

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates January 2018 as “National Stalking Awareness Month”;

(2) applauds the efforts of service providers for victims of stalking, police, prosecutors, national and community organizations, campuses, and private sector supporters to promote awareness of stalking;

(3) encourages policymakers, criminal justice officials, victim service and human service agencies, institutions of higher education, and nonprofit organizations to increase awareness of stalking and the availability of services for victims of stalking; and

(4) urges national and community organizations, businesses in the private sector, and the media to promote awareness of the crime of stalking through “National Stalking Awareness Month”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. President, I have 11 requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, January 30, 2018, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “Korean Peninsula and United States strategy in the Indo-Pacific region.”

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, January 30, 2018, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “The Financial Stability Oversight Council annual report to Congress.”

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, January 30, 2018, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “Growing the Future: Opportunities to Support domestic Seafood Through Aquaculture.”

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, January 30, 2018, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “One Year Later: The American Innovation and Competitiveness Act.”

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, January 30, 2018, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing on subcommittee assignments and the following nominations: Melissa F. Burnison, of Ken-

tucky, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs), Susan Combs, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Ryan Douglas Nelson, of Idaho, to be Solicitor of the Department of the Interior, and Anne Marie White, of Michigan, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Environmental Management).

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, January 30, 2018, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled “The role of the Geological Survey and the Forest Service in preparing for and responding to natural hazard events, as well as the current status of mapping and monitoring systems.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, January 30, 2018, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “Oversight Hearing to Receive Testimony from the Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt.”

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, January 30, 2018, at 2:30 p.m. to conduct a hearing entitled “The Economic Relationship between the United States, Canada, and Mexico.”

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, January 30, 2018, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “Reauthorizing the Higher Education Act: Access and Innovation.”

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, January 30, 2018, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “Roundtable on Small Business Health Plans.”

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, January 30, 2018, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed hearing.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 5 p.m. on Monday, February 5, the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 570. I ask consent that there then be 30 minutes of debate, equally divided in the usual form, and that following the use or

yielding back of time, the Senate vote on the nomination with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action; that no further motions be in order; and that any statements relating to the nomination be printed in the RECORD.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 297.

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

The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Matthew Bassett, of Tennessee, to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nomination with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action; that no further motions be in order; and that any statements relating to the nomination be printed in the RECORD.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Bassett nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Executive Calendar Nos. 649 through 660 and all nominations placed on the Secretary’s desk, and that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action, and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Scott D. Berrier

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment as the Deputy Judge Advocate General of the Air Force and appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 8037:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Charles L. Plummer

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 8081:

To be brigadier general

Col. Sharon R. Bannister

The following named officer for appointment as the Judge Advocate General, United States Air Force and for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while serving as the Judge Advocate General under title 10, U.S.C., sections 601 and 8037:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Jeffery A. Rockwell

IN THE ARMY

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Army under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be brigadier general

Col. Anthony R. Hale

Col. Garrick M. Harmon

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Eric J. Wesley

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Theodore D. Martin

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be brigadier general

Col. Susie S. Kuilan

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Leslie C. Smith

IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be vice admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Johnny R. Wolfe, Jr.

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. John C. Ring

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Scott D. Conn

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE AIR FORCE

PN1233 AIR FORCE nominations (35) beginning SARAH E. ABEL, and ending

MICHELLE E. WYCHE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 14, 2017.

PN1321 AIR FORCE nominations (2) beginning BRETT L. HEDGEPEETH, and ending RYAN M. YI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 11, 2017.

PN1322 AIR FORCE nominations (2) beginning JOANNA K. KOWALIK, and ending MAHASIN M. HANGALAY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 11, 2017.

PN1427 AIR FORCE nominations (19) beginning TRISH M. ARNO, and ending CHRISTOPHER N. WHITE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 8, 2018.

PN1460 AIR FORCE nominations (8) beginning JIN HWA LEE FRAZIER, and ending JACK DAVID SPENCER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1461 AIR FORCE nominations (12) beginning COREY L. ANDERSON, and ending ROBERT K. TALTON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1462 AIR FORCE nomination of Michael C. Maine, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1463 AIR FORCE nominations (4) beginning MELISSA A. DAY, and ending ROBERTA J. STEMEM, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1464 AIR FORCE nominations (8) beginning MATTHEW M. BIRD, and ending PAUL KELLEY STROUD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1465 AIR FORCE nominations (4) beginning HOLLY L. BREWER, and ending MARIO TOMMASI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1466 AIR FORCE nominations (119) beginning JOHN G. ANDRADE, and ending LAWRENCE P. WOOD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1467 AIR FORCE nomination of Joshua M. Kovich, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1468 AIR FORCE nominations (4) beginning DAVID M. DERSCH, JR., and ending PATRICK J. TRAVERS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1469 AIR FORCE nominations (5) beginning LANCE J. KIM, and ending SONIA W. S. TAOYI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1470 AIR FORCE nomination of David L. Wells, II, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

IN THE ARMY

PN1323 ARMY nomination of Aleksandr Gutman, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 11, 2017.

PN1428 ARMY nomination of Robert L. Ozburn, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 8, 2018.

PN1471 ARMY nomination of Jocelyn A. Leventhal, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1472 ARMY nominations (14) beginning ALYSSA S. ADAMS, and ending BRADLEY

O. WOOD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1473 ARMY nominations (2) beginning KENNETH S. KATROSH, and ending DOLLY R. LIVINGSTON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1474 ARMY nominations (2) beginning JOSEPH KLOIBER, and ending PAUL NAVAS, III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1475 ARMY nomination of Erick C. Crews, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1476 ARMY nominations (3) beginning MICHAEL C. BRADWICK, and ending DOUGLAS S. YOON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1477 ARMY nominations (5) beginning ZACHARY T. BUSENBARK, and ending JAIME A. SANJUAN RUBIO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1478 ARMY nominations (2) beginning GABBY V. CANCERAN, and ending JOHN P. CROSS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1479 ARMY nomination of Adam T. Soto, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1480 ARMY nomination of Philip J. Dacunto, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1481 ARMY nomination of Lyle A. Ourada, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1482 ARMY nomination of Sherry M. Kwon, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE

PN1433 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (6) beginning Marc Clayton Gilkey, and ending Mark A. Myers, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 8, 2018.

PN1434 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (90) beginning Alyce S. Ahn, and ending Michele D. Woonacott, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 8, 2018.

PN1435 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (118) beginning Priya U. Amin, and ending Erik Z. Zahnen, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 8, 2018.

PN1436 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (93) beginning Angela P. Aggeler, and ending Mari Jain Womack, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 8, 2018.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

PN1431 MARINE CORPS nomination of Christopher N. Earley, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 8, 2018.

PN1487 MARINE CORPS nominations (4) beginning WILLIAM DOCTOR, JR., and ending SCOTT E. VASQUEZ, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1490 MARINE CORPS nominations (2) beginning PAULO T. ALVES, and ending PATRICK J. TOAL, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1492 MARINE CORPS nomination of Henry W. Soukup, which was received by the

Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1493 MARINE CORPS nomination of William W. Inns, III, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1496 MARINE CORPS nomination of Craig A. Elliott, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1497 MARINE CORPS nominations (3) beginning BILL W. BROOKS, JR., and ending KYLE L. HOLLIS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1498 MARINE CORPS nominations (734) beginning EDWARD J. ABMA, and ending JOSEPH A. ZIMMERMAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1499 MARINE CORPS nominations (23) beginning JUSTIN R. ANDERSON, and ending MICHAEL D. WILCOX, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1500 MARINE CORPS nomination of Steven P. Hulse, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

IN THE NAVY

PN1244 NAVY nominations (2) beginning PAUL F. MAGOULICK, and ending LI SUNG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 14, 2017.

PN1303 NAVY nomination of Nicholas H. Steging, Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 1, 2017.

PN1304 NAVY nomination of Jonathan S. Durham, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 1, 2017.

PN1324 NAVY nominations (3) beginning LAURA C. GILSTRAP, and ending DIANA TRANYU, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 11, 2017.

PN1429 NAVY nomination of Todd D. Husty, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 8, 2018.

PN1430 NAVY nomination of Dawn M. Stankus, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 8, 2018.

PN1485 NAVY nomination of Paul I. Ahn, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1486 NAVY nomination of Allen G. Gunn, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

PROTECTING YOUNG VICTIMS FROM SEXUAL ABUSE AND SAFE SPORT AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2017

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask the Chair to lay before the Senate the message to accompany S. 534.

