

of faith, which is why religious freedom is known as America's first freedom, as laid out in the Establishment and the Free Exercise clauses of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The freedom of speech is guaranteed by the First Amendment and also supports America's unique focus on freedom of expression, including in matters of faith.

America's Judeo-Christian founding promotes religious diversity and tolerance. Our motto, "In God We Trust," further emphasizes the importance of faith in our Nation's founding. From our first President to the last, we have always acknowledged America's faith. President George Washington recognized "it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor." More recently, President Joe Biden acknowledged Thanksgiving as a "time to reflect on our many blessings—from God, this Nation, and each other."

Religious liberty serves to strengthen our country's appreciation of all peoples, regardless of faith. But eternal diligence is needed to preserve religious freedom. Attacks on religious liberty and people of faith continue to plague our Nation with some religious charities even being forced to betray the tenets of their faith in order to participate in certain government programs. We must actively reject all efforts to criminalize or cancel religious beliefs as somehow incompatible with our democracy.

Religious organizations in America have a rich history of charitable engagement by helping the sick, poor, and afflicted. They should be celebrated, not maligned for their contributions to improving our way of life. According to the Pew Research Center, more than 75 percent of Americans practice some type of religious faith. This rich, diverse religious heritage is to our credit and should be encouraged.

Therefore, I join millions of Americans during this Faith Month in celebrating their personal faiths freely and openly, with public displays and celebrations, including prayer and expressions of thanksgiving. In this manner, we can strongly reaffirm our commitment to the religious liberty principles of our founding.

TRIBUTE TO JACK LESLIE

Mr. COONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following letter honoring Jack Leslie, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

TRIBUTE TO JACK LESLIE

DEAR JACK, Congratulations on your retirement. It's hard to think of you as retired. In the decades since you got your career start in the United States Senate, working for Ted Kennedy, you have made a lasting difference throughout the world: in leading

Sawyer Miller; in your very long and incredibly successful run heading Weber Shandwick; in communications in the United States and around the world; and in your countless contributions to international organizations, to boards, and to leadership and development.

I thank Caroline, Web, and Finn, for sharing you with so many of us over so many years. I know you're excited to have more time to spend with the family, but I know you will continue your service to our nation as well.

Jack, you've been a leader on more boards than I can name, among them, Water.org, the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, the UNHCR American Advisory Committee, and of course, most importantly, in my view, the United States African Development Foundation. You've been appointed and reappointed by Senates with both Republican and Democrat majorities; by presidents, both Democrat and Republican. You've made an indelible mark here and around the world.

Thank you for your friendship, your advice, and your encouragement in my dozen years here in the Senate. And thank you for the incredible difference you've made with your heart, with your service, and with your charm, wit, and insights.

Sincerely,

CHRIS COONS.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO LEO KHAYET

• Mr. MARSHALL. Madam President, I rise today to honor and recognize Leo Khayet of Overland Park, KS. Leo has raised more than \$200,000 in an effort to help Ukrainian people in Odessa evacuate the country as Russia continues its attacks.

These invasions hit close to home for Leo. When Leo was younger, his family had to make the hard decision to relocate from Belarus for a better life. He lived in refugee camps in Austria and Italy for five months prior to arriving in Kansas City in 1989. Leo is now an entrepreneur in Overland Park, which gave him connections to multiple different businesses in the Kansas City area. When Russia invaded in late February, Leo gathered his resources from these leaders and organizations making his efforts to help possible.

Thus far, Leo has been successful in helping 2,000 Ukrainians flee to safety in Moldova. In an effort to continue helping victims of the war in Ukraine, Leo is planning on hosting another Zoom call and inviting more prominent business leaders in the area to gather and keep providing this humanitarian aid. It is truly honorable what he is doing to help the people of Ukraine. Leo said it best: "In this case, this has really brought out the best of the community here in Kansas. They're ready to save people who they have no clue who they are, that live thousands of miles away, they don't even share a common language with them, besides the fact that we're human beings and I think that is amazing." It truly is amazing to see what one man's ambition and determination can do to bring a community together and help those

in need. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the noble act of Leo Khayet and thank him for his dedication to help Ukraine.●

