

not just endured but grown to be a global event, fostering a deeper appreciation and understanding of Hawaiian culture with the thousands who watch in person, on TV, and online. The competition, craft fairs, parade, and other associated events are special opportunities for local artisans, businessowners, musicians, and more to share their talents with the world. The Merrie Monarch Festival both honors the past and traditional knowledge and celebrates how the Hawaiian culture continues to live on.

I commend the organizers, participants, and supporters of the Merrie Monarch Festival for their steadfast dedication to perpetuating Hawaiian cultural practices. Their efforts honor the legacy of King Kalakaua and emphasize the significance of sustaining Native Hawaiian traditions in our contemporary world.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:49 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 78. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for the San Francisco Bay-Delta Distinct Population Segment of the Longfin Smelt".

The message also announced that pursuant to section 4703(b) of the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Act (20 U.S.C. 4703), the Minority Leader appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the Board of Trustees of the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation: Mr. JOHN B. LARSON of Connecticut.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1582. A bill to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, May 5, 2025, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled joint resolutions:

S.J. Res. 18. Joint resolution disapproving the rule submitted by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection relating to "Overdraft Lending: Very Large Financial Institutions".

S.J. Res. 28. Joint resolution disapproving the rule submitted by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection relating to "Defining Larger Participants of a Market for General-Use Digital Consumer Payment Applications".

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-889. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Division of Trading and Markets, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulation SBSR (Reporting and Dissemination of Security-Based Swap Information) and Security-Based Swap Data Repository Rules; Extension" ((RIN3235-AK79) (RIN3235-AK80)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 30, 2025; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-890. 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 Price, Utah" (MB Docket No. 25-6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 30, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-891. A communication from the Acting Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Incarcerated People's Communication Services; Implementation of the Martha Wright-Reed Act; Rates for Interstate Inmate Calling Services" (WC Docket Nos. 23-62, 12-375) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 30, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-892. A communication from the Associate Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.101 Rev 7, 'Emergency Response Planning and Preparedness for Nuclear Power Reactors'" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 30, 2025; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-893. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Secretary of State's intent to designate Viv Ansam and Gran Grif as Foreign Terrorist Organizations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-894. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section Article 12(3) of the Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Australia Concerning Defense Trade Cooperation, and section 126.16(o) of the International Traffic in Arms Regulations, the Department hereby notifies Congress of an export to Australia of defense articles in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-895. A communication from the Acting Chief of Legal, External Affairs, and Performance Branch, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Director, Office of Government Ethics, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 30, 2025; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-896. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office's fiscal year 2024 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Anti-

discrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-897. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the agencies' use of student loan repayments as a strategic tool for the purposes of recruitment and retention during calendar year 2022; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-898. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The Department of Justice Freedom of Information Act 2024 Litigation and Compliance Report," and the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for all federal agencies' Freedom of Information Act reports; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-899. A communication from the Chair of the U.S. Sentencing Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the amendments to the federal sentencing guidelines that were proposed by the Commission during the 2024 - 2025 amendment cycle; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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-6. A memorial adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of New Mexico raising awareness of the challenges experienced by people exposed to radiation and encouraging the United States Congress to support legislation to expand compensation under the Federal Radiation Exposure Compensation Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE MEMORIAL NO. 15

Whereas, from 1945 to 1962, the United States government conducted an extensive weapons development program testing hundreds of nuclear weapons; and

Whereas, to provide uranium for the atmospheric nuclear testing being carried out, the United States hired people to mine and process uranium in many areas, especially in New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, Montana, Nevada and Utah; and

Whereas, large uranium deposits were found on or near the Navajo Nation, and many Navajo people were employed to work in the mines; and

Whereas, thousands of people were exposed to unhealthy and damagingly high doses of radiation through atmospheric nuclear weapons testing or through employment in uranium mining and processing; and

Whereas, radiation exposure has been linked to many serious illnesses, including leukemia and multiple myeloma; renal failures; breast, bladder, colon, liver, lung, esophageal, ovarian, renal, prostate and stomach cancers; gastrointestinal, neurological and blood disorders; and other conditions leading to debilitation or death; and

Whereas, in 1990, the United States congress passed the federal Radiation Exposure Compensation Act; and

Whereas, the federal Radiation Exposure Compensation Act was designed to provide some compensation to people exposed to radiation through certain atmospheric nuclear weapons tests and uranium mining and processing operations; and

Whereas, the federal Radiation Exposure Compensation Act designated certain areas of Arizona and Utah as official downwind areas that were downwind of atmospheric nuclear weapons testing, for which compensation would be provided; and

Whereas, the federal Radiation Exposure Compensation Act limited compensation for uranium miners, millers and haulers to those workers employed by the uranium industry before January 1, 1972; and

Whereas, the amount of monetary compensation awarded pursuant to the federal Radiation Exposure Compensation Act differs widely according to whether an individual was exposed to radiation due to being in a downwind area or according to the type of uranium industry-related work the individual performed; and

Whereas, under the strict guidelines of the federal Radiation Exposure Compensation Act, many individuals who have lived downwind from test sites outside of Arizona, Nevada and Utah or who worked in the uranium industry were provided no remedy for their radiation exposure; and

Whereas, on April 28, 2022, United States Senators Ben Ray Lujan and Martin Heinrich co-sponsored United States Senate Bill 4119, which was signed by President Joe Biden on June 7, 2022, becoming public law 117-119 and extending the federal Radiation Exposure Compensation Act by two years; and

