

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(2) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§288b(a) and 288c(a)(2), the Senate may direct its counsel to represent current and former Members and employees of the Senate with respect to any subpoena, order, or request for testimony relating to their official responsibilities;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may, by the judicial or administrative process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate; and

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may promote the administration of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistent with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That Ariana Morales, an employee of the Office of Senator Catherine Cortez Masto, and any other current or former employee of the Senator's office from whom relevant evidence may be necessary, are authorized to testify in the case of *State of Nevada v. Lacamera*, except concerning matters for which a privilege should be asserted.

SEC. 2. The Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Senator Cortez Masto and any current or former employees of the Senator's office in connection with the production of evidence authorized in section one of this resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and the distinguished Democratic leader, Mr. SCHUMER, I send to the desk a resolution authorizing the production of testimony and representation by the Senate Legal Counsel, and ask for its immediate consideration.

Mr. President, this resolution concerns a request for evidence in a criminal action pending in Nevada State court. In this action the defendant is charged with threatening or attempting to intimidate public officials in voicemails he left with the Las Vegas office of Senator CORTEZ MASTO. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for May 8, 2019.

The prosecution is seeking testimony from one of the Senator's staff assistants who listened to the voicemails at issue. Senator CORTEZ MASTO would like to cooperate with this request by providing relevant employee testimony from her office.

The enclosed resolution would authorize that staffer, and any other current or former employee of the Senator's office from whom relevant testimony may be needed, to testify in this criminal action, with representation by the Senate Legal Counsel.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 193—DESIGNATING MAY 18, 2019, AS “KIDS TO PARKS DAY”

Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. HEINRICH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 193

Whereas the 9th annual Kids to Parks Day will be celebrated on May 18, 2019;

Whereas the goals of Kids to Parks Day are—

- (1) to promote healthy outdoor recreation and environmental stewardship;
- (2) to empower young people; and
- (3) to encourage families to get outdoors and visit the parks and public land of the United States;

Whereas, on Kids to Parks Day, individuals from rural and urban areas of the United States can be reintroduced to the splendid national, State, and neighborhood parks located in their communities;

Whereas communities across the United States offer a variety of natural resources and public land, often with free access, to individuals seeking outdoor recreation;

Whereas the people of the United States, young and old, should be encouraged to lead more healthy and active lifestyles;

Whereas Kids to Parks Day is an opportunity for families to take a break from their busy lives and come together for a day of active, wholesome fun; and

Whereas Kids to Parks Day will—

- (1) broaden an appreciation for nature and the outdoors in young people;
- (2) foster a safe setting for independent play and healthy adventure in neighborhood parks; and
- (3) facilitate self-reliance while strengthening communities: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

- (1) designates May 18, 2019, as “Kids to Parks Day”;

- (2) recognizes the importance of outdoor recreation and the preservation of open spaces to the health and education of the young people of the United States; and

- (3) encourages the people of the United States to observe Kids to Parks Day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I have 5 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 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, May 7, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “Privacy rights and data collection in a digital economy.”

#### COMMITTEE HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 7, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “Making electronic health information available to patients and providers.”

#### COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 7, 2019, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing on the

following nominations: Dale Cabaniss, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office of Personnel Management, and Michael Eric Wooten, of Virginia, to be Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy.

#### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 7, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a business meeting and hearing entitled “Intellectual property and the price of prescription drugs.”

#### SUBCOMMITTEE ON REGULATORY AFFAIRS AND FEDERAL MANAGEMENT

The Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 7, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### APPOINTMENTS

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to Public Law 94-304, as amended by Public Law 99-7, appoints the following Senators as members of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki) during the 116th Congress: the Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN of Maryland; the Honorable SHELDON WHITEHOUSE of Rhode Island; the Honorable TOM UDALL of New Mexico; the Honorable JEANNE SHAHEEN of New Hampshire.

The Chair, on behalf of the President of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 106-286, appoints the following Members to serve on the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: the Honorable DIANNE FEINSTEIN of California; the Honorable JEFF MERKLEY of Oregon; the Honorable GARY C. PETERS of Michigan; the Honorable ANGUS S. KING Jr. of Maine.

