of Education to establish an award program recognizing excellence exhibited by public school system employees providing services to students in prekindergarten through higher education.

S. 985

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 985, a bill to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from revising the approved oil and gas leasing program for fiscal years 2017 through 2022.

S. 992

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 992, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct an independent review of the deaths of certain veterans by suicide, and for other purposes.

S. 1034

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1034, a bill to improve agricultural job opportunities, benefits, and security for aliens in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1055

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator

from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 1055, a bill to restrict the exportation of certain defense articles to the Philippine National Police, to work with the Philippines to support civil society and a public health approach to substance abuse, to report on Chinese and other sources of narcotics to the Republic of the Philippines, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 109

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 109, a resolution encouraging the Government of Pakistan to release Aasiya Noreen, internationally known as Asia Bibi, and reform its religiously intolerant laws regarding blasphemy.

S. RES. 139

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 139, a resolution condemning the Government of Iran's state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights.

S. RES. 155

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 155, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States should work in cooperation with the international community and continue to exercise global leadership to address the causes and effects of climate change, and for other purposes.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 160—HONORING THE SERVICE TO UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES PROVIDED BY MILITARY WORKING DOGS AND CONTRACT WORKING DOGS, ALSO KNOWN AS "WAR DOGS"

Mr. NELSON (for himself and Mr. CORNYN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 160

Whereas March 13, 2017, marks the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the United States Army military working dog program, which officially began on March 13, 1942;

Whereas each military working dog (referred to in this preamble as a "war dog") and its handler is currently trained at the 341st Training Squadron at Lackland Air Force Base, which is also home to the Military Working Dog Teams National Monument;

Whereas war dogs have provided service to each branch of the United States Armed

Forces and in each conflict involving the United States since and including the Revolutionary War;

Whereas war dogs are credited with saving countless lives, while alerting service members to danger on patrol, detecting improvised explosive devices, identifying weapons caches, performing search and rescue, and providing other specialized mission functions;

Whereas in conflicts before and including the Vietnam conflict, some war dogs were left behind in conflict areas, but war dogs are no longer considered merely equipment and are now required to be retired in the United States;

Whereas, in recognition of the unique bond between a war dog and its handler team, handlers are given preference in adopting their war dog teammate after the war dog's retirement;

Whereas the service of war dogs has been recognized by senior military leaders, who have stated that the capability of war dogs in combat cannot be replicated by humans or machines and by any measure of performance, war dogs outperform any other asset in the inventory of the United States Armed Forces; and

Whereas numerous war dogs have given their lives in service to the United States Armed Forces, both in active conflict and in retirement, while providing companionship and comfort to veterans and wounded warriors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the United States Army military working dog program, the Senate—

(1) recognizes the service that military working dogs and contract working dogs (referred to in this resolution as "war dogs") have provided to the United States Armed Forces;

(2) acknowledges that not all war dogs were given due recognition by being allowed to honorably retire from their service in the United States;

(3) assures the members of the United States Armed Forces that war dogs will continue to be treated with the deference commensurate with their service and rank; and

(4) honors the sacrifices made by war dogs in combat and the services war dogs provide in retirement to members of the United States Armed Forces.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have two requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to Rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 9, 2017, at 9:30 a.m., in open and closed sessions, to receive testimony on United States Cyber Command.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 9, 2017, at 2:30 p.m., in open session to consider nominations.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 9, 2017, at 10 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 9, 2017, at 10:15 a.m., to hold a hearing entitled "Nominations."

COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the 115th Congress of the U.S. Senate on Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at 2:30 p.m., in room SH-219 of the Senate Hart Office Building.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SURFACE TRANSPORTATION AND MERCHANT MARINE INFRASTRUCTURE, SAFETY AND SECURITY

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to hold a meeting during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 9, 2017, at 2:30 p.m. in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The Committee will hold Subcommittee Hearing on "Maritime Transportation: Opportunities and Challenges for the Maritime Administration and Federal Maritime Commission."

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 9, 2017, at 2:30 p.m., in Room 406 of the Dirksen Senate office building, to conduct a hearing entitled, "Water Resources: The Role of the Public and Private Sectors."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 52, Robert Lighthizer to be U.S. Trade Representative.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Robert Lighthizer, of Florida, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Robert Lighthizer, of Florida, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.

Mitch McConnell, John Cornyn, Mike Rounds, Orrin G. Hatch, Thom Tillis, Steve Daines, Mike Crapo, Pat Roberts, Thad Cochran, Luther Strange, John Thune, Richard C. Shelby, John Hoeven, John Boozman, Rob Portman, Jerry Moran, David Perdue.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call with respect to the cloture motion be waived.

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

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2017

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, May 10; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; finally, that following leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, we expect to have a rollcall vote on the motion to proceed to H.J. Res. 36, the methane CRA resolution of disapproval, at approximately 10 a.m. tomorrow morning.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator SULLIVAN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. RUBIO). Without objection, it is so ordered.

The assistant Democratic leader.

TERMINATION OF JAMES COMEY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, the termination and removal of James Comey as Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation raises a critical question as to whether the FBI investigation of Russian interference in the last Presidential campaign will continue and whether the investigation into any collusion or involvement by the Trump campaign will be investigated by the FBI. Any attempt to stop or undermine this FBI investigation would raise grave constitutional issues.

We await clarification by the White House as soon as possible as to whether this investigation will continue and whether it will have a credible lead so