

leadership, relentless initiative, and trailblazing achievements as the highest ranking enlisted member of the U.S. Air Force from August 2020 to March 2024 were vital in leading and developing 689,000 airmen. She used her unique perspective as an enlisted leader to guide and shape the Air Force during the unprecedented coronavirus pandemic, the end of combat operations in Afghanistan, and through one of the most evolving and challenging strategic environments in modern history.

As the senior enlisted adviser to the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, Chief Bass provided sound advice, perspective, and assistance on matters pertaining to enterprise management, enlisted heritage, force development, servicemember pay and compensation, and future force design. Through her expertise and collaborative efforts with her sister-service senior enlisted advisers, she ensured our Nation's land, sea, air, and space forces will continue to provide unmatched military capability to deter, dissuade, and defeat our enemies.

Additionally, she directly influenced joint, interagency, and coalition teams to redesign and modernize air, space, and cyberspace organizations, resources, and training efforts with a renewed emphasis on enlisted empowerment.

Chief Bass focused airmen on competition and innovation, accelerating the service's necessary transition into the Air Force of tomorrow. Through her reimagining of Air Force foundational documents, creation of the enlisted force development blueprint, and delivery of the first-ever service manual of the joint team called "The Purple Book," she revolutionized the recruiting, development and retention of the greatest talent our Nation has to offer: our people. Her legacy will be forever etched into the history of the Air Force as a changemaker during an incredibly consequential time for our country.

I spent time with Chief Bass during our visit to Little Rock Air Force Base in Arkansas and at several Capitol Hill engagements as she encouraged congressional support to strengthen military readiness and achieve Air Force priorities. Airmen can be proud of her leadership and advocacy to ensure the United States maintains air superiority in this era of great power competition.

On behalf of the U.S. Senate, the Senate Air Force Caucus, and a grateful nation, I extend my deepest appreciation to Chief Bass and her family for their many years of exemplary military service and sacrifice. I wish her nothing but the very best as she begins a new chapter.

TRIBUTE TO JOE ARNOLD

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I rise today in celebration of Joe Arnold, head custodian at Hot Springs County

School District No. 1 in Thermopolis, WY.

Joe's career as a custodian in Wyoming schools spans 60 years. To honor this outstanding achievement, students, teachers, and administrators will gather on February 21, 2024, to celebrate the renaming of the central administration building to the Joe Arnold Central Administration Building.

Joe was 21 years old in 1964 when he began as a custodian for Carbon County School District No. 1 in Rawlins, WY. After 22 years in Rawlins, Joe moved to Thermopolis, where he worked at Hamilton Dome Elementary School. When the elementary school closed, he transferred to the building that now bears his name. Joe's commitment to the school district and its students is unmatched. And his commitment to his community is unmistakable. It is not uncommon to see Joe shoveling snow before sunrise or escorting senior folks to the auditorium for events after school hours.

Joe often invests the money he earns as a custodian back into his community. He pays for countless lunches and school field trips for students who cannot afford them. He has even helped with expenses for higher education. Joe's selflessness and generosity are unrivaled. He is the first to place a bid on auction items at fundraising events, then generously donates them back to be auctioned off again. Joe's true passion lies in helping students. As a mentor, he is always there to listen to their problems and offer advice whenever they need it. Graduation announcements and school photos from former students cover the walls of his office. After six decades of maintaining clean and healthy schools, Joe Arnold has no intention of retiring. However, as he arrives at work each day, Joe now sees his name on the building he works tirelessly to maintain.

It is with great honor that I recognize the exemplary dedication of Joe Arnold. Hard work is the Wyoming way, and few work harder than Joe. My sincere congratulations to Joe Arnold as the Hot Springs County School District No. 1 Central Administration Building is renamed in his honor.

TRIBUTE TO GRETA BROWN

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I rise today to express my sincere appreciation for the exceptional service rendered by Ms. Greta Brown during her four-decade tenure at the U.S. Senate Federal Credit Union, USSFCU. Greta has not only been a dedicated employee but has become an integral part of the fabric that binds our Senate community together.

Since 1981, Greta has been a constant presence within the Senate office buildings, witnessing the growth of the USSFCU from a small institution to a vital financial resource for Senators, dignitaries, and congressional staff. Her ability to connect with members, provide insightful financial advice, and

create meaningful relationships has shaped the perception of the credit union within the walls of our office buildings.