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

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.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3617. An act to decriminalize and deschedule cannabis, to provide for reinvestment in certain persons adversely impacted by the War on Drugs, to provide for expungement of certain cannabis offenses, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6833. An act to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act, the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to establish requirements with respect to cost-sharing for certain insulin products, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4521) to provide for a coordinated Federal research initiative to ensure continued United States leadership in engineering biology, and asks for a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two houses thereon.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 5:11 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 3294. An act to obtain and direct the placement in the Capitol or on the Capitol Grounds of a statue to honor Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States Sandra Day O'Connor and a statue to honor Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3617. An act to decriminalize and deschedule cannabis, to provide for reinvestment in certain persons adversely impacted

by the War on Drugs, to provide for expungement of certain cannabis offenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Con. Res. 20. A concurrent resolution condemning the October 25, 2021, military coup in Sudan and standing with the people of Sudan.

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

S. Res. 473. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on the necessity of maintaining the United Nations arms embargo on South Sudan until conditions for peace, stability, democracy, and development exist.

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble:

S. Res. 503. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Government of the People's Republic of China should immediately guarantee the safety and freedom of tennis star Peng Shuai.

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 735. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 502 East Cotati Avenue in Cotati, California, as the "Arturo L. Ibleto Post Office Building".

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 816. A bill to amend the Diplomatic Security Act of 1986 to provide for improved serious security incident investigations, and for other purposes.

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 1298. An act designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1233 North Cedar Street in Owasso, Oklahoma, as the "Technical Sergeant Marshal Roberts Post Office Building".

H.R. 2324. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2800 South Adams Street in Tallahassee, Florida, as the "D. Edwina Stephens Post Office".

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 3492. A bill to address the importance of foreign affairs training in national security, and for other purposes.

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 3539. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 223 West Chalan Santo Papa in Hagatna, Guam, as the "Atanasio Taitano Perez Post Office".

H.R. 3579. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 East Main Street in Maroa, Illinois, as the "Jeremy L. Ridden Post Office".

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 3591. A bill to strengthen the bilateral partnership between the United States and Ecuador in support of democratic institutions and rule of law, sustainable and inclusive economic growth, and conservation.

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 3613. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 202 Trumbull Street in Saint Clair, Michigan, as the "Corporal Jeffrey Robert Standfest Post Office Building".

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 3666. A bill to require reports on the adoption of a cryptocurrency as legal tender in El Salvador, and for other purposes.

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 3825. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3903 Melear Drive in Arlington, Texas, as the "Ron Wright Post Office Building".

S. 3826. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1304 4th Avenue in Canyon, Texas, as the "Gary James Fletcher Post Office Building".

S. 3884. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 404 U.S. Highway 41 North in Baraga, Michigan, as the "Cora Reynolds Anderson Post Office".

H.R. 4168. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6223 Maple Street, in Omaha, Nebraska, as the "Petty Officer 1st Class Charles Jackson French Post Office".

H.R. 5577. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3900 Crown Road Southwest in Atlanta, Georgia, as the "John R. Lewis Post Office Building".

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. DURBIN for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Stephanie Dawkins Davis, of Michigan, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit.

Robert Steven Huie, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California.

Evelyn Padin, of New Jersey, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey.

Jennifer H. Rearden, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Vanessa Roberts Avery, of Connecticut, to be United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut for the term of four years.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

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. PETERS (for himself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 3988. A bill to codify and authorize the Federal Communications Commission's establishment of a council to make recommendations on ways to increase the security, reliability, and interoperability of communications networks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CRAMER (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. HOEVEN):

S. 3989. A bill to provide that the Secretary of the Interior may not enter into certain

conservation easements with a term of more than 50 years, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 3990. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to prohibit certain securities trading and related communications by those who possess material, nonpublic information, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. LEAHY:

S. Res. 575. A resolution recognizing April 4, 2022, as the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action, and reaffirming the leadership of the United States in eliminating landmines and unexploded ordnance; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. LUJÁN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. Res. 576. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Public Health Week; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 79

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 79, a bill to eliminate the disparity in sentencing for cocaine offenses, and for other purposes.

S. 223

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 223, a bill to establish the Office to Enforce and Protect Against Child Sexual Exploitation.

S. 331

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 331, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the age requirement with respect to eligibility for qualified ABLE programs.

S. 350

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 350, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize certain programs under part A of title XI of such Act relating to genetic diseases, and for other purposes.

S. 904

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 904, a bill to require the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works to digitize