

20. A determination has been made that Germany can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the technology being released as the U.S. Government. This potential sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives as outlined in the Policy Justification.

21. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to Germany.

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 appropriate committees.

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

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-618. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program: Revisions to the Vaccine Injury Table" (RIN0906-AB24) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 4, 2021; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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 Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 742. A bill to modify the exemption for trade secrets and commercial or financial information in the Freedom of Information Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. DAINES, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. THUNE):

S. 743. A bill to amend title VI of the Social Security Act to remove the prohibition on States and territories against lowering their taxes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 744. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require institutions of higher education to disclose hazing incidents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MARKEY, Ms.

ROSEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. WARREN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 745. A bill to make high-speed broadband internet service accessible and affordable to all Americans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 746. A bill to amend section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 to require the Secretary of Defense to initiate investigations and to provide for congressional disapproval of certain actions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Ms. WARREN):

S. 747. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for the adjustment of status of essential workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 748. A bill to provide for an extension of the temporary suspension of Medicare sequestration during the COVID-19 public health emergency; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. SASSE):

S. 749. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to enhance tax benefits for research activities; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. KING, Ms. WARREN, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 750. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that return information from tax-exempt organizations be made available in a searchable format and to provide the disclosure of the identity of contributors to certain tax-exempt organizations; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TESTER:

S. 751. A bill to establish a 5-year ban on individuals appointed to Executive Schedule positions and Members of Congress engaging in lobbying activities at the Federal level; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TESTER:

S.J. Res. 11. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to clarify the authority of Congress and the States to regulate corporations, limited liability companies, and other corporate entities established by the laws of any State, the United States, or any foreign state; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Ms. HIRONO):

S. Res. 109. A resolution designating April 2021 as "National Native Plant Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BURR (for himself and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. Res. 110. A resolution designating April 5, 2021, as "Gold Star Wives Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BURR (for himself and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. Res. 111. A resolution designating March 29, 2021, as "Vietnam Veterans Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. BLUNT):

S. Res. 112. A resolution to provide for the printing of the Senate Manual for the One Hundred Seventeenth Congress; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. BLUNT):

S. Res. 113. A resolution authorizing the printing of a collection of the rules of the committees of the Senate; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. INHOFE):

S. Res. 114. A resolution commending the United States African Development Foundation on the occasion of its 40th anniversary for creating pathways to prosperity for underserved communities on the African continent through community-led development; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 134

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 134, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a retraining assistance program for unemployed veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 196

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) were added as cosponsors of S. 196, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish an energy efficiency materials pilot program.

S. 212

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 212, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable tax credit against income tax for the purchase of qualified access technology for the blind.

S. 215

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 215, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require certain tax-exempt organizations to include on annual returns the names and addresses of substantial contributors, and for other purposes.

S. 306

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 306, a bill to provide a process for granting lawful permanent resident status to aliens from certain countries who meet specified eligibility requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 321

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine), the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr.

WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 321, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the members of the Women's Army Corps who were assigned to the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, known as the "Six Triple Eight".

S. 377

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 377, a bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors.

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 377, *supra*.

S. 382

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 382, a bill to establish the Office of the Ombudsperson for Immigrant Children in Government Custody, and for other purposes.

S. 452

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. 452, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Willie O'Ree, in recognition of his extraordinary contributions and commitment to hockey, inclusion, and recreational opportunity.

S. 517

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 517, a bill to provide for joint reports by relevant Federal agencies to Congress regarding incidents of terrorism, and for other purposes.

S. 582

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 582, a bill to prohibit the imposition of the death penalty for any violation of Federal law, and for other purposes.

S. 587

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 587, a bill to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to provide that the President or certain agency heads may remove the Inspector General, or place an Inspector General on non-duty status, only if certain conditions are satisfied, and for other purposes.

S. 590

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 590, a bill to establish limitations regarding Confucius Institutes, and for other purposes.

S. 636

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 636, a bill to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to submit to Congress an annual report on projects that are over budget and behind schedule, and for other purposes.

S. 656

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 656, a bill to ensure that organizations with religious or moral convictions are allowed to continue to provide services for children.

S. 664

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 664, a bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to review certain legislation in order to identify potential risks of duplication of and overlap with existing Federal programs, offices, and initiatives.

S. 682

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 682, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish a vaccine for COVID-19 to certain individuals who are not enrolled in the patient enrollment system of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

S. 687

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 687, a bill to advance a policy for managed strategic competition with the People's Republic of China.

S. 697

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 697, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the Bicentennial of Harriet Tubman's birth.

S. 702

At the request of Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 702, a bill to prohibit Federal funding of State firearm ownership databases, and for other purposes.

S. 706

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 706, a bill to modify a provision relating to adjustments of certain State apportionments for Federal highway programs, and for other purposes.

S. 723

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) and the Senator from

Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 723, a bill to amend the Small Business Act and the CARES Act to extend the covered period for the paycheck protection program, and for other purposes.

S. 730

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 730, a bill to amend title VI of the Social Security Act to remove the prohibition on States and territories against lowering their taxes.

S. RES. 97

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 97, a resolution calling on the Government of Ethiopia, the Tigray People's Liberation Front, and other belligerents to cease all hostilities, protect human rights, allow unfettered humanitarian access, and cooperate with independent investigations of credible atrocity allegations pertaining to the conflict in the Tigray Region of Ethiopia.

S. RES. 99

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 99, a resolution observing the 10th anniversary of the uprising in Syria.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 109—DESIGNATING APRIL 2021 AS "NATIONAL NATIVE PLANT MONTH"

Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Ms. HIRONO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 109

Whereas native plants are indigenous species that have evolved and occur naturally in a particular region, ecosystem, and habitat;

Whereas there are more than 17,000 native plant species in the United States, which include trees, shrubs, vines, grasses, and wildflowers;

Whereas native plants help prevent flooding, drought, and erosion and can help restore damaged ecosystems;

Whereas native plants provide shelter as well as nectar, pollen, and seeds that serve as food for native butterflies, insects, birds, and other wildlife in ways that non-native plants cannot;

Whereas more than 200 of the native plant species in the United States are estimated to have been lost since the early 19th century;

Whereas habitat loss and degradation, extreme weather events, and invasive species have contributed to the decline of native plants in the United States; and

Whereas native plants are essential components of resilient ecosystems and our natural heritage: Now, therefore, be it