

Iowa Falls, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

After moving to Iowa Falls in 2014, Dominick “Rocky” Damiano and his wife Karla recognized the need for a full-service meat processor and locker that farmers, hunters, and other community members could trust to deliver high-quality products. In 2022, the couple officially opened Nimrod Meats with the goal of reducing wait times for farmers and expanding local processing capacity in central Iowa. The business, housed in a state-of-the-art 9,800-square-foot facility, processes and packs its products on-site. Originally focused on custom processing for cattle, hogs, and game, Nimrod Meats quickly unlocked third-party processing capabilities through cooperative interstate shipment (CIS) certification. In 2023, the business expanded further with the addition of a farm-to-table retail market. The market offers ground and fresh cuts of meat, nonhomogenized dairy products, local honey, specialty oils, and other health-conscious products rarely found in conventional grocery stores.

Today, Rocky, a Marine Corps veteran, oversees business development and meat processing, while Karla, a certified holistic health coach, leads much of the daily retail and marketing operations alongside their team of 13 dedicated community employees. Karla’s background brings a unique perspective, allowing Nimrod Meats to offer health-driven, natural products—from tallow soap to elderberry syrup—many sourced from fellow Iowa small businesses. When not in school, the Damianos’ four children play an active role in the family business and can often be found helping around the store on weekends and in the summer.

Nimrod Meats participates as members of the Iowa Falls Chamber of Commerce, Choose Iowa, and the American Meat Processing Association to connect with their community. Nimrod Meats regularly donates surplus products to the local food bank, supports nearby FFA chapter programs, and sponsors veteran-focused outreach. In 2023, the Small Business Administration honored Nimrod Meats with a prestigious Impact Award during National Veterans Small Business Week, recognizing Rocky Damiano’s entrepreneurial leadership and service to the veteran business community. In May, Nimrod Meats will celebrate its third anniversary in Iowa.

The entrepreneurial spirit and positive local impact demonstrated by Nimrod Meats is clear. I want to congratulate Rocky, Karla, the Damiano family, and their hard-working team for their dedication to enriching their community and providing meaningful products and services to 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 were communicated to

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

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and withdrawals which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:06 p.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. 36. An act to counter the influence of the Chinese Communist Party, the Iranian Regime, and the Russian Federation in the nation of Georgia.

H.R. 530. An act to provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on the prevalence and mortality of cancer among individuals who served as active duty aircrew in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1316. An act to amend the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 relating to licensing transparency.

H.R. 1486. An act to impose sanctions with respect to economic or industrial espionage by foreign adversarial companies, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1512. An act to amend the Taiwan Assurance Act of 2020 to require periodic reviews and updated reports relating to the Department of State’s Taiwan Guidelines.

H.R. 1540. An act to provide for the imposition of sanctions with respect to forced organ harvesting within the People’s Republic of China, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1724. An act to prohibit the use of funds supporting any activities within the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of the People’s Republic of China.

H.R. 1800. An act to repeal the sunset provision of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1912. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the repayment by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of benefits misused by a fiduciary, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2416. An act to amend the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act of 2019 to provide that the United States, as a member of any international organizations, should oppose any attempts by the People’s Republic of China to resolve Taiwan’s status by distorting the decisions, language, policies, or procedures of the organization, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 214(a) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20944), and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Election Assistance Commission Board of Advisors: Mr. Donald F. McGahn II of Potomac, Maryland.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 214(a) of the Help

America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20944), the Minority Leader reappoints the following individual to the U.S. Election Assistance Commission Board of Advisors: Mr. Brian Michael Lemek of Potomac, Maryland.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 703(c) of the Public Interest Declassification Act of 2000 (50 U.S.C. 361 note), the Minority Leader appoints the following individual to the Public Interest Declassification Board: The Honorable Valdez Butler Demings of Orlando, Florida.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 18(c)(2)(A)(i)(VIII) and (IX) of the Reforming Intelligence and Securing America Act (Public Law 118-49), the Minority Leader appoints the following Member to serve as a Commissioner to the FISA Reform Commission: Mr. HIMES of Connecticut. And from private life: Ms. Sharon Bradford Franklin of Bethesda, Maryland and Mr. Glenn Steven Gerstell of Washington, D.C.

#### ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTIONS SIGNED

At 2:18 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled joint resolutions:

H.J. Res. 42. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Energy relating to “Energy Conservation Program for Appliance Standards: Certification Requirements, Labeling Requirements, and Enforcement Provisions for Certain Consumer Products and Commercial Equipment”.

H.J. Res. 75. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy relating to “Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Commercial Refrigerators, Freezers, and Refrigerator-Freezers”.

