

Since its inception, the Second Chance Act has resulted in more than 800 grant awards in 49 states and the District of Columbia to government agencies and nonprofits for reentry programming designed to provide services that can help reduce recidivism and increase public safety.

The data shows that this investment in our returning population lowers recidivism, saves money and reduces crime.

Nearly one out of three Second Chance Act grantees is a community or faith-based organization and includes funding for federal programs through the Bureau of Prisons. The data shows that this investment in our returning population lowers recidivism, saves money and reduces crime.

The Second Chance Act has been a success and its reauthorization was an essential part of any meaningful criminal justice reform effort. Through grants, the Second Chance Act encourages the development of evidence-based reentry programming to improve outcomes for those returning to families and communities.

Grantees provide vital resources, including employment training, drug treatment, family programming, and so much more.

Reauthorization had broad bipartisan support in Congress and from nearly 700 organizations across the political spectrum.

The Second Chance Act has played an important role in the impressive advances Texas has made over the last decade in criminal justice and juvenile justice reform.

Texas has received over 28 Second Chance Act grant awards to date, totaling over \$11,932,289.

One recipient, the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, has used it to provide family-focused reentry services and comprehensive case management to gang-affiliated youth.

The City of Dallas used its funding to support a program for women who have a substance abuse diagnosis and are pregnant or have children who are 5 and under.

The women received comprehensive family-based support and co-occurring substance use and mental health services on an inpatient and outpatient basis.

This change is especially significant because the fastest growing segment of inmates are those age 50 and older, and they cost far more.

As an original co-sponsor of the Second Chance Reauthorization Act of 2017, I am very proud to have played a part in the development of the Federal Prisoner Reentry Initiative for our citizens over 60 years old.

For the previous several Congresses, I introduced the Federal Prison Bureau Relief Act to amend the federal criminal code to require the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to release early an offender who has completed at least half of his or her prison sentence if such offender has:

- (1) attained age 45,
- (2) committed no violent offenses, and
- (3) received no institutional disciplinary violations.

The bill modified provisions related to computation of a federal prisoner's good time credit.

Specifically, it allowed an eligible federal prisoner to earn a maximum good time credit of 54 days per year of the sentence imposed (instead of 54 days per year of the sentence actually served).

It also permitted the Bureau of Prisons to restore good time credit previously denied, based on a prisoner maintaining good behavior.

These modifications applied to an ongoing prison sentence imposed on or after November 1, 1987.

A bipartisan consensus is developing across this country in support of such a policy.

Allowing this group of nonviolent offenders to go home to their families is both beneficial to the inmates as well as in the best interest of the United States.

There is a continuing need for re-entry programs.

Due to the dramatic growth in the size of the prison population, the issue of prisoner reentry has emerged as one of the most critical and complex dilemmas facing the American criminal justice system.

The United States is the world's leader in incarceration.

According to the Prison Policy Initiative Mass Incarceration, the American criminal justice system holds almost:

2.3 million people in 1,719 state prisons, 109 federal prisons,

1,772 juvenile correctional facilities, 3,163 local jails, and

80 Indian Country jails as well as in military prisons, immigration detention facilities, civil commitment centers, state psychiatric hospitals, and prisons in the U.S. territories.

These trends resulted in prison overcrowding despite increasing evidence that large-scale incarceration is not the most effective means of public safety.

The result was that an incredibly low number of prisoners over 60 years of age were released to home confinement under the pilot program.

Passing H.R. 4018 will not fix the entire criminal justice system, but it is another important step in our effort to make it a more just and humane system for our elderly non-violent offenders with reentry into our communities.

RECOGNIZING THE FRISCO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 9, 2019

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, I rise with my fellow Texas Congressman, Dr. BURGESS, to congratulate the Frisco Chamber of Commerce on earning a 5-Star Accreditation from the United States Chamber of Commerce.

Frisco is home to some of the most innovative and booming businesses in Texas and throughout the entire country. Partnering with approximately 1,300 member businesses who represent more than 75,000 employees, the Frisco Chamber of Commerce goes above and beyond to provide the business community with a powerful voice through its advocacy efforts and partnerships.

The Frisco Chamber received the highest accreditation awarded by the U.S. Chamber as a result of their effective organizational procedures and community involvement. After earning this accreditation, the Frisco Chamber is now among the top two percent of Chambers in the nation to receive this Prestigious designation.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Frisco Chamber of Commerce on this tremendous achievement.

RECOGNIZING DAVID HOBBS, THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 9, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, on behalf of myself and Rep. MIKE TURNER of Ohio, I rise to recognize David Hobbs, the Secretary General of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. He will step down from his position on December 31, 2019 after decades of stellar service to the Assembly and to the national parliaments of all NATO countries, including the United States Congress.

David Hobbs took up his post as Secretary General of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly in January 2008, following his election by the heads of national delegations to that body. He had previously served on the Assembly's staff for many years and drew on this long experience to help transform the institution.

David Hobbs holds degrees in physics and defense from Manchester University and King's College in London. After working in the UK civil service and the private sector, he joined Aberdeen University's Centre for Defence Studies, where he published studies on nuclear forces and policy. His expertise gave him unique insight not only into the conduct of the Cold War, but also informed his understanding of the strategies Western allies followed to ultimately prevail in it.

David Hobbs joined the NATO Parliamentary Assembly in 1983 as Director of its Science and Technology Committee. In 1987, he assumed additional responsibilities as Director of Committees and Studies and was tasked with coordinating the work of all five of the Assembly's Committees.

Mr. Hobbs played a central role in driving the Assembly's adaptation following the collapse of the Soviet Union, and ensuring that national parliaments and their members helped forge a new security order that placed democratic values at its very core. It was at this time that the Assembly began to reach out to the new parliaments of former Communist countries to assist in their democratic development. David Hobbs was part of a team that established a set of conferences and training programmes, including the Rose-Roth Seminars named after late Senator Bill Roth and Congressman Charlie Rose, which worked with parliamentarians from Europe's new democracies on security sector reform, parliamentary oversight, and preparation for membership in NATO itself.

Mr. Hobbs was appointed Deputy Secretary General of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly in November 1997.

In addition to his responsibilities at the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, from 1996 to 2007 David Hobbs served as the Chairman of the Euro-Atlantic Foundation, an NGO which provided computing and I.T. assistance to parliaments in Central and Eastern Europe. From 1993 to 2005, he was a member of the research advisory council of the Chemical and

Biological Arms Control Institute, and from 2009 to 2014 he was a member of the Senior Steering Group for NATO's Special Operations Headquarters. He wrote extensively on the political and military implications of new technology.

As the Assembly's Secretary General, David Hobbs made it a top priority to maintain and strengthen the trans-Atlantic link through parliamentary dialogue and cooperation. He travelled to the United States with parliamentary delegations 37 times between 2003 and 2019 to ensure that European political leaders better understood strategic policy decision-making in the United States and to introduce European national legislators to their counterparts in the House of Representatives and the Senate. He often accompanied the President and Vice Presidents of the NATO PA on visits to the halls of Congress for bilateral discussions with members of Congress and their staffs. Those efforts paid off, and the Assembly is now considered the primary vehicle for Congressional outreach to allied nations and their political leaders.

As a member and now chairman of the United States delegation to the NATO PA, I have witnessed first hand David Hobbs' commitment to the trans-Atlantic bond and to NATO, his understanding of U.S. politics and policies and ability to work with members from both sides of the aisle on a bipartisan basis. As our predecessors have, the current members of the United States delegation to the NATO PA and I have come to rely on his expertise, unfailingly sound judgement, and shrewd insights.

David Hobbs is also known and appreciated for his quick wit and friendliness and has long made parliamentarians and staff feel welcome and essential to the life of the Assembly. His strong management skills and vision reinvigorated the secretariat in Brussels and helped the Assembly adjust to an increasingly perilous and complex security environment characterized by new challenges like terrorism, cyber-attacks, hybrid warfare, and an ever more revanchist Russia.

