

Colyer is a native of Sheridan, WY, and a graduate of Hamilton College. He studied environmental studies and geosciences, as well as comparative literature. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Colyer for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his journey.●

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL PATRICK KERR

● Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, today I wish to recognize the military career of COL Patrick Kerr, who is retiring from Active Duty on June 1, 2017 after serving more than 26 years in the U.S. Army.

Colonel Kerr was commissioned into the Army as a second lieutenant through the ROTC program at James Madison University in 1990. Over the course of his long career, Colonel Kerr served at every leadership level in the Army from platoon leader in the 63rd Signal Battalion to brigade commander of the Army Information Systems Engineering Command at Fort Huachuca. During his brigade command, Colonel Kerr's unit defended Army networks against daily attacks and conducted cyber space and network operations in support of the warfighter.

Throughout his time in the Army, Colonel Kerr has been a leader in the incredibly important battlefield of cyber security and network communications. It is difficult to imagine aspects of the military that have changed more in the last quarter century than military communications, information technology, and cyber security. Colonel Kerr provided extraordinary leadership for the Army to navigate through the many challenges of building, operating, and protecting Army and Defense Department communications networks.

Prior to his current assignment in Arizona, Colonel Kerr was the deputy operations officer for recently created Army Cyber Command. He also commanded the 53rd Signal Battalion, which operates the Department of Defense's constellation of military command and control satellites, providing secure and protected communications around the globe. Colonel Kerr also served as executive officer of the 44th Signal Battalion for its deployment to Afghanistan during the first parliamentary elections for the new government in 2005. As a young officer, Colonel Kerr also deployed to Somalia for Operation Continue Hope; to Kosovo as part of the NATO stabilization force operations; and to Central Command for Operation Provide Comfort.

Colonel Kerr has received numerous awards, including the Legion of Merit,

with oakleaf cluster, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, with two oakleaf clusters, and the Meritorious Service Medal, with two oakleaf clusters). He has earned the U.S. Air Force Space Badge and is a recipient of the Signal Corps Regiment Silver Order of Mercury.

Finally, Colonel Kerr provided mentorship to countless soldiers throughout his career. He is known for going the extra mile in professionally developing his subordinates and truly preparing them for their next leadership role. In fact, Colonel Kerr's advice and counsel is regularly sought by all who work with him to include his peers and superiors.

Colonel Kerr is retiring in Vail, AZ, with his family. He has been married to his wife, Wendy, for over 25 years, and they have two children, Noelle and Peter. For a career soldier, the support of family is vital, and I sincerely thank Wendy, Noelle, and Peter for their sacrifice and support during their numerous deployments and moves.

For a career of exceptional service to the Army and to the Nation, I congratulate COL Patrick Kerr on his retirement and I wish him and his family well in their future endeavors.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to section 301 of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1381), as amended, and section 1(b) of Public Law 115-19, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the House of Representatives and the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate jointly reappoint the following individuals effective May 13, 2017, each to a 5-year term on the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance: Ms. Barbara L. Camens of Washington, DC and Ms. Roberta L. Holzwarth of Rockford, Illinois.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with amendments:

S. 218. A bill to restrict the inclusion of social security account numbers on documents sent by mail by the Federal Government, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-62).

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. FISCHER:

S. 1119. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2018 and 2019 for the Federal Maritime Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 1120. A bill for the relief of Valent Kolami; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 1121. A bill to establish a postsecondary student data system; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. WARREN, Mr. FRANKEN, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 1122. A bill to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to clarify when the time period for the issuance of citations under such Act begins and to require a rule to clarify that an employer's duty to make and maintain accurate records of work-related injuries and illnesses is an ongoing obligation; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 1123. A bill to reauthorize the Office of National Drug Control Policy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 1124. A bill to grant the Director of the United States Marshals Service authority to appoint criminal investigators in the expected service; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself and Mr. TESTER):

S. 1125. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide Federal Pell Grants to Iraq and Afghanistan veteran's dependents; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. STRANGE (for himself and Mr. PERDUE):

S. 1126. A bill to prohibit certain Federal funds from being available to sanctuary jurisdictions that refuse to cooperate with the Federal Government on immigration matters or retaliate against border security contractors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 41

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 41, a bill to amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate covered part D drug prices on behalf of Medicare beneficiaries.

S. 98

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 98, a bill to reduce a portion of the annual pay of Members of Congress for the failure to adopt a concurrent resolution on the budget which does not provide for a balanced budget, and for other purposes.

S. 207

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 207, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act relating to controlled substance analogues.

S. 292

At the request of Mr. REED, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr.

GRASSLEY), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 292, a bill to maximize discovery, and accelerate development and availability, of promising childhood cancer treatments, and for other purposes.

S. 315

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 315, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Army to place in Arlington National Cemetery a monument honoring the helicopter pilots and crewmembers who were killed while serving on active duty in the Armed Forces during the Vietnam era, and for other purposes.

S. 339

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 339, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 367

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 367, a bill to amend section 3606 of title 18, United States Code, to grant probation officers authority to arrest hostile third parties who obstruct or impede a probation officer in the performance of official duties.

S. 374

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 374, a bill to enable concrete masonry products manufacturers to establish, finance, and carry out a coordinated program of research, education, and promotion to improve, maintain, and develop markets for concrete masonry products.

