

Small businesses, operated by hard-working family members, are an engine of commerce for many rural communities across Montana. Baker Furniture is a shining example of this business model, and many shoppers in Baker and the surrounding area are grateful. Thank you to the team at Baker Furniture for the many years of excellent service to your neighbors, and I wish you continued success in the future.●

RECOGNIZING THE MASSACHUSETTS WALKING TOUR

● Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the Massachusetts Walking Tour. Founded in 2010 in Webster, MA, the Walking Tour recognizes and celebrates local arts and culture throughout Massachusetts by featuring a nonprofit concert tour across the Commonwealth. Every concert is unique as it pairs the traveling musicians with local artists and outdoor recreation enthusiasts and is free for the whole community. These memorable events include diverse artistic and musical performances and even discussions about public land use with outdoor educators and trail managers. Since its founding, the Walking Tour has visited 90 towns in Massachusetts, playing 101 free community concerts. I thank founders Mark Mandeville and Raianne Richards, as well as all of the performers, artists, educators, and nature enthusiasts who have made Walking Tour such a success across Massachusetts.●

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 withdrawals which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:55 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 327. An act to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to provide a safe harbor related to certain investment fund research reports, and for other purposes.

S. 1866. An act to provide the Secretary of Education with waiver authority for the reallocation rules and authority to extend the deadline by which funds have to be reallocated in the campus-based aid programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965 due to Hurricane Harvey, Hurricane Irma, and Hurricane Maria, to provide equitable serv-

ices to children and teachers in private schools, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3229. An act to protect the safety of judges by extending the authority of the Judicial Conference to redact sensitive information contained in their financial disclosure reports, and for other purposes.

At 11:40 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 bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3823. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to provide disaster tax relief, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 11:54 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 1141. An act to ensure that the United States promotes the meaningful participation of women in mediation and negotiation processes seeking to prevent, mitigate, or resolve violent conflict.

H.R. 3819. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend certain expiring provisions of law administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

At 12:42 p.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. 2792. An act to amend the Social Security Act to make certain revisions to provisions limiting payment of benefits to fugitive felons under titles II, VIII, and XVI of the Social Security Act.

H.R. 2824. An act to amend title V of the Social Security Act to extend the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program, and to amend the Social Security Act to make certain revisions to provisions limiting payment of benefits to fugitive felons under titles II, VIII, and XVI of the Social Security Act.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 1:58 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. UPTON) signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 327. An act to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to provide a safe harbor related to certain investment fund research reports, and for other purposes.

S. 1866. An act to provide the Secretary of Education with waiver authority for the reallocation rules and authority to extend the deadline by which funds have to be reallocated in the campus-based aid programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965 due to Hurricane Harvey, Hurricane Irma, and Hurricane Maria, to provide equitable services to children and teachers in private schools, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

At 4:27 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announcing that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3823) to amend title 49, United States code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to provide disaster tax relief, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 2792. An act to amend the Social Security Act to make certain revisions to provisions limiting payment of benefits to fugitive felons under titles II, VIII, and XVI of the Social Security Act; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 2824. An act to amend title V of the Social Security Act to extend the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program, and to amend the Social Security Act to make certain revisions to provisions limiting payment of benefits to fugitive felons under titles II, VIII, and XVI of the Social Security Act; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 3229. An act to protect the safety of judges by extending the authority of the Judicial Conference to redact sensitive information contained in their financial disclosure reports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 1894. A bill to exempt Puerto Rico from the coastwise laws of the United States (commonly known as the "Jones Act").

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, September 28, 2017, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 810. An act to facilitate construction of a bridge on certain property in Christian County, Missouri, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1766. A bill to reauthorize the SAFER Act of 2013, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Brian Allen Benczkowski, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

Halsey B. Frank, of Maine, to be United States Attorney for the District of Maine for the term of four years.

D. Michael Hurst, Jr., of Mississippi, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Mississippi for the term of four years.

