

SCRIPPS NEWS; Wiersema, Alisa: CBS NEWS; Wiggins, Christopher: NBC NEWS.

Wiggins, Dion: WUSA-TV; Wik, Snorre: STRAIGHT ARROW NEWS; Wilkes, Douglas: WTTG-FOX TELEVISION; Wilkie Sumner, Christina: CNBC; Wilkins, Emily: CNBC; Wilkinson, Bailey: NBC NEWS; Wilkins Short, Tracee: WRC-TV/NBC-4; Williams, Abigail: NBC NEWS; Williams, April: ABC NEWS; Williams, Chase: FOX BUSINESS NETWORK; Williams, David: FOX NEWS; Williams, Elizabeth: THE HILL; Williams, Jr., Eric: CTV-COMMUNITY TV OF PG COUNTY; Williams, Jeffrey: ABC NEWS; Williams, Kennedy: GRAY TELEVISION; Williams, Michael: CNN; Williams, Steven: CNN; Williams, Tonya: FOX NEWS RADIO; Williams, Valeska: CNN; Williams, Vincent: CNN; Williamson, Calum: NEXSTAR MEDIA GROUP; Williamson, Christopher: NBC NEWS; Williams Sr, Lamont: NBC NEWS; Williams Vyas, Colleen: FOX NEWS; Willis, Anne Marie: FOX NEWS; Willis, Carl: WJLA-TV/NEWSCHANNEL 8; WILLIS, DAVID: BBC; Wilson, Elizabeth: Newhouse School/Syracuse University; Wilson, Heather: FOX NEWS; Wilson, Jeron: WTTG-FOX TELEVISION.

Wilson, Mark: CBS NEWS; Wilson, Stephanie: WUSA-TV; WILSON, CAITLIN: BBC; Winborn, Tracy: FOX NEWS; Windham, Jr., Ronald: CBS NEWS; Winmill, Ryan: NBC NEWS; Winston, Adrienne: CNN; Winter, Leonie: ARD GERMAN RADIO & TV; Wisecup, Melina: NEW TANG DYNASTY TV; Wiseman, Frederick: CNN; Witt, Jordan: NBC NEWS; Witt, Ward: WETA; Witte, III., Roy: CBS NEWS; WITTENBERG, DANIEL: BBC; Wohlrab, Ezekial: NBC NEWS; Wolde-Giorghis, Azeb: CBC (CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION); Wolff, Timothy: WASHINGTON EXAMINER; Wolschek, Barbara: AUSTRIAN RADIO & TV (ORF); Wong, Benny: METRO TELEPRODUCTIONS; Wong, Scott: NBC NEWS; Wood, Emiliana: NEXSTAR MEDIA GROUP; Wood, ZACHARY: NEW YORK TIMES; WOOD, Allison: CBS NEWS; Woodall, IV., Hunter: CBS NEWS; Woodhead, Emma: FOX NEWS; Woodland, DeAntre: C-SPAN; Worcester, Nathan: THE EPOCH TIMES; Wordock, Colleen: SPECTRUM NEWS; Worsley, Benjamin: SCRIPPS NEWS; Wotrung, Melanie Hastings: WJLA-TV/NEWSCHANNEL 8.

Wotshela, Sicelo: BBC; Wright, Dale: WJLA-TV/NEWSCHANNEL 8; Wright, David: CNN; Wright, Kelvin: CBN NEWS; Wright, Natalie: INDEPENDENT TELEVISION NEWS (ITN); Wright, Pamela: CNN; Wright, Rebecca: CNN; Wright, Taniya: WDCW; Wright, Taylor: VENTANA PRODUCTIONS; Wrona, Marcin: TVN POLAND; Wu, Wei: NEW TANG DYNASTY TV; WU, MEIYING: BBC; Wudarczyk, Pawel: TV POLSAT; Wuellenweber, HANS MICHAEL: WELT German TV; Wulfhorst, Emma: GRAY TELEVISION; Wuls, Jakob: NBC NEWS; Wurm, Christina: FOX BUSINESS NETWORK; Wyszogrodzki, Marcin: TVN POLAND.

Xavier, Wilkins: WUSA-TV; Yack McMenamin, Angeliq: CNN; Yamanaka, Miyu: NHK; Yamasaki, Takeshi: NHK; Yamashita, Seiji: CBS NEWS; Yamazaki, Daisuke: NIPPON TV NETWORK; Yang, John: PBS NEWSHOUR; Yang, Olivia: NBC NEWS; Yao, Grace: HONG KONG PHOENIX SATELLITE TELEVISION; Yao, Yiwei: HONG KONG PHOENIX SATELLITE TELEVISION; Yarborough, Richard: WRC-TV/NBC-4; Yarin, Robert: NEXSTAR MEDIA GROUP.

