

sustainable peace and prosperous future.

With its young and enthusiastic population, I personally have little to question about Kosovo's future being bright, but the job of Kosovo's leaders today is to erase all doubts at home and abroad through accelerated progress on the democratic and human rights values we all hold dear. By doing so, Kosovo will make an even stronger claim to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe—OSCE—NATO, and EU memberships it deserves in the years to come.

Let me conclude, by expressing my support for continued U.S. leadership in the Western Balkans, a leadership that ended a decade of regional conflict, helped bring Kosovo to where it is today, and can make a difference still. With Russian and other outside influences seeking to undermine the progress we have made, it is in our interest to engage more actively and offer a positive alternative to a difficult past. It is in our interest to see Kosovo and the entire region stable and secure, reconciled and integrated, and—above all—prosperous. Let this be a time where we not only celebrate the progress we have made in the past decade, but also commit to more rapid progress in the decade to come.

Congratulations, Kosovo, on your 10 years of independence. You can count on the continued support of your friends in the United States.

RECOGNIZING THE RAVALLI COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week I have the honor of recognizing the Ravalli County Sheriff's Department and Sheriff Stephen Holton for their work to prevent an attack on the students and teachers of Darby School District.

Just last week, on the heels of 17 tragic murders in Parkland, FL, a Darby High School senior allegedly made threatening comments and social media posts directed at fellow students and faculty at Darby High School. After receiving information about the concerning threats, Sheriff Holton took action, and law enforcement arrested the student on felony charges.

While we will continue to investigate the tragedy in Florida and the performance of law enforcement in that incident, it is important that we commend students who speak up, school officials who respond, and those law enforcement officers who bravely act to keep our communities safe. The Darby students and school officials did the right thing.

Sheriff Holton and the quick response of students and school officials may have prevented a tragedy in Montana, and for that, we are very grateful.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING SOUTH GEORGIA

• Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, as the senior Senator from Georgia, it is my honor to pay tribute to South Georgia on its selection as a "2018 Great American Defense Community" by the Association of Defense Communities.

Since 1941, this region of my State has been the proud home of Moody Air Force Base and some of the best airmen in the world.

I congratulate the outstanding South Georgia Military Affairs Council, which is led by local chambers of commerce in Berrien, Cook, Lanier, and Lowndes Counties, and the many community members who work to support Moody Air Force Base. They take great pride in this installation, and they understand how important the brave men and women who are based there are to our national security and to America.

The Great American Defense Communities Program honoring these special volunteers recognizes the overall support that communities and regions in the U.S. provide to service members and military families to help ensure the highest quality of life possible. Selection for this honor is based on community building and integration, support and collaboration, educational and employment opportunities, and veteran and family support.

I have seen firsthand how strongly the airmen and families associated with Moody Air Force Base are supported and appreciated by the South Georgia community. It is much more than simply a place to live. For our military members serving at Moody, their community is a place to call home. It is family.

Moody Air Force Base is the home to the 23rd Wing "Flying Tigers," which consists of the 23rd Fighter Group, the Air Force's largest A-10 fighter group, the 347th Rescue Group, and the Avon Park Air Force Range, among others. From close air support to combat search and rescue, the dedicated airmen of Moody Air Force Base play a critical role in our national defense and our ability to project power around the globe.

Throughout Georgia, we are fortunate to be home to welcoming communities for the servicemembers who are stationed at military bases across our State. South Georgia is a wonderful example of this spirit of service and patriotism. I congratulate this region and Moody Air Force Base on this distinct honor.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Cuccia, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a mes-

sage from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 2:14 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. HARRIS) has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 535. An act to encourage visits between the United States and Taiwan at all levels, and for other purposes.

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

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

H.R. 1865. An act to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to clarify that section 230 of such Act does not prohibit the enforcement against providers and users of interactive computer services of Federal and State criminal and civil law relating to sexual exploitation of children or sex trafficking, and for other purposes.

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-4470. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the President's fiscal year 2019 budget request; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-4471. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Admiral Michael S. Rogers, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4472. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Fiscal Year 2016 Inventory of Contracted Services"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4473. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel for Operations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, Department of Housing and Urban Development, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4474. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of the Inspector General, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Streamlining the Office of Inspector General's Freedom of Information Act Regulations and Implementing FOIA Improvement Act of 2016" (RIN2508-AA15) received in

the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4475. A communication from the Assistant Director for Regulatory Affairs, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "North Korea Sanctions Regulations" (31 CFR Part 510) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 27, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4476. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the President's fiscal year 2019 budget request; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-4477. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on appropriations legislation within seven days of enactment; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-4478. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, 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 February 28, 2018; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4479. A communication from the Deputy Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Paying Benefits" (29 CFR Part 4022) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2018; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4480. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "U.S. Department of Education Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Performance Report and Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Performance Plan, and Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2018 - 2022"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4481. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "U.S. Department of Education Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Performance Report and Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Performance Plan, and Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2018 - 2022"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4482. A communication from the Board Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's Fiscal Year 2017 Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) and Privacy Management Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4483. A communication from the Report to the Nation Delegation Director, Boy Scouts of America, transmitting, pursuant to law, the organization's 2017 annual report; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4484. A communication from the Senior Director of Government Affairs and Corporate Communications, National Railroad Passenger Corporation, Amtrak, transmitting, pursuant to law, Amtrak's fiscal year 2019 General and Legislative Annual Report and fiscal year 2019 grant request; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and

were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-174. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Michigan urging the United States Congress to enact legislation that provides the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and regional management councils additional tools to effectively and appropriately manage our nation's important saltwater recreational fisheries; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 118

