

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

4. A determination has been made that the Government of Egypt can 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.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of Egypt.

REMEMBERING HERB KOHL

Mr. REED. Madam President, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant, my former colleague and friend Senator Herb Kohl who passed away on December 27, 2023. Over his 88 years, Herb rightfully earned a reputation as a civic-minded champion, whether it was in his many business ventures, his ownership of the Milwaukee Bucks, or his four terms representing his home State of Wisconsin.

Herb was the son of immigrants who came to America from Poland and Russia and joined in our Nation's entrepreneurial tradition by opening their own business: a small grocery store. Along with his parents and siblings, he helped grow this one store into a successful regional chain. Even with the enormous success of the business, Herb never forgot where he came from. Reflecting on his parents later in his life, he said that "[t]hey came with zero . . . None of us [children] ever thought we could get by on anything less than a full effort in life."

Herb remained deeply and personally involved in the business. He would visit dozens of Kohl's stores each week and would personally interview every full-time employee from the top on down. Herb knew that by focusing on his workers, by making sure they were secure in their jobs and able to thrive, that his business would flourish. One of Herb's closest friends once said of him, as noted by the University of Wisconsin's alumni magazine, "With any store we walked into, he knew every employee by their first name, and he knew all their families . . . You could tell his whole heart and soul was into it."

In 1985, when the Milwaukee Bucks were on the verge of being sold off and moved to another city, Herb stepped forward and bought the team with the promise to Bucks fans that the team would never leave. He stayed true to his word, even when it came time to sell the franchise three decades later, putting up \$100 million of his own money to help build a new arena to serve as the team's home.

That kind of generosity and commitment to the community made Herb a truly beloved figure in Wisconsin. Four times, voters there turned out to send him to the U.S. Senate, each time by wider margins. Just as with his busi-

ness, Herb put his whole heart and soul into serving the people of the State. He championed gun safety legislation and nutrition programs for children. He worked to support the State's agriculture industry, and his office became known as the gold standard for constituent service which, given his history, was no surprise. He was the embodiment of his campaign slogan, "Nobody's Senator but Yours."

I would like to extend my heartfelt condolences to Herb's family and to all those who loved him in Wisconsin. Through his work, we know that his impact will continue to be felt, and his humility and dedication will serve as an inspiration to public servants for years to come.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE 2023 ARKANSAS LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS OF THE YEAR

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I rise today to pay tribute to Arkansas State Police troopers Special Agent Matt Foster and Senior Corporal David Smothers, the 2023 State Law Enforcement Officers of the Year.

The Arkansas Officer of the Year Award honors members of law enforcement who exemplify bravery, service, and commitment. The recognition is bestowed upon officers who go above and beyond the call of duty. Special Agent Foster and Senior Corporal Smothers earned this distinction by saving a victim of human trafficking and apprehending the trafficker. Smothers was conducting a traffic stop on I-40 when, after recognizing the smell of marijuana, he initiated a search of the vehicle and found illegal drugs and weapons. Additional items discovered during the search led him to believe a woman in the car was the victim of human trafficking.

He contacted Special Agent Matt Foster, who is trained in recognizing and identifying victims of human trafficking. In an interview with the passenger, she confirmed to him how she had been trafficked for several months. Thankfully, Foster facilitated her rescue from this dangerous situation and helped place her in a recovery program specializing in assisting victims of human trafficking and drug use.

On behalf of all Arkansans, I thank Senior Corporal David Smothers and Special Agent Matt Foster for making sacrifices to keep us safe, saving the life of an innocent victim, and bringing offenders to justice. I applaud their courageous actions, compassion, and the use of their skills to enforce the law and protect the vulnerable.●

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 1:45 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to H. Res. 949, resolving that the Clerk of the House inform the Senate that a quorum of the House is present and that the House is ready to proceed with business.

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-3179. A communication from the Chair, National Endowment for the Humanities, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Endowment's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2023 received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3180. A communication from the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Joint Report on the Implementation of the Cybersecurity Sharing Act of 2015"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3181. A communication from the Chairman, Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3182. A communication from the Treasurer of the National Gallery of Art, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Gallery's Inspector General Report for fiscal year 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3183. A communication from the Chair of the U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3184. A communication from the Acting Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3185. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Education's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3186. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Reports from the Treasury Inspector General and the

Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration for the period from April 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3187. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and a Management Report for the period from April 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3188. A communication from the General Counsel, Office of Special Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the vacancy in the position of Special Counsel, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 8, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3189. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-322, "Grounds for Divorce, Legal Separation, and Annulment Amendment Act of 2023"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3190. A communication from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to notifying Congress that the Commission did not complete or initiate competitive sourcing for conversion in fiscal year 2023, nor do they plan to do so in fiscal year 2024; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-3191. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Candidate Salaries" (Notice 2023-19); to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-3192. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Technological Modernization" (Notice 2023-20); to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-3193. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The Attorney General's Fourth Quarterly Report of Fiscal Year 2023 on the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3194. 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 "Payments Under State Home Care Agreements for Nursing Home Care" (RIN2900-AR62) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 30, 2023; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3195. 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 "Reevaluation of Claims for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation" (RIN2900-AR76) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 30, 2023; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3196. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Television Broadcasting Services; Jacksonville, Oregon" (MB Docket No. 23-285) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 13, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3197. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of the Low Power Protection Act" ((FCC-23-112) (MB Docket No. 23-126)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3198. A communication from the Deputy Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Wireless Emergency Alerts, Amendments to Part 11 of the Commission's Rules Regarding the Emergency Alert System" ((FCC23-88) (PS Docket Nos. 15-91 and 15-94)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 20, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3199. A communication from the Program Analyst, International Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Expediting Initial Processing of Satellite and Earth Station Applications" (FCC 23-73) (IB Docket Nos. 22-411 and 22-271)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 13, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3200. A communication from the Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Promoting Telehealth in Rural America" ((FCC 23-110) (WC Docket No. 17-310)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3201. A communication from the Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Supporting Survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence; Lifeline and Link Up Reform Modernization; Affordable Connectivity Program" ((RIN3060-AL48) (WC Docket Nos. 22-238, 11-42, and 21-450)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 20, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3202. A communication from the Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementing the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act: Prevention and Elimination of Digital Discrimination" ((RIN3060-AL56) (GN Docket No. 22-69)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 20, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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-92. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of California applying to the United States Congress to call a constitutional convention under Article V of the Constitution of the United States for the purpose of proposing a constitutional amendment relating to firearms; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 7

Whereas, Approximately 49,000 Americans died in 2021 as a result of gun violence, and firearms are the leading cause of death for children under 18 years of age in the United

States and the most common method of both homicide and suicide, and

Whereas, it is estimated that there are approximately 393,000,000 firearms in civilian hands in the United States as of 2023, meaning that firearms now outnumber people in our country; and

Whereas, Gun safety laws are proven to lessen the scourge of gun violence, as evidenced by the fact that since some of California's most significant gun safety laws took effect in the early 1990s, California has cut its rate of gun death in half, and the state's gun death rate is 39 percent lower than the national average as of 2023; and

Whereas, Precedents of the Supreme Court of the United States, including its decision in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. v. Bruen* (2022) 142 S.Ct. 2111, have limited the ability of the states to enact and enforce reasonable restrictions on the public carry of firearms, and prompted challenges to many other common sense regulations, such as those allowing law enforcement officials to assess the potential dangerousness of individuals seeking to obtain firearms and prohibit possession of firearms by those deemed dangerous, and those restricting possession of certain particularly dangerous weapons, including weapons of war; and

Whereas, Modern technology and capabilities, including semiautomatic firing mechanisms, capacity, range, accuracy, and use of specialized ammunition, of the firearms commercially available today make them far more lethal than anything the founders could have imagined in the 18th century, when most weapons needed to be reloaded after every shot; and

Whereas, Common sense public safety regulations limiting aspects of firearms acquisition, possession, public carry, and use by individuals, including, but not limited to, the types of firearms and ammunition that private individuals may possess, categories of private individuals who may not acquire or possess firearms, and locations where private individuals may carry firearms, as well as procedures to ensure that individuals possessing or seeking to acquire or publicly carry firearms will not pose a threat to the safety of themselves or others or use a firearm in furtherance of otherwise unlawful conduct, are proven to save lives; and

Whereas, Since state leaders first announced their intention to introduce this joint resolution in June 2023, the Supreme Court of the United States has granted review in *United States v. Rahimi*, yet another case in which a court struck down a commonsense gun safety regulation, and the scourge of gun violence has continued unabated, with recent mass shootings bringing tragedy to communities across the country, further underscoring the need for urgent action; and

Whereas, Amending the United States Constitution as described herein will ensure that federal, state, and local government can effectively pursue common sense solutions to this deadly nationwide problem, consistent with the understanding that throughout American history private, individuals have possessed firearms for home defense, hunting, and recreational purposes; and

Whereas, Article V of the Constitution of the United States requires the United States Congress to call a constitutional convention upon application of two-thirds of the legislatures of the several states for the purpose of proposing amendments to the United States Constitution; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature of the State of California, speaking on behalf of the people of the State of California, hereby applies to the United States Congress to call a constitutional convention