

history and a tremendous spectacle for all to remember.

The list of those who have made contributions to our Nation over the past 250 years is practically endless, but today I wanted to take a moment to thank the Daughters of the American Revolution for the work they have done to preserve our history and to perpetuate the memory of the men and women who have fought and made contributions to achieve and maintain freedom. Since its founding more than 135 years ago, the efforts of DAR and its local chapters have devoted immeasurable time and resources to aid our military dating back to the Spanish-American War, with significant contributions made during both World War I and World War II.

Today, local chapters across our Nation continue to serve our communities by promoting and fostering civic engagement and offering opportunities to both promote and preserve our collective history. This year, my hometown chapter in Cheyenne, WY, is going to be celebrating their 125th anniversary, and I couldn't be more proud of this achievement and the work they have done.

Founded just 10 years after Wyoming statehood, the Cheyenne chapter has worked in conjunction with the national organization and been dedicated to historic preservation, education, and patriotism. Their work continues today. The Cheyenne chapter continues to remain active by supporting both those currently serving in our military and our many veterans in Wyoming. Their charitable efforts are felt in our local communities where they have made a positive impact and left a lasting impression. These include historic preservation awards, scholarships, and the recognition of local residents who have made positive contributions to their community through the spirit of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

I want to congratulate the members of the Cheyenne Chapter on the momentous occasion of their 125th anniversary and thank them for all they do. I join everyone in Wyoming in saying how proud we are of them and look forward to the many wonderful things they have in store for next year's 250th anniversary celebration.●

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS B. HAGEN

● Mr. McCORMICK. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I, along with my colleague Senator JOHN FETTERMAN, rise today to recognize Pennsylvania's own Thomas B. Hagen, a true American patriot and public servant on his 90th birthday.

Thomas B. Hagen has been a business and civic leader for more than 60 years. He is chairman and a former CEO of the Fortune 500 listed Erie Insurance Group and also chairman of Custom Engineering Co. Mr. Hagen served as the first secretary of the department of community and economic development

in the administration of Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge. He was cofounder and past chairman of Team Pennsylvania Foundation and a past chairman of the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry. Mr. Hagen continues to make significant philanthropic contributions in local, statewide, and national nonprofit organizations, historic property restoration efforts, and economic development initiatives; he has left a particularly indelible mark on his hometown of Erie, PA.

Mr. Hagen funded the Susan Hirt Hagen Center for Transformational Philanthropy at the Erie Community Foundation, the first of its kind for philanthropy in Greater Erie; the restoration of the historic main building at the beloved Erie Zoo; the Susan Hirt Hagen Center for Community Outreach, Research, and Evaluation at Penn State Behrend Campus; and the Erie County Historical Society. Mr. Hagen has invested in the revitalization of Erie through Erie Restorations, LLC and the historic preservation trust that he founded and chairs. A trustee of American Ancestors in Boston and a recipient of Preservation Pennsylvania's Otto Haas Award, he has led the restoration of over 30 houses in the Federal West Sixth Street Historic District with plans to preserve and maintain a total of more than 40 buildings as part of this initiative.

In addition to his philanthropic service, Thomas B. Hagen served his Nation for nearly three decades, first enlisting in the Inactive Naval Reserve at Pittsburgh, PA, on June 18, 1957, in the special enlisted rate of officer candidate seaman apprentice. Soon after graduation from The Ohio State University, he was called to Active Duty for 16 weeks' duty under instruction in Class 34 at the Navy Officer Candidate School, Newport, RI.

He graduated from officer candidate school and commissioned an ensign, Supply Corps, on November 1, 1957. He was sworn in by revered maternal grandfather, retired Commander Frank J. Bailey, who presented him with his naval officer sword acquired upon his commissioning in 1909.

Mr. Hagen graduated from Navy Supply Corps School in Athens, GA, on May 29, 1958; after qualifying for independent duty he was ordered to the Atlantic Fleet Destroyer, USS *Harwood* DDE 861, homeported Newport, RI, as the sole supply and disbursing officer and one of four department heads.

Mr. Hagen reported on board *Harwood* in June 1958 at the Boston Navy Yard. The *Harwood* soon became one of eight destroyers in Destroyer Squadron 24 that was assigned to Task Group Bravo, one of two ready anti-submarine warfare groups patrolling the North Atlantic to detect Soviet submarines during the Cold War. Task Group Bravo would switch off with Task Group Alpha out of Norfolk, VA. Task Group Bravo consisted of Destroyer Squadron 24 and the aircraft carrier USS *Wasp*

CV18 homeported at Quonset Point Rhode Island. During this period, the task group visited Bermuda, Norfolk during NATO exercises, and a mid-shipman cruise to Quebec City, Canada. He was promoted to lieutenant junior grade on May 1, 1959, while on board *Harwood*.

In late January 1960, Mr. Hagen was transferred to the Naval Supply Depot, Newport, RI, as fleet liaison officer and issue control officer. This duty included being liaison officer to the British warship, HMS *Shoulton*.

On October 2, 1960, he was released from Active Duty and returned to Erie, PA, where he affiliated with the Naval Reserve Training Center. Attached to a Ready Reserve billet with the mobilization team unit, he performed 2 weeks Active-Duty training for the next few years at Philadelphia Navy Yard and the Navy Pay Center in Cleveland. On February 6, 1963, he became a "Plank Owner" in the then-new Naval Reserve Training Center on Old French Road near Erie's Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

During his early Reserve Training Center years, he was promoted to lieutenant and lieutenant commander, and he transferred to the Inactive Reserve. After about 5 years in the Inactive Reserve, he reaffiliated and returned to a drilling status at the Naval Reserve Center. Back in the Ready Reserve, he performed Active Duty for training with the commanding officer of the Naval Supply Depot, Norfolk. He was soon promoted to commander and affiliated with a Reserve unit in Erie serving the Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet. His 2 weeks Active-Duty for training were then performed in Norfolk with the Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet Assistant Chief of Staff for Logistics Readiness. One such Active-Duty period was serving as the senior watch officer for a NATO logistics exercise at London-based Naval Activities, United Kingdom, for which he received a Letter of Commendation from Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet for "outstanding performance of duty" during 1980 and 1981.

Mr. Hagen also received Letters of Commendation for "meritorious achievement," "superior performance," and "professional achievement" from the Chief of the Naval Reserve and Commander of the Naval Reserve Readiness Command Region Five regarding U.S. Navy Great Lakes Cruises between 1978 and 1980. He was promoted to captain on June 1, 1985, and retired after nearly 30 years service on November 1, 1986. In post-retirement years, he was honored by the Navy Supply Corps Foundation and by the Chief of Supply Corps with the Navy Supply Corps School Distinguished Alumnus Award on April 21, 2011.

Born in Buffalo, NY, Mr. Hagen moved to Erie at age 7 and attended Erie Public Schools, graduating from Strong Vincent High School. He attended Penn State Behrend and received a bachelor of science degree in

business from The Ohio State University, where he was a Griffith Scholar and president of the Insurance Society. He also holds an honorary doctorate in public service from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania and honorary doctor of laws from Mercyhurst University, where the history department is named in his honor.

The distinctive accomplishments of Mr. Hagen reflect great credit upon himself, his family, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the United States. It is with great pride that we recognize the achievements of Thomas B. Hagen's leadership and service on the occasion of his 90th birthday and bring the attention of Congress to this successful son of Pennsylvania; September 10, 2025.●

TRIBUTE TO CHARLIE ZELLE

● Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Charlie Zelle, who is retiring today from his role as chair of the Metropolitan Council in Minnesota.

Charlie has been a visionary leader for Minnesota. His leadership has transformed our State's infrastructure and allowed us to flourish as a hub of industry and prosperity, and generations of Minnesotans will benefit from his legacy.

Charlie's passion for transportation is rooted in the family business, Jefferson Lines intercity buses, of which he remains chairman. He was born and raised in Saint Paul and received a B.A. from Bates College and an M.B.A. from the Yale School of Management. He has been recognized for his work in transportation policy as a recipient of the George Rucker Award by the Community Transportation Association and the Ray L. Lappegard Distinguished Service Award by the Center of Transportation Studies.

In addition, Charlie has been a hilarious and enthusiastic friend to Archie and me, an energetic and loving husband and dad to his family, and an active and engaged member of Minnesota's civic and arts community.

Since 2020, Charlie has chaired the Metropolitan Council, the regional planning and policy organization which works with local governments to provide essential services to the Twin Cities metro area, including transit, clean water, parklands, and housing planning. The lives of millions of Minnesotans are better by Met Council's services and Charlie's leadership. Charlie's hallmark accomplishment is his tireless advocacy for a robust public transit system that gets people to work, school, medical appointments, and fun efficiently and easily.

Charlie also served as commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Transportation for 6 years in the Dayton administration, where he implemented a bold, statewide vision to bring Minnesota's infrastructure into the 21st century. His careful stewardship of Federal and State resources helped repair numerous roads and bridges and to

improve the safety, mobility, and economic vitality of Minnesota communities from the most rural to the most urban.

Congratulations on your well-earned retirement, Charlie. Minnesota thanks you for your incredible leadership, and we look forward to seeing where you next chose to direct your talent and love for our community.●

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

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

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

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2748. A bill to establish a program to beautify the District of Columbia and to establish the District of Columbia Safe and Beautiful Commission, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4553. An act making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes.

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-1744. 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) 1.257 Revision 0, Qualification of Fiber-Optic Cables, Connections, and Optical Fiber Splices for Use in Safety Systems for Production and Utilization Facilities" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2025; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1745. A communication from the Policy Advisor, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Civil Penalties; 2025 Inflation Adjustments for Civil Monetary Penalties" (RIN1018-BI02) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2025; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1746. A communication from the Senior Attorney Advisor, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rescinding Regulations on Procedures for Advance Construction of Federal-Aid Projects" (RIN2125-AG26) received

in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2025; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1747. 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) 1.87, Acceptability of ASME Code, Section III, Division 5, 'High Temperature Reactors'" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2025; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1748. A communication from the Wildlife Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Migratory Bird Hunting; 2025-26 Seasons for Certain Migratory Game Birds" (RIN1018-BH65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2025; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1749. A communication from the Wildlife Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Migratory Bird Hunting; Final 2025-2026 Frameworks for Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations" (RIN1018-BH65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2025; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1750. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Hazardous and Solid Waste Management System: Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals From Electric Utilities; CCR Management Unit Deadline Extension Rule; Withdrawal of Direct Final Rule" ((RIN2050-AH36) (FRL No. 7814.2-03-OLEM)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2025; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1751. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; West Virginia; Revision to the State Operating Permits Program Under Title V of the Clean Air Act to Revise 45 Code of State Rules 33; Acid Rain Provisions and Permits" (FRL No. 11859-02-R3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2025; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1752. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; ID; Regional Haze Plan for the Second Implementation Period" (FRL No. 11879-02-R10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2025; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1753. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; California; State Implementation Plan Revision for Chico, Modesto and Stockton Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Areas" (FRL No. 12323-02-R9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2025; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1754. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension of the