The enrolled joint resolutions were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 530. An act to provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on the prevalence and mortality of cancer among individuals who served as active duty aircrew in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

H.R. 1316. An act to amend the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 relating to licensing transparency; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1486. An act to impose sanctions with respect to economic or industrial espionage by foreign adversarial companies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 1512. An act to amend the Taiwan Assurance Act of 2020 to require periodic reviews and updated reports relating to the Department of State’s Taiwan Guidelines; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 1540. An act to provide for the imposition of sanctions with respect to forced organ harvesting within the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 1724. An act to prohibit the use of funds supporting any activities within the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 1800. An act to repeal the sunset provision of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1912. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the repayment by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of benefits misused by a fiduciary, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 2416. An act to amend the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act of 2019 to provide that the United States, as a member of any international organizations, should oppose any attempts by the People's Republic of China to resolve Taiwan's status by distorting the decisions, language, policies, or procedures of the organization, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### MEASURES DISCHARGED PETITION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, hereby direct that the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee be discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 13, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency of the Department of the Treasury relating to the review of applications under the Bank Merger Act.

John Kennedy, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Bill Hagerty, Pete Ricketts, Steve Daines, Tom Cotton, Kevin Cramer, Rick Scott, John Husted, Ted Budd, Deb Fischer, Mike Rounds, James C. Justice, Tommy Tuberville, Katie Boyd Britt, Tom Tillis, Cynthia M. Lummis, Roger F. Wicker, Ron Johnson, Mike Crapo, Marsha Blackburn, David McCormick, John Cornyn, Tim Scott, Joni Ernst, Jerry Moran, Bill Cassidy, Roger Marshall, Ted Cruz, Eric Schmitt.

#### MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following joint resolution was discharged from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs by petition, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 802(c), and placed on the calendar:

S.J. Res. 13. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency of the Department of the Treasury relating to the review of applications under the Bank Merger Act.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 36. An act to counter the influence of the Chinese Communist Party, the Iranian Regime, and the Russian Federation in the nation of Georgia.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CRUZ, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 97. A bill to require SelectUSA to coordinate with State-level economic development organizations to increase foreign direct investment in semiconductor-related manufacturing and production (Rept. No. 119-18).

S. 260. A bill to amend the Bottles and Breastfeeding Equipment Screening Act to require hygienic handling of breast milk and baby formula by security screening personnel of the Transportation Security Administration and personnel of private security companies providing security screening, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 119-19).

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. SCOTT, of South Carolina, for the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

\*John Hurley, of California, to be Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Crimes.

\*David Fogel, of Connecticut, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service.

\*Landon Heid, of Missouri, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

\*Andrew Hughes, of Texas, to be Deputy Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

\*David Woll, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

\*Michelle Bowman, of Kansas, to be Vice Chairman for Supervision of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of four years.

By Mr. COTTON for the Select Committee on Intelligence.

\*John Andrew Eisenberg, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

\*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. MORAN (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 1603. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the tax-exempt controlled entity rules with respect to certain stock of government-sponsored enterprises; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 1604. A bill to prohibit implementation of the Regional Transportation Optimization initiative, or similar initiative from being implemented by the United States Postal Service if the Postal Regulatory Commission has determined the initiative will negatively affect rural communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. TILLIS:

S. 1605. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify certain provi-

sions relating to the taxation of international entities; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. RICKETTS, and Mr. JUSTICE):

S. 1606. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a deduction for certain overtime payments; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCHMITT:

S. 1607. A bill to establish an Inspector General of the National Institutes of Health, an Inspector General of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and an Inspector General for the Food and Drug Administration; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 1608. A bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to provide awards to recognize State and local governments that improve the process of forming a new business, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. MULLIN):

S. 1609. A bill to provide for further comprehensive research at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke on unruptured intracranial aneurysms; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 1610. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the exclusion of Pell Grants from gross income; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. COONS):

S. 1611. A bill to promote public service announcement campaigns targeted at youth substance use prevention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. LEE, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. MCCORMICK, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. FISCHER, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 1612. A bill to limit funds to the United Nations and other organizations that provide any status, rights, or privileges beyond observer status to the Palestine Liberation Organization, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. COONS, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. GALLEGO, and Ms. ALSOBROOKS):

S. 1613. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the limitations for deductible new business expenditures, to consolidate provisions for start-up and organizational expenditures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. SHEEHY):

S. 1614. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to approve a rehabilitation program for certain veterans with service-connected disabilities that include the pursuit of non-degree flight training programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. CRAPO):