

We are thankful for Chesca's devotion to helping Alabamians in need. Her story is an inspiration to anyone who is facing a difficult circumstance. It is my honor to recognize her as the May Veteran of the Month.●

TRIBUTE TO LOUISE SMITH

● Mr. WICKER. Madam President, on behalf of the people of Mississippi, I submit this statement into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to honor the public service of Ms. Louise Smith. She has dedicated her life to the success of students in her hometown, Pascagoula, MS.

Louise earned bachelor's and master's degrees in music and education, both from the University of Southern Mississippi. She subsequently put that knowledge to work at Gautier Middle School, where she is completing her 22nd year teaching band.

Time and again, Louise's bands have achieved successes. Like all great teachers, she has brought out the best in her students. Her bands have earned superior ratings in concert and sight reading, and they have been invited to perform at the Louisiana Concert Band Invitational. Her students frequently merit high marks in solo and ensemble performances. They earn placements in band clinics and the Mississippi Lions All State Band.

If imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, Louise's students clearly feel fondly toward her, since several have followed in her footsteps. She has inspired students to become band leaders at other schools in Mississippi and Alabama.

Over the last few years, Louise's giftedness has been recognized at even higher levels. The Mississippi Department of Education named her the 2023 Mississippi Teacher of the Year. More recently, she was one of just five educators nationwide to receive the Horace Mann Award for Teaching Excellence. Both awards commemorate her impact on Mississippi students, and they give her opportunities to share her wisdom with other teachers.

Louise's response to these awards characterizes her commitment to public service. She praised Mississippi teachers, rather than herself. For that reason, I am eager to praise her today in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Stringer, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As 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 12:03 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 bills and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

H.R. 2925. An act to amend the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 to provide for security of tenure for use of mining claims for ancillary activities, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4143. An act to amend the National Construction Safety Team Act to enable the National Institute of Standards and Technology to investigate structures other than buildings to inform the development of engineering standards, best practices, and building codes related to such structures, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7109. An act to require a citizenship question on the decennial census, to require reporting on certain census statistics, and to modify apportionment of Representatives to be based on United States citizens instead of all individuals.

H.R. 8063. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Army to posthumously award the Distinguished Service Cross to William D. Owens for his valorous actions from June 6, 1944, to June 8, 1944, during World War II at La Fiere Bridge in Normandy, France, while serving with the 505th Parachute Infantry.

H.J. Res. 109. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Securities and Exchange Commission relating to "Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 121".

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bill, with amendments, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 870. An act to amend the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 to authorize appropriations for the United States Fire Administration and firefighter assistance grant programs.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The President Pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY) announced that on today, May 9, 2024, she had signed the following enrolled bill, which was previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

H.R. 1042. An act to prohibit the importation into the United States of unirradiated low-enriched uranium that is produced in the Russian Federation, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 2925. An act to amend the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 to provide for security of tenure for use of mining claims for ancillary activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 4143. An act to amend the National Construction Safety Team Act to enable the

National Institute of Standards and Technology to investigate structures other than buildings to inform the development of engineering standards, best practices, and building codes related to such structures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 7109. An act to require a citizenship question on the decennial census, to require reporting on certain census statistics, and to modify apportionment of Representatives to be based on United States citizens instead of all persons.

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-4465. A communication from the Management Analyst of the Policy and Regulations Branch, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Seizure and Forfeiture Procedures" (RIN1018-BF19) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 8, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4466. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Statutory Updates to the Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Program" (RIN1901-AB60) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4467. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Mandatory Transmission and Distribution Planning Support Activities" (RIN1930-AA01) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4468. A communication from the Executive Assistant, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Commercial Visitor Services; Concession Contracts" (RIN1024-AE57) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4469. A communication from the Division Chief of Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rights-of-Way, Leasing, and Operations for Renewable Energy" (RIN1004-AE78) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4470. A communication from the Division Chief of Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of

