

## NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

## IN THE AIR FORCE

PN2462 AIR FORCE nominations (70) beginning KIMBERLYN. BARR, and ending BENJAMIN D. YOUNGQUIST, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 3, 2022.

PN2463 AIR FORCE nominations (61) beginning NATHAN J. ABEL, and ending BAI LAN ZHU, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 3, 2022.

PN2464 AIR FORCE nominations (91) beginning BILLY S. ALLEN, and ending JOSHUA D. WILD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 3, 2022.

PN2465 AIR FORCE nominations (302) beginning ALLEN Y. AGNES, and ending JOSE L. ZAMBRANO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 3, 2022.

PN2466 AIR FORCE nominations (10) beginning DANIEL A. BUNCH, and ending MICHAEL WILLIAM SUDEN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 3, 2022.

PN2467 AIR FORCE nominations (12) beginning DEAR BELOVED, and ending JOHN T. SZCZEPANSKI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 3, 2022.

PN2595 AIR FORCE nominations (60) beginning KARLA E. ADAMS, and ending JESSE M. WICKHAM, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 8, 2022.

PN2597 AIR FORCE nominations (12) beginning JACQUELINE E. BVLGARI, and ending KELLY L. VERMILLION, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 8, 2022.

PN2645 AIR FORCE nomination of Keenan E. Dalrymple, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2022.

PN2646 AIR FORCE nomination of Susan D. Baumgartner, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2022.

PN2647 AIR FORCE nomination of Stigen A. Westberg, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2022.

PN2648 AIR FORCE nomination of Beau D. Graham, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2022.

PN2649 AIR FORCE nomination of Kristen M. Barra, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2022.

PN2650 AIR FORCE nomination of Evans R. Wright, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2022.

PN2776 AIR FORCE nomination of Jeremy A. Krohngold, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 17, 2022.

PN2801 AIR FORCE nomination of Chandramouli Rajaram, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2022.

## IN THE ARMY

PN2425 ARMY nomination of Sean P. Hutchison, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 27, 2022.

PN2527 ARMY nomination of Andrew K. Arrington, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 6, 2022.

PN2802 ARMY nomination of Christopher A. Kreiler, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2022.

PN2803 ARMY nominations (3) beginning MICHAEL A. RIZZOTTI, and ending BRETT C. SHEPARD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2022.

PN2804 ARMY nomination of Ronald W. Sprang, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2022.

PN2805 ARMY nomination of Ryan C. Agee, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2022.

PN2806 ARMY nomination of Philip J. Deaguilera, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2022.

PN2807 ARMY nomination of Brian C. Beldowicz, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2022.

PN2808 ARMY nomination of Christopher A. Benson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2022.

## IN THE MARINE CORPS

PN2809 MARINE CORPS nominations (108) beginning DAVID AHN, and ending JAY M. ZARRA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2022.

## IN THE NAVY

PN2810 NAVY nomination of Tapeka C. Pringle, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2022.

## IN THE SPACE FORCE

PN2656 SPACE FORCE nomination of Ashton M. Shelton, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2022.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. KING. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 1259, 1260, 1294, 1295, and 1296; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc without intervening action or debate; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate resume legislative session.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the en bloc nominations of Kathleen Ann Kavalec, of California, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Romania; Jessica Davis Ba, of the District of Columbia, a Career Member of the Senior

Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire; Henry C. Leventis, of Tennessee, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Tennessee for the term of four years; Michael D. Black, of Ohio, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Ohio for the term of four years; and Catrina A. Thompson, of North Carolina, to be United States Marshal for the Middle District of North Carolina for the term of four years?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

## MORNING BUSINESS

## GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, stop me if you have heard this one before: Two atoms walk into a bar, they collide into one other at extreme speeds, under extreme heat, and they leave later that evening combined—as one, single element.

The process I have just described is known as nuclear fusion. For the past 60 years, it is a process that has only existed in theory—written on chalkboards and debated in lecture halls. But last week, everything changed, when the brilliant minds at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California made a breakthrough. For the first time in human history, these American researchers achieved what is known as fusion ignition.

They constructed the world's largest laser system—the size of a sports stadium—to recreate conditions that can only be found in the cores of stars and giant planets. And they harnessed that power to combine two particles into one, and as a result, they created more energy than was used to start the process. In other words, these federally funded researchers achieved a scientific feat that could pave the way for unlimited, carbon-free energy. And in the words of our Secretary of Energy, Jennifer Granholm, it is a breakthrough that “[only] happened because we invested in our national labs . . . and we invested in fundamental research.”

Now, let's be clear, this technology is a long way off from powering our homes and businesses, but it is a revolutionary proof of concept. These American researchers have proven that nuclear fusion—and, potentially, a carbon-free future—are possible.

And this remarkable breakthrough is a return to form for America: Throughout our history, our government has funded the revolutionary research considered too risky for investors in the private sector—the kinds of discoveries

that cost too much and take too long for private investors—but can change the world. And time and again, these Federal investments have paid off. Could you imagine the world economy today without the internet or the microchip? Well, both were the products of federally funded research. And both have created well-paying jobs for generations of families in our country. This new breakthrough in nuclear fusion proves that America is at its best when we pioneer the inventions and industries of tomorrow.