Greta's journey is a testament to her commitment, professionalism, and the positive impact she has had on our community. She is a source of inspiration, always demonstrating dedication, poise, and flexibility in her tasks. Ambassador Alfonso E. Lenhardt rightly acknowledges her as one of the finest individuals, embodying the values that define our Senate community.

Many who know Greta echo this sentiment, expressing gratitude for her astute financial advice. Greta's influence extends beyond her role, with many young staffers seeking her guidance as they navigate their financial journeys.

In the spirit of "people helping people," Greta has consistently served members with excellence and compassion. Her impact is evident in the numerous letters of appreciation she has received over the years. Greta is more than a colleague; she is a mentor, adviser, and friend to those fortunate enough to work alongside her.

As the credit union approaches its 90th anniversary, Greta stands as a symbol of continuity, dedication, and the values that define our Senate and Capitol Hill community.

In conclusion, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Greta Brown for her outstanding contributions to USSFCU and the broader Senate community. Her legacy will undoubtedly continue to resonate, inspiring us all to strive for excellence and service in our shared mission.

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

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and two withdrawals which were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES

REPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 14064 OF FEBRUARY 11, 2022, WITH RESPECT TO THE WIDESPREAD HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN AFGHANISTAN—PM 37

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message

from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the widespread humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan and the potential for a deepening economic collapse in Afghanistan declared in Executive Order 14064 of February 11, 2022, is to continue in effect beyond February 11, 2024.

The widespread humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan—including the urgent needs of the people of Afghanistan for food security, livelihoods support, water, sanitation, health, hygiene, and shelter and settlement assistance, among other basic human needs—and the potential for a deepening economic collapse in Afghanistan continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. In addition, the preservation of certain property of Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB) held in the United States by United States financial institutions is of the utmost importance to addressing this national emergency and the welfare of the people of Afghanistan. Various parties, including representatives of victims of terrorism, have asserted legal claims against certain property of DAB or indicated in public court filings an intent to make such claims. This property is blocked under Executive Order 14064.

Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 14064 with respect to the widespread humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan and the potential for a deepening economic collapse in Afghanistan.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, February 7, 2024.

REPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 14014 OF FEBRUARY 10, 2021, WITH RESPECT TO BURMA—PM 38

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with the provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice (stating that the national emergency with respect to the situation in and in relation to Burma declared in Executive Order 14014 of February 10, 2021, is to continue in effect beyond February 10, 2024.

The situation in and in relation to Burma, and in particular the February 1, 2021 coup, in which the military overthrew the democratically elected civilian government of Burma and unjustly arrested and detained government leaders, politicians, human rights defenders, journalists, and religious leaders, thereby rejecting the will of the people of Burma as expressed in elections held in November 2020 and undermining the country's democratic transition and rule of law, continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 14014 with respect to Burma.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, February 7, 2024.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:27 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. 1727. An act to amend the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Development Act to extend the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Commission.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 84. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal collectively to the 23d Headquarters Special Troops and the 3133d Signal Services Company, known collectively as the "Ghost Army", in recognition of unique and highly distinguished service during World War II.

H. Con. Res. 85. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal collectively to the women in the United States who joined the workforce during World War II, providing the aircraft, vehicles, weaponry, ammunition, and other material to win the war and who were referred to as "Rosie the Riveter", in recognition of their contributions to the United States and the inspiration they have provided to ensuing generations.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 1:37 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by

Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1568. An act to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to protect personally identifiable information, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1727. An act to amend the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Development Act to extend the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Commission.

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-3456. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Import Restrictions on Archaeological Material of China" ((RIN1515-AE87) (CBP Dec. 24-01)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3457. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Certain Maryland Prepaid College Trust Distributions Excluded from Gross Income" (Notice 2024-23) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 5, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3458. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Corrections to Revenue Procedure 2024-5, Schedule of User Fees in Appendix A" (Announcement 2024-7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 5, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3459. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Additional Interim Guidance Regarding the Application of the Corporate Alternative Minimum Tax under Sections 55, 56A, and 59 of the Internal Revenue Code" (Notice 2024-10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 29, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3460. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The Medicare Beneficiary Ombudsman Calendar Year 2020 Report to Congress"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3461. A communication from the Chairman of the United States International Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Partially or Fully Assembled Into Other Products: