

Caring, Delta Dental of Michigan, Care House, and is a member of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists and a lifelong member of the NAACP.

Chuck has spent his career in service to others, his UAW brothers and sisters, his community, and his always growing family. I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Mr. Charles Hall for his many contributions to Michigan, the organized labor movement, and his leadership at the United Auto Workers Union. I wish Chuck and his family health and happiness in the years ahead.●

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.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13338 OF MAY 11, 2004, WITH RESPECT TO THE BLOCKING OF PROPERTY OF CERTAIN PERSONS AND PROHIBITION OF EXPORTATION AND RE-EXPORTATION OF CERTAIN GOODS TO SYRIA—PM 36

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report, which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1622(d), provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days before the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the actions of the Government of Syria declared in Executive Order 13338 of May 11, 2004—as modified in scope and relied upon for additional steps taken in Executive Order 13399 of April 25, 2006, Executive Order 13460 of February 13, 2008, Executive Order 13572 of April 29, 2011, Executive Order 13573 of May 18, 2011, Executive Order 13582 of August 17, 2011, Executive Order 13606 of April 22, 2012, and Executive Order 13608 of May 1, 2012—is to continue in effect beyond May 11, 2018.

The regime's brutal war on the Syrian people, who have been calling for freedom and a representative government, not only endangers the Syrian

people themselves, but also generates instability throughout the region. The Syrian regime's actions and policies, including pursuing and using chemical weapons, supporting terrorist organizations, and obstructing the Lebanese government's ability to function effectively, continue to foster the rise of extremism and sectarianism and pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue in effect the national emergency declared with respect to this threat and to maintain in force the sanctions to address this national emergency.

In addition, the United States condemns the Assad regime's use of brutal violence and human rights abuses, and calls on the Assad regime to stop its violent war, uphold the Cessation of Hostilities, enable the delivery of humanitarian assistance, and negotiate a political transition in Syria that will forge a credible path to a future of greater freedom, democracy, opportunity, and justice.

The United States will consider changes in the composition, policies, and actions of the Government of Syria in determining whether to continue or terminate this national emergency in the future.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 9, 2018.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:03 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 bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1680. An act to amend the Small Business Act to improve the women's business center program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1702. An act to amend the Small Business Act to improve the small business development centers program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3170. An act to amend the Small Business Act to require cyber certification for small business development center counselors, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4111. An act to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to improve the number of small business investment companies in underlicensed States, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4743. An act to amend the Small Business Act to strengthen the Office of Credit Risk Management within the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4754. An act to amend the Small Business Act to provide prospective construction contractors with information about an agency's policies on the administration of change orders to allow such contractors to make informed business decisions regarding the pricing of bids or proposals, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5236. An act to expand opportunities available to employee-owned business concerns through Small Business Administration loan programs, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1680. An act to amend the Small Business Act to improve the women's business center program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

H.R. 1702. An act to amend the Small Business Act to improve the small business development centers program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

H.R. 3170. An act to amend the Small Business Act to require cyber certification for small business development center counselors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

H.R. 4754. An act to amend the Small Business Act to provide prospective construction contractors with information about an agency's policies on the administration of change orders to allow such contractors to make informed business decisions regarding the pricing of bids or proposals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

H.R. 5236. An act to expand opportunities available to employee-owned business concerns through Small Business Administration loan programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following joint resolution was discharged from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation by petition, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 802(c), and placed on the calendar:

S.J. Res. 52. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Communications Commission relating to "Restoring Internet Freedom".

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

H.R. 4111. An act to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to improve the number of small business investment companies in underlicensed States, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4743. An act to amend the Small Business Act to strengthen the Office of Credit Risk Management within the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-5145. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Konjac glucomannan; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9976-60) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5146. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Duddingtonia flagrans strain IAH 1297; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9977-31) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5147. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Planning and Regulatory Affairs Branch, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions and Clarifications in Requirements for the Processing of Donated Foods" (RIN0584-AE38) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 7, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5148. A communication from the Secretary of the Navy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Program Acquisition Unit Cost (PAUC) and Average Procurement Unit Cost (APUC) for the Integrated Defensive Electronic Countermeasures (IDECM) Block 2/3 subprogram; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5149. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of General Lori J. Robinson, United States Air Force, and her advancement to the grade of general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5150. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Jeffrey G. Lofgren, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5151. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Mark A. Ediger, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5152. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Jan E. Tighe, United States Navy, and her advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5153. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting the report of eighteen (18) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of rear admiral (lower half) in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5154. A communication from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendments to Forms and Schedules to Remove Provision of Certain Personally Identifiable Information" (RIN3235-AM37) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 8, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5155. A communication from the Director of Human Resources, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, sixteen (16) reports relative to vacancies in the Environmental Protection Agency, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5156. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule en-

titled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Texas; Revisions to Permitting and Public Participation for Air Quality Permit Applications" (FRL No. 9976-95-Region 6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5157. 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 Jersey; Motor Vehicle Enhanced Inspection and Maintenance Program" (FRL No. 9977-61-Region 2) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5158. 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; Georgia; Regional Haze Plan and Prong 4 (Visibility) for the 2012 PM2.5, 2010 NO2, 2010 SO2, and 2008 Ozone NAAQS" (FRL No. 9977-49-Region 4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5159. 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; KY; Fine Particulate Matter and Ozone NAAQS Revisions" (FRL No. 9977-93-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 8, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5160. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension of Deadline for Action on the Section 126(b) Petition From New York" (FRL No. 9977-90-OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 8, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5161. 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 "Modifications to Definition of United States Property under Section 956" (Notice 2018-46) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 8, 2018; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5162. 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 "Empowerment Zone Designation Extension" (Notice 2018-47) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 8, 2018; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5163. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's fiscal year 2017 annual 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-5164. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's fiscal year 2017 annual 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-5165. A communication from the Director of the Office of Financial Reporting and

Internal Controls, Office of the Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "FY 2017 Agency Financial Report"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5166. A communication from the Executive Director, Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Seventy-Seventh Financial Statement for the period of October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5167. A communication from the Executive Director, Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Seventy-Seventh Financial Statement for the period of October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5168. A communication from the Impact Analyst, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Eligibility for Supplemental Service-Disabled Veterans' Insurance" (RIN2900-AQ03) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 8, 2018; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-5169. A communication from the Division Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rural Call Completion, WC Docket No. 13-39" (FCC 18-45) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 8, 2018; 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-219. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana urging the United States Congress to allow for variances on certain projects regulated by the Clean Water Act and the Rivers and Harbors Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 41

Whereas, the federal Clean Water Act establishes a program to regulate the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands; and

Whereas, the federal Rivers and Harbors Act requires authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the construction of any structure in or over any navigable waters of the United States, the excavation and dredging or deposition of material, or any obstruction or alteration to a navigable water; and

Whereas, protection of the coast and mitigation of wetland loss is vital to the future of this state and the many projects designed to protect and preserve the state's coast invariably require dredging, obstructing, or altering of waters of the United States; and

Whereas, the Clean Water Act and the Rivers and Harbors Act mandate that local, municipal, and state projects aimed at mitigating coastal wetland losses require permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and

Whereas, like federal law, Louisiana law requires compensatory mitigation at a level sufficient to replace the ecological value of the wetlands lost as a result of permitted projects, but allows for variances to this requirement when the permittee has demonstrated that the required mitigation would