

is, in that darkness, he could bring light.

So my parents wanted me to be like your dad in life; that if I faced the worst bigotry and hate, that I did not stop loving, that I did not stop loving others and loving Americans. And they would find ways to inspire me.

So I want to read you all one of the poems my parents shared with me—not the whole poem but a few sections. It is by a woman named Maya Angelou, and it is a poem called “Still I Rise.”

You may write me down in history
with your bitter, twisted lies,
You may trod me in the very dirt
But still, like dust, I'll rise.
Just like moons and like suns,
With the certainty of tides,
Just like hopes springing high,
Still I'll rise.
Out of the huts of history's shame
I rise
Up from a past that's rooted in pain
I rise
I'm a black ocean, leaping and wide,
Welling and swelling I bear in the tide.
Leaving behind nights of terror and fear
I rise
Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear
I rise
Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave,
I am the dream and the hope of the slave.
I rise
I rise
I rise.

To two young men, growing up in a great nation, to Azmir and Zaaran, I rise today to tell you that this is a great nation, to remind you that your father has made it greater, and to tell you that I am full of hope that the two of you will rise up and help our Nation redeem its difficult past and seize for itself an even greater future.

God bless the two of you. In sha' Allah, you two will make America even greater.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

AMERICA'S CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2024

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, I understand that the Senate has received the House message to accompany S. 3791.

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 3791) entitled “An Act to reauthorize the America's Conservation Enhancement Act, and for other purposes”, do pass with an amendment.

MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. BOOKER. I move to concur in the House amendment to S. 3791, and I know of no further debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate on the motion?

Hearing none, the question is on agreeing to the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 3791.

The motion to concur was agreed to.

Mr. BOOKER. I ask that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNIZING THE SECOND COMMEMORATION OF THE ANTI-LGBTQ+ ATTACK THAT OCCURRED ON NOVEMBER 19-20, 2022, AT CLUB Q, AN LGBTQ+ BAR IN COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 895 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 895) recognizing the second commemoration of the anti-LGBTQ+ attack that occurred on November 19-20, 2022, at Club Q, an LGBTQ+ bar in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BOOKER. I know of no further debate on the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Hearing no further debate, the question is on adoption of the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 895) was agreed to.

Mr. BOOKER. I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of November 19, 2024, under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

AMENDING THE BROADCASTING AND RECORDING PROCEDURES OF THE SENATE

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 934, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 934) amending the broadcasting and recording procedures of the Senate.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BOOKER. I know of no further debate on the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing no further debate, the question is on adopting the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 934) was agreed to.

Mr. BOOKER. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The resolution is printed in today's (Legislative Day of December 16, 2024) RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

PROVIDING FOR CORRECTIONS IN THE ENROLLMENT OF S. 4367

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, I now would like to ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Con. Res. 46.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 46) providing for corrections in the enrollment of S. 4367.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. BOOKER. I ask further that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 46) was agreed to.

(The concurrent resolution is printed in today's (Legislative day of December 16, 2024) RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

FEDERAL AGENCY PERFORMANCE ACT OF 2024

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, I understand that the Senate has received the House message to accompany S. 709.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

Mr. BOOKER. I ask that the chair lay before the body the House message to accompany S. 709.

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 709) entitled “An Act to improve performance and accountability in the Federal Government, and for other purposes.”, do pass with an amendment.

MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. BOOKER. I move to concur in the House amendment to S. 709.

I know of no further debate on the motion to concur.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing none, the question is on agreeing to the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 709.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. BOOKER. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMOVAL OF INJUNCTION OF SECRECY—TREATY DOCUMENT NO. 118-2

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the following treaty transmitted to the Senate on December 18, 2024, by the President of the United States:

Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (Treaty Document No. 118-2); I further ask that the treaty be considered as having been read the first time; that it be referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed; and that the President's message be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The message of the President is as follows:

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (the "Agreement"). I also transmit, for the information of the Senate, the report of the Department of State with respect to the Agreement.

The purpose of the Agreement is to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ), often referred to as the high seas, which are under threat from a multitude of stressors. The high seas includes ocean areas beyond countries' 200-mile exclusive economic zones and covers about two-thirds of the global ocean.

The Agreement will create a mechanism to establish marine protected areas in ABNJ, a vital step in the global effort to conserve or protect at least 30 percent of the global ocean by 2030. It will create a system for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of marine genetic resources from ABNJ. The Agreement also includes provisions ensuring that Parties conduct rigorous environmental impact assessments for their activities in ABNJ and provisions on capacity-building and the transfer of marine technology related to the Agreement. The Agreement is key to supporting the sustainable use of marine resources, maintaining the integrity of ocean ecosystems, and conserving marine biological diversity. Implementation of the Agreement will respect the competences of and not undermine other international bodies and will require consultations with those organizations to enhance cooperation and coordination on the conservation and

sustainable use of the marine resources of the high seas.

I believe joining the Agreement to be fully in the interest of the United States. I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Agreement and give its advice and consent to ratification.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.

THE WHITE HOUSE, December 18, 2024.

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader and jointly with the Democratic Leader of the House, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 117-263, appoints the following individual to serve as Co-Chairperson of the National Commission on the Future of the Navy: The Honorable Filemon Vela of Texas.

MORNING BUSINESS

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 24-1D. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 09-36 of July 17, 2009.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosure.

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. MICHAEL MCCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of

the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 24-1D. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 09-36 of July 17, 2009.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosure.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 24-1D

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(C), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Government of Australia.
(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 09-36; Date: July 17, 2009; Military Department: Air Force.

(iii) Description: On July 17, 2009, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 09-36 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), to continue participation in the USAF/Boeing Globemaster III Sustainment Partnership (GSP) which consists of support for Australia's fleet of four (4) Boeing C-17A Globemaster III cargo aircraft, contractor technical and logistics personnel services, support equipment, spare and repair parts, and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost was \$300 million. There was no Major Defense Equipment (MDE) associated with this sale.

On May 19, 2014, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 14-0C, under section 36(b)(5)(C) of the AECA, of the inclusion of additional Contractor Logistics Support (CLS) to support Australia's fleet of C-17 Globemaster III cargo aircraft, which increased from four (4) to six (6). The total case value was increased by \$150 million, resulting in a total case value of \$450 million. There was no MDE associated with this sale.

On December 1, 2017, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 17-0A, under section 36(b)(5)(C) of the AECA, of the further inclusion of additional funding to maintain Australia's participation in the USAF/Boeing Globemaster III Sustainment Partnership (GSP) through 2022. Additionally, Australia's fleet of C-17A Globemaster III cargo aircraft increased from six (6) to eight (8). Support included contractor technical and logistics support services; support equipment; spare and repair parts; and other related elements of logistics support. The total case value increased by \$400 million, resulting in a total case value of \$850 million. There was no MDE associated with this sale.

This transmittal reports the addition of the following non-MDE items: Contractor Logistics Support (CLS) services; major modifications and maintenance support; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total value of the new items is \$4.03 billion. The estimated total case value will increase by \$4.03 billion to a revised \$4.88 billion. There is no MDE associated with this sale.

(iv) Significance: This proposed sale will support Australia's ability to effectively maintain its current force projection capability that enhances interoperability with U.S. forces, well into the future.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of an important major non-NATO ally and partner which contributes significantly to peacekeeping, humanitarian, and combat operations around the world.