Yazji, Majdi: SKY NEWS ARABIA; Yenigun, Sami: NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO (NPR); Yilek, Caitlin: CBS NEWS; Yock, Gregory: FOX NEWS RADIO; Yohannes, Sofia: SWEDISH BROADCASTING; Yohannes, Yohannes: FOX NEWS; Yokoyama, Takahisa: CNN; Yoo, Jacqueline:

ABC NEWS; Yoshida, Michael: CNN; Youcefi, Fouad: SWEDISH BROADCASTING; Young, Bryan: CTV-COMMUNITY TV OF PG COUNTY; Young, Edward: SKY NEWS; Young, James: CBC (CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION); Young, Jeremy: AL JAZEERA ENGLISH; Young, Jr., Jerome: CBN NEWS; YOUSSEF, Sr., Osama: ALARABY TV; YU, XINYAN: BBC; Yukhananov, Anna: NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO (NPR); Zaatari, Marwan: ALGHAD TV; Zajko, Robert: DIVERSIFIED COMMUNICATIONS, INC. (DCI); Zaki, Omid: IRAN INTERNATIONAL TV; Zaldouondo, Ryan: FOX NEWS; Zaman, Haider: NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO (NPR); Zaman, Pias: NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO (NPR); Zampa, Peter: GRAY TELEVISION; Zanon, Melanie: NBC NEWS; Zapata, Juan: C-SPAN; Zapotosky, Matthew: CNN; Zarembo, Andrew: GRAY TELEVISION; Zarour, AHMED: BBC.

Zaru, Deena: ABC NEWS; Zeffler, Markus: SWISS BROADCASTING; Zein, Deema: PBS NewsHour; Zeleny, Jeffrey: CNN; Zeljko, Rebeka: BLAZE MEDIA; Zervos, Stratis: ABC NEWS; Zewe, Ariane: ABC NEWS; Zhang, Bilei: FOX NEWS; Zhang, Fen: SOUND OF HOPE; Zhang, Kun: AP-BROADCAST; Zhang, Liang: NEW TANG DYNASTY TV; Zhang, Zhihui: AP-BROADCAST; Zheng, Ren: WTOP RADIO; Zhou-Castro, Heidi: AL JAZEERA ENGLISH; Zirin, David: THE REAL NEWS NETWORK; Zosso, Elizabeth: ABC NEWS; Zucconi, Anthony: FOX NEWS; Zuchowski, Pawel: Radio RMF FM Poland; Zuckerman, Alexandra: SCRIPPS NEWS; Zumbado, Joaquin: NBC NEWS; Zurcher, Anthony: BBC; Zvi, Ronny: NBC NEWS.

RECOGNIZING VETERANS DAY

Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, this November marks two very special dates for our great country. Our Nation comes together every November 11th to celebrate Veterans Day, in recognition of the exemplary and selfless work put forth by those who have served in our great Republic's Armed Forces. Since our Nation's founding, our brave troops have valiantly defended American freedom and values. Time and again, our veterans' unwavering courage and dedication have shielded our homeland from foreign aggression and helped secure the blessings of liberty for our neighbors overseas.

November 10th also marks an important landmark in our Republic's history. On this day in 1775, the Continental Congress formed what would become the U.S. Marine Corps under the command of Major Samuel Nicholas. Since its founding 250 years ago, the Marine Corps has stood as a symbol of excellence and steadfast commitment to defending our homeland. From the Revolutionary War to the present, our marines have demonstrated outstanding courage wherever and whenever they are called to serve.

I encourage my colleagues to join me as we honor those currently serving in or retired from our uniformed services and commemorate those who gave the last measure of devotion to protecting their fellow Americans. These heroes' adaptability and bravery have safeguarded our Nation for two and a half centuries, and we all owe them our most sincere gratitude.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR MELISSA A. BATEMAN

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize MAJ Melissa Bateman for her outstanding work on behalf of the people in Wisconsin and our Nation. A native of Darnestown, MD, Major Bateman served as a 2023 Department of Defense legislative fellow in my Washington, DC, office and later as a U.S. Army Reserve congressional liaison from 2024–2025.

Melissa demonstrates a level of professionalism and hard work I have come to expect—but not take for granted—from the Department of Defense and U.S. Army soldiers. Indeed, she follows a long line of accomplished Department of Defense legislative fellows who have made impactful contributions to my office and U.S. national security policy. She distinguished herself as an Army officer, setting a high bar and providing invaluable advice and insights as she advised me on wide-ranging and complex matters under consideration before the Senate Appropriations Department of Defense Subcommittee. Melissa's servant leadership showed in her work as a congressional liaison for the U.S. Army Reserve. Her attention to detail and ability to effectively communicate with Congress became apparent as she successfully advanced key Army Reserve legislative initiatives and priorities.

Melissa will soon transition to her new duty assignment at the Military Intelligence Readiness Command. On behalf of my colleagues and the U.S. Congress, I thank Melissa for her dedicated service to my staff, the U.S. Army, and our Nation. Part of what makes the U.S. military the greatest in the history of the world is that servicemembers like Melissa dedicate their lives to service and sacrifice for this country. Major Bateman does not do it alone, so I also acknowledge the support of her family to include her cherished dogs. I wish Melissa all the best in what I know is a bright future.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO BUTCH INKS

● Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Saint Paul Fire Chief Barton "Butch" Inks of Saint Paul, MN, who is retiring after 31 years of service to the City of Saint Paul Fire Department.

Every single day, firefighters are called to put their lives on the line to save others. It takes an uncommon selflessness, courage, and patriotism to do what they do, and Chief Butch Inks was always willing to make that sacrifice.

Born and raised in the North End neighborhood of Saint Paul, MN, Chief Inks started his career in the city's parks and recreation department in 1985. In 1994, Chief Inks graduated from

the Saint Paul Fire Department Recruit Training Academy, and after rising through the ranks to assistant chief, he was appointed chief in 2019.

Under his leadership, fire and EMS staffing increased to the highest levels in department history, and the implementation of new emergency medical response models improved response times and created more local jobs. Chief Inks was instrumental in securing funding and approval for a new fire station in Saint Paul's highest call-volume area, promising that help is never far away. Chief Inks coordinated 200 emergency responders during the pandemic, and he has dedicated resources to his firefighters' well-being, introducing comprehensive cardiovascular screenings and enhanced physical exams to support their health and safety.

Firefighters and other emergency responders across the country wake up, put on their gear, and go into harm's way every day to keep the rest of us safe. Our obligation is to ensure that we recognize that daily sacrifice and honor their heroism not just with our words, but with our actions.

So today, I rise to honor Chief Butch Inks and his lifelong service to Saint Paul, MN.●

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 which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2550. An act to nullify the Executive Order relating to Exclusions from Federal Labor-Management Relations Programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3383. An act to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 with respect to the authority of closed-end companies to invest in private funds.

H.R. 3628. An act to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to add a standard related to State consideration of reliable generation, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3638. An act to direct the Secretary of Energy to prepare periodic assessments and submit reports on the supply chain for the generation and transmission of electricity, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3668. An act to promote interagency coordination for reviewing certain author-

izations under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3898. An act to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to make targeted reforms with respect to waters of the United States and other matters, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 66. Concurrent resolution directing the Secretary of the Senate to make a correction in the enrollment of the bill S. 1071.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The message further announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 356. An act to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

S. 2283. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 West Oklahoma Avenue in Guthrie, Oklahoma, as the "Oscar J. Upham Post Office".

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

The message also announced that pursuant to section 2(b)(2) of the Commission to Study the Potential Transfer of the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History to the Smithsonian Institution Act (Public Law 118-144) and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following individuals on the part of the House of Representatives to the Commission to Study the Potential Transfer of the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History to the Smithsonian Institution: Mr. Paul Packer of Boca Raton, Florida and Mr. Michael Goldfarb of McLean, Virginia.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3383. An act to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 with respect to the authority of closed-end companies to invest in private funds; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 3628. An act to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to add a standard related to State consideration of reliable generation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 3638. An act to direct the Secretary of Energy to prepare periodic assessments and submit reports on the supply chain for the generation and transmission of electricity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 3668. An act to promote interagency coordination for reviewing certain authorizations under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 3898. An act to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to make targeted reforms with respect to waters of the United States and other matters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on December 15, 2025, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. S356. An act to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

S. 2283. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 West Oklahoma Avenue in Guthrie, Oklahoma, as the "Oscar J. Upham Post Office."

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-2260. 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 various countries; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2261. A communication from the Vice President, Office of External Affairs, United States International Development Finance Corporation, transmitting a legislative proposal entitled "United States International Development Finance Corporation Annual Management Report Fiscal Year 2025" received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2262. A communication from the Section Chief, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Application of Section 250(b)(3)(A)(i)(VII) to Sales or Other Dispositions of Property" (Notice 2025-78) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2025; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2263. A communication from the Section Chief, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Transition Rule for Applying Section 951(a)(2)(B)" (Notice 2025-75) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2025; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2264. A communication from the Section Chief, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Effective Date and Application of Section 960(d)(4)" (Notice 2025-77) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2025; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2265. A communication from the Section Chief, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Expanded Availability of Health Savings Accounts under the One, Big, Beautiful Bill Act" (Notice 2026-5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2025; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2266. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Oversight and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extending Deadline for Debtor to Request a Waiver" (RIN2900-AS18) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2025; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-2267. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the