

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

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:20 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3144. An act to provide for operations of the Federal Columbia River Power System pursuant to a certain operation plan for a specified period of time, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4009. An act to authorize the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to plan, design, and construct a central parking facility on National Zoological Park property in the District of Columbia.

H.R. 5447. An act to modernize copyright law, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 12:39 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 447. An act to require reporting on acts of certain foreign countries on Holocaust era assets and related issues.

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

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 3144. An act to provide for operations of the Federal Columbia River Power System pursuant to a certain operation plan for a specified period of time, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 4009. An act to authorize the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to plan, design, and construct a central parking facility on National Zoological Park property in the District of Columbia; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

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-5045. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report on Steps and Protocols Related to the Rescue, Care, and Treatment of Captives of the Islamic State"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5046. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995, with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5047. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on

the national emergency with respect to the stabilization of Iraq that was declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5048. A communication from the Program Specialist, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rule to Increase the Appraisal Threshold for Commercial Real Estate Transactions" (RIN1557-AE18) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5049. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting proposed legislation; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-5050. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Compliance with Order EA-12-049, Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events" (JLD-ISC-20012-01, Revision 2) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5051. 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 Section 45K(d)(2)(C) Reference Price" (Rev. Proc. 2018-32) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 24, 2018; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5052. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Definitions and Selection Criteria that Apply to Direct Grant Programs" (RIN1855-AA13) received in the Office of the President pro tempore of the Senate; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5053. A communication from the 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 April 19, 2018; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5054. A communication from the President, African Development Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Annual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5055. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Economic Impact and Diversity, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's fiscal year 2017 report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5056. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, two (2) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Homeland Security, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2018; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5057. A communication from the Deputy Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bu-

reau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Auction of Cross-Service FM Translator Construction Permits Scheduled for May 15, 2018; Notice and Filing Requirements, Minimum Opening Bids, Upfront Payments, and Other Procedures for Auction 99" ((AU Docket No. 17-143) (DA 18-260)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5058. A communication from the Deputy Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Connect America Fund Universal Service Reform - Mobility Fund Second Order on Reconsideration" ((WT Docket No. 10-208) (FCC 18-19)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5059. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Cora, Wyoming)" (MB Docket No. 17-196) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5060. A communication from the Chairman of the Office of Proceedings, Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Updating the Code of Federal Regulations" ((RIN2140-AB40) (Docket No. EP 746) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5061. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Modifications to Greater Amberjack Recreational Fishing Year and Fixed Closed Season" (RIN0648-BH32) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5062. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy for the position of Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5063. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a report required by section 1256 of the fiscal year 2018 National Defense Authorization Act; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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-217. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of West Virginia urging the United States Congress to pass legislation permitting West Virginia to increase the weight of vehicles permitted to operate on Interstate Highways to that West Virginia may implement a pilot program to study various vehicle configurations and weights; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 55

Whereas, Federal law currently imposes vehicle weight limitations on vehicles that operate on the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, The Dwight D. Eisenhower System of Interstate and Defense Highways, hereafter "Interstate Highways"; and

Whereas, The maximum gross weight typically allowed by any State for vehicles using the Interstate Highways is twenty thousand pounds carried on one axle, a tandem axle weight of thirty-four thousand pounds, and an overall maximum gross weight by formula; and

Whereas, Federal law also contains many exceptions to such weight limits; and

Whereas, The increased capacity and ability of modern vehicles to transport commodities and products, together with increased economic pressures to reduce industry transportation costs and increased environmental pressures to lower carbon dioxide emissions, create economic incentives to increase the loads vehicles may transport; and

Whereas, Increasing the types of vehicles, weight of vehicles, and types of loading and trucking configurations permitted on roads would increase economic efficiencies; and

Whereas, Excessive weights of vehicles can result in the deterioration of roads and bridges, creating significant costs in lost road and bridge use and life; and

Whereas, Certain vehicle types, vehicle configurations, load configurations, and other factors can alleviate or avoid damaging effect on infrastructure from increased vehicle and load weights; and

Whereas, The West Virginia Legislature is directing the West Virginia Department of Transportation and Division of Highways, the West Virginia Department of Commerce, private industry, including manufacturers of commodities or products, and the engineering community, including the College of Information Technology and Engineering at Marshall University and the Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources at West Virginia University, to cooperate and study the effect various trucking configurations and weights have on West Virginia's entire road system, including Interstate Highways; and

Whereas, Such study would include an analysis of which vehicle and load configurations and weights may be utilized with minimal consequence to West Virginia's infrastructure, including Interstate Highways, while permitting industry to transport commodities and products in the most economical ways; and

Whereas, In order to complete such a study and pilot program, West Virginia needs permission from the Congress of the United States to increase the weight of vehicles permitted to operate on Interstate Highways; Therefore, be it

Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia: That the Legislature urges the Congress of the United States to pass legislation permitting West Virginia to increase the weight of vehicles permitted to operate on Interstate Highways so that West Virginia may implement a pilot program to study various vehicle configurations and weights; and, be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature urges the President of the United States to sign such legislation; and, be it further

Resolved, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, and to each Senator and Representative from West Virginia in the Congress of the United States.

POM-218. A resolution adopted by the Township Council of the Township of Mahwah, New Jersey, memorializing June 2, 2018, as National Gun Violence Awareness Day; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 994. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for the protection of community centers with religious affiliation, and for other purposes.

S. 2644. A bill to ensure independent investigations and judicial review of the removal of a special counsel, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Gregory Allyn Forest, of North Carolina, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of North Carolina for the term of four years.

Bradley A. Maxwell, of Illinois, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Illinois for the term of four years.

(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. PAUL:

S. 2760. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to exclude energy efficiency projects, pollution control projects, and reliability projects from the definition of a modification; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 2761. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to clarify when a physical change in, or change in the method of operation of, a stationary source constitutes a modification, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. HEITKAMP (for herself, Ms.

COLLINS, Mr. JONES, and Ms. SMITH): S. 2762. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to support opportunities for beginning farmers and ranchers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 2763. A bill to provide grants to State, local, territorial, and tribal law enforcement agencies to purchase chemical screening devices and train personnel to use chemical screening devices in order to enhance law enforcement efficiency and protect law enforcement officers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 2764. A bill to amend and enhance the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Pro-

tection Act to improve the conservation of sharks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. JONES):

S. 2765. A bill to amend the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to exempt investment advisers who solely advise certain rural business investment companies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. REED):

S. 2766. A bill to require congressional notification related to current and future planning and construction of federally funded military construction projects located within 100-year floodplains; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. MURRAY:

S. 2767. A bill to make improvements to certain wildfire and disaster recovery programs of the Federal Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 2768. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HELLER (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. 2769. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide for an action plan on recommendations for changes under Medicare and Medicaid to prevent opioids addictions and enhance access to medication-assisted treatment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 2770. A bill to direct the Attorney General to submit to Congress investigative materials in the event of certain pardons granted by the President, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. JONES):

S. 2771. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to provide grants for the construction, refurbishing, and servicing of individual household decentralized wastewater systems to individuals with low or moderate income; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. JONES):

S. 2772. A bill to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to modify provisions relating to the household water well system grant program; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 2773. A bill to improve the management of driftnet fishing; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr.

TILLIS, Mr. COONS, and Mr. GRAHAM): S. 2774. A bill to reauthorize the COPS ON THE BEAT grant program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SMITH:

S. 2775. A bill to award career pathways innovation grants to local educational agencies and consortia of local educational agencies, to provide technical assistance within the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education to administer the grants and support the local educational agencies with the