

In 2018, Sara and Matt Ricke acquired the historic St. Louis Catholic Church in Royal, IA. The couple envisioned preserving the religious landmark while integrating modern touches to transform the former church into an event space. Originally from Sioux City, IA, Sara and Matt spent weekends traveling to Royal, dedicating countless hours to renovating the space. Within 1 year, their hard work paid off, and The Great Hall of Royal was ready for business. Today, the venue features sleek, elegant woodwork that enhances the historic charm for any event ranging from intimate private parties to weddings and fundraisers.

Over the years, The Great Hall of Royal has become a beloved destination for families and organizations across northwest Iowa. The company has dedicated staff members that help with the diverse needs of event coordination. As the primary owner and event coordinator, Sara personally oversees each event, ensuring guests have a seamless and enjoyable experience. The Great Hall of Royal's catering services began unexpectedly when a client requested on-site food service for a one-time event. The positive feedback led to frequent catering requests, and in 2021, the business officially launched its catering division. In 2023, The Great Hall of Royal catered its first wedding, marking a milestone for the business. This March, Sara and Matt welcomed their daughters Jackie, Lexi, and Becky into the company as partners. Each daughter plays a vital role, from website design to event coordination and guest services.

The Great Hall of Royal's commitment to serving the community shines beyond their investment in bringing joy to others through social gatherings. Sara and Matt remain deeply involved in the local community. Both are active members of the Spencer Chamber of Commerce, and Sara serves on the Tourism Committee while Matt contributes his expertise to the Agriculture Committee. Additionally, Sara serves on the board of the Clay County Long Term Recovery Group (CCLTRG), where she is helping to lead the effort to restore Spencer, IA, after the devastating floods the community endured in the summer of 2024. Sara and Matt also serve as volunteer firefighters, specializing in medical care. This October, The Great Hall of Royal will celebrate its fifth anniversary in Iowa.

The entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to excellence demonstrated by The Great Hall of Royal are clear. I want to congratulate Sara and Matt Ricke, their family, and the entire team for their hard work and dedication to providing an exceptional venue for families across Iowa. I look forward to seeing their continued growth and success.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States was communicated to

the Senate by Mr. Hanley, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

#### NOTICE OF CERTAIN ACTIONS TAKEN TO DEAL WITH THE UNUSUAL AND EXTRAORDINARY THREAT TO THE UNITED STATES' ECONOMY AND NATIONAL SECURITY POSED BY THE UNDERLYING CONDITIONS OF OUR TRADE WITH FOREIGN NATIONS, INCLUDING A LACK OF RECIPROCITY IN OUR BILATERAL TRADE RELATIONSHIPS, DISPARATE TARIFF RATES AND NON-TARIFF BARRIERS, AND FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICIES THAT SUPPRESS DOMESTIC WAGES AND CONSUMPTION, AS INDICATED BY LARGE AND PERSISTENT ANNUAL U.S. GOODS TRADE DEFICITS—PM 20

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 Finance:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Consistent with applicable law, including the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*) (NEA) and the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*) (IEEPA), I am providing notice of certain actions I have taken to deal with the unusual and extraordinary threat to the United States' economy and national security posed by the underlying conditions of our trade with foreign nations, including a lack of reciprocity in our bilateral trade relationships, disparate tariff rates and non-tariff barriers, and foreign economic policies that suppress domestic wages and consumption, as indicated by large and persistent annual U.S. goods trade deficits. That threat has its source in whole or substantial part outside the United States in the domestic economic policies of key trading partners and structural imbalances in the global trading system. In my judgment, action under the NEA and IEEPA is necessary and appropriate to deal with the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and economy of the United States.

Executive Order 14257 of April 2, 2025 (Regulating Imports with a Reciprocal Tariff to Rectify Trade Practices that

Contribute to Large and Persistent Annual United States Goods Trade Deficits) (the "Executive Order"), declares a national emergency arising from non-reciprocal trade as evidenced by large and persistent annual U.S. goods trade deficits. Such trade deficits have led to the hollowing out of our manufacturing base; inhibited our ability to scale advanced domestic manufacturing capacity; undermined critical supply chains; and rendered our defense-industrial base dependent on foreign adversaries.