#### AUTHORIZING TESTIMONY AND REPRESENTATION IN STATE OF NEVADA V. LACAMERA

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 192, submitted earlier today.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 192) to authorize testimony and representation in the State of Nevada v. Lacamera.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 192) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### KIDS TO PARKS DAY

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 193, submitted earlier today.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 193) designating May 18, 2019, as "Kids to Parks Day".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. KENNEDY. I further ask that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 193) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### COMMENDING THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 61, S. Res. 96.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 96) commending the Government of Canada for upholding the rule of law and expressing concern over actions by the Government of the People's Republic of China in response to a request from the United States Government to the Government of Canada for the extradition of a Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd. executive.

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

Mr. KENNEDY. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 96) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of March 6, 2019, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2019

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, May 8; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two Leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Bianco nomination under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senators MENENDEZ and WHITEHOUSE.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 20 minutes.

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

#### MUELLER REPORT

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I come to the floor to once again discuss U.S. policy toward the Russian Federation. I fear this body is in the grips of a paralysis that has rendered us flat-footed in the face of a multitude of threats from Russia. This is not a paralysis due to a lack of knowledge, lack of facts, or lack of intelligence. It is a paralysis of our politics, a paralysis born out of a lack of political will to do what is necessary in the absence of Presidential leadership, a lack of will to stand up for our national security, a lack of will to defend our Democratic institutions, a lack of will to fulfill the oath that every single Member of this Chamber swore to uphold.

The inaction from this body since the beginning of the year on Russia has been astounding. It gives me no pleasure to think that political considerations could be compromising the Republican majority's willingness to respond robustly to the Russia threat, but how else can I explain why the party of Reagan has gone missing? What force, other than politics, can explain our failure to demand the administration robustly respond to Russia's seizure of Ukrainian ships in the Kerch Strait in the high seas in international waters? What force other than politics can explain our feeble response to Russia's chemical attack in the United Kingdom? What force other than poli-

tics can explain our failure to thwart Russia's hand in Syria and allow Putin to sit back and enjoy the political instability spawned in Europe by the resulting migration crisis? What force other than politics can have us playing right into Putin's hands? What force other than politics can explain the remarks made earlier today by Majority Leader McCONNELL in which he suggested that Democratic efforts to assess the full and unredacted Mueller report are impeding the ability of this body to shore up our election security?

Well, that is really rich. I might remind the American people that it was the majority leader who, when presented by top intelligence officials in the Obama administration with Russian efforts to help President Trump's candidacy, blocked efforts to inform the public?

Look, I am not here today to talk about conspiracy or obstruction or President Trump. Make no mistake, those issues are deeply concerning, and contrary to the majority leader's words, the case is not closed. The case is not closed. However, there will be other opportunities to address these issues, and when it comes to shoring up our defenses, we are running out of time.

So as the ranking member on the Foreign Relation Committee, I am here to flash a red warning light about what the Mueller report means for our national security, what it means for America's geopolitical standing with respect to Russia, what it means for our credibility on the world stage as Democratic institutions are attacked.

I am worried that in the face of Russian aggression, we are getting lost, not in the fog of war but in the fog of politics, and our inaction today will have consequences that outlast any Presidency, haunting us for years or even decades to come.

Let's review what we know about the Russian threat and how long we have known about it. It was over 2 years ago, in January of 2017, when the Director of National Intelligence determined that Russia interfered in the 2016 election. Our intelligence community released that assessment that concluded Russia's efforts to influence the 2016 Presidential election "demonstrated a significant escalation in directness, level of activity, and scope of effort compared to previous operations."

They concluded that this attack was ordered by President Putin himself and that "Putin and the Russian Government developed a clear preference for President-elect Trump."

They concluded Russia's efforts "[B]lend[ed] covert intelligence operations—such as cyber activity—with overt efforts by Russian Government agencies, state-funded media, third-party intermediaries, and paid social media users or 'trolls' to undermine our 2016 elections."

In addition, our intelligence community warned that "Moscow will apply lessons learned from its Putin-ordered