

the Senate. The Chairman may authorize the Staff Director and the Staff Director's designee, and the Vice Chairman may authorize the Minority Staff Director and the Minority Staff Director's designee, to communicate with the media in a manner that does not divulge classified or committee sensitive information.

10.6. No member of the Committee staff shall be employed by the Committee unless and until such a member of the Committee staff agrees in writing, as a condition of employment, to abide by the conditions of the nondisclosure agreement promulgated by the Select Committee on Intelligence, pursuant to Section 6 of S. Res. 400 of the 94th Congress, as amended, and to abide by the Committee's code of conduct.

10.7. As a precondition for employment on the Committee, each member of the Committee staff must agree in writing to notify the Committee of any request for testimony, either during service as a member of the Committee staff or at any time thereafter with respect to information obtained by virtue of employment as a member of the Committee staff. Such information shall not be disclosed in response to such requests, except as directed by the Committee in accordance with Section 8 of S. Res. 400 of the 94th Congress, as amended, and the provisions of these rules or, in the event of the termination of the Committee, in such manner as may be determined by the Senate.

10.8. The Committee shall immediately consider action to be taken in the case of any member of the Committee staff who fails to conform to any of these Rules. Such disciplinary action may include, but shall not be limited to, revocation of the Committee sponsorship of the staff person's security clearance and immediate dismissal from the Committee staff.

10.9. Within the Committee staff shall be an element with the capability to perform audits of programs and activities undertaken by departments and agencies with intelligence functions. The audit element shall conduct audits and oversight projects that have been specifically authorized by the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee, acting jointly through the Staff Director and Minority Staff Director. Staff shall be assigned to such element jointly by the Chairman and Vice Chairman, and staff with the principal responsibility for the conduct of an audit shall be qualified by training or experience in accordance with accepted auditing standards.

10.10. The workplace of the Committee shall be free from illegal use, possession, sale, or distribution of controlled substances by its employees. Any violation of such policy by any member of the Committee staff shall be grounds for termination of employment. Further, any illegal use of controlled substances by a member of the Committee staff, within the workplace or otherwise, shall result in reconsideration of the security clearance of any such staff member and may constitute grounds for termination of employment with the Committee.

10.11. All personnel actions affecting the staff of the Committee shall be made free from any discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap, or disability.

RULE 11. PREPARATION FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

11.1. Under direction of the Chairman and the Vice Chairman designated Committee staff members shall brief members of the Committee at a time sufficiently prior to any Committee meeting to assist the Committee members in preparation for such meeting and to determine any matter which the Committee member might wish consid-

ered during the meeting. Such briefing shall, at the request of a member, include a list of all pertinent papers and other materials that have been obtained by the Committee that bear on matters to be considered at the meeting.

11.2. The Staff Director and/or Minority Staff Director may recommend to the Chairman and the Vice Chairman the testimony, papers, and other materials to be presented to the Committee at any meeting. The determination whether such testimony, papers, and other materials shall be presented in open or executive session shall be made pursuant to the Rules of the Senate and Rules of the Committee.

11.3. The Staff Director shall ensure that covert action programs of the U.S. Government receive appropriate consideration by the Committee no less frequently than once a quarter.

RULE 12. LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

12.1. The Clerk of the Committee shall maintain a calendar for the information of each Committee member showing the measures introduced and referred to the Committee and the status of such measures; nominations referred to the Committee and their status; and such other matters as the Committee determines shall be included. The calendar shall be available to all members of the Committee.

12.2. Measures referred to the Committee may be referred by the Chairman and/or Vice Chairman to the appropriate department or agency of the Government for reports thereon.

RULE 13. COMMITTEE TRAVEL

No member of the Committee or Committee Staff shall travel on Committee business unless specifically authorized by the Chairman and Vice Chairman. Requests for authorization of such travel shall state the purpose and extent of the trip. A full report shall be filed with the Committee when travel is completed.

RULE 14. SUSPENSION AND AMENDMENT OF THE RULES

14.1. These Rules may be modified, amended, or repealed by the Committee, provided that a notice in writing of the proposed change has been given to each member at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at which action thereon is to be taken.

14.2. These Rules shall continue and remain in effect from one Congress to the next Congress unless they are changed as provided herein.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT SANTOS

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, earlier this year, Robert Santos announced his resignation as the 26th Director of the U.S. Census Bureau, marking the end of his service as the first person of color and the first Latino in history to be confirmed by this body to head the Bureau. I rise today to recognize his extraordinary service to the American people, his unshakeable integrity, and his unwavering commitment to our democracy.

Robert Luis Santos was born in San Antonio, TX—one of five children of two civil servants who worked at nearby Kelly Air Force Base. A proud third-generation Mexican American, Santos was raised in a predominantly Latino neighborhood on the northwest side of San Antonio.

In 1969, the death of his older brother, U.S. Army Spc. Rene Santos, in the

Vietnam war devastated the Santos family. But according to Santos, this tragedy and ultimate act of patriotism also inspired him to pursue his education and one day channel his brother's life and "give back to the country." He went on to earn his bachelor's degree in mathematics from Trinity University in San Antonio and, later, his master's in statistics from the University of Michigan.