To deal with this national emergency, I have determined that it is necessary and appropriate to impose additional *ad valorem* duties on imports of goods from our trading partners under IEEPA. The additional *ad valorem* duties shall be imposed on imports of goods from all U.S. trading partners at varying rates, subject to exceptions specified in the Executive Order. The specific foreign trading partners, and the applicable duty rate for each trading partner, are listed in Annexes I and III of the Executive Order. It is necessary to apply additional duties on the imports of goods from all U.S. trading partners to reduce the overall U.S. global goods trade deficit and incentivize trading partners to take significant steps to remedy non-reciprocal trade practices, as well as align sufficiently with the United States on economic and national security matters.

My Administration will continue to consult with the Congress on our efforts to deal with the unusual and extraordinary threat described in this report and the Executive Order. As described in the Executive Order, the United States Trade Representative, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Assistant to the President for Economic Policy, the Senior Counselor for Trade and Manufacturing, and the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, is authorized to submit recurring and final reports to the Congress on this national emergency.

The Executive Order further explains the circumstances that necessitate the exercise of authority under IEEPA and the NEA; why I found that those circumstances constitute an unusual and extraordinary threat, which has its source in whole or substantial part outside the United States, to the national security and economy of the United States; the authorities exercised and the actions to be taken to deal with those circumstances; why I determined that such actions are necessary to deal with those circumstances; and the foreign countries with respect to which such actions are to be taken and why such actions are to be taken with respect to those countries.

I am enclosing a copy of the Executive Order I have issued.

DONALD J. TRUMP.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, April 7, 2025.

PRIVILEGED NOMINATION  
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

On request by Senator BRIAN SCHATZ, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: David Brian Castillo, of Washington, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Labor.

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. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. WELCH, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. HOEVEN):

S. 1312. A bill to establish the Office of the Special Investigator for Competition Matters within the Department of Agriculture; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 1313. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to eliminate the use of official time by Federal employees; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself, Mr. KING, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 1314. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that floor plan financing includes the financing of certain trailers and campers; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KING (for himself and Mr. WELCH):

S. 1315. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a refundable credit for certain home accessibility improvements; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. COONS, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. PADILLA, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 1316. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide that COPS grant funds may be used for local law enforcement recruits to attend schools or academies if the recruits agree to serve in precincts of law enforcement agencies in their communities; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself, Mr. HAWLEY, and Mr. TUBERVILLE):

S. 1317. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require additional disclosures relating to gifts and contracts from foreign sources; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 1318. A bill to direct the American Battle Monuments Commission to establish a program to identify American-Jewish servicemembers buried in United States military cemeteries overseas under markers that incorrectly represent their religion and heritage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND  
SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. HEINRICH, and Ms. WARREN):

S. Res. 158. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that paraprofessionals and education support staff should have fair compensation, benefits, and working conditions; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. THUNE, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BANKS, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. BUDD, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. DAINES, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. ERNST, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. GALLEGUE, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. HUSTED, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KIM, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEE, Mr. LUJAN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MOODY, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MORENO, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. RISCH, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SHEEHY, Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. Res. 159. A resolution honoring the life of the Honorable John Bennett Johnston, Jr., former Senator for the State of Louisiana; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CRUZ, and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. Res. 160. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Safe Digging Month; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. Res. 161. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of April 7 through April 11, 2025, as "National Assistant Principals Week"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 161

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of S. 161, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to issue rules relating to the testing procedures used under the New Car Assessment Program of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 339

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from New Mexico

(Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 339, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of multi-cancer early detection screening tests.

S. 463

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 463, a bill to facilitate the implementation of security measures undertaken by the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

S. 522

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) were added as cosponsors of S. 522, a bill to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to modify the frequency of board of directors meetings, and for other purposes.

S. 527

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 527, a bill to require the Federal Trade Commission to study the role of intermediaries in the pharmaceutical supply chain and provide Congress with appropriate policy recommendations, and for other purposes.

S. 739

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 749

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) were added as cosponsors of 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.

S. 803

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. KIM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 803, a bill to regulate large capacity ammunition feeding devices.

S. 844

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 844, a bill to accelerate workplace time-to-contract under the National Labor Relations Act.

S. 858

At the request of Mr. JUSTICE, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. SHEEHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 858, a bill to authorize the National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation to establish a commemorative work on the National Mall to honor the