

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL CULTURAL CENTER ACT

**HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY III**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 24, 2018*

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, this month we mark the 60th anniversary of the enactment of the National Cultural Center Act, which established the institution now known as the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

The 85th Congress and President Eisenhower envisioned a cultural center which would present performances of dance, drama, music, opera, and poetry, develop arts programming to encourage the participation of and educate citizens of all ages, from the young to the elderly, and provide a space for civic activity.

Today, the Kennedy Center accomplishes these original mandates from 1958 to serve the nation through cultural innovation and inclusive programming. This past season, the Kennedy Center showcased 2,203 performances and reached 1,405,796 students through school and community programs. The Kennedy Center has broken ground on an expanded physical campus for civic activity and increased accessibility; the REACH (Renew, Experience, Activate, Create, and Honor) will open the week of the National Cultural Center Act's 60th anniversary.

I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking the many members of the public who over the past six decades have partnered with and supported our national cultural center.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF KALLE KÖNKKÖLÄ AND CELEBRATING HIS LIFE

**HON. DINA TITUS**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 24, 2018*

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Kalle Könkkölä, an international disability rights advocate and former member of the Finnish Parliament.

Mr. Könkkölä passed away on September 11, 2018. He served from 1983 to 1987 as the first member of the Finnish Parliament with a disability, developing key pieces of legislation on disability inclusion and independent living. Könkkölä was a fervent advocate for the ratification of the United Nations Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in Finland.

Könkkölä also helped to strengthen relationships between Finland and the U.S. in the area of disability policy. This relationship resulted in collaborative activities with the State Department's Special Advisor on International Disability Rights and our Embassy in Finland, including training on our Americans with Disabilities Act, joint efforts with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to advance the inclusion of disability, and discussions on conditions of disabled people in refugee camps.

Könkkölä worked tirelessly for disability inclusion worldwide. He was active in global partnerships for disability and development,

and his work emphasized the need for a robust human rights framework in disability policy. Könkkölä was instrumental in the negotiations that led to the creation of the European Disability Forum in 1996, and he founded the Abilis Foundation, an organization that promotes human rights, equal opportunities, and independent living through grantmaking to disabled people's organizations in low income countries, in 1998.

Könkkölä was a member of the Expert Group on Political Participation of Persons with Disabilities within the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights. He brought a unique perspective to the working group, having firsthand experience of many aspects of political life, including running as a candidate, serving in elected office, and advocating with policymakers.

Here in the U.S. Congress, we can honor Könkkölä's life by continuing his work to empower the one billion people in the world who have a disability, especially in political and public life. In partnership with the diverse disability community, we must remove barriers that prohibit the full participation of persons with disabilities as voters and candidates. When barriers are removed, voters with disabilities are afforded their full rights as citizens.

Today, in memory of Mr. Könkkölä, I reaffirm my commitment to supporting persons with disabilities in their pursuit of equal rights. I stand with you today, and for all the days to come.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, September 25, 2018 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 26

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine safeguards for consumer data privacy.

SD-G50

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine cleaning up the oceans, focusing on reducing the

impact of man-made trash on the environment, wildlife, and human health.

