

Dr. Lal was highly respected and celebrated in his field, earning recognition from the Alabama House of Representatives in 1985 for his achievements on NASA's Spacelab-3 experiment. He was also awarded NASA's Public Service Achievement award for those same achievements by NASA Administrator James C. Fletcher. Dr. Lal was selected for the Professional of the Year award by the Huntsville Association of Technical Societies, the Noble prize in Science by the National Association for Equal opportunity in Higher Education, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from AAMU Research Institute.

Dr. Lal will be dearly missed by all whose lives he touched, both through his work as a brilliant educator and scientist and as a pillar in the Huntsville community. Both Alabama and the United States have benefited immeasurably from his contributions to the field of physics and space research.●

REMEMBERING DEB BOWMAN

• Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life of Deb Bowman.

There is a difference between public servants and bureaucrats, and we have known or dealt with both. Our office spends an incredible amount of time and energy helping constituents bust through the Federal bureaucracy, and unfortunately, we often bump heads with federal bureaucrats. It is time-consuming and aggravating for constituents. After experiences like these, we unfortunately have a tendency to stereotype all government employees in that manner.

Thankfully, that is not always the case. There are examples of legitimate public servants, often behind the scenes, who truly seek to make the lives of our citizens better. One of those special individuals is Deb Bowman.

Deb Bowman was the truest, most sincere—and brutally honest—public servant I have had the honor of knowing.

For those of us who knew Deb, especially her family—her husband Randy, her children Brooke and Jessamine, and her grandkids—our hearts ache. At just 65 years old, Deb passed away on September 17, 2019, after a fairly recent lung cancer diagnosis. Years earlier, Deb became a kidney transplant recipient, and I believe that experience and the other hardships in her life shaped her view of public service.

Deb was a loyal friend who worked with me while I served as Governor. She was a tremendous asset on my 2002 transition team, as a senior adviser and cabinet secretary. Prior to that, Deb was an adviser to Governors Mickelson and Janklow and she went on to serve Governor Daugaard before her retirement in 2014.

It is not hard to understand how four Governors saw the same value and passion in Deb. It is a testament to the legacy she has left.

Deb was a fierce conversationalist. Her ability to identify with those less fortunate was her signature quality. She was able to put a “face” on the policy decisions that were made and reminded Governors, legislators, and State employees that the monetary and policy decisions we make impact real people and families. She was a tough and relentless advocate for those less fortunate. And she inspired understanding about the role society and State government played when it came to children, the poor, and the elderly.

Often, Deb would be outright arguing a position with me, and she would say, “Oh now come on Governor, that’s ‘bullcrap’, have you considered . . .” Needless to say, Deb won those debates multiple times, and our State is better off for it.

She understood that her value was not mimicking the opinions being expressed around the table. She brought compassion to her advocacy, and I believe it made me a better Governor. Her service was not without sacrifice. On top of time away from her family and the strain upon her health, her empathy was so deep and pure that she carried the weight of the vulnerable through long hours and personal anguish. Yet despite many times being dismissed as the lone, unpopular voice, she would take a drive around the capitol, think over her argument, and show up with a new line of reasoning. She was persistent.

When I think of the rare public servant like Deb, I am reminded of Matthew 23:11: “The greatest among you must be a servant.” Deb was a phenomenal public servant, for all the right reasons.

Deb could have been the CEO of any organization and made a bunch more money. She was intelligent, a hard worker, a professional, a leader. She chose public service, and in doing so, she was a friend, to me and to many.

Thank you, Deb, for showing all of us what a true public servant looks like.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As 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 appropriate committees.

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

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO PERSONS WHO COMMIT, THREATEN TO COMMIT, OR SUPPORT TERRORISM THAT WAS ESTABLISHED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13224 ON SEPTEMBER 23, 2001—PM 30

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days before the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, is to continue in effect beyond September 23, 2019.

The crisis constituted by the grave acts of terrorism and threats of terrorism committed by foreign terrorists, including the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, in New York and Pennsylvania and against the Pentagon, and the continuing and immediate threat of further attacks on United States nationals or the United States that led to the declaration of a national emergency on September 23, 2001, has not been resolved. This crisis continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13224 with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, September 19, 2019.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:25 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4285. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend and modify certain authorities and requirements relating to the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

At 3:52 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by

Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4378. An act making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 2486. An act to reauthorize mandatory funding programs for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions.

