

long and exceptional career of Deputy Chief Carl “Spike” Benton, who has served the Charleston County EMS for over 42 years.

Raised in North Charleston, SC, Benton began his career with Charleston County EMS in 1983 and has since become a steadfast leader and mentor. Twice named Paramedic of the Year, he has received numerous awards for clinical excellence and commendations from law enforcement agencies, the U.S. Secret Service, and the South Carolina College of Emergency Physicians.

Beyond his clinical skill, Benton has shaped generations of EMS providers, serving as senior crew chief, shift supervisor, and deputy chief. He has played an instrumental role in shaping Charleston County EMS into one of the finest EMS agencies in the country. His leadership has inspired and guided countless providers, many of whom now serve as leaders in medicine, public safety, and government.

In 1996, Benton’s vision and initiative led to the creation of the TEMS special team, a tactical EMS team that built bridges between first responder agencies and ensured coordinated care during high-risk operations. Over the course of more than three decades as its commander, he has supported visits from four U.S. Presidents, multiple Vice Presidents, and numerous dignitaries, demonstrating not only his skill but also his courage and steady leadership.

Deputy Chief Benton’s career reflects the Charleston County EMS motto, “We Care.” His career is a testament to that simple but profound promise. His leadership, courage, and compassion have saved lives, strengthened his community, and set a standard of excellence that will endure long after his retirement.●

TRIBUTE TO ROGER A. NUTT

● Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize and honor the service of South Carolina State Senator Roger A. Nutt.

A man of faith and a lifelong resident of Spartanburg County, Senator Nutt has devoted nearly 15 years of his life to public service, advocating for values and policies that build a better future for our families.

During his service on the Spartanburg County Council, in the South Carolina House of Representatives, and now in the State senate, Senator Nutt has brought the practical, technical perspective of a private sector engineer to the work of governing. He has used his experience to make thoughtful, informed decisions and stood up for conservative principles that have improved the lives of South Carolinians.

His tenure has been marked by steady leadership, genuine heart for service, and a deep dedication to the people of the Palmetto State; yet his impact extends well beyond the halls of government.

Senator Nutt has faithfully served his home church, from leading worship to guiding others in the study of Scripture. His Christian faith shaped both his public and private life, and our State is better off because of it.

As he prepares for a new chapter, I want to share a few of his own words: “[. . .] we will face this trial with faith in the grace of God that has sustained our lives, our marriage, and my career in public service for nearly fifteen years.”

Indeed, the God who created him and sustained him through every valley and every peak will continue to be near to him, and the prayers of countless South Carolinians are with him and his family.

He has represented a high standard of what it means to lead and serve, and it is a privilege to honor Senator Nutt for his years of public service to the people of South Carolina.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Holstead, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:10 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 joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 104. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to “Miles City Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment”.

H.J. Res. 105. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to “North Dakota Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan”.

H.J. Res. 106. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to “Central Yukon Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan”.

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-1615. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Ethyl Formate; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance” (FRL No. 12782-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1616. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “*Bacillus thuringiensis* Cry1A.2 and Cry1B.2 Proteins; Exemptions from the Requirement of a Tolerance” (FRL No. 12818-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1617. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to action on a nomination for a position covered by the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998 for the position of Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, Department of Agriculture, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1618. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to action on a nomination for a position covered by the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998 for the position of General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1619. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Mandipropamid; Pesticide Tolerance” (FRL No. 12919-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1620. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the International Criminal Court that was declared in Executive Order 14203 of February 6, 2025; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1621. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the situation in and in relation to Burma that was declared in Executive Order 14014 of February 10, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1622. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to the National Emergencies Act, a report of the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 14105 of August 9, 2023, with respect to advancement by countries of concern in sensitive technologies and products critical to the military, intelligence, surveillance, or cyber-enabled capabilities of such countries; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1623. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of

the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13222 of August 17, 2001, in light of the expiration of the Export Administration Act of 1979; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1624. A communication from the Acting President and Chairman, Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Mexico; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1625. A communication from the Acting President and Chairman, Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Pakistan; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1626. A communication from the Acting President and Chairman, Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Turkey; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1627. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 14064 with respect to the widespread humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan and the potential for a deepening economic collapse in Afghanistan; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1628. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13848 with respect to the threat of foreign interference in or undermining public confidence in United States elections; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1629. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 14046 with respect to Ethiopia; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1630. A communication from the Acting President and Chairman, Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Iraq; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1631. A communication from the Acting President and Chairman, Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Bahrain; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1632. A communication from the Deputy Assistant General Counsel, General Law and Regulation, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to action on a nomination and discontinuation of service in an acting role for a position covered by the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998 for the position of Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Crimes, Department of Treasury, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2025; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1633. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revocation of Food Standards for 11 Products Not Currently Sold" (RIN0910-AJ06) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2025; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1634. A communication from the Senior Advisor, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to action on a nomination for a position covered by the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998 for the position of Director, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2025; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1635. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Annual Report to Congress: Qualifying Payment Amount Audits"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1636. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Removal of Interpretive Bulletins Relating to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974" (RIN1210-AC32) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2025; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1637. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Administrative Simplification: Modifications of Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP) Retail Pharmacy Standards; and Modification of the Medicaid Pharmacy Subrogation Standard; Updates to Compliance and Other Related Dates" (RIN0938-AU19) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2025; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1638. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Terminating National Institutes of Health Minority Biomedical Research Support Program and Rescinding the Program's Related Regulation" (RIN0925-AA72) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2025; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1639. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rescission of Nondiscrimination and Equal Opportunity Provisions of the Workforce Investment Act" (RIN1291-AA46) received in the office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2025; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1640. A communication from the Senior Official, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rescission of Workforce Investment Act Regulations" (RIN1205-AC26) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2025; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1641. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Obsolete Grant and Contract Regulations" (RIN1291-AA48) received in the office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2025; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1642. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standards of Conduct; Revocation of Superseded Regulations; Revision of Residual Provisions" (RIN0991-AC40) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2025; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. CRAPO for the Committee on Finance.

*Gustav Chiarello III, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services.

*Michael Stuart, of West Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Health and Human Services.

*Bryan Switzer, of Virginia, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Asia, Textiles, Investment, Services, and Intellectual Property), with the rank of Ambassador.

*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. DAINES (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. WARNICK):

S. 2704. A bill to amend the Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994 to increase transparency and accountability regarding the operations of the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 2705. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to prohibit the award of Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants to States or units of local government that limit the use of cash bail; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 2706. A bill to prohibit cashless bail in the District of Columbia; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. HUSTED:

S. 2707. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to exclude certain student income from eligibility determinations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 2708. A bill to enhance the preservation, maintenance, and management of national historic trails and national scenic trails, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. KING):