SD-406

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 3478, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a comprehensive strategy for maintaining situational awareness and operational control of high traffic areas along the borders, to address the protective custody of alien children accompanied by parents, to strengthen accountability for deployment of border security technology at the Department of Homeland Security, to encourage Federal agencies to coordinate on research and the development of technology to combat illicit opioid importation, to establish a narcotic drug screening technology pilot program to combat illicit opioid importation, S. 3405, to reauthorize the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program of the Department of Homeland Security, S. 3137, to provide for reforming agencies of the Federal Government to improve efficiency and effectiveness, S. 3208, to provide agencies with discretion in securing information technology and information systems, S. 3050, to improve executive agency digital services, S. 823, to ensure the digital contents of electronic equipment and online accounts belonging to or in the possession of United States persons entering or exiting the United States are adequately protected at the border, S. 278, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for innovative research and development, S. 3085, to establish a Federal Acquisition Security Council and to provide executive agencies with authorities relating to mitigating supply chain risks in the procurement of information technology, S. 3437, to establish a Federal rotational cyber workforce program for the Federal cyber workforce, S. 3251, to require executive agencies to consider rental in any analysis for equipment acquisition, S. 3309, to authorize cyber incident response teams at the Department of Homeland Security, S. 3191, to provide for the expeditious disclosure of records related to civil rights cold cases, S. 594, to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to work with cybersecurity consortia for training, S. 3209, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 413 Washington Avenue in Belleville, New Jersey, as the "Private Henry Svehla Post Office Building", S. 3237, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 120 12th Street Lobby in Columbus, Georgia, as the "Richard W. Williams Chapter of the Triple Nickles (555th P.I.A.) Post Office", S. 3414, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 20 Ferry Road in Saunterstown, Rhode Island, as the "Captain Matthew J. August Post Office", S. 3442, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 105 Duff Street in Macon, Missouri, as the "Arla W. Harrell Post Office", H.R. 50, to provide for additional safeguards with respect to imposing Federal mandates, H.R. 2196, to amend title 5, United States Code, to allow whistleblowers to disclose information to certain recipients, H.R. 1132, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for a 2-year prohibition on employment in a career civil

service position for any former political appointee, H.R. 6439, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish in the Department of Homeland Security the Biometric Identification Transnational Migration Alert Program, H.R. 6374, to require the Department of Homeland Security to streamline Federal contractor fitness determinations, H.R. 5206, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Office of Biometric Identity Management, H.R. 6443, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a continuous diagnostics and mitigation program at the Department of Homeland Security, H.R. 606, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1025 Nevin Avenue in Richmond, California, as the "Harold D. McCraw, Sr., Post Office Building", H.R. 1209, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 901 N. Francisco Avenue, Mission, Texas, as the "Mission Veterans Post Office Building", H.R. 2979, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 390 West 5th Street in San Bernardino, California, as the "Jack H. Brown Post Office Building", H.R. 3230, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 915 Center Avenue in Payette, Idaho, as the "Harmon Killebrew Post Office Building", H.R. 4407, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3s101 Rockwell Street in Warrenville, Illinois, as the "Corporal Jeffery Allen Williams Post Office Building", H.R. 4890, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9801 Apollo Drive in Upper Marlboro, Maryland, as the "Wayne K. Curry Post Office Building", H.R. 4913, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 816 East Salisbury Parkway in Salisbury, Maryland, as the "Sgt. Maj. Wardell B. Turner Post Office Building", H.R. 4946, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1075 North Tustin Street in Orange, California, as the "Specialist Trevor A. Win'E Post Office", H.R. 4960, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 511 East Walnut Street in Columbia, Missouri, as the "Spc. Sterling William Wyatt Post Office Building", H.R. 5349, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1325 Autumn Avenue in Memphis, Tennessee, as the "Judge Russell B. Sugarmon Post Office Building", H.R. 5504, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4801 West Van Giesen Street in West Richland, Washington, as the "Sergeant Dietrich Schmieman Post Office Building", H.R. 5737, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 108 West D Street in Alpha, Illinois, as the "Captain Joshua E. Steele Post Office", H.R. 5784, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2650 North Doctor Martin Luther King Jr. Drive in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, shall be known and designated as the "Vel R. Phillips Post Office Building", H.R. 5868, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 530 Claremont Avenue in Ashland, Ohio, as the "Bill Harris Post Office", H.R. 5935, to designate the facility of the United States Postal

Service located at 1355 North Meridian Road in Harristown, Illinois, as the "Logan S. Palmer Post Office", H.R. 6020, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 325 South Michigan Avenue in Howell, Michigan, as the "Sergeant Donald Burgett Post Office Building", H.R. 6116, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 362 North Ross Street in Beaverton, Michigan, as the "Colonel Alfred Asch Post Office", an original bill entitled, "Presidential Transition Enhancement Act of 2018", an original bill entitled, "Grant Reporting Efficiency and Agreements Transparency Act of 2018", and the nomination of Peter Gaynor, of Rhode Island, to be Deputy Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

SD-342

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine the impact of tariffs on the United States automotive industry.

