

course of history. These strong Montana women were followed by more strong Montana women who have carried the fighting torch of equality for generations.

It is my honor to present this legacy today and my privilege to represent the past and present women of Montana.

On behalf of a grateful nation, I commend Montana's women veterans of WWI.●

TRIBUTE TO TOM TROXEL

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Tom Troxel for the many years of his career that he has dedicated to improving the ecological health of our national forests and for his service to the timber industry, which has strengthened the economic health of local communities.

Tom has spent more than 40 years in the forestry industry, and he has mastered the art of promoting environmentally sound forest management practices while strongly supporting the timber industry. Tom has been a trusted source of reliable and accurate information throughout his career.

He received his bachelor of science in forestry from the University of Montana in 1973. He worked for the U.S. Forest Service in Idaho, Montana, and California, starting as a summer job in 1970 during college and continuing until 1989.

Since 1989, Tom has been the executive director for the Intermountain Forest Association based in Rapid City, SD. During that time, he has worked with forest products companies in Colorado, South Dakota, and Wyoming and has played a critically important role in addressing issues related to national forest timber programs, including forest planning, project analyses, timber sale contracts, and legislative affairs.

Tom has served as the executive director of the Black Hills Forest Resource Association, the executive director of the Colorado Timber Industry Association, and a member of the Forest Service's Forest Planning Advisory Committee. He has also served as the executive secretary of the Black Hills Regional Multiple Use Coalition for 25 years and as a member of the board of directors for the Rapid City Chamber of Commerce.

Those of us who have had the privilege of working with Tom over the years will miss the knowledge and expertise he has shared with us. Our forest landscapes and communities are better because of his work.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Tom for his work on behalf of our forests, the timber industry, and local communities. As he retires from his very successful career, I wish him continued success and happiness in the years to come.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to

the Senate by Ms. Cuccia, 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 which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:04 p.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 bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1698. An act to expand sanctions against Iran with respect to the ballistic missile program of Iran, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1698. An act to expand sanctions against Iran with respect to the ballistic missile program of Iran, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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. 1199. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to reauthorize the Border Enforcement Security Task Force program within the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-179).

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

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

*Emily Webster Murphy, of Missouri, to be Administrator of General Services.

*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.

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. TILLIS (for himself and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 2030. A bill to deem the compliance date for amended energy conservation standards for ceiling light kits to be January 21, 2020, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

S. 2031. A bill to provide for the conveyance of certain National Forest System land within Kisatchie National Forest in the State of Louisiana; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. 2032. A bill to make certain footwear eligible for duty-free treatment under the Generalized System of Preferences, and for other purposes; 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 Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. Res. 312. A resolution expressing support for the designation of September 2017 and 2018 each as "National Month for Renters"; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. RISCH):

S. Res. 313. A resolution designating the week of October 30 through November 3, 2017, as "National Veterans Small Business Week"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself, Mr. UDALL, Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. CORKER, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. GARDNER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. HATCH, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. Res. 314. A resolution designating October 30, 2017, as a national day of remembrance for nuclear weapons program workers; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 253

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 253, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the Medicare outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 266

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 266, a bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Anwar Sadat in recognition of his heroic achievements and courageous contributions to peace in the Middle East.

S. 322

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor 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. 324

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr.

SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 324, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the provision of adult day health care services for veterans.

S. 339

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) 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. 353

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 353, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend the rural add-on payment in the Medicare home health benefit, and for other purposes.

S. 445

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) 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. 503

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 503, a bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to make publicly available certain regulatory records relating to the administration of the Animal Welfare Act and the Horse Protection Act, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the use of an alternative depreciation system for taxpayers violating rules under the Animal Welfare Act and the Horse Protection Act, and for other purposes.

S. 629

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 629, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drugs, and Cosmetic Act to ensure the safety and effectiveness of medically important antimicrobials approved for use in the prevention, control, and treatment of animal diseases, in order to minimize the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

S. 654

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) 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. 674

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 674, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the retirement income account rules relating to church controlled organizations.

