

bills that became law, most of which he authored. He sponsored the America Competes Act of 2007; the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, greatly benefiting students in my home State of Maryland and nationwide; the 21st Century Cures Act of 2016; and the Opioid Crisis Response Act of 2018. He also authored legislation to modernize how songwriters are compensated for their works. The list goes on and on.

Senator ALEXANDER has been a champion of higher education reform, seeking to simplify the process of applying for financial aid and to increase access for all students. I have been proud to work with him to support and strengthen historically Black colleges and universities and minority serving institutions. On the environmental front, I had the opportunity to work with Senator ALEXANDER on legislation to end the dumping of mining waste into streams, the Appalachia Restoration Act of 2009.

Senator ALEXANDER is always courteous, an “eloquent listener,” and always eager to forge bipartisan solutions to our Nation’s problems. Just a few days ago, I know Senators and staff were delighted to listen to him play Christmas carols and hymns on the piano in the Hart atrium. We will greatly miss his calm and dignified presence in the Senate, but he has certainly earned the opportunity to spend more time with his beloved wife of 51 years, Honey; their children Leslee, Kathryn, Andrew, and William; and their nine grandchildren.

Senators ENZI, ROBERTS, and ALEXANDER have served in this institution for 66 years combined. Senator UDALL has served 12 years, and Senator GARDNER has served 6 years. Senators JONES and McSally did not have an opportunity to serve a full term, but all told, we are losing close to 90 years of dedicated service to the institution, our colleagues, their constituents, and all Americans. There is a tradition for departing Senators to give a farewell address, and most use the opportunity to bemoan the fact that the Senate has become less collegial and more partisan. I share that discontent and sadness. I think the best way we can pay appropriate tribute to the fine Members who are leaving at the end of this Congress is by rededicating ourselves to preserving and expanding on their legacy of bipartisanship. I want to express my deep admiration of and appreciation to Senators ALEXANDER, ENZI, GARDNER, JONES, MCSALLY, ROBERTS, and UDALL. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve with and learn from them, and I cherish our friendships.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:16 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, without amendment:

S. 3312. An act to establish a crisis stabilization and community reentry grant program, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The message further announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 212. An act 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.

S. 461. An act to strengthen the capacity and competitiveness of historically Black colleges and universities through robust public-sector, private-sector, and community partnerships and engagement, and for other purposes.

S. 900. An act to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Bozeman, Montana, as the Travis W. Atkins Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic.

S. 906. An act to improve the management of driftnet fishing.

S. 914. An act to reauthorize the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009, to clarify the authority of the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration with respect to post-storm assessments, and to require the establishment of a National Water Center, and for other purposes.

S. 1130. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the health of children and help better understand and enhance awareness about unexpected sudden death in early life.

S. 1342. An act to require the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere to update periodically the environmental sensitivity index products of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for each coastal area of the Great Lakes, and for other purposes.

S. 1869. An act to require the disclosure of ownership of high-security space leased to accommodate a Federal agency, and for other purposes.

S. 2216. An act to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to formally recognize caregivers of veterans, notify veterans and caregivers of clinical determinations relating to eligibility for the family caregiver program, and temporarily extend benefits for veterans who are determined ineligible for the family caregiver program, and for other purposes.

S. 2472. An act to redesignate the NASA John H. Glenn Research Center at Plum Brook Station, Ohio, as the NASA John H. Glenn Research Center at the Neil A. Armstrong Test Facility.

S. 3257. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 311 West Wisconsin Avenue in Tomahawk, Wisconsin, as the “Einar ‘Sarge’ H. Ingman, Jr. Post Office Building”.

S. 3461. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2600 Wesley Street in Greenville, Texas, as the “Audie Murphy Post Office Building”.

S. 3462. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 909 West Holiday Drive in Fate, Texas, as the “Ralph Hall Post Office”.

S. 4126. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 104 East Main Street in Port Washington, Wisconsin, as the “Joseph G. Demler Post Office”.

S. 4684. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 440 Arapahoe Street in Thermopolis, Wyoming, as the “Robert L. Brown Post Office”.

H.R. 1503. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act regarding the list under section 505(j)(7) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2468. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the preference given, in awarding certain allergies and asthma-related grants, to States that require certain public schools to have allergies and asthma management programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3976. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 12711 East Jefferson Avenue in Detroit, Michigan, as the “Aretha Franklin Post Office Building”.

H.R. 4356. An act to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to allow certain individuals to terminate contracts for telephone, multichannel video programming, or internet access service, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4983. An act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs communitybased outpatient clinic in Gilbert, Arizona, as the “Staff Sergeant Alexander W. Conrad Veterans Affairs Health Care Clinic”.

H.R. 4988. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 Walnut Street in Bordentown, New Jersey, as the “Clara Barton Post Office Building”.

H.R. 5123. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 476 East Main Street in Galesburg, Illinois, as the “Senior Airman Daniel Miller Post Office Building”.

H.R. 5273. An act to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a plan to increase to 100 percent the rates of scanning of commercial and passenger vehicles and freight rail entering the United States at land ports of entry along the border using large-scale, non-intrusive inspection systems to enhance border security, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5451. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 599 East Genesee Street in Fayetteville, New York, as the “George H. Bacer Post Office Building”.

H.R. 5597. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 305 Northwest 5th Street in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, as the “Clara Luper Post Office Building”.

H.R. 5663. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to give authority to the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, to destroy counterfeit devices.

