

(Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2391, a bill to prohibit the United States Government from using or contracting with an entity that uses certain telecommunications services or equipment, and for other purposes.

S. 2393

At the request of Mr. COONS, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2393, a bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to provide Federal protection to the digital audio transmission of a sound recording fixed before February 15, 1972, and for other purposes.

S. 2427

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2427, a bill to establish a task force to identify countervailable subsidies and dumping.

S. 2448

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2448, a bill to provide for the issuance of a rule to advance next-generation technologies to provide alternatives to hydrofluorocarbons, and for other purposes.

S. 2461

At the request of Mr. DONNELLY, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2461, a bill to allow for judicial review of certain final rules relating to national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants for brick and structural clay products or for clay ceramics manufacturing before requiring compliance with the rules by existing sources.

S. 2497

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2497, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the Arms Export Control Act to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriations of funds to Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 2567

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2567, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance the national strategy for combating and eliminating tuberculosis, and for other purposes.

S. 2578

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors

of S. 2578, a bill to amend title 13, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Commerce to provide advanced notice to Congress before changing any questions on the decennial census, and for other purposes.

S. 2580

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2580, a bill to amend title 13, United States Code, to make clear that each decennial census, as required for the apportionment of Representatives in Congress among the several States, shall tabulate the total number of persons in each State, and to provide that no information regarding United States citizenship or immigration status may be elicited in any such census.

S. 2605

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2605, a bill to prohibit public companies from repurchasing their shares on the open market, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 432

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 432, a resolution congratulating the Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania on the 100th anniversary of their declarations of independence.

S. RES. 443

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 443, a resolution recognizing the 197th anniversary of the independence of Greece and celebrating democracy in Greece and the United States.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 452—DESIGNATING APRIL 11, 2018, AS THE “SESQUICENTENNIAL OF CONNECTICUT’S NAVY INSTALLATION”

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 452

Whereas the Navy Installation of Connecticut, regarded as Naval Submarine Base New London, had its beginning as a naval yard and storage depot on April 11, 1868;

Whereas the people of Connecticut made the installation possible when a deed of gift from the State of Connecticut and city of New London was signed, conveyed, and presented to Secretary of the Navy Gideon Welles;

Whereas the Navy Installation of Connecticut was first used for laying up inactive ships, then for refueling small naval ships traveling through the waters of New England, and ultimately as the first submarine base of the United States Navy;

Whereas October 18, 1915, marked the arrival at the Navy Installation of Connecticut of the submarines G-1, G-2, and G-4 under the care of the tender USS *Ozark*, soon followed by the arrival of submarines E-1, D-1, and D-3 under the care of the tender USS *Tonopah*, and on November 1, 1915, the arrival of the first ship built as a submarine tender, the USS *Fulton*;

Whereas, on June 21, 1916, Commander Yates Stirling, Jr., assumed the command of the newly designated Naval Submarine Base New London, the New London Submarine Flotilla, and the Submarine School;

Whereas the property of Naval Submarine Base New London expanded during the course of the involvement of the United States in World War I, with Congress approving more than \$1,000,000 for real estate and facilities expansion, which created 81 buildings to support 1,400 men and 20 submarines by the end of World War I;

Whereas the second largest expansion of Naval Submarine Base New London occurred during World War II when the submarine force exponentially grew in size, and the installation enlarged from 112 acres to 497 acres to accommodate the thousands of personnel that serviced the growing fleet;

Whereas the nuclear power age following World War II ushered technological advancements in submarine development with the advent of nuclear powered submarines and the arrival of the USS *Nautilus*, the first nuclear powered vessel in the world, when it was commissioned in 1954 at Naval Submarine Base New London;

Whereas the USS *George Washington*, the first nuclear ballistic submarine of the United States Navy, created further changes at Naval Submarine Base New London when it was commissioned there in 1959;

Whereas, in 2018, Naval Submarine Base New London extends along the east side of the Thames River, occupies approximately 687 acres, and houses more than 160 major facilities and more than 15 nuclear submarines;

Whereas Naval Submarine Base New London supports fleet readiness by providing quality service and facilities to its fleet, fighters, and families;

Whereas the mission of Naval Submarine Base New London is—

(1) to homeport and put submarines to sea; and

(2) to support the Submarine Center of Excellence, which trains submariners to take submarines to sea;

Whereas nearly every submariner in the United States Navy will be stationed at Naval Submarine Base New London for training, with a potential tour of duty in one of the attack submarines homeported at the installation, or with a pre-commissioning unit for a new submarine under construction at General Dynamics Electric Boat Shipyard in Groton, Connecticut;

Whereas Naval Submarine Base New London is home to more than 70 tenant commands and activities including—

(1) the Undersea Warfighting Development Center;

(2) the Submarine Learning Center;

(3) the Naval Submarine School;

(4) the Naval Submarine Medical Research Laboratory; and

(5) the Naval Undersea Medical Institute;

Whereas Naval Submarine Base New London is one of the largest employers in southeastern Connecticut and employs more than 9,500 active duty, reserve, and civilian personnel; and

Whereas Naval Submarine Base New London will always be regarded as the first and finest submarine base of the United States Navy and the home of the submarine force: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 11, 2018, as the “Sesquicentennial of Connecticut’s Navy Installation”;

(2) commends the longstanding dedication and contribution to the Navy by the people of Connecticut, both through the initial deed of gift that established the Navy Installation of Connecticut, and through their ongoing commitment to support the mission and people assigned to the installation, presently known as Naval Submarine Base New London;

(3) honors the sailors and submariners who have trained and served at the Navy Installation of Connecticut throughout its 150-year history in support of the naval and undersea superiority of the United States;

(4) recognizes the indispensable role Naval Submarine Base New London plays in fortifying the national security of the United States at a time when adversaries seek to challenge the United States; and

(5) pledges continued support for the operation of Naval Submarine Base New London for years to come.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 114-198, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Creating Options for Veterans’ Expedited Recovery (COVER Commission): Matthew Amidon of Texas (Veteran).

The Chair announces, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 106-398, as amended by Public Law 108-7, and in consultation with the chairmen of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission: Roy Kamphausen of Connecticut.

AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT AND MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE ACT MODERNIZATION ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 304, H.R. 3445.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3445) to enhance the transparency and accelerate the impact of programs under the African Growth and Opportunity Act and the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3445) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN TO FULFILL REPEATED PROMISES OF ASSISTANCE IN THE CASE OF ROBERT LEVINSON

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 355, S. Res. 85.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 85) calling on the Government of Iran to fulfill repeated promises of assistance in the case of Robert Levinson, the longest held United States civilian in our Nation’s history.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution, which had been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment and an amendment to the preamble, as follows:

(The part of the resolution intended to be stricken is shown in boldface brackets and the part of the resolution intended to be inserted is shown in italic.)

(Strike the preamble and insert the part printed in italic.)

Whereas United States citizen Robert Levinson is a retired agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), a resident of Coral Springs, Florida, the husband of Christine Levinson, father of their seven children, and grandfather of their six grandchildren;

Whereas Robert Levinson traveled from Dubai, United Arab Emirates, to Kish Island, Iran, on March 8, 2007;

Whereas, after traveling to Kish Island and checking into the Hotel Maryam, Robert Levinson disappeared on March 9, 2007;

Whereas, in December 2007, Robert Levinson’s wife, Christine, traveled to Kish Island to retrace Mr. Levinson’s steps and met with officials of the Government of Iran who pledged to help in the investigation;

Whereas for 10 years, the United States Government has continually pressed the Government of Iran to provide any information on the whereabouts of Robert Levinson and to help ensure his prompt and safe return to his family;

Whereas officials of the Government of Iran promised their continued assistance to the relatives of Robert Levinson during the visit of the family to the Islamic Republic of Iran in December 2007;

Whereas, in November 2010, the Levinson family received a video of Mr. Levinson in captivity, representing the first proof of life since his disappearance and providing some initial indications that he was being held somewhere in southwest Asia;

Whereas, in April 2011, the Levinson family received a series of pictures of Mr. Levinson, which provided further indications that he was being held somewhere in southwest Asia;

Whereas Secretary of State John Kerry stated on August 28, 2013, “The United States respectfully asks the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to work cooperatively with us in our efforts to help U.S. citizen Robert Levinson.”;

Whereas, on September 28, 2013, during the first direct phone conversation between the heads of governments of the United States and Iran since 1979, President Barack Obama raised the case of Robert Levinson to President of Iran Hassan Rouhani and urged the President of Iran to help locate Mr. Levinson and reunite him with his family;

Whereas, on August 29, 2014, Secretary of State Kerry again stated that the United States “respectfully request[s] the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran work cooperatively with us to find Mr. Levinson and bring him home”;

Whereas, on January 16, 2016, the Government of Iran released five United States citizens detained in Iran;

Whereas, on January 17, 2016, President Obama stated that “even as we rejoice in the safe return of others, we will never forget about Bob,” referring to Robert Levinson, and that “each and every day but especially today our hearts are with the Levinson family and we will never rest until their family is whole again”;

Whereas, on January 19, 2016, White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest stated that the United States Government had “secured a commitment from the Iranians to use the channel that has now been opened to secure the release of those individuals that we know were being held by Iran ... to try and gather information about Mr. Levinson’s possible whereabouts”;

Whereas the Government of Iran’s most recent commitment to assist in locating and returning Bob Levinson has not yielded any meaningful results;

Whereas, on November 23, 2016, the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (UNWGAD) adopted Opinion No. 50/2016, concerning Robert Levinson in which the UNWGAD found Iran responsible for the arbitrary detention of Mr. Levinson;

Whereas, on November 26, 2013, Mr. Levinson became the longest held United States civilian in our Nation’s history; and

Whereas the Federal Bureau of Investigation continues to offer up to a \$5,000,000 reward for information leading to Mr. Levinson’s safe return: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that March 9, 2017, [marks] marked 10 years since the disappearance of Robert Levinson from Kish Island, Iran;

(2) recognizes that Robert Levinson is the longest held United States civilian in our Nation’s history;

(3) notes that repeated pledges by officials of the Government of Iran to provide their Government’s assistance in the case of Robert Levinson have not led to any meaningful progress in locating or returning Robert Levinson;

(4) urges the Government of Iran to take meaningful steps towards fulfilling its repeated promises to assist in locating and returning Robert Levinson, including immediately providing all available information from all entities of the Government of Iran regarding the disappearance of Robert Levinson to the United States Government;

(5) urges the President and the allies of the United States to continue to press the Government of Iran at every opportunity to locate and return Robert Levinson, notwithstanding ongoing and serious disagreements the United States Government has with the Government of Iran on a broad array of issues, including Iran’s ballistic missile program, sponsorship of international terrorism, and human rights abuses;

(6) notes that in addition to these other serious issues, further delay in locating and returning Robert Levinson remains a significant obstacle to improving United States-Iran relations; and

(7) expresses sympathy to the family of Robert Levinson for their anguish and expresses hope that their ordeal can be brought to an end in the near future.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendment be agreed to, the resolution, as amended, be agreed to, the committee-reported amendment to the preamble be agreed to, the preamble, as amended, be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.