

Carolina before settling in Las Vegas with his wife in 1985.

Mr. Courvoisier quickly established himself as a tactful and passionate reporter for KVBC in Las Vegas. His numerous reports related to the issues of disadvantaged children yielded both national and local awards. In particular, Mr. Courvoisier is well-known for his involvement with Wednesday's Child, an adoption program, and he distinguished himself with his news feature series focused on helping foster children find permanent homes. His commitment to this issue is also reflected in his personal life; he established a new chapter of Big Brothers, Big Sisters.

While Dave has led an incredibly successful reporting career, he believes his most important work to be raising his three daughters with his wife. As Nevada's senior Senator, I want to thank Mr. Courvoisier for his dedication to keeping the people of southern Nevada informed. I offer him the very best in his retirement and my well wishes for many successful and fulfilling years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO WALTER STRONG

● Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I am pleased to recognize Mr. Walter Strong on the occasion of his retirement. Walt has led the University of Oklahoma's Max Westheimer Airport, OUN, for 19 years and has a lifelong dedication to the aviation community. Under his leadership, the Max Westheimer Airport has demonstrated it is one of the best flight schools in the Nation, organizes successful pilot fly-ins, and maintains a youth outreach program to encourage the next generation to get involved in flying.

Mr. Strong began his career in aviation in the U.S. Air Force, working as an air traffic controller in both control tower and radar approach control facilities. Retiring after 20 years of service in the Air Force, Mr. Strong began working at the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission, rising to the level of deputy director. He was one of Oklahoma's first airport inspectors. From 2004 to 2005, he served as the president of the Oklahoma Airport Operators Association. A pillar of the Oklahoma aviation community, Mr. Strong was awarded the "Airport Manager of the Year" in 2011, the same year that Max Westheimer Airport was recognized as "Airport of the Year." In 2016, under his leadership, the Max Westheimer Airport received the Willie F. Card Contract Tower Service Award from the Federal Aviation Administration, which recognizes one tower each year for embodying Willie Card's vision of a tower that places profound emphasis on both safety and efficiency.

At the Federal level, Mr. Strong has been a passionate advocate for aviation, serving on the board of the American Association of Airport Executives and as the chair of the U.S. Contract Tower Association and ensuring that

all Members of Congress are aware of the importance of general aviation to their constituents and to their communities.

I know that I join his family, the Max Westheimer Airport, and the University of Oklahoma community in thanking him for his years of service and contributions to the aviation community. Congratulations on your retirement.●

TRIBUTE TO DORA SPAULDING

● Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I would like to congratulate and honor an exceptional Vermonter, Dora Spaulding, who this year is celebrating 50 years of dedicated service to the students at the Marion Cross Elementary School in Norwich, VT.

Ms. Spaulding has been the administrative assistant at the Marion Cross School for the past 10 years and was secretary to the principal for 40 years prior to that. Her story is all the more impressive when one considers that Dora Spaulding attended Marion Cross School herself, from first to eighth grade. It is hard to imagine today, but Dora was the only girl in her entire first-grade class.

As the school's administrative assistant, Ms. Spaulding is responsible for the payroll, purchasing, bus transport arrangements, facility rental schedule, and other administrative tasks for the school, but more than that, she is, in many ways, the face of the school. In fact, several members of my staff grew up in Norwich and attended the Marion Cross School and speak highly of her many contributions to the students, school, and the community.

Dora Spaulding embodies the spirit of dedicated public service. I applaud her for helping to steward countless young people over the past 50 years and for her tremendous commitment to education and community.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:02 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 bill, without amendment:

S. 1266. An act to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts with nonprofit organizations to investigate medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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

H.R. 38. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide a means by which nonresidents of a State whose residents may carry concealed firearms may also do so in the State.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 90. Concurrent resolution condemning ethnic cleansing of the Rohingya

and calling for an end to the violence in and an immediate restoration of humanitarian access to the state of Rakhine in Burma.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 12:44 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 bill:

S. 1266. An act to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts with nonprofit organizations to investigate medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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

At 5:15 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 joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 123. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2018, 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. 38. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide a means by which nonresidents of a State whose residents may carry concealed firearms may also do so in the State; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 90. Concurrent resolution condemning ethnic cleansing of the Rohingya and calling for an end to the violence in and an immediate restoration of humanitarian access to the state of Rakhine in Burma; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2199. A bill to authorize appropriations for border infrastructure construction, to provide conditional resident status to certain aliens, and to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to include grounds of inadmissibility and deportability for alien members of criminal gangs and cartels, and for other purposes.

