

majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

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

#### REPORTING AUTHORITY

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the Senate's adjournment, committees be authorized to report legislative and executive matters on Friday, August 18, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

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

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

#### SAVE OUR SEAS ACT OF 2017

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 181, S. 756.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 756) to reauthorize and amend the Marine Debris Act to promote international action to reduce marine debris, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sullivan amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to, the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The amendment (No. 773) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To improve the bill)

Beginning on page 3, strike line 3 and all that follows through page 3, line 23, and insert the following:

“(2) ASSISTANCE.—If the Administrator makes a determination under paragraph (1) that there is a severe marine debris event, the Administrator is authorized to make sums available to be used by the affected State or by the Administrator in cooperation with the affected State—

“(A) to assist in the cleanup and response required by the severe marine debris event; or

“(B) to conduct such other activity as the Administrator determines is appropriate in response to the severe marine debris event.”.

On page 4, beginning on line 24, strike “Federal funding for research and develop-

ment” and insert “research and development, including through the establishment of a prize competition.”.

The bill (S. 756), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 756

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Save Our Seas Act of 2017” or the “SOS Act of 2017”.

#### SEC. 2. NOAA MARINE DEBRIS PROGRAM.

Subsection (b) of section 3 of the Marine Debris Act (33 U.S.C. 1952(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (5)(C), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(6) work with other Federal agencies to develop outreach and education strategies to address both land- and sea-based sources of marine debris; and

“(7) work with the Department of State and other Federal agencies to promote international action to reduce the incidence of marine debris.”.

#### SEC. 3. ASSISTANCE FOR SEVERE MARINE DEBRIS EVENTS.

Section 3 of the Marine Debris Act (33 U.S.C. 1952) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(d) ASSISTANCE FOR SEVERE MARINE DEBRIS EVENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—At the discretion of the Administrator or at the request of the Governor of an affected State, the Administrator shall determine whether there is a severe marine debris event.

“(2) ASSISTANCE.—If the Administrator makes a determination under paragraph (1) that there is a severe marine debris event, the Administrator is authorized to make sums available to be used by the affected State or by the Administrator in cooperation with the affected State—

“(A) to assist in the cleanup and response required by the severe marine debris event; or

“(B) to conduct such other activity as the Administrator determines is appropriate in response to the severe marine debris event.

“(3) FUNDING.—

“(A) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of an activity carried out under the authority of this subsection shall be—

“(i) if the activity is funded wholly by funds made available by an entity, including the government of a foreign country, to the Federal Government for the purpose of responding to a severe marine debris event, 100 percent of the cost of the activity; or

“(ii) for any activity other than an activity funded as described in clause (i), 75 percent of the cost of the activity.

“(B) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—In the case of an activity funded as described in subparagraph (A)(i), not more than 5 percent of the funds made available for the activity may be used by the Administrator for administrative expenses.”.

#### SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT TO RESPOND TO MARINE DEBRIS.

It is the sense of Congress that the President should—

(1) support research and development, including through the establishment of a prize competition, of bio-based and other alternatives or environmentally feasible improvements to materials that reduce municipal solid waste and its consequences in the ocean;

(2) work with representatives of foreign countries that contribute the most to the global marine debris problem to learn about, and find solutions to, the contributions of such countries to marine debris in the world's oceans;

(3) carry out studies to determine—

(A) the primary means by which solid waste enters the oceans;

(B) the manner in which waste management infrastructure can be most effective in preventing debris from reaching the oceans;

(C) the long-term economic impacts of marine debris on the national economies of each country set out in paragraph (1) and on the global economy; and

(D) the economic benefits of decreasing the amount of marine debris in the oceans;

(4) work with representatives of foreign countries that contribute the most to the global marine debris problem, including land-based sources, to conclude one or more new international agreements that include provisions—

(A) to mitigate the risk of land-based marine debris contributed by such countries reaching an ocean; and

(B) to increase technical assistance and investment in waste management infrastructure, if the President determines appropriate; and

(5) encourage the United States Trade Representative to consider the impact of marine debris in relevant future trade agreements.

#### SEC. 5. MEMBERSHIP OF THE INTERAGENCY MARINE DEBRIS COORDINATING COMMITTEE.

Section 5(b) of the Marine Debris Act (33 U.S.C. 1954(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (7); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

“(5) the Department of State;

“(6) the Department of the Interior; and”.

#### SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 9 of the Marine Debris Act (33 U.S.C. 1958) is amended to read as follows:

#### “SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“There are authorized to be appropriated for each fiscal year 2018 through 2022—

“(1) to the Administrator for carrying out sections 3, 5, and 6, \$10,000,000, of which no more than 10 percent may be for administrative costs; and

“(2) to the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating, for the use of the Commandant of the Coast Guard in carrying out section 4, \$2,000,000, of which no more than 10 percent may be used for administrative costs.”.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I wish to take a brief detour and congratulate my colleague who has been working aggressively as we worked to address the issue of marine debris. This is something on which, as members of the Oceans Caucus, we have been working with Senator SULLIVAN, Senator WHITEHOUSE, and so many. I want to acknowledge the good work that has gone into this particular piece of legislation we have just passed.

#### GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM WAR MEMORIAL ACT

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 873, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 873) 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.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 873) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 2017, THROUGH TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2017

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted, on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Friday, August 4, at 9:45 a.m.; Tuesday, August 8, at 12:30 p.m.; Friday, August 11, at 3:30 p.m.; Tuesday, August 15, at 4:30 p.m.; Friday, August 18, at 10 a.m.; Tuesday, August 22, at 7 a.m.; Friday, August 25, at 11:30 a.m.; Tuesday, August 29, at 2:30 p.m.; Friday, September 1, at 3 p.m. I further ask that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, September 1, it next convene at 3 p.m., Tuesday, September 5; 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; further, 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 until 5 p.m.; finally, that at 5 p.m., the Senate proceed to executive session under the previous order.

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

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:45 A.M.  
TOMORROW

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come be-

fore the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:01 p.m., adjourned until Friday, August 4, 2017, at 9:45 a.m.

### NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

#### UNITED STATES TAX COURT

ELIZABETH ANN COPELAND, OF TEXAS, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES TAX COURT FOR A TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, VICE JAMES S. HALPERN, RETIRED.

PATRICK J. URDA, OF INDIANA, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES TAX COURT FOR A TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, VICE DIANE L. KROUPA, RETIRED.

#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

RICHARD DUKE BUCHAN III, OF FLORIDA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN, AND TO SERVE CONCURRENTLY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO ANDORRA.

THOMAS J. HUSHEK, OF WISCONSIN, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN.

#### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SCOTT C. BLADER, OF WISCONSIN, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE JOHN W. VAUDREUIL, RESIGNED.

#### THE JUDICIARY

MICHAEL B. BRENNAN, OF WISCONSIN, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE SEVENTH CIRCUIT, VICE TERENCE T. EVANS, DECEASED.

DONALD C. COGGINS, JR., OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA, VICE JOSEPH F. ANDERSON, JR., RETIRED.

TERRY A. DOUGHTY, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA, VICE ROBERT G. JAMES, RETIRED.

#### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ROBERT M. DUNCAN, JR., OF KENTUCKY, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE KERRY B. HARVEY, RESIGNED.

#### THE JUDICIARY

LEONARD STEVEN GRASZ, OF NEBRASKA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE EIGHTH CIRCUIT, VICE WILLIAM JAY RILEY, RETIRED.

MICHAEL JOSEPH JUNEAU, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA, VICE RICHARD HAIK, SR., RETIRED.

#### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JOHN R. LAUSCH, JR., OF ILLINOIS, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE ZACHARY T. FARDON, RESIGNED.

J. DOUGLAS OVERBEY, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE WILLIAM C. KILLIAN, RESIGNED.

CHARLES E. PEELER, OF GEORGIA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE MICHAEL J. MOORE, RESIGNED.

WILLIAM J. POWELL, OF WEST VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE WILLIAM J. IHLENFELD II, RESIGNED.

#### THE JUDICIARY

A. MARVIN QUATTLEBAUM, JR., OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA, VICE CAMERON MCGOWAN CURRIE, RETIRED.

HOLLY LOU TEETER, OF KANSAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF KANSAS, VICE KATHRYN VRATIL, RETIRED.

ROBERT EARL WIER, OF KENTUCKY, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY, VICE AMUL R. THAPAR, ELEVATED.

### CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate August 3, 2017:

#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

MIRA RADIELOVIC RICARDEL, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR EXPORT ADMINISTRATION.

#### SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

ALTHEA COETZEE, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR OF THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.

#### FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

NEIL CHATTERJEE, OF KENTUCKY, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR THE TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2021.

ROBERT F. POWELSON, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR THE TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2020.

#### DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

DAN R. BROUILLETTE, OF TEXAS, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF ENERGY.

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

DAVID MALPASS, OF NEW YORK, TO BE AN UNDER SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

BRENT JAMES MCINTOSH, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY.

ANDREW K. MALONEY, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

#### EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

VISHAL J. AMIN, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ENFORCEMENT COORDINATOR, EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT.

#### NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

ROBERT L. SUMWALT III, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2021.

#### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

STEPHEN ELLIOTT BOYD, OF ALABAMA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL.

#### COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

J. CHRISTOPHER GIANCARLO, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION.

#### DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

CLAIRE M. GRADY, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MANAGEMENT, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

DAVID JAMES GLAWIE, OF IOWA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY FOR INTELLIGENCE AND ANALYSIS, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

#### UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MARK ANDREW GREEN, OF WISCONSIN, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

#### DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

DAVID P. PEKOSKE, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

#### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

BETH ANN WILLIAMS, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL.

JOHN W. HUBER, OF UTAH, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

JUSTIN E. HERDMAN, OF OHIO, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

JOHN E. TOWN, OF ALABAMA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

DAVID J. KAUTTER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

#### DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

BROOKS D. TUCKER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (CONGRESSIONAL AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS).

#### THE JUDICIARY

MICHAEL P. ALLEN, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS.

AMANDA L. MEREDITH, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS.

JOSEPH L. TOTTH, OF WISCONSIN, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS.

#### DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

THOMAS G. BOWMAN, OF FLORIDA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

JAMES BYRNE, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

#### OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

SUSAN M. GORDON, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE PRINCIPAL DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

KELLY KNIGHT CRAFT, OF KENTUCKY, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO CANADA.