

at both the State and national levels. The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks has honored Al for over five decades of volunteering to teach firearms safety to rising generations of future hunters. In 2001, The National Rifle Association recognized Al with their highly esteemed public service award.

Montana cowboys like Al Lee give a unique character to the Treasure State. Thank you, Al, for the many years of service and for strengthening our Montana traditions.●

RECOGNIZING PJM INTERCONNECTION

● Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. President, today I recognize the 90th anniversary of PJM Interconnection, which is the Nation's largest competitive wholesale electricity market.

Headquartered in Valley Forge, PA, PJM performs the critical function of supplying electricity to more than 65 million customers in 13 Midwestern, Mid-Atlantic, and Southern States and the District of Columbia.

PJM began in 1927 when three electric utilities joined together to connect their systems and form Pennsylvania-New Jersey Interconnection, the world's first continuing power pool. Additional utilities joined the coalition over the following decades, and in 1956, it became known as Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland—PJM—Interconnection, the name used today. Around the same time, PJM expanded its use of new technology by installing its first online computer to control electric generation and later to monitor grid operations in real time, which led to improved reliability and better customer service.

PJM is also celebrating its 20th anniversary as an independent system operator, ISO. In 1997, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC, approved PJM as the Nation's first fully functioning ISO, which operates but does not own electric transmission systems. Five years later, PJM became the first regional transmission organization in the country when FERC encouraged the formation of these entities to increase access to competitive wholesale energy markets. Over the past two decades, PJM has continued its focus on innovation and customer service by expanding utility membership, developing generating capacity, and diversifying its energy portfolio to include coal, natural gas, and nuclear.

In addition, PJM is recognized by its peers as a leader in the competitive wholesale electricity sector. The firm continues to focus on improving energy storage, grid technology, and demand response. PJM first provided wholesale electricity in 1927, and I am confident that PJM will continue its commitment to affordability, reliability, and customer service for the foreseeable future.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

At 12:38 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled joint resolution:

S.J. Res. 49. Joint resolution condemning the violence and domestic terrorist attack that took place during events between August 11 and August 12, 2017, in Charlottesville, Virginia, recognizing the first responders who lost their lives while monitoring the events, offering deepest condolences to the families and friends of those individuals who were killed and deepest sympathies and support to those individuals who were injured by the violence, expressing support for the Charlottesville community, rejecting White nationalists, White supremacists, the Ku Klux Klan, neo-Nazis, and other hate groups, and urging the President and the President's Cabinet to use all available resources to address the threats posed by those groups.

The enrolled joint resolution was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, September 14, 2017, she had presented to the President of the United States the following joint resolution:

S.J. Res. 49. Joint resolution condemning the violence and domestic terrorist attack that took place during events between August 11 and August 12, 2017, in Charlottesville, Virginia, recognizing the first responders who lost their lives while monitoring the events, offering deepest condolences to the families and friends of those individuals who were killed and deepest sympathies and support to those individuals who were injured by the violence, expressing support for the Charlottesville community, rejecting White nationalists, White supremacists, the Ku Klux Klan, neo-Nazis, and other hate groups, and urging the President and the President's Cabinet to use all available resources to address the threats posed by those groups.

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. 1088. A bill to require the collection of voluntary feedback on services provided by agencies, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-156).

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 1103. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to issue Department-wide guidance and to develop training programs as part of the Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-157).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. JOHNSON for the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

*Robert P. Storch, of the District of Columbia, to be Inspector General of the National Security Agency.

By Mr. GRASSLEY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Ralph R. Erickson, of North Dakota, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit.

Donald C. Coggins, Jr., of South Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina.

Dabney Langhorne Friedrich, of California, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

Stephen S. Schwartz, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

Robert J. Higdon, Jr., of North Carolina, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina for the term of four years.

J. Cody Hiland, of Arkansas, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas for the term of four years.

Joshua J. Minkler, of Indiana, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana for the term of four years.

Byung J. Pak, of Georgia, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia for the term of four years.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

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 Mr. MURPHY (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 1805. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a program to recognize farms that have been in continuous operation for 100 years; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. CASEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr.

BOOKER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. REED, Mr. UDALL, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 1806. A bill to amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 and the Head Start Act to promote child care and early learning, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 1807. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop a national strategic action plan and program to assist health professionals in preparing for and responding to the public health effects of climate change, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. CASEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. REED, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 1808. A bill to extend temporarily the Federal Perkins Loan program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. BURR):

S. 1809. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish the Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Challenge Grant Program to promote technological innovation in our Nation's cities; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 1810. A bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to provide access to free credit freezes for all consumers; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 1811. A bill to promote merger enforcement and protect competition through adjusting premerger filing fees, increasing antitrust enforcement resources, and improving the information provided to antitrust enforcers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 1812. A bill to amend the Clayton Act to modify the standard for an unlawful acquisition, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. BALDWIN:

S. 1813. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide credit toward computation of years of service for nonregular service retired pay for completion of remotely delivered military education or training; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 1814. A bill to provide support for the development of middle school career exploration programs linked to career and technical education programs of study; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. FRANKEN, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 1815. A bill to require data brokers to establish procedures to ensure the accuracy of collected personal information, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. VAN HOL-

LEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 1816. A bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to enhance fraud alert procedures and provide free access to credit freezes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 1817. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand tax-free distributions from individual retirement accounts for charitable purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ENZI:

S. 1818. A bill to provide health care options for small businesses; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BROWN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MERKLEY, and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 1819. A bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to prohibit the use of consumer credit checks against prospective and current employees for the purposes of making adverse employment decisions; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. MCCAIN, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. REED):

S. 1820. A bill to provide for the retention and service of transgender members of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 1821. A bill to establish the National Commission on the Cybersecurity of United States Election Systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HEITKAMP, and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 1822. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit amounts paid for programs to obtain a recognized postsecondary credential or a license to be treated as qualified higher education expenses for purposes of a 529 account; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. HEITKAMP:

S. Res. 255. A resolution congratulating the National Federation of Federal Employees on the celebration of the 100th anniversary of its founding and recognizing the vital contributions of its members to the United States; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. REED, Mr. KAINE, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. HELLER, Mr. NELSON, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. WARNER, Mr. UDALL, and Mr. RUBIO)):

S. Res. 256. A resolution recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month and celebrating the

heritage and culture of Latinos in the United States and the immense contributions of Latinos to the United States; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. Res. 257. A resolution designating September 16, 2017, as "Isaac M. Wise Temple Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. KING, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. Res. 258. A resolution designating the week beginning September 10, 2017, as "National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. REED, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. PETERS):

S. Res. 259. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of September 11 through September 15, 2017, as "National Family Service Learning Week"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 194

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 194, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a public health insurance option, and for other purposes.

S. 292

At the request of Mr. REED, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mrs. ERNST), the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) 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. 322

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 322, a bill to protect victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence from emotional and psychological trauma caused by acts of violence or threats of violence against their pets.

S. 360

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 360, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require States to provide for same day registration.

S. 431

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 431, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand the use of telehealth for individuals with stroke.

S. 464

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from Minnesota