Jeffrey B. Jensen, of Missouri, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri for the term of four years.

Thomas L. Kirsch II, of Indiana, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Indiana for the term of four years.

William J. Powell, of West Virginia, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of West Virginia for the term of four years.

(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 Mrs. ERNST (for herself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 1881. A bill to expand eligibility for health care under the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to include certain veterans seeking mental health care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 1882. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to require the Attorney General to make procurement quotas for opioid analgesics publicly available, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 1883. A bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to publish a final rule to provide for the screening, testing, and treatment for sleep disorders of individuals operating commercial vehicles; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. MCCASKILL (for herself and Mr. LEE):

S. 1884. A bill to provide for joint reports by relevant Federal agencies to Congress regarding incidents of terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BLUNT, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 1885. A bill to support the development of highly automated vehicle safety technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LANKFORD:

S. 1886. A bill to amend subchapter I of chapter 31 of title 5, United States Code, to authorize agencies to make noncompetitive temporary and term appointments in the competitive service; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. LANKFORD:

S. 1887. A bill to grant expedited hiring authority to the head of an agency to appoint college graduates and post-secondary students; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. LANKFORD:

S. 1888. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to increase the maximum amount of a Voluntary Separation Incentive Payment and to include an annual adjustment in accordance with the Consumer Price Index; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 1889. A bill to require Federal agencies and Federal courts to comply with address confidentiality programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. BLUNT, and Mr. NELSON):

S. 1890. A bill to improve the understanding of, and promote access to treatment for, chronic kidney disease, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CARDIN:

S. 1891. A bill to promote peace and justice in Afghanistan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 1892. A bill to provide tax relief related to Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. MCCASKILL (for herself and Mr. PERDUE):

S. 1893. A bill to amend the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act to specify when bank holding companies may be subject to certain enhanced supervision, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. FLAKE):

S. 1894. A bill to exempt Puerto Rico from the coastwise laws of the United States (commonly known as the "Jones Act"); read the first time.

By Mr. UDALL (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mr. FRANKEN, and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 1895. A bill to reauthorize the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. JOHNSON:

S. 1896. A bill to amend section 8331 of title 5, United States Code, and the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to clarify the treatment of availability pay for Federal air marshals and criminal investigators of the Transportation Security Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. PETERS):

S. 1897. A bill to help small businesses access capital and create jobs by reauthorizing the successful State Small Business Credit Initiative; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. DAINES:

S. 1898. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to retroactively repeal the individual mandate for health insurance; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARPER, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 1899. A bill to reauthorize and extend funding for community health centers and the National Health Service Corps; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 1900. A bill to require all persons who acquire, maintain, or use personal information

to have in effect reasonable cybersecurity protections and practices whenever acquiring, maintaining, or using personal information in commerce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. KING, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. Res. 270. A resolution designating September 2017 as "National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH:

S. Res. 271. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Community Gardening Awareness Week; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. Res. 272. A resolution commemorating the 230th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCOTT (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BROWN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. COONS, and Ms. WARREN):

S. Res. 273. A resolution expressing support for the designation of September 2017 as "Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month" in order to educate communities across the United States about sickle cell disease and the need for research, early detection methods, effective treatments, and preventative care programs with respect to sickle cell disease, complications from sickle cell disease, and conditions related to sickle cell disease; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. ALEXANDER):

S. Res. 274. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Retirement Security Week, including raising public awareness of the various tax-preferred retirement vehicles, increasing personal financial literacy, and engaging the people of the United States on the keys to success in achieving and maintaining retirement security throughout their lifetimes; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Res. 275. A resolution congratulating Northeastern Illinois University on the sesquicentennial of the University; considered and agreed to.

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

S. Res. 276. A resolution designating September 2017 as "Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. REED):

S. Res. 277. A resolution designating the week of September 25 through 29, 2017, as "National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 220

At the request of Mr. SASSE, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr.