

The clerk will read the title of the joint resolution for the third time.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

VOTE ON S.J. RES. 13

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

Ms. BALDWIN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: The Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON).

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 237 Leg.]

YEAS—52

Banks	Grassley	Mullin
Barrasso	Hagerty	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hawley	Paul
Boozman	Hoeven	Ricketts
Britt	Husted	Risch
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cassidy	Justice	Scott (FL)
Collins	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Lankford	Sheehy
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Curtis	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	McCormick	Wicker
Ernst	Moody	Young
Fischer	Moran	
Graham	Moreno	

NAYS—47

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Baldwin	Hirono	Sanders
Bennet	Kaine	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schumer
Booker	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Coons	Lujan	Smith
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Galleo	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	

NOT VOTING—1

Cotton

The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 13) was passed, as follows:

S.J. RES. 13

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency of the Department of the Treasury relating to "Business Combinations Under the Bank Merger Act" (89 Fed. Reg. 78207 (September 25, 2024)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. JUSTICE). The Senator from Kansas.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

The Senator from Rhode Island.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING UTAH'S APPOINTEES TO SERVICE ACADEMIES

• Mr. LEE. Mr. President, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize 21 exemplary men and women who are among the best and brightest that Utah has to offer. These individuals have answered the call to service by applying and receiving appointments to the U.S. Air Force Academy, the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, the U.S. Military Academy, and the U.S. Naval Academy.

As a Member of Congress, it is my privilege under title 10 of the U.S. Code to nominate young men and women to these iconic service academies. However, receiving a congressional nomination does not guarantee acceptance. To be admitted, each applicant must meet—on his or her own merits—the academies' rigorous standards.

I am happy to report that each individual has done this and more. They have demonstrated their impressive mental and physical aptitude, which are essential in meeting the standard of excellence upon which our service academies are built. Perhaps more importantly, they have shown their high moral character and capacity for leadership, courage, honesty, prudence, and self-discipline. They maintain a steadfast commitment to stand up for our country.

I can say without hesitation or exaggeration that you would be hard-pressed to find a more accomplished, talented, patriotic group of citizens than these young Americans. They will be a credit to our Nation as they begin their training in Colorado Springs, Kings Point, West Point, and Annapolis. I look forward to seeing what they do in their academic years and beyond.

It is one of my greatest honors to recognize and congratulate these fine Utahns in the U.S. Senate:

Wilford William Beck, from Highland, Utah, will join his brother at the U.S. Naval Academy as a midshipman. He maintained a 4.0 GPA at Lone Peak High School while taking challenging classes. Wil lettered in cross country and tennis, where he also served as captain and helped lead his team to a state championship. He participated in the Chinese Club and provided community service with his church youth group and at the VA hospital. He participated in multiple medical mission trips to Honduras to provide assistance to those in need.

Kohler C. Beckstrand has accepted an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. A student of Davis High School, Kohler challenged himself in both academics, where he took a high number of AP classes, and athletics, where he ran cross country and track. He was a member of the National Honor Society and the Health Organization Students of America (HOSA). He plays trumpet and earned superior ratings in the Solo and Ensemble festival. Kohler is active in his community serving neighbors and leading food drives.

Asher Randall Bowcutt after graduating from Copper Hills High School will enter the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He served as captain of both the football team, where he earned Academic All-State Honors, and the track and field team, where he holds school records in the shot put and discus, all while maintaining a 4.0 GPA. Asher enjoys snowboarding, chess, drawing, and working as a welder with Hardwick Machinery. He will follow his grandfather, aunts, and uncles into Army service.

Dawson Lee Douglas accepted an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy. From Sandy, Utah, he will graduate from Alta High School where he took a high number of AP classes and was awarded AP Scholar with Distinction. He stays active in sports and volunteers in his neighborhood and community, where his church youth group annually puts flags on the graves of our veterans. He routinely challenges himself academically and physically and is looking forward to the challenges of the academy.

Lucas McCoy Fassio will be attending the U.S. Air Force Academy after graduating from Park City High School. He stayed busy in school taking a high number of AP classes while at the same time competing for the cross-country ski team, where he has qualified for both the U.S. Junior and Senior National Cross-Country Championships. He served as captain of the Park City Ski and Snowboard Club, a member of the Park City Ski and Snowboard Leadership Athlete Council, and as an officer in the Aviation Club.

Bradley Joseph Floyd, will be joining the cadets of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point following his graduation from Syracuse High School. Bradley has proven himself a leader and someone who can inspire others as the president of the band, captain of the track team, and president of his church youth group. He plays the trombone and has received superior ratings in Solo and Ensemble and Jazz and Wind festivals. Bradley said his father is his inspiration and he will be following his father into the Army.

Aadi Garg graduated from Providence Hall Charter School and has been attending the University of Utah. He has now accepted an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy. He prepared himself by participating in Navy JROTC where he served as the platoon leader and was on the academic, orienteering, and PT teams. He played tennis and ran on the cross-country and track and field teams. He earned Academic All-State awards and was named student of the year. He served his community with the National Honor Society and the Red Cross.

Zoe Lee Hein, from West Jordan, has accepted an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. She is serving as Senior Class President of Copper Hills High School and is captain of the track and field team where she holds several school records in the long jump, 100M, 200m, and relays. She is an AAU All American. She maintains a 4.0 with a rigorous academic schedule and is a member of the National Honor Society. She descends from a long line of military service members and will be the first female in her family to serve.

Malcolm Johnson accepted an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy. A graduate last year of Herriman High School, Malcolm has spent this year at the Naval Academy Preparatory School. In high school, Malcolm was captain of the basketball team, was awarded the school's Male Athlete of the Year, and earned Academic All-State Honors. He worked in his community serving in food kitchens and gathering supplies for those in need. He is known for his natural leadership abilities and unwavering work ethic.

Aedan Frederick Marr will be attending the U.S. Military Academy at West Point after his graduation from Corner Canyon High School. He served as captain of the track and field team and lettered on the state champion football team. The Eagle Scout earned two Gold Eagle Palms, a Silver Eagle Palm, and two Bronze Eagle Palms. He was a leader in JROTC, serving as a squad leader, platoon sergeant, and acting company commander. He lived in Germany where both his mother and father served in the Army.

Keon Matinkhah, from Salt Lake City, has accepted an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy. He attended the Northwestern Preparatory Academy after graduating from the American Preparatory Academy, where he served two years as student body president. As captain of the Speech and Debate team, he took first in the state for Oratory. He is an accomplished road cyclist and was a member of the Ascent Cycling Club. He participates in Ironman and Spartan races and has raised money for cancer research through his racing.

Kaitlyn Olivia Meyer was proud to accept her appointment to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. She will soon graduate from Skyridge High School in Lehi. Kait attended Girls State, is a member of the National Honor Society, and is active in her church youth group. She joined the Air Force JROTC and participated on the Raiders team. Kait is captain of the track and field team and was a leader on both her high school and club soccer teams, where she was the game MVP five times and the defensive MVP eight times.

Ian McKay Nielsen will join the midshipmen at the U.S. Naval Academy after graduating from West High School. A 4.0 student with a heavy load of AP classes, Ian still found time for the Arabic Club and the Boy Scouts. He led the wrestling team in high school and is a champion Sport Bike and SuperMoto racer. He joins a long family legacy of military service that includes his brother, who graduated from the Naval Academy in 2025, his sister in Air Force ROTC, and grandfathers, who each have their own noble records of service.

Samantha Pope will follow in her father's footsteps and attend the U.S. Air Force Academy. The volleyball captain helped her Lone Peak High School volleyball team earn two state championships. Not to be outdone, her basketball team also earned two state championships. Sam has been preparing academically and physically for the academy since she was young. The natural leader remembered those who helped her with her community service as she prepared bags for 2,500 teachers through *Show Up For Teachers*.

Theodore Sun Segrist will be joining his sister at the U.S. Naval Academy. He has been living in Hong Kong with his family and attending the Chinese International School. Teo has made a name for himself as a champion rugby athlete. While challenging himself with an International Baccalaureate class load, he has also tutored refugees in Hong Kong, and helped develop a video game, through *Games for Change*, to educate young people about ocean pollution. He plays piano and enjoys studying military history and taking time out to ski and scuba dive.

Joseph M. Smith, from Santa Clara, has accepted an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. A 4.0 student from Snow Canyon High School, Joseph excelled in his AP and concurrent enrollment classes. The senior class president attended Boys State and served as a youth city councilman, and as captain of his football team. His skill in javelin helped his track and field team win two state championships. He participated in Air Force JROTC where he

served as staff sergeant. Joseph hosts a religious podcast and enjoys hunting and pickleball.