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 534) entitled "An Act to prevent the sexual

abuse of minors and amateur athletes by requiring the prompt reporting of sexual abuse to law enforcement authorities, and for other purposes," do pass with an amendment.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, nearly a year ago, I met with six gymnasts. All of these young women were world-class athletes. All of them had put their faith in USA Gymnastics. And all of them were sexually abused by an adult who had earned their trust.

It was one of the most difficult meetings I have held as a Senator. Listening to their stories of abuse and how the system let them down left me with equal parts sadness and rage.

These young women weren't telling me their stories to get legislation passed, but that afternoon, I promised them I would do all I could to make sure no one else ever experienced the agony that they had.

I am proud that the Senate will come together and pass the Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act in order to send it to the President's desk.

This bill is intended to protect young athletes who participate in amateur sports from the sexual abuse that these gymnasts had to suffer.

In the House, Representative SUSAN BROOKS from Indiana and Representative LOIS FRANKEL from Florida, who cochair the Women's Caucus, partnered with us on this bill. They have been strong champions in protecting young women from abuse.

This bill wouldn't have been possible without the courageous survivors who shared their stories.

Some of the same women who I spoke with in February came back to Washington in March to speak about the bill. It was a very powerful hearing that touched many of us.

One of those brave women was Jamie Dantzscher, who won a bronze medal in 2000.

Jamie told the Judiciary Committee in moving testimony that she fell in love with gymnastics at a very young age. Her parents had to beg her to leave the gym after practice because gymnastics brought her such joy.

While she competed with the national team led by USA Gymnastics, team doctor Larry Nassar was assigned to provide her with medical treatment.

As any young woman would, Jamie put her faith in Nassar, who was employed by USA Gymnastics, but her faith was turned on its head in horrifying ways. In Jamie's words: "What I have only recently come to understand is that the medical treatment he performed for my back pain and other injuries was sexual assault. Dr. Nassar abused me at the USA National Training Center in Texas. He abused me in California and at meets all over the world. Many times the abuse took place in my own room, in my own bed. Worse, he abused me in my hotel room in Sydney at the Olympic Games."

Jamie went on: "When I first spoke out about my abuse at the hands of Dr.

Nassar, I thought I was the only one. I was disbelieved and even criticized by some in the gymnastics community for bringing this disturbing issue to light."

It is impossible to imagine the horror that Jamie felt, but what we do know is that Jamie wasn't the only victim.

Jessica Howard was a 15-year-old rhythmic gymnast when Nassar began abusing her. She testified that her first few years of training were "pure bliss." Eventually, she was sent to Nassar for hip problems. Nassar told her she shouldn't wear underwear for her treatments.

Jessica was confused, but she was fearful to say anything to anyone. She believed she would be prevented from pursuing her dreams if she said anything. This is how so much of this abuse was conducted, under a shroud of fear that the athletes' dreams would be quashed.

Later in her life, Jessica served on USA Gymnastics' board of directors. In Jessica's words: "As an adult, I spent years serving on the USA Gymnastics Board of Directors with a mission of protecting children in my sport from the psychological abuse that I endured. But the meetings seemed to revolve around two things: money and medals. When a sexual abuse case came up during my time on the board, the concern was about the reputation of the coach, not the accusation of the athlete. As I have attempted to come to terms with what happened to me as a teenager, it has become glaringly obvious that USA Gymnastics has not done nearly enough to protect athletes from any form of abuse."

Jessica and others like her were silenced by a culture of complicity where those in power refused to promote a safe environment and survivors could report abuse. That is what the bill we will pass aims to change.

Finally, I would like to talk about another gymnast we heard from more recently. Aly Raisman, one of the most decorated Olympic gymnasts ever, revealed that she, too, was sexually abused by Larry Nassar, starting when she was 15 years old.

As Aly said, "I didn't know anything differently. We were told he is the best doctor."

As a result, Nassar used this trust to manipulate hundreds of victims so they couldn't fully understand that they were being abused.

When telling her story, Aly asked, "Why are we looking at why didn't the girls speak up? Why not look at what about the culture? What did USA Gymnastics do, and Larry Nassar do, to manipulate these girls so much that they are so afraid to speak up? I am angry."

I think we should all be angry by what we have heard from these brave young women. When I heard these stories, I found a common theme: The very institutions tasked with protecting these athletes allowed this egregious conduct to occur.

In my view, these governing bodies were, at best, complicit in the devastation wrought on these young children