It should hardly be surprising that this vital institution dedicated to parliamentary diplomacy flourished under David Hobbs' stewardship. He leaves the NATO Parliamentary Assembly a stronger and more vibrant organization. He has dedicated himself to preserving history's greatest alliance, which requires great patience, diplomacy, hard work, and faith. Mr. Hobbs's tenure will be remembered for his grace, the active listening he deployed to ensure that everyone always felt heard, the respect he showed all delegates and staff, and the stability he brought to this vital alliance.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, December 10, 2019 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 11

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider S. 2204, to allow the Federal Communications Commission to carry out a pilot program under which voice service providers could block certain automated calls, S. 2363, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to establish a Telecommunications Workforce Development Advisory Council within the Federal Communications Commission, S. 2381, to require review by the Government Accountability Office of screening protocols of the Transportation Security Administration relating to breast milk and formula, S. 2638, to amend title 49, United States Code, to require small hub airports to construct areas for nursing mothers, S. 2661, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to designate 9-8-8 as the universal telephone number for the purpose of the national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system operating through the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and through the Veterans Crisis Line, S. 2730, to establish and ensure an inclusive transparent Drone Advisory Committee, S. 2786, to establish a Federal advisory committee to provide policy recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation on positioning the United States to take advantage of emerging opportunities for Arctic maritime transportation, S. 2802, to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to reauthorize and modify the John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue and Response Grant Program, S. 2881, to require the Federal Communications Commission to make not less than 280 megahertz of spectrum available for terrestrial use, S. 2898, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for a full annuity supplement for certain air traffic controllers, S. 2909, to extend the authority of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to enter into leases of non-excess property of the Administration, S. 2964, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend the authority of the Secretary of Transportation to issue non-premium aviation insurance, S. 2979, to improve drug testing for transportation-related activities, and S. 2981, to reauthorize and amend the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Act of 2002; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nomination of Thomas B. Chapman, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board.

SD-G50

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 2641, to promote United States national secu-

urity and prevent the resurgence of ISIS, S. 2547, to state the policy of the United States with respect to the expansion of cooperation with allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific region and Europe regarding the People's Republic of China, S. 2977, to extend the termination of sanctions with respect to Venezuela under the Venezuela Defense of Human Rights and Civil Society Act of 2014, S. 1310, to strengthen participation of elected national legislators in the activities of the Organization of American States and reaffirm United States support for Organization of American States human rights and anti-corruption initiatives, S. 1830, to enhance the security of the United States and its allies, S. 704, to prioritize the efforts of and enhance coordination among United States agencies to encourage countries in Central and Eastern Europe to diversify their energy sources and supply routes, increase Europe's energy security, and help the United States reach its global energy security goals, S. 1189, to require the Secretary of State to determine whether the Russian Federation should be designated as a state sponsor of terrorism and whether Russian-sponsored armed entities in Ukraine should be designated as foreign terrorist organizations, S. 482, to strengthen the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, to combat international cybercrime, and to impose additional sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation, S.J. Res. 4, requiring the advice and consent of the Senate or an Act of Congress to suspend, terminate, or withdraw the United States from the North Atlantic Treaty and authorizing related litigation, S. Con. Res. 23, honoring the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge fought during World War II, recognizing the valiant efforts of the Allied Forces in December 1944, and remembering those who made the ultimate sacrifice, all of which contributed to the Allied victory in the European Theater, S. Res. 142, condemning the Government of the Philippines for its continued detention of Senator Leila De Lima, calling for her immediate release, S. Res. 152, expressing the importance of the United States alliance with the Republic of Korea and the contributions of Korean Americans in the United States, S. Res. 260, recognizing the importance of sustained United States leadership to accelerating global progress against maternal and child malnutrition and supporting the commitment of the United States Agency for International Development to global nutrition through the Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Strategy, S. Res. 297, commending the Inter-American Foundation (IAF) on the occasion of its 50th anniversary for its significant accomplishments and contributions to the economic and social development of the Americas, S. Res. 343, congratulating the people of the Czech Republic and the people of the Slovak Republic on the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution, the 26th anniversary of the formation of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic, and the 101st anniversary of the declaration of independence of Czechoslovakia, S. Res. 371, reaffirming the support of the United States for the people of the Republic of South Sudan and calling on all parties to uphold their commitments to peace and dialogue as outlined in the 2018 revitalized peace