Land Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Management and Protection of the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska" (RIN1004-AE95) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4471. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Consumer Conventional Cooking Products" (RIN1904-AF57) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 5, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4472. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Consumer Water Heaters" (RIN1904-AD91) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 8, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4473. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Project-Area Wage Standards in the Labor Cost Component of Cost-of-Service Rates" (Docket No. PL24-1-000) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 29, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4474. A communication from the Director of Regulations, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Renewable Energy Modernization Rule" (RIN1010-AE04) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 30, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4475. A communication from the Division Chief of Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fluid Mineral Leases and Leasing Process" (RIN1004-AE80) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 30, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4476. A communication from the Executive Assistant, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act Systematic Processes for Disposition or Repatriation of Native American Human Remains, Funerary Objects, and Objects of Cultural Patrimony" (RIN1024-AE19) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 5, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4477. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Coordination of Federal Authorizations for Electric Transmission Facilities" (RIN1901-AB62) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 5, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4478. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conserva-

tion Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Consumer Furnaces" (RIN1904-AD20) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4479. A communication from the Management Analyst for the Policy and Regulations Branch, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska—Applicability and Scope; Tongass National Forest Submerged Lands" (RIN1018-BC96) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 7, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4480. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedure for Uninterruptible Power Supplies" (RIN1904-AF11) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4481. A communication from the Deputy Chief, National Forest System, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the final maps and perimeter boundary descriptions for the enclosed Wild and Scenic Rivers; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4482. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Distribution Transformers" (RIN1904-AE12) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 26, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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-107. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging the United States Congress and President of the United States to repeal or amend the Antiquities Act of 1906; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

HOUSE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL No. 2008

Whereas, the Antiquities Act of 1906 (Antiquities Act) directs the President of the United States to limit the designation of national monuments to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected; and

Whereas, the Antiquities Act is inconsistent with the principles of a government by and for the people; and

Whereas, the Antiquities Act was intended to preserve only historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures and other objects of historic or scientific interest; and

Whereas, the Antiquities Act has been misused repeatedly to set aside enormous parcels of real property; and

Whereas, 46% of all land in the coterminous Western States is already under federal management, and the majority of Arizona's lands are restricted from public access and recreation; and

Whereas, the establishment in 1996 of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in southern Utah set aside 1.7 million acres of land despite the objections of public

officials in the State of Utah, making it the largest national monument in the continental United States; and

Whereas, in 2017, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and Bears Ears were reduced by 50% and 85%, respectively; and

Whereas, the 2021 overreaching restoration of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and Bears Ears will result in the loss of significant economic resources for the public schools and the taxpayers of the State of Utah; and

Whereas, this designation clearly violates the spirit and letter of the Antiquities Act, which requires monument lands to "be confined to the smallest area" necessary to preserve and protect historical areas or objects; and

Whereas, the greatest threat to the lands of Arizona is the intrusion and overreach of the federal government, including the economically harmful 30x30 initiative, which will only further prevent Arizona from deciding what is best for its citizens; and

Whereas, land is a significant asset for states, and the President and the United States Congress should repeal the Antiquities Act or at the very least amend it to require congressional approval of, as well as state and local approval and consent of, any future monument of federal designation.

Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

1. That the United States Congress act by repealing the Antiquities Act of 1906 or amending it to reaffirm that entire landscapes, animate life, such as birds and mammals, and common plants and vegetation not be considered landmarks, structures or objects under federal law.

2. That any proclamation made by the President of the United States be stated publicly and shall specifically name and describe the location of each landmark, structure and object to be protected.

3. That the limitation on extending or establishing a national monument, which requires the express authorization of Congress and is currently offered only to the State of Wyoming, be offered to all Western States.

4. That no new national monument or federal reservation or expansion of an existing national monument or federal reservation be established in Arizona, unless with:

(a) The express authorization of the Arizona State Legislature while in session.

(b) The express authorization of the members of the county board of supervisors in all the counties that would be impacted by the monument or reservation.

5. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM-108. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging the President of the United States to rescind or revoke the designation of the ancestral footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument and opposing any such future designation in the State of Arizona; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

HOUSE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL No. 2007

Whereas, for decades, radical environmental activist groups and others have sought to remove state and federal land in Arizona from economic production, to permanently ban critical mineral and metal mining, cattle grazing and other multiple-use activities on federal controlled lands in