

Committee. Five of these six negotiators agree that the best path forward is to temporarily extend the SBIR and STTR programs, to keep them running while we continue to negotiate reforms and a longer reauthorization. We have been working to try and find a path forward for a long-term reauthorization and will continue to do so, but we have yet to find a solution that does not irreparably harm innovative small businesses, nor have we found a solution that meaningfully addresses foreign due diligence concerns. The SBIR and STTR programs have produced technologies that have changed Americans' lives: the world's smallest heart pump, new cancer therapies, Alzheimer Disease treatments, GPS, and Qualcomm wireless communications systems.

I am disappointed that these programs have been forced to shut down, ending funding for the most cutting-edge technologies being developed by our most nimble allies, small businesses. I am disappointed that a company in Pennsylvania may have to cease scaling their patented brake technology due to the lapse in the programs. I am disappointed that a company in Virginia producing the next generation of energy technologies is being forced to put their research on hold until these programs are reopened. And I am disappointed that a company in Texas must put its progress towards unlocking unprecedented spacecraft maneuvering for our Agencies on hold.

Just because we are unable to come to a long-term solution today does not mean we should decimate a critical part of our innovation ecosystem by keeping these programs closed. In May, I introduced a 52-page bill with my long-term vision for the programs. I want to provide small businesses with the certainty they deserve by making the programs permanent, ensuring we do not watch the clock hit zero like this again.

I want to increase how much Agencies are required to allocate for these programs to maximize our innovation potential. I want to strengthen our commercialization efforts through allowing direct to phase II authority for all Agencies, as well as better data collection, better training, and specifically designated commercialization officers. I want to increase the number of new entrants by reauthorizing and codifying new programs that aim to reach underserved populations. And, like all of my colleagues, I want to make sure that our technology never falls into the hands of our adversaries.

That is why I want to continue the bipartisan foreign due diligence program enacted in 2022, which has already successfully identified and mitigated foreign risk in its short period of implementation. If it were just up to me, I would want my bill to pass tomorrow. However, I understand that is not possible. That is why I have joined the four House negotiators in sup-

porting a temporary extension while we figure out the long-term path forward that not only preserves our innovation ecosystem but supercharges it.

As a long-time champion of the SBIR and STTR programs, I will continue to fight to protect the innovation ecosystem and the small businesses that support it.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO KEVIN SEMPRINI

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I am honored to recognize Kevin Semprini of Portsmouth as December's Granite Stater of the Month for his work to bolster public safety in his community.

Growing up in Portsmouth, Kevin looked up to the police officers in his neighborhood, admiring the way they worked to foster a strong community. Kevin knew from an early age that he wanted to be a part of that mission, and when he was old enough, he joined the police force.

Soon after joining the force, Officer Semprini saw that there was a need to improve child safety in New Hampshire and worked with the Portsmouth police chief to create a new school safety program. His work took him to local schools where he helped elementary school students learn about safety. Because students had some trouble pronouncing his last name, they quickly landed on a nickname for him, a new name that reflected the warmth and comfort he conveyed: Officer Friendly. It is a nickname that has stayed with him for the rest of his career.

In the years that followed and as the police department continued to evolve, a new chief of police from California introduced Officer Semprini to the DARE program. Officer Semprini worked with the State to pilot the program, which eventually expanded statewide. Officer Semprini also pioneered the school resource officer program at Portsmouth High School and organized local toy drives for the holidays.

As he retires, Officer Semprini carries with him the thanks of the people of Portsmouth and all Granite Staters for his 46 years of service and his steadfast protection of the children of New Hampshire. Officer Semprini's commitment to improving children's safety is a true example of the Granite State spirit of going the extra mile to protect your community. His lifelong work to support Portsmouth students makes me proud to name him December's Granite Stater of the Month.●

##### REMEMBERING CAPTAIN WILLIAM "BILL" CROW

• Mr. KAINÉ. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and my colleague Senator MARK WARNER, I rise today to honor the life and service of Retired U.S. Navy CAPT William "Bill" Crow, a man whose contributions to our Na-

tion's defense and to the shipbuilding industry were matched only by the warmth, generosity, and joy he brought to everyone who knew him.

Bill was born on December 20, 1957, in Morganfield, KY, a place he loved dearly and held closed to his heart despite his wide-ranging travels.

After graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1980, Bill embarked on a distinguished 30-year career as a naval officer, serving in various assignments including as chief engineer on USS *Pharris* (FF-1094), assistant operations officer of Commander Destroyer Squadron Twenty-Six, chief engineer on USS *Briscoe* (DD-977), material officer for Commander Destroyer Squadrons Ten and Two, executive officer of USS *Peterson* (DD-969), commanding officer of USS *Austin* (LPD-4), and training and readiness assistant chief of staff for Commander of Amphibious Group Two. He held shore commands at Naval Station Norfolk, Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek, and became the first Commanding Officer of Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story. Throughout his naval career, Bill was a dedicated public servant and a great leader, mentor, and friend.

Following his retirement from the Navy, Bill continued his service as president of the Virginia Ship Repair Association for 13 years. In that role, he represented hundreds of member companies across Hampton Roads, strengthening a vital industry that supports both Virginia's economy and our national security. His leadership left a lasting impact on the ship repair community, congressional leaders, and the defense industrial base.

Bill lived a life of faith and loved his family and friends deeply. He was incredibly proud of his children John, Karen, Sara, and Kevin and shared a beautiful marriage with his beloved wife of 40 years, Jeanne. Bill made friends with everyone he met and shared his joy widely especially with his booming laugh. Bill spent the last nights of his life surrounded by the family who brought him joy through his entire life.

Bill's passing is a loss to all who loved him but also to the Commonwealth of Virginia. His dedication to public service, community involvement and joyful life lived on principle were a blessing.

We remember Bill today not only for his distinguished service to the Navy and the ship repair industry, but for his faith, his family, his friendships, and the joy he brought to all who knew him. We will miss him dearly.●

##### TRIBUTE TO ADRIENNE A. JONES

• Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the Honorable Adrienne A. Jones, who concluded her historic tenure as speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates on December 4, 2025.

A native of Baltimore County, Speaker Jones has dedicated her life to

erving both the county and our entire State. Her passion for public service was evident early on. After graduating from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, she performed a variety of public roles and quickly became a well-known, dynamic advocate. Notably, she served as director of the Baltimore County Office of Minority Affairs, opened the Baltimore County Office of Fair Practices and Community Affairs as its inaugural executive director, and founded the Baltimore County African American Cultural Festival.

In 1997, Speaker Jones was appointed to fill a vacancy in the House of Delegates, and she won election to her first full term the following year. She has served on numerous committees, including appropriations, rules, and executive nominations, spending affordability, and ways and means. Never one for ideological grandstanding, Speaker Jones maintained a rapt focus on the issues affecting the day-to-day lives of her constituents. She worked tirelessly to direct State dollars to county and community projects, including much-needed school modernizations.

In 2003, after just 5 years as a delegate, Speaker Jones' colleagues recognized her integrity, leadership ability, and inexhaustible work ethic by electing her speaker pro tempore. She served faithfully in this role for 16 years before becoming acting speaker following the death of her predecessor. On May 1, 2019, after a brief and lively campaign, she shattered barriers and made history by being unanimously elected as the first woman and first African-American speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates.

Speaker Jones' tenure was defined by her courage, vision, and steadfast commitment to those she was elected to serve. During the chaos of the COVID-19 pandemic early in her speakership, she met the moment and ensured Marylanders received the State support they needed to stay safe and informed. Speaker Jones presided over the passage of consequential legislation, including the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, the largest education investment in Maryland's history, steered resources to historically underfunded Black colleges and universities, staunchly pursued commonsense police and education reform, and spearheaded the successful campaign to enshrine a woman's right to choose in the Maryland Constitution.

In recognition of her many achievements, Speaker Jones was named Outstanding Alumna of the Year by her alma mater in 2003, was given the Casper R. Taylor, Jr. Founder's Award—the highest honor the speaker may grant to a sitting member of the House of Delegates—by her predecessor in 2019, and was inducted into the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame in 2024. She has also received honorary doctoral degrees from Goucher College and Morgan State University.

Throughout her time in public service, even in moments of intense per-

sonal tragedy, Speaker Jones has remained unshakably dedicated to improving the lives of all Marylanders. I am very glad that she will continue to serve as a delegate and that our State will retain the benefit of her great wisdom and experience. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Speaker Jones for her many years of transformative service to the State of Maryland, the impact of which will be felt for generations to come.●

## MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 10:03 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 216. An act to amend the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Foundation, to amend the Marine Debris Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 222. An act to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to allow schools that participate in the school lunch program to serve whole milk, and for other purposes.

S. 284. An act to reauthorize the Congressional Award Act.

S. 2878. An act to reauthorize funding to monitor, assess, and research the Great Lakes Basin, and for other purposes.

H.R. 165. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to complete all actions necessary for certain land to be held in restricted fee status by the Oglala Sioux Tribe and Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, and for other purposes.

H.R. 504. An act to amend the Miccosukee Reserved Area Act to authorize the expansion of the Miccosukee Reserved Area and to carry out activities to protect structures within the Osceola Camp from flooding, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1491. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make the postponement of certain deadlines by reason of disasters applicable to the limitation on credit or refund, and to take postponements into account for purposes of sending collection notices.

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

At 1:19 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. 3632. An act to amend the Federal Power Act to adjust the requirements for orders, rules, and regulations relating to furnishing adequate service, to require owners or operators of generating facilities to provide notice of planned retirements of certain electric generating units, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4371. An act to amend the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 and the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enhance efforts to combat the trafficking of children.

## MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 3632. An act to amend the Federal Power Act to adjust the requirements for orders, rules, and regulations relating to furnishing adequate service, to require owners or operators of generating facilities to provide notice of planned retirements of certain electric generating units, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MCCONNELL, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, without amendment:

S. Res. 526. A resolution withholding the pay of Senators if a Government shutdown occurs.

## 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. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 3516. A bill to prohibit the circumvention of control measures used by internet retailers to ensure equitable consumer access to products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. WELCH):

S. 3517. A bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to reform copyright laws relating to visual artists; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. KING):

S. 3518. A bill to amend the Federal Power Act to address certain alterations in, and the maintenance and repair of, project works, to provide for the licensing of micro hydrokinetic energy projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MCCORMICK (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. COONS):

S. 3519. A bill to amend the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 to provide for control of remote access to items, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. LUMMIS (for herself, Mr. BARASSO, Mr. CURTIS, and Mr. LEE):

S. 3520. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Agriculture from implementing a Forest Service rule relating to criminal prohibitions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 3521. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to include peer support services at certain facilities under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. JUSTICE):

S. 3522. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require that State Medicaid programs provide at least one formulation of each type of medication for the treatment of opioid use disorder without prior authorization or limitations on dosage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):