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1164. An act to condition assistance to the West Bank and Gaza on steps by the Palestinian Authority to end violence and terrorism against Israeli citizens.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-3643. A communication from the Acting Director of Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled

“Distance Learning and Telemedicine Loan and Grant Program” (RIN0572-AC37) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3644. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “*Bacillus subtilis* strain BU1814; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance” (FRL No. 9969-96) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3645. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Sedaxane; Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL No. 9970-04) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3646. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Indoxacarb; Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL No. 9970-39) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3647. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, the quarterly exception Selected Acquisition Reports (SARs) as of September 30, 2017 (OSS-2017-1286); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3648. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the fiscal year 2017 report on Department of Defense purchases from foreign entities; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3649. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Report to Congress on Corrosion Policy and Oversight Budget Materials for Fiscal Year 2017”; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3650. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Procedures for Determining Eligibility for Access to Classified Matter or Special Nuclear Material” (RIN1992-AA56) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2017; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3651. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Financial Responsibility Requirements under CERCLA Section 108(b) for Classes of Facilities in the Hardrock Mining Industry” (FRL No. 9971-50-OLEM) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3652. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Findings of Failure to Submit State Implementation Plan Submittals for the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)” (FRL No. 9971-66-OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3653. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division,

Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Texas; Revisions to Emissions Banking and Trading Programs for Area and Mobile Sources” (FRL No. 9971-04-Region 6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3654. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; New York; Reasonably Available Control Technology for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards” (FRL No. 9971-83-Region 2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3655. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Delaware; Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) State Implementation Plan (SIP) Under the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS)” (FRL No. 9971-58-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3656. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; Ohio; Redesignation of the Fulton County Area to Attainment of the 2008 Lead Standard; Withdrawal of Direct Final Rule” (FRL No. 9971-74-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3657. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; Minnesota; 2008 Ozone Transport” (FRL No. 9971-61-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3658. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; Illinois; Redesignation of the Chicago and Granite City Areas to Attainment of the 2008 Lead Standard; Withdrawal of Direct Final Rule” (FRL No. 9971-77-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3659. A communication from the Chief of the Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Emergency Import Restrictions Imposed on Archaeological and Ethnological Materials from Libya” (RIN1515-AE34) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 1, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3660. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Notice: Tier 2 Tax Rates for 2018” (FR Doc. 2017-25741) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3661. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Request for Comments on Application of Excise Taxes With Respect to Donor Advised Funds in Certain Situations” (Notice 2017-73) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3662. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Section 5000A Guidance for Individuals with No Available Marketplace Bronze-Level Plan” (Notice 2017-74) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3663. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “2017 Base Period T-Bill Rate” (Rev. Rul. 2017-23) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3664. A communication from the Chairman, Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Physician Supervision Requirements in Critical Access Hospitals and Small Rural Hospitals; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3665. A communication from the Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2017 through September 30, 2017; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3666. A communication from the Acting Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission’s Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2017; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3667. A communication from the Chief Operating Officer, Millennium Challenge Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the Office of Inspector General’s Semiannual Report for the period of April 1, 2017 through September 30, 2017; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3668. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department’s Semiannual Report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2017 through September 30, 2017; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3669. A communication from the Solicitor General, Department of Justice, a report relative to a case pending before the Supreme Court (Raymond J. Lucia et al v. Securities and Exchange Commission); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3670. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Investment and Innovation, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Small Business Investment Companies—Administrative Fees” (RIN3245-AG65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2017; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-3671. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea; to the Committees on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; and Foreign Relations.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petition or memorial was laid before the Senate and was referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-143. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts memorializing its position on immigration; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

RESOLUTIONS

IN RESPONSE TO THE JANUARY 27, 2017
PRESIDENTIAL EXECUTIVE ORDER

Whereas, Immigrants founded this Commonwealth nearly 4 centuries ago, and

Whereas, This nation and this Commonwealth are proud of our strong tradition of welcoming immigrants and refugees to our shores, and

Whereas, Our nation and this Commonwealth have stood as a beacon of hope for refugees fleeing war, violence and persecution, and

Whereas, Immigrants play an essential part in strengthening the communities and enriching the society of this nation and this Commonwealth; and

Whereas, Important sectors of the Commonwealth's economy, including higher education, health care and innovation, depend heavily on immigrants' contributions, and

Whereas, The executive order prohibits many foreign students, workers and other visa holders from 7 targeted majority-muslim nations, including many who have already been vetted and documented, from entering the United States for at least 90 days, suspends the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program for 120 days and resumes the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program after 120 days only for nationals of countries as determined jointly by the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Director of National Intelligence; and

Whereas, The First Amendment of the Constitution protects the freedom of religion and this Executive order prioritizes the admission of refugees based on specific religions, and

Whereas, Much of the Executive order is inconsistent with the Nation's and the Commonwealth's strong tradition of welcoming immigrants and refugees to our shores, while not conclusively contributing to the important goal of keeping our residents safe and secure from terrorism, and

Whereas, The Executive order presents serious constitutional and other legal issues of due process, equal protection and discrimination on the basis of religion and national origin, Now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Massachusetts Senate:

(1) Reaffirms the Commonwealth's strong tradition of welcoming immigrants and refugees and rejecting discrimination based on race, ethnicity, gender or religion;

(2) Calls on President Trump to reconsider and rescind those portions of the Executive order that interfere with the rights of already documented students, workers, permanent residents and other visitors;

(3) Supports the legal actions of our attorney general and other plaintiffs to contest the legality of the Executive order in court, and be it further

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions shall be transmitted forthwith by the clerk of the Senate to the President of the United States and those Members of Congress from the Commonwealth.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CORKER, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 150. A resolution recognizing threats to freedom of the press and expression around the world and reaffirming freedom of the press as a priority in efforts of the United States Government to promote democracy and good governance.

By Mr. CORKER, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

S. 1901. A bill to require global economic and political pressure to support diplomatic denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, including through the imposition of sanctions with respect to the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and any enablers of the activities of that Government, and to reauthorize the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF
COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. HATCH for the Committee on Finance.

*Kevin K. McAleenan, of Hawaii, to be Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

By Mr. GRASSLEY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Leonard Steven Grasz, of Nebraska, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit.

Don R. Willett, of Texas, to be a Circuit Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

James C. Ho, of Texas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit.

Terry A. Doughty, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana.

Terry Fitzgerald Mooror, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama.

Mark Saalfeld Norris, Sr., of Tennessee, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee.

Claria Horn Boom, of Kentucky, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky.

John W. Broomes, of Kansas, to be United States District Judge for the District of Kansas.

Rebecca Grady Jennings, of Kentucky, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Kentucky.

Robert Earl Wier, of Kentucky, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky.

*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. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 2204. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to preserve access to re-

habilitation innovation centers under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. HELLER):

S. 2205. A bill to improve access by Indian tribes to support from the Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support program (E-rate) of the Federal Communications Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. DAINES:

S. 2206. A bill to release certain wilderness study areas in the State of Montana; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mrs. MCCASKILL, and Ms. HEITKAMP):

S. 2207. A bill to allow qualified volunteer first responders to qualify for public service loan forgiveness; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 2208. A bill to provide for the issuance of an Alzheimer's Disease Research Semipostal Stamp; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. TOOMEY):

S. 2209. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require States to count monetary winnings from lotteries and other lump-sum income of \$80,000 or more as if they were obtained over multiple months for purposes of determining income eligibility for medical assistance; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. UDALL):

S. 2210. A bill to ensure the Chief Information Office of the Federal Communications Commission has a significant role in decisions related to information technology, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. TILLIS, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 2211. A bill to establish a national endangered missing advisory communications network, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. CASEY, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. KAINE, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BOOKER, and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 2212. A bill to establish the "Biomedical Innovation Fund", and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 2213. A bill to authorize Pacific Historic Parks to establish a commemorative display to honor members of the United States Armed Forces who served in the Pacific Theater of World War II, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. PAUL:

S.J. Res. 50. A joint resolution relating to the disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the Government of Georgia of Javelin Missiles and Javelin Command Launch Units; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND
SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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