S. 379

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 379, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the five month waiting period for disability insurance benefits under such title for individuals with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

S. 445

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 445, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure more timely access to home health services for Medicare beneficiaries under the Medicare program.

S. 479

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of

S. 479, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to waive coinsurance under Medicare for colorectal cancer screening tests, regardless of whether therapeutic intervention is required during the screening.

S. 515

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 515, a bill to require the Secretary of Labor to maintain a publicly available list of all employers that relocate a call center overseas, to make such companies ineligible for Federal grants or guaranteed loans, and to require disclosure of the physical location of business agents engaging in customer service communications, and for other purposes.

S. 534

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) 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. 540

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor 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. 546

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 546, a bill to reduce temporarily the royalty required to be paid for sodium produced on Federal lands, and for other purposes.

S. 548

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 548, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the low-income housing credit, and for other purposes.

S. 568

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 568, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to count a period of receipt of outpatient observation services in a hospital toward satisfying the 3-day inpatient hospital requirement for coverage of skilled nursing facility services under Medicare.

S. 583

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 583, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize COPS grantees to use grant funds to hire veterans as career law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S. 722

At the request of Mr. CORKER, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) were added as cosponsors of S. 722, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to Iran in relation to Iran's ballistic missile program, support for acts of international terrorism, and violations of human rights, and for other purposes.

S. 760

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 760, a bill to expand the Government's use and administration of data to facilitate transparency, effective governance, and innovation, and for other purposes.

S. 842

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 842, a bill to prohibit Federal agencies and Federal contractors from requesting that an applicant for employment disclose criminal history record information before the applicant has received a conditional offer, and for other purposes.

S. 870

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 870, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to implement Medicare payment policies designed to improve management of chronic disease, streamline care coordination, and improve quality outcomes without adding to the deficit.

S. 992

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. STRANGE) 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. 1016

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) were added as cosponsors of S. 1016, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes.

S. 1018

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 1027

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1027, a bill to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

S. 1089

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1089, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to review and update a report on the energy and environmental benefits of the re-refining of used lubricating oil.

S. 1094

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1094, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the accountability of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 1105

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1105, a bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to transfer certain funds to the 1974 United Mine Workers of America Pension Plan, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 40

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 40, a joint resolution to provide limitations on the transfer of air-to-ground munitions from the United States to Saudi Arabia.

S. RES. 136

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 136, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the 102nd anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

S. RES. 139

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) 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 name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor 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.

S. RES. 161

At the request of Mr. DONNELLY, the name of the Senator from New York

(Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 161, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that defense laboratories are on the cutting edge of scientific and technological advancement, and supporting the designation of May 18, 2017, as "Department of Defense Laboratory Day".

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. KAINE (for himself and Mr. TESTER):

S. 1125. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide Federal Pell Grants to Iraq and Afghanistan veteran's dependents; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, when a United States servicemember gives their life in service to their country, they often leave behind family who we are equally indebted. Ensuring that these survivors are provided every opportunity to succeed and get a quality education supports our values and upholds our promise to servicemembers and military families. Unfortunately, our ability to uphold our promise to dependents of servicemembers who were killed in action (KIA) in Iraq and Afghanistan following the attacks on September 11, 2001 was affected recently.

In May 2016 the U.S. Department of Education sent a letter to institutions of higher education requiring them to reduce the Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant awards by 7% or roughly \$400 per student. These grants are critical for students to use for tuition, books, and room and board and any future cut would be significant for a young college student. Many children and dependents of servicemembers who were KIA in Iraq and Afghanistan are now reaching college age so more and more students will not be receiving as much in grants as they should be getting and rightfully deserve.

Today, I am pleased to introduce with my colleague Senator TESTER the Protect our Gold Star Families' Education Act of 2017. This legislation will move the Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant program to the Pell Grant program to stabilize the funding source for these awards and ensure Gold Star families have access to the maximum Pell Grant funding available if they previously did not qualify for Pell Grants. The program would maintain the same eligibility requirements under the existing Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants—parent or guardian having died as a result of military service in Iraq or Afghanistan after 9/11 and are 24 years old or younger—and the award would continue to equal the maximum Pell Grant for that award year.

While Virginia public universities already offer tuition assistance to dependents whose parents were killed in action or were permanently disabled under the state's Virginia Military

Survivors and Dependents Education Program (VMSDEP), these funds could be used to offset tuition at private institutions and could also cover additional expenses, including room and board, books, and supplies. Over 500 Virginians have attended or are currently attending college at public universities with assistance through VMSDEP and would qualify for these Pell Grants as well.

Our Gold Star families have made the ultimate sacrifice for this country and ensuring they have access to a quality college education is the right thing to do. Moving the Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant under the Pell Grant program will provide more security to Gold Star families and help ease the burden of college costs. As more of our post 9/11 Gold Star children are starting to reach college age, now is the right time to improve the grant system. I hope that my colleagues will incorporate this bill in a reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that floor privileges be granted to Les Bernys through the end of the year.

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

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 114-255, appoints the following individuals to the Health Information Technology Advisory Committee: Steve Ready of Kentucky and Dr. Anil Jain of Ohio.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2017

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, May 16; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Rosen nomination, with the time until 12:30 p.m. equally divided in the usual form; further, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings; finally, that all time during recess, adjournment, morning business, and leader remarks count postcloture on the Rosen nomination.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, if there is no further business to come