William Nakanelua Stant will be attending the U.S. Air Force Academy after graduating from Pine View High School in St. George. Active in Air Force ROTC, William served in many leadership positions—including drill commander and the unit executive officer—and participated in the JROTC drill team, color guard, and Raiders team. He earned the Air & Space Forces Association. He was captain of the high school swimming team and vice-president of the Ping Pong club. He joins several members of his family in military service, including his great-uncle who was a Navajo Code Talker.

Abigail Thornton, a student of West High School, will join her brother and other cadets at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. She was very active in high school, taking a number of AP and International Baccalaureate courses and joining the soccer, basketball, and track and field teams. In addition to serving as the captain of her high school soccer team and twice earning the team MVP, she also plays for a number of club soccer teams. She was a member of the National Honor Society, Key Club, Hope Squad, and Environmental club.

Bradley Rex Thornton will be returning to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point with his sister after serving a church mission in Texas Fort Worth. He graduated from West High School where he served as captain of the basketball team and as a student body officer. He coordinated school assemblies and joined both the German Club and Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA). Bradley was active in the Boy Scouts and achieved the rank of Eagle Scout.

Caleb Bradley Watson will be returning to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point after serving a church mission in Misión Chile Concepción. Caleb originally entered the academy in 2022 after graduating from Hillcrest High School. During high school, he was captain of the baseball team and was a member of the National Honor Society. He attended Boys State and served on the Draper Mayor's Youth City Council. He was active in the Boy Scouts where he earned the rank of Eagle Scout.

Preston Lee Whatcott accepted an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. The Corner Canyon High School student continues the academy and military tradition in his family but wanted West Point over following his brother and father to the Air Force Academy. He is an excellent student, who has been studying Chinese for over twelve years. Preston is an Eagle Scout and has been a leader in his church youth group and on the Draper Mayor's Youth City Council. In addition to playing football, he also enjoys golf, track, and filming and editing videos.

It has been inspiring to meet with and nominate each of these exceptional young men and women. They give me great hope for the future of our armed services and confidence in the future of our Nation.

To these 21 appointees and to all their future classmates from around the country, I thank you for your commitment to service and commend your achievements. While this is but the beginning of your journey, I urge you to remember the foundation of your success thus far.

You would not have arrived at this point without the dedication and example of your parents, family, teachers, coaches, and mentors. Moreover, you

would not have arrived at this point without your own sacrifice and hard work.

Strive to continue on the path of strong moral character, and to keep love of country as a guiding principle. Look to the past with gratitude and to the future with conviction. If you stay this course, I have no doubt that your future holds great things in store. I look forward to your continued service to our country.●

TRIBUTE TO PAUL "PUCK" ESPOSITO

● Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, in Alabama, we take a lot of pride in honoring and supporting the heroes who have served in our Nation's military. But it takes people who are dedicated to this mission 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

No one embodies this cause better than Captain Paul "Puck" Esposito of Auburn, AL. The son of a World War II and Korean war veteran, Puck followed in his father's footsteps and joined the Navy in 1986. Puck spent 30 years in Active Duty as a Navy aviator. From flying grey helicopters, serving on an exchange tour with the Canadian Air Force, to spending 8 years at sea—you name it, Puck did it. He was sent on nine long deployments and served in every theatre the Navy has a presence in.

A native of Long Island, Puck found himself settling down over 1,000 miles from home in Auburn, AL. Upon taking charge of Auburn University's Navy ROTC unit, Puck and his wife Dana quickly fell in love with the Plains. After retiring from Active Duty in 2016, he was offered the position to direct the Auburn University Veterans Resource Center. It was in this role at Auburn that Puck, a career Navyman—and a native Northeasterner—embraced all that the South has to offer.

His role at the vets resource center has been an essential part of filling the gaps for Auburn student-veterans and military-affiliated students. Though the center is largely focused on providing academic resources for its participants, Puck has taken a deeper approach. In addition to educational support, Puck and his team have worked to combat critical issues such as veteran suicide, food insecurity, and homelessness.

Under the last decade of Puck's leadership, Auburn's vets resource center has expanded from supporting 600 students to 2,100 currently. They put on events like Project Iron Ruck and help Auburn recognize and honor veterans at many of the university's athletic events.

We are proud to now call Puck one of our own, and we are grateful for all he does to support our veterans. It is my honor to recognize Puck Esposito as the May Veteran of the Month.●