

an “arrow key.” That is a master key that unlocks the blue collection boxes you drop your mail into, as well as cluster mailboxes in subdivisions and other multi-unit mailboxes. With an arrow key, a robber can open mailboxes and steal whatever is in there, including packages and prescription medications. And often, they steal checks. This can lead to identity theft, financial fraud, and other serious crimes.

Here is how it works: The robbers use the dark web and messaging apps to sell the stolen checks. The cyber criminals who buy the stolen checks then use nail polish remover to wash and rewrite the checks for any amount they choose. A \$15 check to your doctor can become a \$15,000 check to someone you have never heard of.

Listen to these figures from the U.S. Postal Inspection Service: Between 2018 and 2021, robberies of letter carriers more than tripled, and robberies involving a gun more than quadrupled.

And between March 2020 and February 2021, the Postal Inspection Service received 299,000 reports of mail theft, a 161-percent increase in mail thefts in just 1 year. And the problem is getting worse. In Chicago, at least a dozen postal carriers were robbed at gunpoint between early March and early April this year. Police say the robbers were armed with semi-automatic handguns. I have met with letter carriers in Chicago. They tell me they are fearful about what is happening. They worry that they could be next. And the looming threat of armed robbery is making it even harder to fill letter carrier vacancies.

And this is not just a Chicago problem. Last year in Orlando, FL, two men were caught on video approaching a letter carrier at a condo complex. The postal worker was found robbed and beaten with a severe head injury. In January of this year, a 66-year-old letter carrier was kidnapped and robbed in Charlotte, NC. The list goes on and includes nearly every State in the country. These are not simply random attacks. Police say organized crime groups and gangs appear to be driving the increase in letter carrier robberies.

We have seen something like this before. In 2011, after a similarly disturbing trend, I urged the former Postmaster General to implement a rapid alert system to inform letter carriers of any crimes committed in their vicinity. The alerts were a warning to letter carriers to be vigilant, and they helped. But now, the alerts have stopped. Now, I have serious concerns about many decisions by the current Postmaster General, but this decision seems especially wrong-headed.

Yesterday, I met in Chicago with members of the National Association of Letter Carriers’ Illinois chapter. I told them that I was sending a letter to both Postmaster General Louis DeJoy and Attorney General Merrick Garland. I am asking the U.S. Postal Service and the Department of Justice to

work together to prevent robberies of letter carriers—and punish those who commit the robberies. They also need to crack down on the cyber thieves who buy and sell checks, arrow keys, and other property stolen from the Postal Service.

And the Postal Service can act right now to reduce this surge in robberies by making some simple changes on its own. They should restart crime alerts to letter carriers. USPS also can reduce the financial motivation driving many of these robberies by investing in new technology that would enable two-factor authentication for dropboxes and cluster mailboxes.

Letter carriers are proud of their long tradition of braving rain, snow, and sleet to deliver the mail. But they cannot brave this threat on their own. USPS and DOJ must step up to better protect letter carriers and the tens of millions of American families and businesses that depend on the U.S. Postal Service.

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#### NATIONAL INFERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK

Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate National Infertility Awareness Week, which since 1989 has honored the people, doctors, researchers, and others for their work in destigmatizing infertility and raising awareness of the challenges many people face when trying to start a family.

Creating life and starting and nurturing a family are, of course, foundational experiences that bring challenges, rewards, and great joy. For millions of people, however, infertility is a barrier to having children, affecting approximately one in five Americans. Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of doctors, scientists, and researchers though, our country has made great strides in helping better understand infertility and provide treatments and support for people who are struggling to start a family. Tens of thousands of children were born last year alone thanks to IVF. And organizations like Resolve: The National Infertility Association have been instrumental in supporting people who struggle with infertility, as well as raising awareness about this critical issue. Unfortunately, many couples still face financial and other barriers to using this procedure, and I urge my colleagues to consider ways that we can make it easier and more affordable for people to start a family in this way.

If we believe that everyone in our country counts and should be free to reach their full potential, then we need to do more to ensure that more Americans are able and free to start a family, so they too can partake in one of life’s most rewarding journeys.

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#### NATIONAL EDUCATION AND SHARING DAY

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I rise today, along with Senator MURKOWSKI,

to bring awareness to National Education and Sharing Day U.S.A., which we recognized on April 2, 2023. On this day, we acknowledged the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Schneerson’s global campaign to educate youth about our responsibility to be a moral and compassionate society.

Education and Sharing Day is observed each year on the Rebbe’s birthday in recognition of his outstanding and lasting contributions toward the improvement of education, morality, and acts of charity around the world. It is a day to pause and reflect on our responsibility to ensure our youth have the foundation necessary to lead lives rich in purpose and fulfillment through service and good works.

This year’s National Education and Sharing Day coincided with the 121st birthday of the Rebbe, one of the most significant Jewish leaders of the 20th century. The Rebbe was a global spiritual leader and leading advocate for the advancement of education. He stressed that a moral and ethical education empowers every individual to develop their full potential in making the world a better place. This year’s Education and Sharing Day has even greater significance as this year is also a year of “Hakhel,” a biblical event of unity, education, and spiritual growth emphasizing how every person is crucial to perfecting the world.

The basis for the continuity of any society is education, and in the great State of Alaska, the education of our youth is a priority. We recognize that in order to achieve its highest goals, education must not only impart knowledge but also help our youth learn how to live meaningful lives by strengthening their moral character to make a better life for themselves as individuals and for society as a whole. Such education can nurture the unity of diverse peoples by encouraging increased acts of goodness and kindness, imbued with the awareness that even a single positive act of an individual can change the world.

We strongly affirm the purposes of National Education and Sharing Day U.S.A. and encourage educational institutions, businesses, community and civic associations, and all people of the United States to celebrate and promote National Education and Sharing Day U.S.A.

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#### RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the 30th anniversary of the U.S. Green Building Council—USGBC—founded in April 1993. This member-led, nonprofit organization has helped schools, businesses, cities, and even countries build and operate better buildings that transform lives. USGBC’s LEED certification program, short for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, has grown to become the world’s most acclaimed and

widely used green building system, with 105,000 projects in more than 185 countries.

In the United States, over 400,000 housing units and more nonresidential projects have applied this system to achieve LEED certification. In Vermont, we have achieved more than 120 certifications, and at least 91 professionals have LEED credentials. These sustainable projects include K-12 schools and higher education, offices, multifamily housing, retail, manufacturing, and additional building types. More than 5 million square feet of space have received LEED certification.

As Americans contend with rising prices and energy costs, more green buildings mean more dollars back in the pockets of small business and families. That is because research has repeatedly found that energy-efficient, lower-waste green buildings benefit the bottom line. LEED-certified buildings reduce day-to-day costs year-over-year while benefiting our climate. They help building owners lower vacancies. Plus, they improve staff well-being and productivity.

When USGBC started, there was no agreement in the marketplace on what constituted "green building," let alone any kind of accepted, codified mechanism to certify it. Now, 30 years later, USGBC has primed the market to value better-performing buildings that lower costs and waste, mitigate climate impacts, and improve health.

Congratulations to this incredible, member-led organization. Here is to another impactful 30 years.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO CAPRI SALAAM

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to outstanding educator Capri Salaam, the 2023 Arkansas Teacher of the Year.

As a social studies teacher at North Little Rock Middle School, since 2015, Capri has become known for her innovative teaching practices, her ability to connect with students, and her efforts to stay involved in their lives even after they leave her classroom. She reflects her love for education and her students in the unique ways she connects with her class and engages with history. She also demonstrates extraordinary compassion and support beyond her classroom by investing in their well-being, ensuring students have access to ACT preparation programs, financial aid workshops, and tutoring programs in high school. As a teacher to seventh and eighth graders, she appreciates seeing students grow emotionally, physically, and mentally during this critical age as they become young adults.

Capri's dedication to the field of education is not only evident in her teaching styles, but also in her passion for continuing to learn. In addition to re-

ceiving a bachelor of arts in English from the University of Central Arkansas, Capri has a master of arts in teaching in middle school education and a master of science in special education. She is also working on earning a learning systems technology education graduate certificate from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and is licensed to teach social studies along with English and special education.

Outside of the classroom, Capri also continuously finds ways to be involved in her community. She is a member of the Junior League of North Little Rock and volunteers for Special Olympics, the Fellowship Baptist Church Special Needs Clothes Closet, and the North Little Rock Ole Main Clean-up.

Arkansas is fortunate to have an exceptional teacher like Capri representing the many great teachers in our State, as well as serving as a role model to future generations of educators. Capri demonstrates what it means to go above and beyond for her students. I congratulate her for this achievement and the positive impact she is making on the community and the entire State. Her passion and commitment offer an excellent example for others to follow. I am confident her efforts are inspiring future generations in the classroom and beyond.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Kelly, 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.)

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, 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. 734. An act to amend the Education Amendments of 1972 to provide that for purposes of determining compliance with title IX of such Act in athletics, sex shall be recognized based solely on a person's reproductive biology and genetics at birth.

#### 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-1085. A communication from the President of the United States to the President

pro tempore of the United States Senate, transmitting, consistent with the War Powers Act, a report relative to an operation to evacuate United States personnel and others from Khartoum, Sudan, in response to the deteriorating security situation in Sudan, received during adjournment of the Senate on April 23, 2023; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment:

S. 829. A bill to amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to clarify a provision relating to certain contents of registrations under that Act (Rept. No. 118-13).

#### 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 Mrs. CAPITO (for herself and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 1256. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require certain air carriers to provide reports with respect to maintenance, preventative maintenance, or alterations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 1257. A bill to authorize a new type of housing choice voucher to help achieve the goals of ending homelessness among families with children, increasing housing opportunities, and improving life outcomes of poor children; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself, Ms. HANSEN, Mr. PAUL, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 1258. 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; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. ERNST:

S. 1259. A bill to prohibit the provision of Federal assistance to transit and rail projects with significant cost overruns and that are projected to lose money, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LEE (for himself and Mr. ROMNEY):

S. 1260. A bill to release the reversionary interest of the United States in certain non-Federal land in Salt Lake City, Utah, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. WICKER, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. BUDD):

S. 1261. A bill to clarify the treatment of 2 or more employers as joint employers under the National Labor Relations Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH:

S. 1262. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to require Federal employee