

RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

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

\*Foreign Service nominations beginning with Polly Catherine Dunford-Zahar and ending with William M. Patterson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 9, 2018. (minus 1 nominee: Tanya S. Urqueta)

\*Foreign Service nominations beginning with Sandillo Banerjee and ending with Robert Peaslee, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 9, 2018. (minus 1 nominee: Dao Le)

\*Foreign Service nomination of Peter A. Malnak.

By Mr. ISAKSON for the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

\*Robert L. Wilkie, of North Carolina, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

\*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

#### 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. SCHUMER:

S. 3187. A bill to authorize veterans service organizations to solicit donations at post offices before and after Federal holidays; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 3188. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit gay and trans panic defenses; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 3189. A bill to exclude the discharge of certain Federal student loans from the calculation of gross income; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 3190. A bill to empower States with authority for most taxing and spending for highway programs and mass transit programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. JONES (for himself, Mrs. MCCASKILL, and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 3191. A bill to provide for the expeditious disclosure of records related to civil rights cold cases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. PERDUE (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. COTTON, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. LEE):

S. Res. 570. A resolution emphasizing the importance of meeting NATO spending commitments; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. COONS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. BROWN):

S. Res. 571. A resolution condemning the ongoing illegal occupation of Crimea by the Russian Federation; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. COONS, Mr. COTTON, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. RISCH, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. PERDUE, and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH):

S. Con. Res. 41. A concurrent resolution recognizing 100 years of the United States-Australia relationship—100 years of Mateship; considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 58

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 58, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on high cost employer-sponsored health coverage.

S. 428

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 428, a bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to authorize States to provide coordinated care to children with complex medical conditions through enhanced pediatric health homes, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 428, *supra*.

S. 486

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 486, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the non-application of Medicare competitive acquisition rates to complex rehabilitative wheelchairs and accessories.

S. 515

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 515, a bill to require the Secretary of Labor to maintain a publicly available list of all employers that relocate a call center overseas, to make such companies ineligible for Federal grants or guaranteed loans, and to require disclosure of the physical location of business agents engaging in customer service communications, and for other purposes.

S. 681

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Massachu-

setts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 681, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the benefits and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs to women veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 794

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 794, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act in order to improve the process whereby Medicare administrative contractors issue local coverage determinations under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 835

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 835, a bill to require the Supreme Court of the United States to promulgate a code of ethics.

S. 1109

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1109, a bill to amend title VIII of the Public Health Service Act to extend advanced education nursing grants to support clinical nurse specialist programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1121

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1121, a bill to establish a postsecondary student data system.

S. 1596

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1596, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase certain funeral benefits for veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 1690

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1690, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide greater support to students with dependents, and for other purposes.

S. 2076

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2076, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the expansion of activities related to Alzheimer's disease, cognitive decline, and brain health under the Alzheimer's Disease and Healthy Aging Program, and for other purposes.

S. 2101

At the request of Mr. DONNELLY, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the

Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2101, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the crew of the USS Indianapolis, in recognition of their perseverance, bravery, and service to the United States.

S. 2105

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) were added as cosponsors of S. 2105, a bill to modify the presumption of service connection for veterans who were exposed to herbicide agents while serving in the Armed Forces in Thailand during the Vietnam era, and for other purposes.

S. 2597

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2597, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the program of payments to children's hospitals that operate graduate medical education programs, and for other purposes.

S. 2784

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2784, a bill to reauthorize the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act.

S. 2823

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2823, a bill to modernize copyright law, and for other purposes.

S. 2881

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2881, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to seek to enter into an agreement with the city of Vallejo, California, for the transfer of Mare Island Naval Cemetery in Vallejo, California, and for other purposes.

S. 2945

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2945, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to carry out a housing choice voucher mobility demonstration to encourage families receiving the voucher assistance to move to lower-poverty areas and expand access to opportunity areas.

S. 2957

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2957, a bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to designate additional unlawful acts under the Act, strengthen penalties for violations of the Act, improve Department of Agriculture enforcement of the Act, and for other purposes.

S. 3014

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Montana

(Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3014, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to support rural residency training funding that is equitable for all States, and for other purposes.

S. 3051

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mrs. ERNST) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 3051, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to establish a working group to study regulatory and legislative improvements for the livestock, insect, and agricultural commodities transport industries, and for other purposes.

S. 3066

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3066, a bill to amend the General Education Provisions Act to allow the release of education records to facilitate the award of a recognized postsecondary credential.

S. 3090

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3090, a bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to clarify that a State may not use an individual's failure to vote as the basis for initiating the procedures provided under such Act for the removal of the individual from the official list of registered voters in the State on the grounds that the individual has changed residence, and for other purposes.

S. 3148

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mrs. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3148, a bill to prohibit certain business concerns from receiving assistance from the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 3172

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 3172, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to establish, fund, and provide for the use of amounts in a National Park Service Legacy Restoration Fund to address the maintenance backlog of the National Park Service, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 556

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 556, a resolution reaffirming the commitment of the United States to hold the Ortega regime accountable for acts of violence

and human rights abuses perpetrated against the Nicaraguan people.

S. RES. 557

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 557, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the strategic importance of NATO to the collective security of the transatlantic region and urging its member states to work together at the upcoming summit to strengthen the alliance.

## STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 3187. A bill to authorize veterans service organizations to solicit donations at post offices before and after Federal holidays; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3187

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Restoring Access, Improving Service to Enable Veterans Engaging To Fundraise Act of 2018" or the "RAISE VET FUND Act".

### SEC. 2. SOLICITATION BY VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS AT POST OFFICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 404 of title 39, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(f) SOLICITATION BY VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS AT POST OFFICES.—

"(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

"(A) the term 'business day' means a day on which a post office is open;

"(B) the term 'Federal holiday' means—

"(i) a legal public holiday under section 6103(a) of title 5; and

"(ii) Flag Day, as designated under section 110 of title 36;

"(C) the term 'holiday period' means the period beginning 2 business days before, and ending 2 business days after, a Federal holiday; and

"(D) the term 'veterans service organization' means an organization recognized by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for the representation of veterans under section 5902 of title 38.

"(2) AUTHORIZATION.—The Postal Service shall permit a veterans service organization to solicit donations by distributing items that are symbols for veterans at a post office on any business day during a holiday period."

(b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the United States Postal Service shall promulgate regulations governing the use of post offices by veterans service organizations, including with respect to scheduling, under subsection (f) of section 404 of title 39, United States Code, as added by subsection (a).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subsection (f) of section 404 of title 39, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall take effect on