

hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

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

8. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Poland.

RECOGNIZING THE PENSION RIGHTS CENTER

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, today is a doubly special day. February 17 is the 46th anniversary of the founding of the Pension Rights Center. February 17 is also the birthday of Karen Ferguson, the long-time director of the Pension Rights Center, who passed away recently.

The Pension Rights Center as helmed by Ms. Ferguson was known as a tireless advocate for the right of workers and senior citizens to enjoy a dignified and secure retirement. Their passion for retirement security is something that I have also shared since the 1970s, when I helped to found the Oregon Gray Panthers, an organization dedicated to improving the lives of senior citizens. The support of the Pension Rights Center and Ms. Ferguson was instrumental in the passage of recent legislation such as the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement Act of 2019 and the financial assistance program for distressed multiemployer pension plans in the American Rescue Plan Act.

On this double anniversary, I urge my colleagues to reflect on the progress that has been made so far in improving retirement security in the United States and to double down in our efforts to fight for further improvement.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING KAREN FERGUSON

• Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and work of Karen Ferguson, the founder and president of the Pension Rights Center. Karen passed away in December. Today would have been her 81st birthday, and today also marks the 46th anniversary of Karen founding the Pension Rights Center.

Under Karen's steadfast leadership, the Pension Rights Center has been at the forefront of ensuring retirement security for all, from retirees in struggling multiemployer pension plans to women obtaining spousal shares of retirement plans to countless individuals seeking assistance through one of the center's pension counseling projects.

The Pension Rights Center was Karen's gift to all of us.

Karen will be remembered for her fierce determination and tireless advocacy on behalf of workers, women, and retirees. She also possessed an unparalleled depth of knowledge on retirement law, a subject many find intimidating. The world has lost a pension superhero. I salute Karen for her decades of service. She will be greatly missed.●

RECOGNIZING FARM GIRL GIFTS AND BAKE SHOP

• Mr. PAUL. Madam President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Kentucky small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Farm Girl Gifts and Bake Shop of Corydon, KY, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Entrepreneurship is undoubtedly a unique career path. I guarantee if you ask any small business owner about the genesis of their business, you will find that each start-up story is distinct in its own way. For Farm Girl Gifts and Bake Shop, baking had long been a hobby of founder and owner, Marganna Stanley, who spent the past 30 years working as an educator in the schools of Henderson County, the last 6 of which as Henderson County school superintendent. Though she has always been passionate about teaching, Marganna did not let her 2020 retirement stop her from chasing her other dream, that of owning her own business.

In late 2020, undeterred by the COVID-19 pandemic, Marganna opened Farm Girl Gifts and Bake Shop, a place where one could shop for gifts of all kinds, including glassware, skincare and bath products, children's books and toys, along with a host of local artisan products. Even with the wide array of gifts for sale, there are plenty of other attractions at Farm Girl, namely, the excellent home-cooking of Marganna and her staff. As the business name would indicate, baked goods are her specialty. The team at Farm Girl Gifts and Bake Shop work tirelessly to ensure that every customer has more than enough options to choose from. From cookies to layer cakes, muffins to pies, sourdough loaves to her signature tall cupcakes, Marganna and her team stay busy in the kitchen.

As the only restaurant in the town of Corydon, Marganna makes sure Farm Girl always has some hearty Kentucky cooking on hand to satisfy any appetite. Though sweets are Marganna's specialty, sub sandwiches, soups, and sliders are common attractions at Farm Girl Gifts and Bake Shop. Moreover, Marganna brings her experience as an educator and her love for teaching to her new business venture. When stocking her shelves with Christmas gifts for the holidays, she made sure to

include educational books and toys for young children. She keeps the Farm Girl atmosphere fun by creating competitions for her devoted customers. In the summer of 2021, she announced that the customer who bought Farm Girl's 10,000th tall cupcake would receive a \$100 prize. She ended 2021, her first full year in business, having sold 9,678 of these tall cupcakes. Shortly thereafter Farm Girl hit that 10,000 milestone and that \$100 bill found itself in one lucky customer's pocket. Her effort to bring a fun and engaging feeling to her business harkens back to Marganna's tenured career as an educator. Needless to say, his beloved presence in Henderson County is still brightening the faces of Corydon residents, young and old.

Farm Girl Gifts and Bake Shop is a wonderful example of how old passions can lead to new adventures. Always a great steward of her community, Marganna did not let a pandemic delay or deter her from pursuing her dream of serving Henderson County outside of the classroom. Always with a friendly smile, she continues on as a steadfast member of her community, and Henderson County parents and alumni alike make sure to stop by Farm Girl Gifts and Bake Shop to see her familiar face.

Congratulations to Marganna Stanley and the entire Farm Girl Gifts and Bake Shop team. I wish them the best of luck and look forward to watching their continued growth and success in Kentucky.●

TRIBUTE TO ED LEARY

• Mr. ROMNEY. Madam President, I rise today to recognize a remarkable Utahn who has recently announced his retirement after a long career of public service to our great State. Ed Leary has served honorably as commissioner of the Utah Department of Financial Institutions—DFI—for the past three decades, and his retirement marks the conclusion of 45 years at the agency.

His ascendancy through the ranks of the agency is a testament to his strong character, wealth of knowledge and expertise, and impressive leadership abilities. From first serving as examiner, to industry supervisor and chief examiner before his appointment as Utah banking commissioner in 1992, Ed Leary garnered the necessary experience to become an indispensable advocate of smart banking policy.

Ed's list of accomplishments during his tenure is a long one. To name just a few, he led his agency's successful effort to achieve accreditation of the Utah DFI, shepherded the development of Utah's industrial banks community, and was instrumental in reforming the regulatory environment to improve conditions for commerce, bolstering Utah's economic might. By virtue of his thoughtful policy advocacy, Ed has earned the trust and admiration of friends, colleagues, and associates in both the public and private sectors.

Thank you, Ed, for your decades of impressive service to the great State of Utah. You have set a robust example for public servants to follow in our financial, housing, and banking communities. We wish you and your family all the best in your next chapter.●

TRIBUTE TO RYAN COCHRAN-SIEGLE

● Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, the State of Vermont is remarkably proud of Ryan Cochran-Siegle, who won a silver medal at the Winter Olympics in Beijing in the men's super-G. This achievement is specially impressive considering it occurred just 13 months after Ryan underwent surgery to repair a broken neck. His comeback is truly remarkable.

It is not merely his success that Vermont honors, but the history of his family. Family is important in our State, which values community and continuity—both of which are embodied in family. Families—people who are linked by a shared home life, by a closeness to one another, by a mutual supportiveness—are at the heart of what our small State is about.

Ryan's mother, Barbara Ann, won the gold medal in Slalom at the Olympics in Sapporo, Japan, in 1972, nearly 50 years to the day before her son's medal. Barbara Ann was Ryan's first ski teacher, and he learned where she did: at the small, family operated, non-profit Cochran's Ski Area in Richmond, VT.

Cochran's was founded by Barbara Ann's parents, Mickey and Ginny Cochran, who were a remarkable pair of people. Mickey, who would become the alpine director of the U.S. National Ski Team, was not himself a champion skier, but an engineer and former University of Vermont football player, who valued family—and eventually skiing—above all else. Likewise, Ginny was dedicated to family and skiing. When they first established Cochran's Ski Area, it was a small, backyard operation. Today, it has grown into a center where generations of Vermont school children could learn to ski, still located on the small family hill.

Ginny and Mickey had four children, Barbara Ann, Marilyn, Bob, and Lindy. All were champion skiers and made the U.S. Olympic Team.

Among their many other skiing accomplishments, Marilyn Cochran Brown was a national champion three times, Bob Cochran was the first American man to win a World Cup in giant slalom, and Lindy Cochran Kelley won national slalom titles and was All American at University of Vermont—and, of course, Barbara Ann, Olympic slalom gold medalist and two-time national champion.

That tradition of family skiing excellence continued into the next generation, Mickey and Ginny's grandchildren. Lindy's children, Jessica Kelley, Tim Kelley, and Robby Kelley, all raced on the U.S. National Ski

Team and all competed in World Cup races. Robby was the U.S. National Giant Slalom champion.

Two of Bob's children were skiers: Jimmy Cochran, who won the U.S. Slalom competition three times and competed in the Olympic games; and Amy Cochran, a successful collegiate racer. Marilyn's son Roger Brown was on the U.S. Ski Team, winning the 2002 Slalom championship and her son Doug Brown was on the varsity ski team at St. Lawrence University. Together with two of their cousins, Doug and Roger have gone on to found another Cochran family business, Slopeside Syrup and Untapped. And of course, Barbara Ann's son, two-time Olympian and one-time silver medalist Ryan Cochran-Siegle, who has also also competed in the World Cup.

Clearly, the impact of the Cochran family is not only their world-class skiing. Cochran's Ski Area is a bright spot in making skiing accessible and fun for all Vermonters. As a nonprofit, they welcome children from across the region to learn in a safe, judgement-free environment where the love of the sport is what matters, not the brand of your gear. The "Skiing Cochrans" are truly a Vermont legacy.

"Bravo!"●

RECOGNIZING MILLER, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I wish to honor the Miller School District staff and students, first responders, and all community members who contributed to the successful emergency evacuation of Miller School and Hand-in-Hand Daycare.

On what seemed to be a typical morning in Miller, SD, on February 2, 2022, an explosion and fire suddenly took place in the Miller High School.

A potentially devastating situation was thankfully prevented by the swift actions of the Miller School District teachers and staff. Miller superintendent Dr. Charlene Crosswait, junior/senior high school principal Steve Schumacher, elementary school principal Drake Bachmeier, Mr. Mark Ketelhut, and the teachers and staff efficiently executed the evacuation plan, ultimately saving the lives of all 447 students from kindergarteners through the senior graduating class of 2022.

I would like to commend the teachers and staff members for their diligent training, emergency preparation planning, and quick action to lead students to safety. I would also like to recognize each and every student for their attentiveness and exceptional conduct in an emergency situation. Because of the rapid response, every child and staff member made it out safe and unharmed. I would also like to commend Hand-in-Hand Daycare Center located adjacent to the school for safely evacuating all staff and children.

In emergency situations like this, while people are moving swiftly to get to safety, heroic emergency responders

are always there running toward the blaze. The well-coordinated response from Hand County emergency manager Arlen Gortmaker, volunteer firefighters from Miller, Ree Heights, and Wessington Fire Departments, and first responders from Hand County and the city of Miller who secured the area and extinguished the fire deserve recognition. The first responders endured hours of freezing temperatures, frozen pump lines, and weather challenges with equipment. These hard-working, generous volunteers, and workers have big hearts and show up relentlessly under all circumstances to ensure the safety and well-being of others. Thank you to all of our firefighters and first responders for all you do.

In true South Dakota fashion, the entire community pulled together. Despite fire and smoke damage, which made the school inaccessible, thanks to the compassionate generosity of St. Ann's Catholic Church, First United Methodist Church, First Presbyterian Church, and the Community Church of St. Lawrence, students will be able to utilize facilities to complete the rest of their school year. Sunshine Bible Academy has offered their gym for Miller Rustler basketball team practices and games. Communities across South Dakota have been reaching out to offer support and assistance. I am proud to be part of a State that strongly believes in joining together to help friends and neighbors through tough times. The buildings need work, but they can be repaired. Most importantly, everyone made it home safely to their families and the community remains strong and resilient.

I commend the entire Miller community for their excellent response to the emergency at the Miller School. The true spirit of our State shines brightly in Miller, SD.●

REMEMBERING KAREN FERGUSON

● Ms. WARREN. Madam President, today is the birthday of Karen Ferguson, a tireless advocate for retirement security, who sadly passed away in December. She started a movement for improved worker's rights and better pensions. Forty-six years ago today, she founded the Pension Rights Center in aid of that effort. As recently as this past March, Karen's impact can be seen in the passage of the Butch Lewis Act, which helps protect the benefits of workers and retirees in multiemployers plans. We are deeply grateful for Karen's work and can honor her legacy by continuing to fight so that everyone can retire with dignity and security.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:43 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 bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4521. An act to provide for a coordinated Federal research initiative to ensure