

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

report of a rule entitled "Azoxystrobin; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 13046-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2268. A communication from the Secretary of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendments to CFTC Rules of Practice and Rules Relating to Investigations" (RIN3038-AF44) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2269. A communication from the Secretary of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Withdrawal of Commission Guidance" (RIN3038-AF63) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2270. A communication from the Director, Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Direct Final Rule: The Sunset Rule" (RIN3150-AL39) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2025; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SANDERS, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 3470. A bill to amend the Revised Statutes of the United States to hold certain public employers liable in civil actions for deprivation of rights, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 3471. A bill to improve purchasing of food by the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 3472. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require the development of a national strategy to secure elementary and secondary schools against acts of terrorism and ensure domestic preparedness for and the response to terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. COONS):

S. 3473. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to encourage Medicare beneficiaries to voluntarily adopt advance directives guiding the medical care they receive; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 3474. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for the regulation of cannabis and cannabinoid products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 3475. A bill to authorize, ratify, and confirm the Agreement of Settlement and Com-

promise to Resolve the Akwesasne Mohawk Land Claim in the State of New York, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

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

S. 3476. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to codify modern communication practices, enhance transparency, and improve accountability within the Federal Reserve System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 3477. A bill to exempt humanitarian care packages sent to members of the Armed Forces stationed overseas from certain postal reporting requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

S. 3478. A bill to assist Tribal governments in the management of buffalo and buffalo habitat and the reestablishment of buffalo on Indian land; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

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

S. 3479. A bill to specify that the Council on American-Islamic Relations shall not be treated as described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. WARREN, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. SMITH, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. WELCH, Mr. KIM, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. GALLEGO):

S. 3480. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Health and Human Services from implementing the WISer model under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. JOHNSON, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 3481. A bill to expand the authority to use counter-unmanned aircraft system technologies to State, local, Tribal, and territorial law enforcement and correctional agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 3482. A bill to reform sentencing laws and correctional institutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 3483. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the consideration of acquitted conduct at sentencing; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 3484. A bill to amend section 3634 of title 18, United States Code, to extend the period for First Step Act reports; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 3485. A bill to expand eligibility for and provide judicial review for the Elderly Home Detention Pilot Program, and to make other technical corrections; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 142

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr.

OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 142, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to wildland firefighters in recognition of their strength, resiliency, sacrifice, and service to protect the forests, grasslands, and communities of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 163

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 163, a bill to require institutions of higher education participating in Federal student aid programs to share information about title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, including a link to the webpage of the Office for Civil Rights where an individual can submit a complaint regarding discrimination in violation of such title, and for other purposes.

S. 339

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 339, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of multi-cancer early detection screening tests.

S. 646

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the names of the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 646, a bill to prohibit the use of funds to carry out Executive Order 14160.

S. 817

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 817, a bill to provide for the imposition of sanctions with respect to forced organ harvesting within the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes.

S. 841

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 841, a bill to require online dating service providers to provide fraud ban notifications to online dating service members, and for other purposes.

S. 864

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGO), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 864, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to apply financial assistance towards the cost-sharing requirements of health insurance plans, and for other purposes.

S. 1261

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. SHEEHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1261, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes.