

Center, where he serves as a senior member of the board of visitors, demonstrating his commitment to improving the health and quality of life for all citizens.

In 2006, Mr. Nixon was inducted into the Texas Business Hall of Fame. In 2007, he was elected to serve on the board of directors of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and in 2008, he was named “International Citizen of the Year” by the World Affairs Council of San Antonio. The Texas Bankers Association awarded him the 2015 Texas Bankers Foundation’s 50-Year Banker Award. In 2016, Mr. Nixon and his wife received the Distinguished Community Service Award from the Chabad Center for Jewish Life and Learning. In 2018, he received the Distinguished Business Leader Award from the Texas Association of Business.

Mr. Nixon has been widely recognized for his generosity to communities in Texas and around the globe. He received the Paul Harris Fellow Award by Rotary International and the Eleanor Roosevelt Humanities Award by the State of Israel for his outstanding community and philanthropic service. He is also involved in the American Heart Association, the American Cancer Society, United Way of Laredo, the Boys and Girls Club of Laredo, and Legatus. He serves as a founding member of the Association of South Texas Communities and the Alliance for Security and Trade. Mr. Nixon’s service has received well-earned praise from organizations that strive to improve the health and quality of life of south Texans.

Mr. Nixon’s exceptional career and his relentless efforts toward economic development are defined by intentionality, dedication, and success. He has dedicated his life and career to serving others and improving the communities in Texas and beyond. For his remarkable work, and all that he has yet to accomplish, I would like to recognize him.

I offer my thanks and appreciation to Dennis Nixon for 50 years of steadfast service to Texas communities and the Texas banking industry. I send him my best wishes for the years ahead.●

#### RECOGNIZING LATIMER GROCERY

● 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 Latimer Grocery of Franklin County, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Founded in 2008, Latimer Grocery began with a straightforward mission to ensure that communities have access to a dependable, local grocery store. At a time when rural areas increasingly faced the risk of becoming food deserts, founder Landon Plagge, along with a committed group of community members, stepped in to fill a

critical need. Their efforts created more than a business; they created a place where neighbors could reliably find the essentials that supported their daily lives.

In 2020, ownership transitioned to a group of eight families, which includes Karla and Doug Peter, Mark and LuAnn Johansen, Roy Plagge, Delray and Barb Farrer, Tyler and Sarah DeBour, Randy and Sue Debour, Kent and Chris Morton, and Scott and Jennifer Borchering. The families embraced the store’s community-centered foundation while guiding its continued growth. Under their leadership, Latimer Grocery has strengthened its role as a hometown hub, offering the trusted service customers have come to expect. They also expanded partnerships with local producers to provide groceries, baked goods, and a full deli. Today, customers can purchase locally raised meats, area-grown grains, and locally produced bakery goods from Sheffield, IA, or products from The Olde Creamery in Garner, IA. The deli remains at the heart of Latimer Grocery. Known for hot and cold sandwiches, it also serves seasonal dinner deliveries during harvest, ensuring farmers working long hours have access to fresh and warm meals. Weekend pizzas have become a favorite among families, and the store’s delivery service, which is especially valuable for elderly and disabled residents, helps ensure that everyone in the area maintains access to quality food. These services highlight Latimer Grocery’s dedication to meeting the evolving needs of the community.

Latimer Grocery is equally invested in supporting local families and children. The store partners with local schools through a reading rewards program, giving students coupons for treats based on the number of books they read. Each fall, the annual Halloween Spooktacular draws families from across the region for a festive evening of costumes, games, and free food, showcasing the store’s commitment to creating positive, memorable experiences for its customers. With a team of seven employees and nearly two decades of service, Latimer Grocery stands as a testament to resilience, local collaboration, and heartfelt service. Under its united leadership, Latimer Grocery remains a cherished gathering place and an essential resource, demonstrating how a smalltown business can strengthen an entire community through dedication and care.

It is my honor to recognize the entire Latimer Grocery team for their outstanding work and dedication to their community. I look forward to their continued success and wish them the very best in the years ahead.●

#### RECOGNIZING SISTER’S HOME STYLE ENTREES

● 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 Sister’s Home Style Entrees of Humboldt County, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

In 2011, Sister’s Home Style Entrees began as a simple passion project in the kitchen of founder Deb Davis. What started as Deb preparing home-cooked meals for family and friends quickly evolved into a service rooted in compassion, quality, and community. Her dedication and the growing demand for dependable, nutritious, ready-made meals transformed a small hobby into a thriving commercial kitchen operation serving customers across Iowa and neighboring States.

As the company grew, Deb was joined by co-owner Mary Catherine Ferry, whose leadership and partnership helped guide Sister’s Home Style Entrees through major expansions and increased production. Together with a dedicated team of 48, they built an operation that now prepares over 75,000 meals every month. Their focus on supporting the elderly and homebound population has made the small business not just a meal provider, but a support system for individuals striving to maintain independence. Families, too, have embraced the convenience and flexibility of reliable, high-quality frozen meals when they need them.

Under Deb’s vision and Mary’s continued leadership, Sister’s Home Style Entrees has grown into an industrial-scale commercial kitchen without ever losing sight of its founding values: service, heart, and consistency. The company remains proudly women-owned in Humboldt, IA, and embodies the spirit of a close-knit, mission-driven enterprise. As Deb transitioned into retirement and ownership passed fully to Mary Catherine this past June, the business represents a model of thoughtful, well-planned succession, ensuring stability for employees, customers, and community partners for years to come.