After graduation, he set off on what would become an over 40-year-career as a highly respected statistician. In 2006, he became vice president and chief methodologist at the Urban Institute—a nonprofit research organization dedicated to American's upward mobility—a position he held for 15 years. And in 2020, he was elected president of the American Statistical Association.

During his time at the Urban Institute, he warned the Census Bureau of the threat of undercounting the national population in the 2020 Census, with a particular spotlight on Black and Latino populations; he opposed the addition of a citizenship question that would have undermined public confidence and participation in the census; and he spoke out against an early end to the national count during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Through it all, Robert Santos' motivation was accuracy and equity—never politics. At his Senate confirmation hearings, he stated: "Although this is a political appointment, I am no politician. I'm a scientist, executive-level manager, a researcher, and a longtime supporter of the Census Bureau."

That approach led to his nomination as Director of the Census Bureau by President Joe Biden in the spring of 2021. When he was confirmed that fall, he became not only the first Latino to serve as Director, but the first person of color the Senate confirmed to lead the Bureau.

His tenure marked a refreshing and sorely needed return to scientific and research-based—not political—work atop the Bureau. He worked particularly hard to conduct a more accurate count of communities of color and vulnerable communities who have been historically undercounted.

For the Nation, Santos' work was about more than just data collection. These accurate data are vital for Federal, State, and local governments to function properly and efficiently. They are about something as fundamental as accurate representation and equitable funding for Americans. And they are about an equal stake in our democracy.

Today, at a time when statisticians and leaders at every level of government fear the politicization of our census, Robert Santos leaves behind a legacy of integrity and accuracy that should be followed for decades to come.

On behalf of the entire State of California, I want to thank Robert; his wife of over 50 years Adella; his two children Emilio and Clarisa; and the entire Santos family.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:14 a.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, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 788. An act to provide for Department of Energy and Small Business Administration joint research and development activities, and for other purposes.

H.R. 804. An act to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to improve access to disaster assistance for individuals located in rural areas, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 2302, and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council: Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee, Mr. BACON of Nebraska, and Mr. MILLER of Ohio.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 3003, and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Co-Chair.

The message also announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group: Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Chair.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276L, and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the British-American Interparliamentary Group: Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. MEUSER of Pennsylvania, Mr. ADERHOLT of Alabama, Mr. SMUCKER of Pennsylvania, Mr. COLE of Oklahoma, and Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 788. An act to provide for Department of Energy and Small Business Administration joint research and development activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 804. An act to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to improve access to disaster assistance for individuals located in rural areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 735. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a sickle cell disease prevention and treatment demonstration program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. OSSOFF, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 736. A bill to increase the penalty for prohibited provision of a phone in a correctional facility, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. CURTIS, and Mr. BANKS):

S. 737. A bill to require certain interactive computer services to adopt and operate technology verification measures to ensure that users of the platform are not minors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MARSHALL (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 738. A bill to provide a moratorium on all Federal research grants provided to any institution of higher education or other research institute that is conducting dangerous gain-of-function research; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 739. A bill to amend title XXXIII of the Public Health Service Act with respect to flexibility and funding for the World Trade Center Health Program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. KING, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 740. A bill to expand the use of open textbooks in order to achieve savings for students and improve textbook price information; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. FETTERMAN (for himself and Mr. MCCORMICK):

S. 741. A bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to require research and development regarding a policy to insure the production of mushrooms; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 742. A bill to extend duty-free treatment provided with respect to imports from Haiti under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. ERNST, and Mr. TUBERVILLE):

S. 743. A bill to require the establishment of a joint task force to identify and eliminate barriers to agriculture exports of the United States; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 744. A bill to amend the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 relating to licensing transparency; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SCHMITT (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 745. A bill to amend the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to require notification with respect to individualized education program teams, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BANKS:

S. 746. A bill to prohibit Federal funding for National Public Radio, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. RICKETTS (for himself and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 747. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to include information on improper payments under Federal programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. PADILLA:

S. 748. A bill to reaffirm the applicability of the Indian Reorganization Act to the Lytton Rancheria of California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. COONS, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. SLOTKIN, and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 749. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend increased dependency and indemnity compensation paid to surviving spouses of veterans who die from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, regardless of how long the veterans had such disease prior to death, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 750. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Health and Human Services from implementing, enforcing, or otherwise giving effect to a final rule regarding minimum staffing for nursing facilities, and to establish an advisory panel on the nursing home workforce; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 751. A bill to prohibit discrimination based on an individual's texture or style of hair; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. REED, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. WICKER, Mr. COONS, Mr. ROUNDS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. FETTERMAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. KAINE, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. WARREN, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DAINES, Mr. KELLY, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. BOOKER, and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 752. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to streamline enrollment under the Medicaid program of certain providers across State lines; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 753. A bill to amend the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 to exclude certain financing from the calculation of the default rate for purposes of determining when the lending cap under such Act applies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. BUDD, and Mrs. BRITT):

S. 754. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to periodically assess cybersecurity threats to, and vulnerabilities in, the agriculture and food critical infrastructure sector and to provide recommendations to enhance their security and resilience, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct an annual cross-sector simulation exercise relating to a food-related emergency or disruption, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 755. A bill to facilitate the development of treatments for cancers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. COLLINS):