H.R. 4378. An act making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2621. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Jerry D. Harris, Jr., United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2622. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Industrial Security Program (NISP)" (RIN0790-AI71) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2623. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Office of Inspector General (OIG) Privacy Program" (RIN0790-AK58) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 18, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2624. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Transitional Compensation (TC) for Abused Dependents" (RIN0790-AI99) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 18, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2625. A communication from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Technical Amendments to Update Cross-References to the Commission's FOIA Regulations" (17 CFR Parts 200, 201, 229, 230, and 240) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 18, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2626. A communication from the Chairman of the United States International Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Trade Authorities Extension: Economic Impact of Trade Agreements Implemented under the Bipartisan Trade Act of 2015"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2627. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress: The Child Welfare Sys-

tem Response to Sex Trafficking of Children"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2628. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a semiannual report detailing telecommunications-related payments made to Cuba pursuant to Department of the Treasury licenses; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2629. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services, to Taiwan to support the 30/40mm MK44 Bushmaster Automatic Cannon System and associated Ammunition Handling System for the Clouded Leopard Vehicle Program in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 19-010); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2630. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation's Office of Inspector General's Semi-annual Report to Congress and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation Management's Response for the period from October 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2631. A communication from the Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and a Management Report for the period from October 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2632. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report of the Chief Human Capital Officers Council for 2018; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2633. A communication from the Acting Chairman of the Administrative Conference of the United States, transmitting, a report of four recommendations adopted by the Administrative Conference of the United States at its 71st Plenary Session; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2634. A communication from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Promoting Telehealth in Rural America" (RIN3060-AF85) (FCC 19-78) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 17, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2635. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to Safety Standard for Infant Bouncer Seats" (16 CFR Part 1229) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 17, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-137. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of California urging

the United States Congress to enact legislation to repeal the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision from the Social Security Act; to the Committee on Finance.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3

Whereas, Two Federal Social Security Administration laws, the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset, passed by Congress more than 30 years ago without statistical analysis, diminish or eliminate the fully earned Social Security benefits or large numbers of public service employees in California; and

Whereas, These provisions affect workers who have been employed in a government position that is not coordinated with the Social Security program, such as California public school teachers who have not been able to receive Social Security credits since 1965; and

Whereas, Most peace officers, including the California Highway Patrol, firefighters, and many other public servants working for cities and special districts are not covered by Social Security, making them subject to these provisions; and

Whereas, In California, more than 300,000 retirees have had their Social Security benefits diminished or completely eliminated by these laws; and

Whereas, Effective government requires highly qualified and motivated personnel, and California government agencies need to compete to recruit and retain outstanding employees, including hiring 16,000 new public school teachers each year; and

Whereas, The recruitment and retention of qualified individuals reentering the workforce is impeded by these two provisions, which reduce or eliminate the Social Security retirement benefits either earned by workers, themselves, or received through dependent status; and

Whereas, The Government Pension Offset severely cuts, and usually eliminates, all spousal and survivor benefits that were earned from what is deemed by the State of California to be community property income; and

Whereas, The Government Pension Offset requires that a recipient of benefits report any yearly cost-of-living increase in the recipient's public pension, so that the recipient's Social Security benefits may be reduced by two-thirds of that amount; and

Whereas, The Windfall Elimination Provision cuts earned Social Security benefits from work that is separate from the work for which the individual earned a pension from a governmental entity; and

Whereas, The Windfall Elimination Provision subverts the purpose of Social Security retirement benefits by eliminating the formula that reimburses low-income workers at a higher rate than high-income workers, causing severe hardships for those who have not had high-paying public service; and

Whereas, Until 2005, there were no requirements that a public employer advise new workers that they would be subject to these penalties; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature requests that the Congress of the United States enact legislation to repeal the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision from the Social Security Act, and further requests that President Donald Trump sign that legislation; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary or the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the President and the Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the