Whereas, U.S. saltwater fisheries are among the world's largest and most sustainable, providing significant economic impact across the nation. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and regional management councils set catch limits, ensure compliance with fisheries regulations, and reduce unintended catches to provide continued economic and recreational opportunities; and

Whereas, Inaccurate and inconsistent data used to make decisions concerning saltwater fishing stocks, as well as a one-size-fits-all management approach, have led to curtailed recreational fishing opportunities, frustrating recreational anglers and adversely impacting Michigan companies that manufacture recreational fisheries products. Michigan is home to several boat and fishing tackle manufacturers who sell their products nationwide. These companies employ thousands of skilled workers, having a substantial impact on Michigan's economy; and

Whereas, Improved data collection and implementing management tools more suitable for recreational fisheries will enhance public access to fish and continue to conserve our saltwater fisheries resources. Not only will recreational anglers benefit, but also thousands of fishing-related businesses that depend on reasonable angler access to healthy saltwater fisheries. The Modernizing Recreational Fisheries Management Act of 2017, S. 1520, would update federal fisheries management for recreational angling by allowing alternative management techniques, improve data collection, ensure periodic review of allocations in important mixed-use fisheries, and continue to rebuild overfished stocks, among other benefits, to anglers and the nation, now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to enact legislation that provides the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and regional management councils additional tools to effectively and appropriately manage our nation's important saltwater recreational fisheries, and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-175. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislative Assembly of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico requesting the United States Congress and the United States Department of Interior to take the necessary administrative and legislative actions in order to provide for the updating of the various topographic and hydrographic maps of our Island; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S. CON. RES. 1

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

The United States Geological Survey (hereinafter, the USGS) is a scientific organization that provides unbiased information on the health of our ecosystems and the environment; the natural hazards that threat-

en us; the natural resources, based on the impact of climate change and land use; and the core science systems that allow us to provide timely, relevant, and useful information.

As the Nation's largest water, earth, and biological science mapping agency, the USGS collects, monitors, analyzes, and provides scientific knowledge on the condition of the natural resources and any problems and issues related thereto. The agency's diverse scientific knowledge enables it to conduct large-scale multidisciplinary investigation, and to provide unbiased scientific information to resource managers, planners, and other customers. Likewise, the USGS works in conjunction with other federal agencies as well as the private sector through official memoranda of understanding and memoranda of agreement in order to fulfill the agency's scientific mission.

The services offered by the USGS are of utmost importance for Puerto Rico. The maps drawn by this entity are used for multiple purposes, such as the identification of drainage basins and the topography, land classification, localization, and the location of water resources, properties, delimitation, etc.

As a matter of fact, the USGS's plans are part of the requirements of the permit process carried out by the government agencies of Puerto Rico. However, the aforementioned maps are not up to date and most of them date back to many decades. As expected, our Island and its topography have been altered in the last forty (40) or fifty (50) years; therefore, it is necessary to amend and update said maps.

The USGS keeps evolving and, in 2010, the agency made changes to its structure in order to focus on or pay special attention to natural hazards. For such reason, the importance of the accuracy in the records or documents that the agency provides must be recognized. Regarding the USGS's maps of our Island, it is essential that these maps are updated in order to avoid issues in future developments and make an orderly land planning feasible.

In view of these circumstances and through this Concurrent Resolution, this Legislative Assembly hereby requests the United States Congress and the pertinent federal agencies to provide for the updating of the various topographic and hydrographic maps of our Island.

Be it resolved by the Legislative Assembly of Puerto Rico:

Section 1.—To request the United States Congress and the United States Department of Interior to take the necessary administrative and legislative actions in order to provide for the updating of the various topographic and hydrographic maps of our Island.

Section 2.—It is hereby provided that a certification on this Concurrent Resolution shall be issued immediately to be delivered to the United States Congress and the United States Department of the Interior.

Section 3.—This Concurrent Resolution shall be translated into English to be delivered as provided in Section 2.

Section 4.—This Concurrent Resolution shall take effect immediately after its approval.

POM-176. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico memorializing the Assembly's opposition to H.R. 4202, the "Parity in Animal Cruelty Enforcement Act"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S. CON. RES. 28

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

The sport of cockfighting began in Puerto Rico in the 17th century, when it was officially established on April 5, 1770 by the decree of Spanish governor Don Miguel de