

military men and women during the shutdown who are not receiving compensation for their service to our Nation, the most straightforward way to make certain that those who serve are compensated is to pass the Defense appropriations bills authorizing and appropriating the money to make those payments. Yet, today, there are those who stood in the path to prevent that from happening.

UKRAINE

Mr. President, a related topic I want to address today is that as President Trump, today, spoke with Russian President Vladimir Putin and tomorrow he will meet with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, I want to highlight how important it is—how critical it is—to securing a resolution to Russia's unjust war in Ukraine.

I had intended to give remarks today on this topic. I opened the Wall Street Journal this morning, and as I was reading it, its top editorial on the editorial page deals with this topic. I would commend it to my colleagues. It expresses the views as I wish that I could express them so clearly. I am going to try to do so today, right now.

Last week, we witnessed the long-awaited peace agreement between Israel and Hamas. It did come to fruition. Thanks to the efforts of President Trump and his administration, a cease-fire is holding, Iran has been dealt a crippling blow that has weakened its hold on the region, and Hamas has released all living hostages who have been held captive for more than 2 years.

While we recognize there are significant challenges that remain in the Middle East, this marks a critical step toward a just and lasting peace in the region. This agreement would not have been possible without the strength of the U.S. military, our steadfast alliance with Israel, and making it unequivocally clear to Hamas that the United States is willing and able to assist our ally in war.

Through strength, the United States brokered a peace deal that serves the security of Israel and the humanitarian needs of Gazans alike.

Now, as the conflict in Ukraine has surpassed its 3-year mark, Putin remains undeterred in his mission to carry out his unjust war on the Ukrainian people. Each day this war continues, lives are lost, and the safety, economic stability, and global leadership of the United States are threatened. This war must end.

To bring an end to this war, the United States and our allies must maintain pressure on Moscow. As was just seen, we must maintain pressure on Hamas. One recent and important development in this effort is the potential transfer of U.S. Tomahawk missiles to Ukraine. This weaponry will strengthen Ukraine's ability to defend its territory, deter further Russian aggression, and help level the battlefield as negotiations, hopefully, move forward.

By providing advanced provision strike systems, America demonstrates our commitment to Ukraine sovereignty is backed not only by words but by legitimate support that can alter the course of the war.

I commend the administration for its efforts to facilitate this transfer and for leading discussions between Ukraine and Russia that, hopefully, will secure a durable and just peace.

The United States cannot act alone. Our NATO allies must also shoulder the burden. President Trump recently secured an agreement with our NATO allies to increase defense spending from 2 percent to 5 percent by 2035. This commitment is critical to maintaining the continued defense of Europe. Russia's economy is already under strain, but their capacity to fund conflict will continue without enforcement of steady and severe global sanctions.

Before Congress, there is legislation that has widespread support of more than 80 Senators from both sides of the aisle. This legislation would deliver a severe blow to Russia's economy and trade by cutting off the resources that allow Putin to fund this war. We can hasten the path to success in finding peace.

Last week, we advanced the Defense Authorization Act, but today we failed to advance the appropriations bill to fund our military. We all should recognize that the world is watching. They are watching us. Our adversaries pay attention, and our allies pay attention. We have to, every day, make clear the case that it is true the United States is a stable and friendly supporter of our allies and a full-fledged adversary to those who wish to cause us harm. Our adversaries—Russia, China, North Korea, and Iran—are always looking for the opportunity to disrupt our alliances, weaken our resolve, and disturb the free world.

It is imperative that the United States stands firm in its support for Ukraine and, in doing so, places significant pressure on Putin to show our adversaries that democracy—democracy—will not go undefended.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session and 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.

### TRIBUTE TO DR. MARTIN KELLER

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the career of Dr. Martin Keller as he prepares to depart Colorado's National Renewable Energy Laboratory, NREL, at the end of October.

Dr. Keller has devoted his career to the growth and success of our National Laboratories, his work culminating in nearly a decade spent as the Laboratory Director at NREL. Under his leadership, NREL built the Research and Innovation Laboratory, planned and began construction of the Energy Materials and Processing at Scale, EMAPS, facility; launched the Department of Energy's Advanced Research on Integrated Energy Systems, ARIES; and extended NREL's footprint beyond Colorado to its new Alaska Campus in Fairbanks.

Beyond new facilities and capabilities, Dr. Keller has developed an engaged, talented, and highly accomplished NREL workforce, earning him widespread acclaim from his peers. He was named one of the Denver Business Journal's "Most Admired CEOs" in 2022 and recognized as Laboratory Director of the Year in 2024 by the Federal Laboratory Consortium for Technology Transfer.

While Dr. Keller's return to his native Germany is a loss for both NREL and Colorado, the Helmholtz Association, a preeminent national research institution, is lucky to have him as its new president. His skillful, kind, and thoughtful service to NREL and American energy research will be felt for generations. I wish him the very best in this next chapter.

## ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

### TRIBUTE TO REV. DR. WILLIAM E. FLIPPIN, SR. AND FIRST LADY SYLVIA FLIPPIN

• Mr. OSSOFF. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate and honor Rev. Dr. William E. Flippin, Sr., and First Lady Sylvia Taylor Flippin for their 35 years of ministry, service, and leadership at the Greater Piney Grove Baptist Church in Atlanta, GA.

Throughout their nearly four decades of service at "The Grove," Rev. Dr. Flippin, Sr., and First Lady Flippin have showcased distinguished leadership and a steadfast commitment to uplifting members of the Greater Piney Grove congregation and Georgians at large.

After leading Springfield Baptist Church in Greensboro and Shoal Creek Baptist Church in Locust Grove, both of which were founded by former slaves, Rev. Dr. Flippin, Sr., took the reigns as senior pastor of the Greater Piney Grove Baptist Church in Atlanta in 1990 and quickly became a catalyst

of upward change for the church, its congregants, and the community.

Since being named senior pastor of "The Grove," Rev. Dr. Flippin, Sr., and First Lady Flippin have led transformational work inside the church. Under their leadership, the church has inaugurated a family life center, a 1500-seat worship center, a community resource center, and established the Grove's Gardens at East Lake Senior Living Community.

Beyond his devoted work at the pulpit, Rev. Dr. Flippin, Sr., has served as a mentor to many and as a leading advocate for education. During his time as assistant director of Black church relations for the Georgia Baptist Convention, he was responsible for the organization of Baptist Student Unions at colleges and universities across Georgia and the management of ministerial scholarships. In 2024, the State of Georgia honored him by naming the bridge on Glenwood Avenue crossing Interstate 20 in Atlanta as "The Reverend Dr. William E. Flippin, Sr. Bridge."

Originally from Nashville, TN, Rev. Dr. Flippin, Sr., holds a bachelor of arts degree in mathematics and business administration from Fisk University. He graduated cum laude from Candler School of Theology at Emory University with a master of divinity degree, honored as a Benjamin E. Mays Fellow and recipient of the Fund for Theological Education scholarship. He furthered his education with a doctor of ministry degree from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, IL, and is certified as a Life Transformational Coach and Leadership Coach Trainer.

First Lady Sylvia Flippin, a graduate of Vanderbilt University and holder of a master's degree in education from Georgia State University, served as a mathematics instructional coach for the DeKalb County Board of Education. The couple have four children: Rev. Dr. William Edward Flippin, Jr., and his wife Kedra Flippin; Rev. Dr. Richard Curtis Flippin; Rev. Joseph Charles Taylor Flippin; and Miss Sylvia Joi Flippin. They are also grandparents to Shamel Emani and Khloe Kristina Taylor.

Rev. Dr. Flippin, Sr., and First Lady Flippin's 35 years of ministry and service to our communities have been of thoughtful leadership both inside and outside of the church, and they have touched the lives of many Georgians along his journey.

As Georgia's U.S. Senator, I congratulate and commend Rev. Dr. William E. Flippin, Sr., and First Lady Sylvia T. Flippin for this esteemed milestone and for their continued service to the State of Georgia.●

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

S. 3012. A bill to appropriate funds for pay and allowances of excepted Federal employ-

ees for periods of work performed during a lapse in appropriations, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

(October 15, 2025)

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 3012. A bill to appropriate funds for pay and allowances of excepted Federal employees for periods of work performed during a lapse in appropriations, and for other purposes.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CRUZ, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1872. A bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce to conduct a study on the feasibility of manufacturing in the United States products for critical infrastructure sectors, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 119-81).

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Thomas Albus, of Missouri, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri for the term of four years.

Adam Mildred, of Indiana, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Indiana for the term of four years.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

#### 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. COTTON (for himself, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mr. TUBERVILLE):

S. 3013. A bill to require all testing relating to the issuance or renewal of a commercial driver's license to be conducted only in English, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 3014. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to citizen petitions; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself, Mr. KELLY, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 3015. A bill to amend the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 to reauthorize the water resources research and technology institutes program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 3016. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to study new technologies and opportunities for recycling spent nuclear fuel; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. Kaine (for himself, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. SCHIFF):

S.J. Res. 90. A joint resolution to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities within or against Venezuela that have not been authorized by Congress; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. WELCH:

S. Res. 454. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of October 24, 2025, to October 31, 2025, as "Bat Week"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Ms. ROSEN):

S. Res. 455. A resolution commending and congratulating the Summerlin South Little League baseball team on winning the 2025 Little League World Series United States Championship; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mrs. MOODY):

S. Res. 456. A resolution commemorating the 40th anniversary of the inaugural flight of Space Shuttle Atlantis and recognizing Kennedy Space Center for its economic, educational, and cultural contributions to the State of Florida and the United States; considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 398

At the request of Mr. COONS, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. ALSOBROOKS), the Senator from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 398, a bill to transfer and limit Executive Branch authority to suspend or restrict the entry of a class of aliens.

S. 791

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 791, a bill to establish the Justice Thurgood Marshall National Historic Site in the State of Maryland as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

S. 844

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) was added as a cosponsor of S. 844, a bill to accelerate workplace time-to-contract under the National Labor Relations Act.

S. 1000

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1000, a bill to establish an Ambassador-at-Large for Arctic Affairs.

S. 1098

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1098, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to enhance the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Grant Program, and for other purposes.