

Senator from Arizona modify her request to add that when the Senate receives the papers on H.R. 2030, and if the text is identical to S. 1057, the bill be considered read three times and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Does the Senator from Arizona so modify her request?

Ms. MCSALLY. Mr. President, I would gladly modify my request. It seems that our House colleagues—again, both sides of the aisle—will be passing an identical version of our bill tonight. As we talked about, this is urgent. It is urgent for Arizona. It is urgent for all the seven States that rely on the Colorado River. So the fastest way we can get this legislation to the President's desk is what I support. I support this modification.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the modified proposal?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

The bill (S. 1057) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1057

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 “Colorado River Drought Contingency Plan Authorization Act”.

SEC. 2. COLORADO RIVER BASIN DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law expressly addressing the operation of the applicable Colorado River System reservoirs, immediately upon execution of the March 19, 2019, versions of the Agreement Concerning Colorado River Drought Contingency Management and Operations and the agreements attached thereto as Attachments A1, A2, and B, by all of the non-Federal parties thereto, the Secretary of the Interior shall, without delay, execute such agreements, and is directed and authorized to carry out the provisions of such agreements and operate applicable Colorado River System reservoirs accordingly.

(b) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section shall—

(1) be construed or interpreted as precedent for the litigation of, or as altering, affecting, or being deemed as a congressional determination regarding, the water rights of the United States, any Indian Tribe, band, or community, any State or political subdivision or district of a State, or any person; or

(2) exempt the implementation of such agreements and the operation of applicable Colorado River System reservoirs from any requirements of applicable Federal environmental laws.

Ms. MCSALLY. Mr. President, I want to thank you, and I want to thank Senator CORTEZ MASTO and all of our colleagues for supporting this critical legislation. It is now going to allow immediate action to increase the water security for Arizona and all of the seven Colorado River Basin States.

We just introduced this legislation last Tuesday. By acting so quickly, the Lower Basin States will be able to im-

mediately begin saving hundreds of thousands of acre-feet of water behind Hoover Dam, and this will dramatically reduce the risk of reaching critically low reservoir levels and ensure that Mexico's water contribution to Lake Mead will be made beginning next year.

We worked hand in hand with Chairman GRIJALVA to develop this legislation. As I said, we have identical bills passing now in the House and the Senate on the same day. I want to thank our House colleagues, Chairman GRIJALVA, Ranking Member BISHOP, and I want to thank all the staff on both sides of the House and the Senate. This bipartisan, bicameral effort only came into fruition because of their hard work over these last years and days to make this happen. Thanks again to everybody.

This is a really great day for the Colorado River Basin and for Arizonans.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MARY SKEENS

• Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, I wish to recognize a friend and colleague, Mary Skeens, who has been a tireless advocate for affordable housing for West Virginians. Mary is retiring as the executive director of Community Works where she has spent the last 12 of her 40-year housing career.

A native of Kentucky, Mary realized at an early age that not every family in a warm, secure home. Her pressing concern for the living conditions of her classmates and peers led her into a career in housing. In 1990, her husband, Jim, had a desire to return to his family farm in Roane County, WV. This allowed Jim to return to his Mountaineer roots, and Mary embraced her new adopted home State and entered the housing profession.

Mary started her housing career as manager at a senior living high-rise apartment complex in Dunbar. She was later offered a position at the West Virginia Housing Development Fund as the head of the community development office overseeing the newly-created HOME Program during President Clinton's Administration. Mary worked with nonprofit housing agencies all over West Virginia in an effort to qual-

ify as them as community Housing Development Organizations, also known as a CHDOs. Over the next 10 years, Mary worked with numerous housing providers to develop many worthwhile projects that serve West Virginians to this day, creating domestic violence shelters, affordable multifamily rental complexes, and affordable housing subdivisions in underserved areas of our State. Mary is well known throughout West Virginia for her housing finance skills and her ability to provide much-needed technical assistance.

In 2007, Mary became executive director of Community Works in West Virginia. This agency was newly created and in its early years of operation. Community Works is a licensed mortgage lender providing home ownership loans, owner occupied rehabilitation loans, and a commercial loan program to its nonprofit housing member organizations. Mary stepped in and grew the agency by expanding its reach. This agency's work can be seen in most every housing development in the State through its loan programs and outreach. In addition to providing affordable financing opportunities, Mary has overseen many initiatives to improve housing policy and awareness that will affect this industry for years to come. She has also dedicated much time serving on many housing related boards of directors, and, as a result of her work, was inducted into the West Virginia Affordable Housing Hall of Fame in 2012.

Mary has accomplished so much in her years of service to West Virginia's housing community. I would like to thank Mary for aiding our State and its residents by providing safe, decent, and affordable housing to so many citizens who could not have afforded it otherwise.

