

across the country, including in Minneapolis this week.

So I ask my Republican colleagues, Will you denounce this President's use of troops in our communities before a city you represent becomes the administration's next "training grounds"?

I will continue to speak out and conduct oversight of this President, and I hope my Republican colleagues will join me in that effort.

REMEMBERING WILLIAM "BILL"
HARRIS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, politicians live in a world of advocates. The rich and powerful engage effective people to represent them. Those less fortunate strive to keep up in the world of politics. It was 1982 as I, first-time congressional candidate, received a questionnaire from the Children's Defense Fund. My first thought was: Is this for real? Helping kids is the right thing to do, but who would make the most vulnerable people in America their "cause"? Enter Bill Harris.

Bill was born on March 11, 1940, in Saint Paul, MN, to Irving and Rosetta Harris. While they moved around frequently in his youth, his family eventually settled in the Chicago suburb of Highland Park. Bill's father Irving was one of the most amazing people I have ever met, and anyone who knew him would understand how Bill developed a passion for advancing the interests of children. Across the United States, Irving invested in charities and institutions that supported childhood development. He helped create the Yale Child Study Center at Yale University, the University of Chicago's Graduate School of Public Policy Studies, which bears his name, and the Erikson Institute for Advanced Studies in Child Development. He worked tirelessly for the rights of all children and was so proud that Bill ended up working for children as well.

After graduating from Highland Park High School, Bill left the North Shore to attend Wesleyan University in Connecticut, where he graduated in 1961. He went on to work at Janus Films in New York, where his interest in childhood development programs blossomed. In his position he had the opportunity to work with Fordham University to create novel media programs for underserved youth. In this position, he founded a newsgathering team, a radio station, and a newspaper all made for and run by children. In bringing new media to impoverished areas, Bill gave children more than just a job, he gave them a chance to advocate for themselves and their interests. Bill would end up writing his doctoral thesis at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on his work, and it would continue to leave a deep impression on his life.

And in his work, Bill received his life's greatest blessing. While organizing a film festival at the Lincoln Center, Bill met his wife Robie. She

had submitted an entry to the festival titled "Child's Eye View," which documented her work teaching underserved children. The two felt an instant bond over their passion for childhood development, and they soon married in 1969. Their relationship flourished for 55 years, with both advocating for vulnerable children throughout their union.

After Bill completed his doctorate, he reflected on his work with children and how he could make more of an impact. At the time, nearly every large corporation and labor union in America had an organization devoted to fundraising and advancing its priorities in government, except for children. Bill set out to change this. He felt that children were a public good, whose needs were far greater than what private companies or philanthropy alone could protect. Only the government possessed the power and responsibility to adequately address the best interests of children.

In 1981, Bill formed Kidspac to raise money to back politicians who supported evidence-based policies for children and families. Since its inception, Bill and Kidspac remained at the forefront of the major childhood welfare reforms of the past 40 years. Bill's efforts led to the creation of Early Head Start under the Clinton administration; he pushed Congress to change the Child Tax Credit to be fully refundable so the poorest families would be able to receive its benefits; and he helped establish the National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative to treat the mental health impacts of childhood trauma. In the years since, I have been honored to help carry that torch and double the funding for this critical program to improve our knowledge and expand services for children who are exposed to trauma. Bill was relentless in pursuit of his mission to push politicians to advance the best, most evidence-based practices that would support children.

In his work, Bill was not content with only assisting children at home. He advocated for international HIV and AIDS relief funding long before the establishment of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief under the Bush administration. I had the great fortune of traveling with Bill to Sub-Saharan Africa to examine the effects of international investment in the region, and one memory of our trip stands out to me. Shortly after we arrived in Africa, I learned that the airline had lost my luggage. When I told Bill, he did not hesitate to offer me access to his wardrobe. He was ready to give me the shirt off his back. That was the kind of person Bill was.

Bill never stopped advocating for children, and he did so without an ounce of vanity or desire for personal recognition. His passion was born out of a true sense of altruism that could not be tainted or subdued. Although Bill is no longer with us, his legacy lives on through his children David and Ben. David worked together with Bill to support the expansion of the Child

Tax Credit, and he serves as executive director at the Children's Research and Education Institute, a nonprofit organization that Bill founded to educate policymakers and the public about the policies that best serve children. Ben worked for many years as a clinical professor at the Psychological Center at the City College of New York, where he provided therapeutic services in the same neighborhoods that his father made children's news programs five decades prior. Today, he continues to work in clinical psychology. Loretta and I send our deepest condolences to David and Ben; their wives Emily and Hilary; Bill's sister Virginia Polsky; and Bill's grandchildren Ella, Rosie, Sam, and Daisy.

Bill was an optimist. He believed that there was no limit to what a child could achieve if they received the right support from their families and their country. With no ego or agenda, Bill gave his life to providing children with that support. His work has left a permanent mark on America's children, families, and politics. He will be dearly missed. Bill Harris was truly one of the good guys.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO CAROLINE NILSSON
TROY

• Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Caroline Nilsson Troy on her well-deserved retirement after more than 31 years of dedicated service to the Gem State and the students, staff, faculty, and alumni at the University of Idaho.

Caroline's deep Idaho roots have shaped her public service. A fifth-generation Idahoan, Caroline grew up in Genesee, a community built on values that define the Gem State: hard work, tending the land, and Vandal pride. After graduating from the University of Idaho, she applied the lessons learned on her family's farm and ranch to the U of I's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. There, Caroline helped develop and raise funding for educational programs that set students on the path to success.

In 2014, Caroline was elected to the Idaho House of Representatives. Over the course of four terms, she sponsored more than 100 bills and resolutions aimed at strengthening small businesses, timber, and agriculture and was a key voice in the responsible use of taxpayer dollars. Caroline remained a tireless advocate for education and her alma mater, opening doors to internships and jobs for Vandals interested in public service.

Following her time in elected office, Caroline returned home to the University of Idaho as the special assistant to the president for State and governmental relations. In this role, Caroline made a positive impact on countless lives, especially for students and families across north Idaho. I am confident

that her legacy of kindness and integrity will inspire generations to come.

It is with great pride that I recognize Caroline Nilsson Troy for her outstanding contributions to the Gem State. Thank you, Caroline, for your many years of service and commitment to making Idaho the best place to live, work, and raise a family. ●

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

At 1:05 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following resolution:

H. Res. 978. Resolution relative to the death of the Honorable Doug LaMalfa, a Representative from the State of California.

At 4:06 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 6938. An act making consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes.

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following joint resolution was discharged from the Committee on Foreign Relations, by motion, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1546a, and placed on the calendar:

S.J. Res. 98. Joint resolution to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities within or against Venezuela that have not been authorized by Congress.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

January 8 (Legislative Day January 7), 2026

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 6938. An act making consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes.

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-2418. A communication from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to action on a nomination for a position covered by the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998 for the position of First Vice President, Export-Import Bank of the United States, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 7, 2026; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2419. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13219 of June 26, 2001, with respect to the Western Balkans; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2420. A communication from the Management Analyst, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Public Land Order for Withdrawal of Federal Lands; Cook, Lake, and Saint Louis Counties, Minnesota" (PLO7917) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 7, 2026; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2421. A communication from the Acting Branch Supervisor of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Ohio; 2015 Ozone Reasonably Available Control Technology" (FRL No. 9995-02-R5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 5, 2026; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2422. A communication from the Acting Branch Supervisor of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension of the State Implementation Plan Due Date for the Regional Haze Third Implementation Period" ((RIN2060-AW41) (FRL No. 12160-02-OAR)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 5, 2026; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2423. A communication from the Acting Branch Supervisor of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Michigan and Minnesota; Revision to Taconite Federal Implementation Plan" (FRL No. 12351-02-R5)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 5, 2026; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2424. A communication from the Acting Branch Supervisor of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Revision; California; Placer County Air Pollution Control District; New Source Review" (FRL No. 12530-03-R9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 5, 2026; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2425. A communication from the Acting Branch Supervisor of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; California; San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District" (FRL No. 12832-02-R9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 5, 2026; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2426. A communication from the Acting Branch Supervisor of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Utah; Northern Washch Front; 2015 8-Hour Ozone Nonattain-

ment Area Boundary Expansion and Applicability of Certain Clean Air Act Requirements" (FRL No. 12971-02-R8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 5, 2026; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2427. A communication from the Acting Branch Supervisor of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Michigan; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2015 Ozone NAAQS; Michigan State Board Requirements; Withdrawal of Direct Final Rule" (FRL No. 13010-03-R5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 5, 2026; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2428. A communication from the Acting Branch Supervisor of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards for the Steam Electric Power Generating Point Source Category-Deadline Extensions" ((RIN2040-AG54) (FRL No. 8794.3-04-OW)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 5, 2026; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2429. A communication from the Acting Branch Supervisor of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants; Delegation of Authority to Oklahoma" (FRL No. 12761-02-R6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 5, 2026; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2430. A communication from the Acting Branch Supervisor of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Colorado; Revisions to Colorado Procedural Rules and Common Provisions Regulation" (FRL No. 13050-02-R8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 5, 2026; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2431. A communication from the Acting Branch Supervisor of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "New Source Performance Standards; Delegation of Authority to Oklahoma" (FRL No. 12826-02-R6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 18, 2025; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2432. A communication from the Acting Branch Supervisor of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "New Source Performance Standards and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants; Delegation of Authority to Louisiana" (FRL No. 12688-02-R6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 18, 2025; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2433. A communication from the Acting Branch Supervisor of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Arizona; Infrastructure Requirements for the 2012 Fine Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standard" (FRL No. 11747-02-R9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 18, 2025; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.