Whereas, members of New Mexico's congressional delegation are continuing their previous efforts to expand and improve compensation for individuals exposed to radiation; and

Whereas, on May 18, 2023, United States Senate Bill 1751 was introduced by Senators Ben Ray Lujan and Martin Heinrich and fifteen bipartisan co-sponsors to amend and extend the federal Radiation Exposure Compensation Act, expanding eligibility, raising compensation amounts and extending by nineteen years the expiration date of the federal Radiation Exposure Compensation Act; and

Whereas, legislation mirroring Senator Lujan's bill was introduced on June 30, 2023 as United States House Resolution 4426 by United States Representatives Teresa Leger Fernandez, Melanie Stansbury and Gabe Vasquez and thirty-nine bipartisan co-sponsors; and

Whereas, in 2024, United States Senator Josh Hawley introduced United States Senate Bill 3853, and in 2025, he introduced United States Senate Bill 243 to extend the period for filing claims under the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act and to provide for compensation under that act; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of the state of New Mexico that the United States congress be encouraged to support the passage of United States Senate Bill 243 and any subsequent federal legislation to expand and improve compensation under the federal Radiation Exposure Compensation Act; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this memorial be transmitted to members of New Mexico's congressional delegation and members of the United States congress.

POM-7. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Ohio urging the United States Congress to support the provision of prompt and comprehensive mental health treatment to military personnel and veterans who are suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and other service-related stress disorders; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 21

Whereas, According to the National Institutes of Health, the most common mental health problems faced by returning troops are, in order, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), substance use disorder, anxiety disorder, and serious mental illness such as schizophrenia or bipolar disorder; and

Whereas, The wars in Afghanistan and Iraq were the longest combat operations since Vietnam, and the stress of being in a war zone or long-term naval deployment combined with the stress of being away from home for long periods of time can increase the chance of having PTSD or other mental health problems; and

Whereas, According to research conducted at Brown University's Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs, 30,177 active duty personnel and veterans who served in the military after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks have died by suicide compared to the 7,057 service members killed in combat in those same 20 years; and

Whereas, According to the United Service Organizations, Inc., suicide rates among active-duty military members in 2021 were at an all-time high since recordkeeping began after September 11, 2001, and had been increasing over the previous five years at an alarmingly steady pace; and

Whereas, The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the U.S. Department of Defense, and many other entities are working to identify and address the issues of veterans and military personnel suffering from PTSD and other service-related stress disorders; and

Whereas, The United States Department of Veterans Affairs has established the National Center for PTSD as a center of excellence for research and education on the prevention, understanding, and treatment of PTSD; and

Whereas, According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, each medical center within the Department has PTSD specialists who provide treatment for veterans with PTSD; and

Whereas, Mental trauma may not be as easily identifiable as the physical trauma suffered by military personnel and veterans, and may require additional resources to identify and treat; and

Whereas, Only qualified and licensed medical professionals with experience treating military personnel and veterans should have the authority to approve or disapprove mental health treatment of military personnel and veterans experiencing service-related stress disorders; and

Whereas, While support and treatment programs are available to veterans and military personnel suffering from PTSD or other service-related stress disorders, there are many service members who are still not receiving sufficient treatment; and

Whereas, Several recommendations made by the U.S. Government Accountability Office to the U.S. Department of Defense have not yet been fully implemented to ensure that PTSD and traumatic brain injuries are appropriately considered prior to separating certain service members from the military for misconduct, thereby placing both the earned benefits due to veterans and the mental health of some service members and veterans in jeopardy; and

Whereas, The service members who willingly sacrifice their safety for the freedom of all Americans deserve to have access to all the resources and support services necessary for them to reintegrate into society; and

Whereas, According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable may qualify for VA health care benefits including qualifying Reserve and National Guard members; now therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of the Ohio Senate of the 136th General Assembly, urge the United States Congress to support the provision of prompt and comprehensive mental health diagnosis and treatment to all military personnel and veterans who are suf-

fering from PTSD and other service-related stress disorders; and be it further

Resolved, That we urge the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that each of the U.S. Government Accountability Office's recommendations is implemented to guarantee that PTSD and traumatic brain injuries are appropriately considered prior to separating certain service members from the military for misconduct; and be it further

Resolved, That we believe military personnel and veterans who had separation or discharge from military service related to mental health issues should have consideration to correct records to a more honorable discharge; and be it further

Resolved, That we affirm that post-military service civilian income should not have any bearing on eligibility for healthcare-related benefits or treatment; and be it further

Resolved, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Speaker and Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the U.S. Senate, the members of the Ohio Congressional delegation, and the news media of Ohio.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. BOOZMAN for the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

*Stephen Vaden, of Tennessee, to be Deputy Secretary of Agriculture.

*Tyler Clarkson, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Agriculture.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

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. HAWLEY (for himself and Mr. WELCH):

S. 1587. A bill to require that the retail list price for certain prescription drugs and biological products may not exceed the average retail list price for the drug or biological product among certain nations; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. CURTIS):

S. 1588. A bill to support United States policy toward Taiwan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. HAWLEY, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. BUDD, Mr. LEE, Ms. ERNST, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MORENO, and Mr. SHEEHY):

S. 1589. A bill to amend section 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act to reform immigration parole, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 1590. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow qualified distributions from qualified tuition programs for