Thank you for working with me and my staff over the years to serve as a resource on housing policy. I wish you well in your retirement. It is truly an honor to call you a friend and fellow West Virginian. •

RECOGNIZING THE EMPORIUM SENIOR CENTER AND THE CLEARFIELD SENIOR CENTER

• Mr. CASEY. Mr. President. I recently visited two senior centers in Pennsylvania, the Emporium Senior Center in Cameron County and the Clearfield Senior Center in Clearfield County, to discuss issues on the minds of older Pennsylvanians and those who serve them. We spoke about the need to protect Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security; the importance of bringing down the high cost of prescription drugs; and how to prevent con artists from scamming older adults out of their hard-earned savings.

We must continue to support senior centers and other gathering places for older adults. For many, senior centers are a hub for services and a place where older Americans find a sense of community and belonging. They are the

place where seniors gather with friends to socialize, look for help with everyday challenges, and learn about timely topics. I am pleased that the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging, of which I am the ranking member, has examined ways to enhance the services and supports that senior centers provide. I'd like to commend the Emporium Senior Center and Clearfield Senior Center for the excellent services that they provide seniors and important role they play in the community.●

TRIBUTE TO JOHN BARTHELMESES

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, today I would like to recognize Mr. John Barthelmes of Hopkinton, NH, and celebrate his well-deserved retirement after years of service to New Hampshire and America.

In 1976, John began his career in public service as a State trooper in New Hampshire's North Country, where he fell in love with his wonderful wife, Jadean. He then rose through the ranks to become colonel of New Hampshire State Police, a position he held from 1996 to 1999. After retiring from the State police, John served as the director of the New England High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Area agency, until 2007 when Governor Lynch appointed him to serve as commissioner of the department of safety. I am proud and honored that, as Governor, I had the opportunity to reappoint this exceptional public servant to lead our department of safety.

As commissioner, John has focused on maintaining New Hampshire's status as one of the safest States in the Nation and on improving services for our citizens. Under his leadership, the department has effectively managed severe weather events and other emergencies. He also oversaw the merger of the State police and highway patrol and the overhaul of the State police officer recruitment process.

Additionally, under John's leadership, the department has dramatically reduced wait times at the Division of Motor Vehicles, given citizens the option to renew their drivers' licenses online, and undertaken a number of other improvements.

Underscoring his commitment to helping the people of New Hampshire, John is an outspoken advocate for treatment options for behavioral health and has served on the board of Riverbend Community Mental Health. John also serves on the New Hampshire Advisory Council on Emergency Preparedness and Security and the Governor's Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery.

But as impressive as John Barthelmes' service, effectiveness, and achievements are, it is his insight, even-keeled demeanor, and extraordinary kindness that distinguishes him the most. A man of impeccable character and deep understanding of the human condition, John Barthelmes

broadened the outlook of everyone he worked with and gave hope to all he served.

Ensuring the safety of our people and communities is the most important role of government. Doing it with the skill, professionalism, and wisdom that John Barthelmes exhibited throughout his career is extraordinary.

I thank John for his dedication to keeping our people and communities safe, and I thank John's family for their willingness to share him with the people of New Hampshire.

I hope you will join me in honoring a dedicated Granite Stater, John Barthelmes.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

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

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 4:02 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. 725. An act to change the address of the postal facility designated in honor of Captain Humayun Khan.

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

At 4:04 p.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 joint resolution, without amendment:

S.J. Res. 7. Joint resolution to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities in the Republic of Yemen that have not been authorized by Congress.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 829. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1450 Montauk Highway in Mastic, New York, as the "Army Specialist Thomas J. Wilwerth Post Office Building".

H.R. 1585. An act to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that pursuant to sections 5580 and 5581 of the revised statutes (20 U.S.C. 42-43), and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Speaker appoints the fol-

lowing Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: Mr. SHIMKUS of Illinois.

The message also announced that pursuant to 36 U.S.C. section 101, the Minority Leader appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the United States Semiquincentennial Commission: Mr. HOLDING of North Carolina and Mr. ADERHOLT of Alabama.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 829. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1450 Montauk Highway in Mastic, New York, as the "Army Specialist Thomas J. Wilwerth Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, April 8, 2019, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 725. An act to change the address of the postal facility designated in honor of Captain Humayun Khan.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 315. A bill to authorize cyber hunt and incident response teams at the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-27).

By Mr. HOEVEN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

S. 212. A bill to amend the Native American Business Development, Trade Promotion, and Tourism Act of 2000, the Buy Indian Act, and the Native American Programs Act of 1974 to provide industry and economic development opportunities to Indian communities (Rept. No. 116-28).

S. 294. A bill to establish a business incubators program within the Department of the Interior to promote economic development in Indian reservation communities (Rept. No. 116-29).

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 Ms. McSALLY (for herself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. ROMNEY, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. LEE, Mr. ENZI, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. UDALL, Mr. HEINRICH, and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 1057. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to execute and carry out agreements concerning Colorado River Drought Contingency Management and Operations, and for other purposes; considered and passed.