S. 700

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 700, a bill to improve the reproductive assistance provided by the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs to severely wounded, ill, or injured members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and their spouses or partners, and for other purposes.

S. 793

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 793, a bill to prohibit sale of shark fins, and for other purposes.

S. 872

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 872, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make permanent the extension of the Medicare-dependent hospital (MDH) program and the increased payments under the Medicare low-volume hospital program.

S. 910

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 910, a bill to prohibit discrimination against individuals with disabilities who need long-term services and supports, and for other purposes.

S. 978

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) 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 pre-kindergarten through higher education.

S. 1022

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1022, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to facilitate assignment of military trauma care providers to civilian trauma centers in order to maintain military trauma readiness and to support such centers, and for other purposes.

S. 1064

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1064, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to prohibit the stigmatization of children who are unable to pay for meals.

S. 1130

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1130, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to create a sustainable future for rural healthcare.

S. 1343

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1343, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code to extend and modify certain charitable tax provisions.

S. 1580

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1580, a bill to enhance the transparency, improve the coordination, and intensify the impact of assistance to support access to primary and secondary education for displaced children and persons, including women and girls, and for other purposes.

S. 1674

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1674, a bill to provide grants for the repair, renovation, and construction of public elementary schools and secondary schools, to establish a school infrastructure bond program, and for other purposes.

S. 1690

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1690, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide greater support to students with dependents, and for other purposes.

S. 1738

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) and the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1738, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a home infusion therapy services temporary transitional payment under the Medicare program.

S. 1746

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. STRANGE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1746, a bill to require the Congressional Budget Office to make publicly available the fiscal and mathematical models, data, and other details of computations used in cost analysis and scoring.

S. 1827

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1827, a bill to extend funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1842

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1842, a bill to provide for wildfire suppression operations, and for other purposes.

S. 1859

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1859, a bill to extend the moratorium on the annual fee on health insurance providers.

S. 1953

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1953, a bill to amend the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 and the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act to provide for advancements in public safety services to Indian communities, and for other purposes.

S. 1981

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1981, a bill to amend the Natural Gas Act to expedite approval of exports of small volumes of natural gas, and for other purposes.

S. 2019

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2019, a bill to amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other statutes to clarify appropriate liability standards for Federal anti-discrimination claims.

S. RES. 250

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 250, a resolution condemning horrific acts of violence against Burma's Rohingya population and calling on Aung San Suu Kyi to play an active role in ending this humanitarian tragedy.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 312—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 2017 AND 2018 EACH AS “NATIONAL MONTH FOR RENTERS”

Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 312

Whereas rental housing is a vital component of the housing market of the United States, providing a place to live for nearly 44,000,000 households and more than 111,000,000 individuals in the United States;

Whereas the number of households renting homes increased by 9,000,000 over the past decade, the largest 10-year gain on record;

Whereas more than 11,000,000 households in communities across the United States spend more than 50 percent of their income on rent and utilities, making those households severely cost-burdened under Federal standards; and

Whereas those 11,000,000 severely cost-burdened households include 14,000,000 women, 8,000,000 children, 9,000,000 members of the Millennial Generation, 2,000,000 senior citizens, and nearly 800,000 veterans: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of September 2017 and 2018 each as “National Month for Renters” to draw attention to the rental housing shortage in the United States;

(2) urges a truly national effort involving all levels of government, the private sector, and the philanthropic community to expand the supply of rental homes affordable to low- and moderate-income households;

(3) recognizes that subsidized rental housing programs implemented by the Federal Government only serve ¼ of eligible renters and so are the equivalent of a lottery; and

(4) recognizes that expanding the supply of rental homes affordable to low- and moderate-income families, particularly when close to employment opportunities, will—

(A) help reduce commuting costs;

(B) restore the first rungs of the housing ladder;

(C) stabilize families and communities;

(D) promote equality of opportunity; and

(E) support greater economic growth and prosperity.