SD-215

10:45 a.m.

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the rise of American earnings and living standards.

SH-216

11 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 1862, to amend the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 to modify the criteria for determining whether countries are meeting the minimum standards for the elimination of human trafficking, S. 2736, to develop a long-term strategic vision and a comprehensive, multifaceted, and principled United States policy for the Indo-Pacific region, S. 3233, to impose sanctions with respect to persons responsible for violence and human rights abuses in Nicaragua, S. 3257, to impose sanctions on foreign persons responsible for serious violations of international law regarding the protection of civilians during armed conflict, S. 3476, to extend certain authorities relating to United States efforts to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria globally, S. Res. 435, expressing the sense of the Senate that the 85th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine of 1932-1933, known as the Holodomor, should serve as a reminder of repressive Soviet policies against the people of Ukraine, S. Res. 481, calling upon the leadership of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to dismantle its labor camp system, S. Res. 562, expressing the sense of the Senate that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) continues to make an invaluable contribution to United States and international security, 50 years after it opened for signature on July 1, 1968, S. Res. 602, supporting the agreement between Prime Minister Tsipras of Greece and Prime Minister Zaev of Macedonia to resolve longstanding bilateral disputes, S. Res. 634, commemorating the 70th anniversary of the Berlin Airlift and honoring the veterans of Operation Vittles, H.R. 2200, to reauthorize the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, H.R. 600, to promote Internet access in developing countries and update foreign policy toward the Internet, H.R. 1677, to halt the wholesale slaughter of the

Syrian people, encourage a negotiated political settlement, and hold Syrian human rights abusers accountable for their crimes, and the nomination of Francisco Luis Palmieri, of Connecticut, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Honduras, Department of State.

S-116

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Space, Science, and Competitiveness

To hold hearings to examine the global space race, focusing on ensuring the United States remains the leader in space.

SR-253

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Cybersecurity

To hold hearings to examine the cyber operational readiness of the Department of Defense; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC-217.

SD-106

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Craig Lewis Cloud, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Botswana, Michael Peter Pelletier, of Maine, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Madagascar, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Union of the Comoros, Dennis B. Hankins, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Mali, Robert K. Scott, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Malawi, Simon Henshaw, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Guinea, Eric Williams Stromayer, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Togolese Republic, Lucy Tamlyn, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Central African Republic, and Dennis Walter Hearne, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Mozambique, all of the Department of State.

SD-419

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Subcommittee on Federal Spending Oversight and Emergency Management

To hold hearings to examine the Federal role in the toxic PFAS chemical crisis.

SD-342

Committee on Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 465, to provide for an independent outside audit of the Indian Health Service, S. 2154, to approve the Kickapoo Tribe Water Rights Settlement Agreement, and S. 2599, to provide for the transfer of certain Federal land in the State of Minnesota for the benefit of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine justice for Native youth, focusing on the Government Accountability Office report on "Native American Youth Involvement in Justice Systems and Information on Grants to Help Address Juvenile Delinquency".

SD-628

Committee on Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine S. 1010 and H.R. 1695, bills to amend title 17, United States Code, to provide additional responsibilities for the Register of Copyrights.

SR-301

3 p.m.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the state of the Department of Veterans Affairs, focusing on a 60 day report.

SR-418

## SEPTEMBER 27

10 a.m.

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Gordon Hartogensis, of Connecticut, to be Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, and Gail S. Ennis, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Social Security Administration.

SD-215

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine reducing health care costs, focusing on improving affordability through innovation.

SD-430

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management

To hold hearings to examine the effect of regulatory policy on the economy and business growth.

SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary

To continue hearings to examine the nomination of Brett M. Kavanaugh, of Maryland, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

SD-226

2 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

## OCTOBER 2

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine implementation of the Economic Growth, Regu-

latory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act.

SD-538

## OCTOBER 3

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Government Accountability Office reports relating to broadband internet availability on tribal lands.

SD-628

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the enforcement of the antitrust laws.

SD-226

## POSTPONEMENTS

## SEPTEMBER 26

10 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine pending nominations.

SD-226