Sister’s Home Style Entrees has been widely recognized for its impact, receiving honors such as the 2015 SBA Iowa Top Small Business Award and the 2021 Iowa Venture Award Honoree. The company is also known for its generosity, regularly donating meals to food pantries, nonprofit organizations, and surrounding communities. Their contributions have strengthened local support networks and provided vital resources to families facing food insecurity. Sister’s Home Style Entrees’ story reflects the power of community-minded entrepreneurship and the lasting difference a mission-driven small business can make in the lives of the people it serves.

It is my honor to recognize Mary Catherine Ferry, Deb Davis, and the entire Sister’s team for their 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 THE STUDENTS AND TEACHERS AT DUBLIN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I am honored to recognize the students and teachers at Dublin Consolidated School as November's Granite Staters of the Month for their efforts to honor local veterans, including by inviting them to a special assembly and by raising money for the Wounded Warrior Project.

At the beginning of this school year, the students at Dublin Consolidated School—which serves children in kindergarten through fifth grade—invited local veterans to a special Veterans Day assembly. While the students and teachers were not sure how many veterans would participate, on Veterans Day, the students honored almost 20 veterans with songs and readings, and after the assembly, the students thanked the veterans for their service. This special assembly was the first Veterans Day event that the school has hosted, but they have resolved that it won't be the last.

The teachers at Dublin Consolidated School helped organize the event as a way for students to learn about military service and the contributions of veterans to our country's history. They also helped students learn about the Wounded Warrior Project and the support that it provides for wounded, ill, and injured veterans, servicemembers and families and brainstormed ways to raise money for the organization. Through a coin drive held in the weeks leading up to the assembly, the students raised more than \$900, an amount matched by USAA bank, to help those who kept our country safe, secure, and free.

The special Veterans Day celebration hosted by the students and teachers at Dublin Consolidated School is an example of the Granite State spirit of showing gratitude and respect for our veterans. Their work to honor local veterans is why I am proud to name them November's Granite Staters of the Month.●

## 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

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 Committee on Armed Services.

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

## MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 12:01 p.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. 1071. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

H.R. 131. An act to make certain modifications to the repayment for the Arkansas Valley Conduit in the State of Colorado.

H.R. 187. An act to provide for the standardization, consolidation, and publication of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways among Federal land and water management agencies, and for other purposes.

H.R. 410. An act to extend the Alaska Native Vietnam era veterans land allotment program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1043. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land in Arizona to La Paz County, Arizona, and for other purposes.

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

At 12:14 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. 3492. An act to amend section 116 of title 18, United States Code, with respect to genital and bodily mutilation and chemical castration of minors.

H.R. 3616. An act to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to review regulations that may affect the reliable operation of the bulk-power system.

H.R. 6703. An act to ensure access to affordable health insurance.

At 4:19 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. 498. An act to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to prohibit Federal Medicaid funding for gender transition procedures for minors.

H.R. 845. An act to require the Secretary of the Interior to reissue regulations removing the gray wolf from the list of endangered and threatened wildlife under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

H.R. 1366. An act to provide for the location of multiple hardrock mining mill sites, to establish the Abandoned Hardrock Mine Fund, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4776. An act to amend the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to clarify ambiguous provisions and facilitate a more efficient, effective, and timely environmental review process.

## MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 498. An act to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to prohibit Federal Medicaid funding for gender transition procedures for minors; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 845. An act to require the Secretary of the Interior to reissue regulations removing

the gray wolf from the list of endangered and threatened wildlife under the Endangered Species Act of 1973; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 3492. An act to amend section 116 of title 18, United States Code, with respect to genital and bodily mutilation and chemical castration of minors; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 3616. An act to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to review regulations that may affect the reliable operation of the bulk-power system; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 4776. An act to amend the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to clarify ambiguous provisions and facilitate a more efficient, effective, and timely environmental review process; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

## MEASURES DISCHARGED PETITIONS

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, hereby direct that the Senate Committee on Finance be discharged of further consideration of S.J. Res. 95, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the rule submitted by the Internal Revenue Service relating to "Interim Guidance Simplifying Application of the Corporate Alternative Minimum Tax to Partnerships," and, further, that the resolution be immediately placed upon the Legislative Calendar under General Orders.

Ron Wyden, Tim Kaine, Peter Welch, Tina Smith, Sheldon Whitehouse, John W. Hickenlooper, Tammy Baldwin, Chris Van Hollen, Andy Kim, Angus S. King, Martin Heinrich, Patty Murray, Jack Reed, Edward J. Markey, Angela D. Alsobrooks, Cory A. Booker, Ben Ray Lujan, Tammy Duckworth, Bernard Sanders, Gary C. Peters, Mark R. Warner, Catherine Cortez Masto, Richard Durbin, Jeanne Shaheen, Elizabeth Warren, Richard Blumenthal, Mazie Hirono, Jeff Merkley, Jacky Rosen, Lisa Blunt Rochester, Christopher A. Coons, Alex Padilla.

## MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following joint resolution was discharged from the Committee on Finance, by petition, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 802(c), and placed on the calendar:

S.J. Res. 95. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Internal Revenue Service relating to "Interim Guidance Simplifying Application of the Corporate Alternative Minimum Tax to Partnerships".

## ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, December 18, 2025, she had presented to the President of the United States 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. 284. An act to reauthorize the Congressional Award Act.

S. 1071. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of