H.R. 5972. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 Delaware Avenue, Suite 1, in Wilmington, Delaware, as the “Mary Ann Shadd Cary Post Office”.

H.R. 5983. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4150 Chicago Avenue in Riverside, California, as the “Woodie Rucker-Hughes Post Office Building”.

H.R. 6016. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14955 West Bell Road in Surprise, Arizona, as the “Marc Lee Memorial Post Office Building”.

H.R. 6100. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to clarify the criminalization of female genital mutilation, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6161. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1585 Yanceyville Street, Greensboro, North Carolina, as the “J. Howard Coble Post Office Building”.

H.R. 6192. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to honor the 100th anniversary of completion of coinage of the “Morgan Dollar” and the 100th anniversary of commencement of coinage of the “Peace Dollar”, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6418. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 509 Fairhope Avenue in Fairhope, Alabama, as the "William 'Jack' Jackson Edwards III Post Office Building".

H.R. 6435. An act to direct the Federal Trade Commission to develop and disseminate information to the public about scams related to COVID-19, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7088. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 111 James Street in Reidsville, Georgia, as the "Senator Jack Hill Post Office Building".

H.R. 7105. An act to provide flexibility for the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in caring for homeless veterans during a covered public health emergency, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a retraining assistance program for unemployed veterans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7259. An act to allow acceleration certificates awarded under the Patents for Humanity Program to be transferable.

H.R. 7347. An act to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Ann Arbor, Michigan, as the "Lieutenant Colonel Charles S. Kettles Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center".

H.R. 7502. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 South 16th Street in Clarinda, Iowa, as the "Jessie Field Shambaugh Post Office Building".

H.R. 7810. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3519 East Walnut Street in Pearland, Texas, as the "Tom Reid Post Office Building".

H.R. 8354. An act to establish the Servicemembers and Veterans Initiative within the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8611. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4755 Southeast Dixie Highway in Port Salerno, Florida, as the "Joseph Bullock Post Office Building".

H.R. 8810. An act to establish a national program to identify and reduce losses from landslide hazards, to establish a national 3D Elevation Program, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

At 7:42 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 joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 110. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes.

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. CANTWELL (for herself and Mr. WICKER):

S. 5075. A bill to prohibit deceptive acts or practices in connection with public health emergencies resulting from COVID-19; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BLUNT:

S. 5076. A bill to authorize the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate to delegate authority to approve payroll and personnel actions; considered and passed.

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 5077. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to adjust the limitations on Medicaid disproportionate share hospital payments; to the Committee on Finance.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 2886

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2886, a bill to prohibit the use of animal testing for cosmetics and the sale of cosmetics tested on animals.

S. 4547

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4547, a bill to improve the integrity and safety of horseracing by requiring uniform safety and performance standards, including a horseracing anti-doping and medication control program and a racetrack safety program to be developed and enforced by an independent Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority, and for other purposes.

S. 4838

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 4838, a bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to carry out a grant program to increase cooperation on post-traumatic stress disorder research between the United States and Israel.

S. 4859

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 4859, a bill to require the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to make recommendations for improving maternal and child health outcomes using remote physiologic monitoring devices and expanding coverage of such devices under Medicaid.

S. 4958

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4958, a bill to provide for a vaccine safety public awareness campaign.

S. 4966

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4966, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a 5-year extension of the carbon oxide sequestration credit, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION

By Mr. BLUNT:

S. 5076. A bill to authorize the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate to delegate authority to approve payroll and personnel actions; considered and passed.

S. 5076

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. AUTHORITY TO DELEGATE AUTHORITY TO APPROVE PAYROLL AND PERSONNEL ACTIONS.

Section 1201 of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1984 (2 U.S.C. 6598) is amended—

(1) by striking "all vouchers, for payment of moneys," and inserting "any voucher for payment of moneys, payroll action, or personnel action"; and

(2) by striking "any voucher, for payment of moneys," and inserting "any voucher for payment of moneys, payroll action, or personnel action".

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2721. Mr. BROWN proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2827, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of African American burial grounds, and for other purposes.

SA 2722. Mr. BROWN proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2827, *supra*.

SA 2723. Mr. BLUNT (for Mr. WICKER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2346, to improve the Fishery Resource Disaster Relief program of the National Marine Fisheries Service, and for other purposes.

SA 2724. Mr. BLUNT (for Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. SASSE)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3952, to require the imposition of sanctions with respect to foreign persons that have engaged in significant theft of trade secrets of United States persons, and for other purposes.

SA 2725. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2724 proposed by Mr. BLUNT (for Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. SASSE)) to the bill S. 3952, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2721. Mr. BROWN proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2827, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of African American burial grounds, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "African American Burial Grounds Study Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **BURIAL GROUND.**—The term "burial ground" means any natural or prepared physical location, whether originally below, on, or above the surface of the earth, into which human remains are deposited as a part of the death rite or ceremony of a culture.

(2) **SECRETARY.**—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service.

SEC. 3. AFRICAN AMERICAN BURIAL GROUNDS STUDY.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall conduct a study of ways to identify, interpret, preserve, and record unmarked, previously abandoned, underserved, or other burial grounds relating to the historic African American experience.

(b) **REQUIREMENTS.**—In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall consider—

(1) ways to engage with descendant, local, and other communities historically associated with identified burial grounds by geography, genealogy, or culture;

(2) appropriate processes to identify locations of unmarked and unrecorded African