

the most efficient and effective economic incentives to spur the development of additional new end-use markets for recyclable plastics (including plastic film), including the use of increased recycled content by manufacturers in the production of plastic goods and packaging.

**SEC. 308. REPORT ON MINIMIZING THE CREATION OF NEW PLASTIC WASTE.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The EPA Administrator, in coordination with the Interagency Marine Debris Coordinating Committee and the National Institute of Standards and Technology, shall conduct a study on minimizing the creation of new plastic waste.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the EPA Administrator shall submit to Congress a report on the study conducted under subsection (a) that includes—

(1) an estimate of the current and projected United States consumption of plastics, by type of plastic, including consumer food products;

(2) an estimate of the environmental effects and impacts of plastic use in relation to other materials;

(3) an estimate of current and projected future recycling rates of plastics, by type of plastic;

(4) an assessment of opportunities to minimize the creation of new plastic waste, including consumer food products, by reducing, recycling, reusing, refilling, refurbishing, or capturing plastic that would otherwise be part of a waste stream; and

(5) an assessment of what recycled content standards for plastic are technologically and economically feasible, and the impact of the standards on recycling rates.

**AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I have 2 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 THE JUDICIARY**

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, January 9, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the following nominations: Andrew Lynn Brasher, of Alabama, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, John Charles Hinderaker, and Scott H. Rash, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Arizona, Joshua M. Kindred, to be United States District Judge for the District of Alaska, Matthew Thomas Schelp, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri, and Stephen A. Vaden, of Tennessee, to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade.

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE**

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, January 9, 2020, at 2 p.m., to conduct a closed hearing.

**UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2019**

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 289, S. 2629.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2629) to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the Public Health Service Corps.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the "United States Public Health Service Modernization Act of 2019".

**SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS.**

(a) COMMISSIONED CORPS AND READY RESERVE CORPS.—Section 203 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 204) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking "a Ready Reserve Corps for service in time of national emergency" and inserting "for service in time of a public health or national emergency, a Ready Reserve Corps"; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in the heading, by striking "RESEARCH" and inserting "RESERVE CORPS";

(B) in paragraph (1), by inserting "during public health or national emergencies" before the period;

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting "consistent with paragraph (1)" after "shall";

(ii) in subparagraph (C), by inserting "during such emergencies" after "members"; and

(iii) in subparagraph (D), by inserting "consistent with subparagraph (C)" before the period; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

"(3) STATUTORY REFERENCES TO RESERVE.—A reference in any Federal statute, except in the case of subsection (b), to the 'Reserve Corps' of the Public Health Service or to the 'reserve' of the Public Health Service shall be deemed to be a reference to the Ready Reserve Corps."

(b) DEPLOYMENT READINESS.—Section 203A(a)(1)(B) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 204a(a)(1)(B)) is amended by striking "Active Reserves" and inserting "Ready Reserve Corps".

(c) RETIREMENT OF COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.—Section 211 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 212) is amended—

(1) by striking "the Service" each place it appears and inserting "the Regular Corps";

(2) in subsection (a)(4), by striking "(in the case of an officer in the Reserve Corps)";

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking "or an officer of the Reserve Corps"; and

(ii) by inserting "or under section 221(a)(19)" after "subsection (a)"; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking "Regular or Reserve Corps" and inserting "Regular Corps or Ready Reserve Corps"; and

(4) in subsection (f), by striking "the Regular or Reserve Corps of".

(d) RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES, ETC. OF OFFICERS AND SURVIVING BENEFICIARIES.—Section 221 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 213a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the following:

"(19) Chapter 1223, Retired Pay for Non-Regular Service.

"(20) Section 12601, Compensation: Reserve on active duty accepting from any person.

"(21) Section 12684, Reserves: separation for absence without authority or sentence to imprisonment."; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking "Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare or his designee" and inserting "Secretary of Health and Human Services or the designee of such secretary";

(B) by striking "(b) The authority vested" and inserting the following:

"(b)(1) The authority vested";

(C) by striking "For purposes of" and inserting the following:

"(2) For purposes of"; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

"(3) For purposes of paragraph (19) of subsection (a), the terms 'Military department', 'Secretary concerned', and 'Armed forces' in such title 10 shall be deemed to include, respectively, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the Commissioned Corps."

(e) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—Title II of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 202 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in sections 204 and 207(c), by striking "Regular or Reserve Corps" each place it appears and inserting "Regular Corps or Ready Reserve Corps";

(2) in section 208(a), by striking "Regular and Reserve Corps" each place it appears and inserting "Regular Corps and Ready Reserve Corps"; and

(3) in section 205(c), 206(c), 210, and 219, and in subsections (a), (b), and (d) of section 207, by striking "Reserve Corps" each place it appears and inserting "Ready Reserve Corps".

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendment be agreed to and the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time.

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

The committee-reported amendment, in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the bill, as amended.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 2629), as amended, was passed.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

**RENAMING THE OYSTER BAY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE AS THE CONGRESSMAN LESTER WOLFF OYSTER BAY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 263 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 263) to rename the Oyster Bay National Wildlife Refuge as the Congressman Lester Wolff Oyster Bay National Wildlife Refuge.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

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

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. McCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 263) was passed.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

#### APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate joint resolutions introduced earlier today: S.J. Res. 65, 66, and 67.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolutions, en bloc.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the joint resolutions be passed and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

#### PROVIDING FOR THE REAPPOINTMENT OF JOHN FAHEY AS A CITIZEN REGENT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 65) providing for the reappointment of John Fahey as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S.J. RES. 65

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in accordance with section 5581 of the Revised Statutes (20 U.S.C. 43), the vacancy on the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, in the class other than Members of Congress, occurring by reason of the expiration of the term of John Fahey of Massachusetts on February 20, 2020, is filled by the reappointment of the incumbent. The reappointment is for a term*

*of six years, beginning on the later of February 20, 2020, or the date of the enactment of this joint resolution.*

#### PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF DENISE O'LEARY AS A CITIZEN REGENT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 66) providing for the appointment of Denise O'Leary as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S.J. RES. 66

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in accordance with section 5581 of the Revised Statutes (20 U.S.C. 43), the vacancy on the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, in the class other than Members of Congress, occurring by reason of the resignation of Barbara M. Barrett of Arizona on October 17, 2019, is filled by the appointment of Denise O'Leary of Colorado. The appointment is for a term of six years, beginning on the date of the enactment of this joint resolution*

#### PROVIDING FOR THE REAPPOINTMENT OF RISA LAVIZZO-MOUREY AS A CITIZEN REGENT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

The joint resolution (S. J. Res. 67) providing for the reappointment of Risa Lavizzo-Mourey as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S.J. RES. 67

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in accordance with section 5581 of the Revised Statutes (20 U.S.C. 43), the vacancy on the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, in the class other than Members of Congress, occurring by reason of the expiration of the term of Risa Lavizzo-Mourey of Pennsylvania on February 21, 2020, is filled by the reappointment of the incumbent. The reappointment is for a term of six years, beginning on the later of February 21, 2020, or the date of enactment of this joint resolution.*

#### NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION EXTENSION ACT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 925, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 925) to extend the authorization of appropriations for allocation to carry out approved wetlands conservation projects under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act through fiscal year 2024.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the Barrasso substitute amendment be agreed to and the bill, as amended, be considered read the third time.

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

The amendment (No. 1276), in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

The bill, as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. McCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the bill, as amended.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing none, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 925), as amended, was passed.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the Barrasso title amendment 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 title amendment (No. 1277) was agreed to as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the title)

Amend the title so as to read: "An Act to improve protections for wildlife, and for other purposes."

#### SAVE OUR SEAS 2.0 ACT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be discharged from further consideration of S. 1982, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title. The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1982) to improve efforts to combat marine debris, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sullivan substitute amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to, and the bill, as amended, be considered read the third time.

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

The amendment (No. 1278), in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

The bill, as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. McCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing none, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 1982), as amended, was passed.