

Graham	Lee	Rounds
Grassley	Lummis	Schiff
Hagerty	Marshall	Schmitt
Hassan	McConnell	Scott (FL)
Hawley	McCormick	Scott (SC)
Hoever	Moody	Sheehy
Husted	Moran	Sullivan
Hyde-Smith	Moreno	Thune
Johnson	Mullin	Tillis
Justice	Murkowski	Tuberville
Kaine	Paul	Wicker
Kennedy	Peters	Young
King	Ricketts	
Lankford	Risch	

NAYS—40

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

NOT VOTING—2

Cassidy	Fetterman
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The nomination was confirmed.

(Mr. MORENO assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BRITT). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

(Mr. MORENO assumed the Chair.)

The Senator from Nebraska.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. RICKETTS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in 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.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING INNOVATIVE MANUFACTURING & ENGINEERING

• Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as chair of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to honor Innovative Manufacturing & Engineering of Polk County, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Founded in 2011 by Todd Freeland, Innovative Manufacturing & Engineering grew out of a small family farm operation that began back in 2003. What started as an idea has grown into a thriving precision manufacturing company built on innovation, integrity, and collaboration. Co-owned by Todd Freeland, Matthew Sawhill, and Brandon Dahms, the business provides computer numerical controlled, CNC, ma-

chined and milled parts, which are precision-engineered components created by computer-controlled tools that shape raw materials into exact dimensions and designs. By leveraging advanced machining technology and automation systems, Innovative Manufacturing & Engineering produces components that meet demanding specifications for clients across agriculture, industrial supply, food, transportation, and the construction industries. Their flexible and collaborative approach allows them to take on both large-scale operations and specialized projects, bringing complex ideas to life with exceptional accuracy and care. Over the years, they have earned a strong reputation for combining craftsmanship with modern technology, ensuring that every part meets the highest industry standards.

At the heart of Innovative Manufacturing & Engineering is a simple yet powerful philosophy: "Precision meets people meets passion." With a team of 14 dedicated employees, the company takes pride in its close customer relationships and its efforts to build Iowa's future workforce. Through partnerships with local community colleges, the business introduces students to advanced manufacturing, helping them gain the technical skills and hands-on experience needed to succeed in a rapidly changing industry. These collaborations strengthen both local communities and the State's manufacturing sector, ensuring continued innovation and opportunity. Their commitment to innovation and continuous improvement has fueled over a decade of steady growth and earned them deep respect within the industry.

Innovative Manufacturing & Engineering continues to push the boundaries of what is possible in precision engineering, helping fuel progress in industries that keep Iowa and the Nation moving forward. Through hard work and vision, Todd, Matthew, and Brandon have built more than a successful business; they have created a legacy that inspires others in the manufacturing industry.

It is my honor to recognize Todd Freeland, Matthew Sawhill, Brandon Dahms, and the entire Innovative Manufacturing & Engineering team for their entrepreneurial spirit, outstanding work, and dedication to their community. I look forward to their continued success and wish them the very best in the years ahead. •

TRIBUTE TO STACEY MORTENSEN

• Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Stacey Mortensen, who is retiring after nearly 30 years of outstanding public service, including her noteworthy tenure as executive director of the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission.

A Fortuna, CA, native raised in Concord, Stacey developed a passion for transportation early on in her professional career. After earning a degree in

environmental planning and management from the University of California, Davis, she began her vocation by conducting traffic counts with the city of Vacaville, a humble beginning that led to Stacey's pioneering role in shaping rail service across California's Central Valley and beyond.

Stacey was at the forefront of initial efforts to develop rail service between Silicon Valley and Stockton. She was working at the San Joaquin County Department of Public Works when the manager of the rail planning section departed suddenly. Stacey stepped into that role and was soon chosen as executive director of the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission. In 1998, under her stalworth leadership, the Altamont Corridor Express, ACE, was launched. ACE connected San Joaquin, Santa Clara, and Alameda Counties with a new model of regional rail service. Stacey oversaw ACE's design, procurement, funding, negotiations, and infrastructure development.

Among her many accomplishments, Stacey was essential in the creation and expansion of the Valley Rail Program, which united more than 20 regional agencies to expand passenger rail service across Merced, Stanislaus, San Joaquin, and Sacramento Counties and led to the formation of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority.

In addition, Stacey helped formulate the Stockton Diamond Grade Separation Project, one of California's largest rail infrastructure projects that aims to eliminate one of the country's most congested rail crossings. She also assisted with the launch of the Rail Academy of Central California, a workforce development program that trains the next generation of rail professionals.

Under Stacey's exemplary guidance, the rail maintenance facility, operated by the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission, became a national model for environmental standards and efficiency. Along with supporting ACE operations, the facility provides maintenance for many different trains, establishing a regional hub of rail knowledge and expertise that employs over 200 people.

As Stacey leaves her position with the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission, her legacy as a transformative force in California's transportation arena will continue through the innovative, enduring impact of her work. I ask all Members to join me in thanking Stacey Mortensen for nearly three decades of leadership and excellence in California's regional transportation network. •

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.)

PRIVILEGED NOMINATION
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

On request by Senator JOHN BOOZMAN, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Stella Herrell, of New Mexico, to be an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, vice Adrienne Wojciechowski, resigned.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. BOOZMAN, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, without amendment:

H.R. 197. An act to provide for a land exchange in the Chippewa National Forest, Minnesota, and for other purposes.

S. 277. A bill to release a Federal reversionary interest and convey mineral interests in Chester County, Tennessee, and for other purposes.

S. 638. A bill to amend the Act of June 22, 1948.

S. 1262. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to release a reversionary interest in certain land in the Black River State Forest in Millston, Wisconsin, and for other purposes.

S. 1350. A bill to modify the boundaries of the Talladega National Forest, and for other purposes.

S. 1376. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Benton MacKaye Trail as a national scenic trail.

By Mr. BOOZMAN, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1462. A bill to improve forest management activities on National Forest System land, public land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, and Tribal land to return resilience to overgrown, fire-prone forested land, and for other purposes.

By Mr. BOOZMAN, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, without amendment:

H.R. 1612. An act to designate the Flatside-Bethune Wilderness in the Ouachita National Forest, and for other purposes.

S. 1680. A bill to designate additions to the Rough Mountain Wilderness and the Rich Hole Wilderness of the George Washington National Forest, and for other purposes.

S. 1681. A bill to establish the Shenandoah Mountain National Scenic Area in the State of Virginia, and for other purposes.

S. 1876. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to relocate a memorial honoring the 9 Air Force crew members who lost their lives in an airplane crash in the Cherokee and Nantahala National Forests during a training mission on August 31, 1982.

By Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2440. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain National Forest System land located in Franklin County, Mississippi, and for other purposes.

By Mr. BOOZMAN, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2548. A bill to designate the Camp Hutchins Wilderness and establish Special Management Areas in the Shawnee National Forest in the State of Illinois, and for other purposes.

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. BUDD (for himself, Mrs. MOODY, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 3056. A bill to state the policy of the United States with respect to religious freedom in the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 3057. A bill to reduce the annual rate of pay of Members of Congress if a Government shutdown occurs during a year, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 3058. A bill to provide appropriations to the Secretary of Agriculture to provide payments to agricultural producers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. REED, Ms. WARREN, and Ms. ALSOBROOKS):

S. 3059. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to require the Commissioner of Social Security to use the Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers for purposes of determining cost-of-living adjustments under titles II, VIII, and XVI of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND
SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. BENNET, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. HEINRICH, and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. Res. 467. A resolution designating October 30, 2025, as a national day of remembrance for the workers of the nuclear weapons program of the United States; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. DAINES, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. Res. 468. A resolution designating October 26, 2025, as the "Day of the Deployed"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. PETERS):

S. Res. 469. A resolution designating the week of October 19 through 25, 2025, as "National Chemistry Week"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 488

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mrs. MOODY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 488, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons that engage in certain transactions relating to Cuba and to impose sanctions with respect to human rights abuse and corruption in Cuba, and for other purposes.

S. 494

At the request of Mr. SCHMITT, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 494, a bill to establish a national plan to coordinate research on epilepsy, and for other purposes.

S. 502

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 502, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to restore State authority to waive for certain facilities the 35-mile rule for designating critical access hospitals under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 752

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 752, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to streamline enrollment under the Medicaid program of certain providers across State lines.

S. 969

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 969, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny interest and depreciation deductions for taxpayers owning 50 or more single family properties.

S. 1245

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1245, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand health care and benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs for military sexual trauma, and for other purposes.

S. 1532

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1532, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 1538

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1538, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to expand and improve the enforcement capabilities of the Attorney General, and for other purposes.

S. 1552

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Louisiana