SENATE RESOLUTION 313—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 30 THROUGH NOVEMBER 3, 2017, AS “NATIONAL VETERANS SMALL BUSINESS WEEK”

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. RISCH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 313

Whereas the Armed Forces of the United States train individuals with the skills, discipline, and leadership necessary to establish and operate a successful business;

Whereas there are approximately 2,500,000 veteran-owned small businesses in the United States, employing more than 5,000,000 individuals;

Whereas veteran-owned businesses make up nearly 10 percent of all businesses in the United States;

Whereas veterans account for more than \$1,100,000,000,000 in business receipts every year;

Whereas veterans are 45 percent more likely to be self-employed than nonveterans;

Whereas business ownership by women veterans has increased significantly, from 97,114 in 2007 to 383,302 in 2012;

Whereas the Office of Veterans Business Development of the Small Business Administration is dedicated to maximizing the availability and usability of small business programs for veterans, members of a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States, members of the Armed Forces of the United States serving on active duty, transitioning service members, and the spouses, dependents, or survivors of those members and veterans;

Whereas the Small Business Administration serves more than 200,000 veterans, service-disabled veterans, women veterans, and military spouses annually;

Whereas the entrepreneurship training program of the Small Business Administration, Boots to Business, has trained more than 30,000 service members, veterans, and spouses of service members and veterans since launching in 2013;

Whereas the Small Business Administration hosts events honoring National Veterans Small Business Week from October 30 through November 3, 2017;

Whereas the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives celebrate National Vet-

erans Small Business Week during the week of October 30 through November 3, 2017; and Whereas the week of October 30 through November 3, 2017, would be an appropriate time to celebrate National Veterans Small Business Week: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of October 30 through November 3, 2017, as “National Veterans Small Business Week”;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Veterans Small Business Week;

(3) celebrates the millions of people in the United States, especially veterans of the United States and the spouses of those veterans, who benefit from the programs of the Small Business Administration; and

(4) expresses appreciation for the continued service to the United States by the veterans of the United States through small business ownership and entrepreneurship.

SENATE RESOLUTION 314—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 30, 2017, AS A NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAM WORKERS

Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself, Mr. UDALL, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. CORKER, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. GARDNER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. HATCH, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 314

Whereas, since World War II, hundreds of thousands of men and women, including uranium miners, millers, and haulers, have served the United States by building nuclear weapons for the defense of the United States;

Whereas dedicated workers paid a high price for developing a nuclear weapons program at the service, and for the benefit of, the United States, including by developing disabling or fatal illnesses;

Whereas the Senate recognized the contributions, services, and sacrifices that those patriotic men and women made for the defense of the United States in—

(1) Senate Resolution 151, 111th Congress, agreed to May 20, 2009;

(2) Senate Resolution 653, 111th Congress, agreed to September 28, 2010;

(3) Senate Resolution 275, 112th Congress, agreed to September 26, 2011;

(4) Senate Resolution 519, 112th Congress, agreed to August 1, 2012;

(5) Senate Resolution 164, 113th Congress, agreed to September 18, 2013;

(6) Senate Resolution 417, 113th Congress, agreed to July 9, 2014;

(7) Senate Resolution 213, 114th Congress, agreed to September 25, 2015; and

(8) Senate Resolution 560, 114th Congress, agreed to November 16, 2016;

Whereas a national day of remembrance time capsule has been crossing the United States, collecting stories and artifacts of nuclear weapons program workers relating to the nuclear defense era of the United States, and a remembrance quilt has been constructed to memorialize the contribution of those workers;

Whereas the stories and artifacts reflected in the time capsule and the remembrance quilt reinforce the importance of recognizing nuclear weapons program workers; and

Whereas those patriotic men and women deserve to be recognized for the contributions, services, and sacrifices they made for the defense of the United States: Now, therefore, be it