And that is exactly why we, in this Senate today, need to invest our Nation's capacity to innovate. We can't face tomorrow's challenges with yesterday's budget. But sadly, that is the reality we are faced with if Congress fails to pass a spending package by the end of this month.

Yes, it is that time of the year again in Washington: the end-of-year sprint to pass a government funding bill—also known as an omnibus. And as we approach the closing days of this Congress, we need to answer a fundamental question: Will we pass a government funding bill that adequately addresses our Nation's greatest challenges? Or we will give up and kick the can to the next Congress?

And this isn't just about funding for fundamental research; we are talking about the fundamental problems Americans face every single day. If we don't pass an omnibus in the next several days, the Federal Government will have to rely on what is known as a continuing resolution; it is essentially copying and pasting last year's budget into next year. Imagine if a high school student did that on a term paper; they would fail the class—and for good reason.

Fortunately, earlier this week, Senator LEAHY, Senator SHELBY, and Congresswoman DELAUNO announced a spending framework that will hopefully lead to an omnibus appropriations package to fully fund the government through the next fiscal year. That omnibus bill will support healthcare for our senior citizens and veterans, infrastructure projects to rebuild and revitalize our communities, and community violence prevention programs to keep our kids and families safe. These are real solutions to the urgent problems American families deal with every single day. In fact, over the past 2 years, this Senate has passed a number of policies to address those same problems—many of them bipartisan.

We passed the biggest infrastructure bill in a generation, to rebuild our roads and bridges and replace lead pipes in cities like Chicago. We passed the CHIPS and Science Act, to bring manufacturing jobs back to our shores and secure our domestic supply of a component that is critical in the 21st century economy. We passed the PACT Act, to keep our promise to America's veterans and help those suffering from toxic exposure during their time on the battlefield. And we also passed the Bi-

partisan Safer Communities Act, to combat the scourge of gun violence that has now become the No. 1 killer of America's children.

But here is the issue: If we leave Washington without passing a spending package, these policies will be little more than words on paper—because none of these initiatives will receive the funding they need to start helping American families. That is unacceptable; the American people have already shown that they support these policies.

How do we know that? Well, as members of this Senate, we voted on every one of those measures I just mentioned. They all passed. Last month, many of these same Senators touted their support for these measures in their reelection campaigns. And every single one of them was reelected—every single one. That hasn't happened since 1934. That is about as clear a message as you get in politics: The policies we have passed are popular—and even more important, they are necessary.

So how can we now turn around and tell the American people: Sorry, you will just have to wait a little longer. We have decided not to fund those promises we made? How can we tell that to the veteran who needs life-saving medical care today? Or the mother whose child is at risk of gun violence today? Or Americans who don't have access to safe drinking water today? These Americans have already waited too long, and they shouldn't have to wait a moment longer. We should do our job and fund the government.

Passing an omnibus also will bring millions of dollars in earmark funding that Senator DUCKWORTH and I have worked to secure for community projects in Illinois. These projects will improve our State's transportation systems, clean up our water, strengthen community violence prevention initiatives, expand access to healthcare, create jobs, and much more. But if we leave Washington without passing an omnibus, these projects will not receive the funding they need to move forward.

And worse yet, public safety will suffer. In my town of Springfield, our U.S. Attorney tells me his office needs Federal funding to hire more assistant U.S. Attorneys, who are on the frontlines of combating gun violence and violent crime. And across the country, there is a shortage of more than 750 assistant U.S. Attorneys. If we fail to pass a spending package, those shortages, which are a risk to public safety, will extend into next year. That would be a pitiful closing act for the 117th Congress, which has done a lot of good work for the American people.

So let's come together and finish the job. Let's fully fund the government before we leave for the holidays, so hard-working Americans can finally get the solutions they have been waiting on.

## ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 0V-22. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 22-15 of February 11, 2022.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCHE,  
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 0V-22

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(A), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Government of Australia.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 22-15; Date: February 22, 2022; Military Department: Air Force.

(iii) Description: On February 22, 2022 Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 22-15, of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of AN/AAQ 24(V)N Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCM) Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCM) component systems required to support an ongoing upgrade of its large Air Mobility Platforms, which include C-17As, KC-30As, and C-130Js. As such, the Government of Australia requested to buy twenty-seven (27) AN/AAQ 24(V)N Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCM) System Processor Replacements (LSPR) (27 installed, 0 spares); and thirty (30) Guardian Laser Turret Assemblies (GLTA) (30 installed, 0 spares). Also included were LAIRCM Control Indicator Unit Replacements (CIURs); Advanced Threat Missile Warning Sensors (ATWs); Smart Card Assemblies (SCAs); High Capacity Cards/User Data Memory Cards (HCCs/UDMs) (installed and spares); Simple Key Loaders; initial spares, consumables, and repair/return support; support and test equipment; integration and test support; personnel training, publications and technical documentation; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistical and