

From his service as a captain in the U.S. Navy, his tenure as Pennsylvania's last secretary of commerce and first secretary of community and economic development, to his chairmanship of the board of Erie Insurance Group companies, Tom has a long and distinguished career serving his country, his State, and his community.

It is an honor to call him a friend and to recognize him for his outstanding service to his community and to the country.●

RECOGNIZING RAMSEY'S MARKET

● Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Ramsey's Market of Lenox, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

The company was founded by Theo and Bonnie Ramsey in 2015 after learning that the local grocery store in Lenox was up for sale. As veterans of the U.S. Air Force, service is key for the Ramsey family, so the pair jumped at the opportunity to fill a critical community need. When a local grocery store goes out of business, residents sometimes have extensive drives just to buy the basic food items. Over the years, Ramsey's Market has been able to expand to include a food locker delivery service, an adjoining Ace Hardware store with a bar inside, and even a second location in Manning, IA.

Another unique aspect of the store is live music. Theo and Bonnie met during their time in the U.S. Air Force Band of the Golden West, where they both were singers. It is very normal for local musicians to perform in the grocery store while customers shop. The staff behind the deli counter, and even Bonnie can often be found singing to customers.

Ramsey's Market has been recognized for their hard work, earning the Iowa Farm Bureau's Renew Rural Iowa Entrepreneur Award in 2018 for their unique shopping experience and their impact on the Lenox community. They have even been recognized for their success by America's Small Business Development Center, Iowa. In January 2022, I had the opportunity to visit the store and see the local impact the business has on Taylor County.

Ramsey's Market's commitment to providing quality groceries in a fun environment is clear. I want to congratulate the Ramsey family, and the entire team at Ramsey's Market, for their continued dedication to finding a solution to the food deserts in Iowa and serving their community. I look forward to seeing their continued growth and success in Iowa.●

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN GWEN NIEMI

● Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Captain Gwen Niemi for

her service in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corp—WAC—during World War II, from 1942 to 1946. Ms. Niemi was among the first 200 women to become officers in the WAC.

Captain Niemi was born on February 2, 1920, in Lancaster, PA. Ms. Niemi obtained her degree in physical education from West Chester State College. Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, Gwen attended the first WAC training course in Des Moines, IA, graduating from WAC training as a second lieutenant in 1942.

Her first assignment was training recruits at the WAC Training School in Daytona Beach, FL, and was responsible for instructing almost 500 trainees. Gwen next commanded a WAC Company of 180 personnel at Tyndall Field located outside of Panama City, FL. While on assignment at Tyndall Field, Ms. Niemi was temporarily assigned to duty at the San Antonio Aviation Cadet Center. She was promoted to the rank of captain and transferred to Eastern Flying Training Command at Maxwell Field, AL, where she served as a career field manager and evaluator for the WAC Program.

Upon her discharge from the WAC with the rank of captain, Ms. Niemi moved to Tucson, AZ, where she became a teacher in the physical education department at the University of Arizona. Ms. Niemi took 5 years off from teaching, having two children, and then returned to teaching physical education and English and reading at Tucson School District No. 1, now known as TUSD.

Please join me in celebrating Captain Gwen Niemi for being a patriot and a true trailblazer, for her brave service during World War II, and for going on to be an educator at the University of Arizona and at Tucson School District No. 1.●

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.)

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1395. A bill to temporarily suspend the debt limit through December 31, 2024.

H.R. 2811. An act to provide for a responsible increase to the debt ceiling, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-1123. A communication from the General Counsel, Office on Violence Against Women, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction Reimbursement" (RIN1105-AB69) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-1124. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting additional legislative proposals that the Department of Defense requests be enacted during the first session of the 118th Congress; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

EC-1125. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting additional legislative proposals that the Department of Defense requests be enacted during the first session of the 118th Congress; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-1126. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting additional legislative proposals that the Department of Defense requests be enacted during the first session of the 118th Congress; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-1127. A communication from the Regulation Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Copayment Exemption for Indian Veterans" (RIN2900-AR48) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-1128. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1129. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1130. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Dennison, Ohio)" (MB Docket No. 22-337) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1131. A communication from the Program Analyst, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension of Transition Period for Exclusive Use of the Wireless Hearing Aid Compatibility Technical Standard" (WT Docket No. 20-3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1132. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Snowflake, Arizona, et al.)” (MB Docket No. 21-502) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1133. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting additional legislative proposals that the Department of Defense requests be enacted during the first session of the 118th Congress; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1134. A communication from the Director of National Marine Sanctuaries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendments to National Marine Sanctuary Regulations” (RIN0648-BV85) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1135. A communication from the Chief of the Planning and Regulatory Affairs Branch, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Non-Discretionary Quality Control Provisions of Title IV of the Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018” (RIN0584-AE64) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2023; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1136. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Marketing Order Regulating the Handling of Spearmint Oil Produced in the Far West; Salable Quantities and Allotment Percentages for the 2023-2024 Marketing Year” (Docket No. AMS-SC-22-0070) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2023; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1137. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Kiwifruit Grown in California; Increased Assessment Rate” (Docket No. AMS-SC-22-0058) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2023; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1138. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Oxirane, 2-Methyl-, Polymer with Oxirane, Ether with 1,2,3-Propanetriol (3:1); Tolerance Exemption” (FRL No. 10846-01-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2023; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1139. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “a-D-Glucopyranoside, B-D-Fructofuranosyl, Polymer with Methyloxirane and Oxirane; Tolerance Exemption” (FRL No. 10848-01-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2023; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1140. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Oxirane,

2-Methyl-, Polymer with Oxirane, Ether with D-Glucitol (6:1); Tolerance Exemption” (FRL No. 10869-01-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2023; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1141. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Starch, 1-Octenylbutanedioate, Aluminum salt; Dextrin, Hydrogen 1-Octenylbutanedioate; and Amylopectin, 2-Hydroxypropyl ether, Acid-; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance” (FRL No. 10877-01-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2023; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1142. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fluazifop-P-butyl; Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL No. 10884-01-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2023; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1143. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Poly (oxy-1,2-ethanediyl), a,a'-[[[4-[2-(4-methyl-2-benzothiazolyl)diazenyl]phenyl]imino]di-2,1-ethanediyl]bis[w-hydroxy- in Pesticide Formulations; Tolerance Exemption” (FRL No. 10910-01-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2023; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1144. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting additional legislative proposals that the Department of Defense requests be enacted during the first session of the 118th Congress; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1145. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 12978 with respect to significant foreign narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1146. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel for Operations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Department of Housing and Urban Development, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1147. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Enterprise Duty To Serve Underserved Markets—Colonia Census Tract Amendments” (RIN2590-AB22) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-16. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho opposing

the EPA-proposed rules that circumvent science and invalidate Idaho's water quality standards based on the flawed and elusive premise of 19th century water quality standards for Idaho waters in 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 4

Whereas, Idaho submitted new and revised Human Health Water Quality Criteria (HHWQC) rules (docket number 58-0102-1201) to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on December 16, 2016, after years of extensive engagement with stakeholders, data collection, and final approval of the Idaho Legislature; and

Whereas, on April 4, 2019, the EPA approved Idaho's new HHWQC for toxics and other water quality standards criteria; and

Whereas, Idaho is the only state in the union to complete a comprehensive longitudinal study funded by the state to determine the actual fish consumption rate (FCR) of its citizens, which was conducted by Boise State University; and

Whereas, Idaho acted in accordance with the United States Clean Water Act in utilizing the best available scientific data to apply a FCR within the water quality formula to establish its HHWQC as part of its overall water quality standards (WQS); and

Whereas, the EPA recently published new proposed nationwide regulations (at 87 Fed Reg. 74361 (December 5, 2022)) that would effectively establish an unrealistic and unattainable WQS for state waters that are not based on actual FCR but on Indian treaties approved in the 19th century; and

Whereas, the federal regulation notice completely ignores the requirement of Executive Order 13132 for Federalism implications, instead stating that the rule will not have substantial direct effects on the states, on the relationship between the federal government and the states, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among levels of government; and

Whereas, the federal regulation notice economic analysis states that there will potentially be only incremental administrative burdens and costs, but it does not establish any requirements for regulated entities. However, it could lead to additional compliance costs with new permit limits, which the EPA is unable to provide cost estimates for; and

Whereas, it is clear that the EPA-proposed rules will circumvent and undo the scientifically established WQS in Idaho, require the establishment of unattainable standards in an effort to take control of Idaho's waters in violation of the Clean Water Act's directive that states retain primary responsibility to control pollution and develop land and water resources for state waters, and violate the long-established principle of federalism. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the members of the First Regular Session of the Sixty-seventh Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that the people of the State of Idaho oppose the EPA-proposed rules that circumvent science and invalidate Idaho's WQS based on the flawed and elusive premise of 19th century water quality standards for Idaho waters in 2023. Idaho will defend its scientifically based standards in court if necessary; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives be, and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this Memorial to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Congress, to the congressional delegation representing the State of Idaho in the Congress of the United States, to the Governor of the State of Idaho, and to the Attorney General of the State of Idaho.