

that is 5 years after the date of enactment of the Conflict-free Leaving Employment and Activity Restrictions Path Act.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1(m) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2651a(m)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (6) and (7) as paragraphs (8) and (9), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following:

“(6) RELATION TO GOVERNMENT-WIDE RESTRICTIONS.—This subsection shall not apply to a person by reason of the person’s service in a position referenced in this subsection if the person is subject to the restrictions under section 207(m) of title 18, United States Code, by reason of the same service.”.

SEC. 4. MECHANISM TO AMEND DEFINITION OF “COUNTRY OF CONCERN”.

Section 1(m) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2651a(m)) is amended by inserting after paragraph (6), as added by section 3(b), the following:

“(7) MODIFICATION TO DEFINITION OF ‘COUNTRY OF CONCERN’.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State may, in consultation with the Attorney General, propose the addition or deletion of countries described in paragraph (1)(A).

“(B) SUBMISSION.—Any proposal described in subparagraph (A) shall—

“(i) be submitted to the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives; and

“(ii) become effective upon enactment of a joint resolution of approval as described in subparagraph (C).

“(C) JOINT RESOLUTION OF APPROVAL.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subparagraph (B)(ii), the term ‘joint resolution of approval’ means only a joint resolution—

“(I) that does not have a preamble;

“(II) that includes in the matter after the resolving clause the following: ‘That Congress approves the modification of the definition of ‘country of concern’ under section 1(m) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956, as submitted by the Secretary of State on _____; and section 1(m)(1)(A) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2651a(m)(1)(A)) is amended by _____’, the blank spaces being appropriately filled in with the appropriate date and the amendatory language required to modify the list of countries in paragraph (1)(A) of this subsection by adding or deleting 1 or more countries; and

“(III) the title of which is as follows: ‘Joint resolution approving modifications to definition of “country of concern” under section 1(m) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956.’.

“(ii) REFERRAL.—

“(I) SENATE.—A resolution described in clause (i) that is introduced in the Senate shall be referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

“(II) HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—A resolution described in clause (i) that is introduced in the House of Representatives shall be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.”.

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to and the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill, as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate on the bill, as amended?

Hearing none, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 2132), as amended, was passed.

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO LAQUITA NORRIS

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate and recognize LaQuita Norris of Benton on being named the 2026 Arkansas Small Business Person of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

As the founder and CEO of Gateway Family Therapy and Wellness, Norris has distinguished herself as an entrepreneur and community leader. For more than 13 years, she has built a thriving career while positively impacting thousands of individuals and families across Arkansas. As a certified social worker, clinical trauma professional, and grief educator, she brings both expertise and compassion to her professional mission of helping heal others.

Recognizing a critical need for accessible trauma treatment resources, Norris founded Gateway Family Therapy and Wellness in 2014. Guided by her vision of a whole-person approach to care, she established a practice that serves adults, children, couples and families navigating trauma, post-traumatic stress disorders, grief, and other mental and behavioral health challenges.

To bring this vision to life, Norris partnered with the Arkansas Small Business and Technology Development Center, which assisted her in developing a comprehensive business plan. With this support, she secured a Small Business Administration line of credit that allowed her to expand from a 400-square-foot office into a 10,000-square-foot multidisciplinary wellness facility. Today, her practice offers a wide range of services—including therapy, massage, yoga, and life coaching—allowing her team to reach more clients and provide holistic, integrated care.

Beyond her clinical work, Norris continues to extend her impact as a speaker, author, and consultant, further advancing awareness and understanding of trauma-informed care. Her leadership and commitment exemplify the vital role small businesses play in strengthening our communities.

This recognition is a testament to Norris’ unwavering dedication to im-

proving the well-being of others and to the positive difference she has made in the lives of so many Arkansans. On behalf of all Arkansans, I congratulate LaQuita Norris on this well-deserved honor and wish her continued success in the years ahead.●

REMEMBERING JAMES MICHAEL “MIKE” CLAMPITT

• Mr. BUDD. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life, service, and legacy of Representative James Michael “Mike” Clampitt of Bryson City, NC—a devoted public servant, firefighter, and advocate for the people of western North Carolina.

Representative Clampitt passed away on March 18, 2026, at the age of 71, following a long and courageous battle with bone marrow cancer. Throughout his illness, he carried himself with strength, resilience, and an unwavering faith that defined his life.

Mike Clampitt dedicated his life to service. Prior to his election to public office, he served as a fire captain, and that frontline experience shaped his perspective and guided his work in government, particularly his commitment to supporting first responders across North Carolina.

First elected to the North Carolina House of Representatives in 2016 and taking office in 2017, Representative Clampitt served the 119th District, representing the mountain communities of Swain, Jackson, and Transylvania Counties. He quickly became known as a strong and consistent advocate for rural western North Carolina.

During his time in the general assembly, Representative Clampitt worked to advance policies that supported public safety, strengthened local infrastructure, and ensured that rural communities of western North Carolina were not overlooked. He was heavily engaged in efforts to increase resources for first responders and to secure meaningful support for communities in western North Carolina recovering from Hurricane Helene.

Those who served alongside him knew him as a man of conviction and individuality. Those who met Mike would never forget him. He brought a distinct personality to the legislature, often recognized for his colorful wardrobe, silvery beard and mustache, and the wooden coins he would distribute as his “business card.” Representative Clampitt will be most remembered for his willingness to stand firmly for the people and principles he believed in.

North Carolina Speaker of the House Destin Hall described him as “a true patriot” who viewed public service as both a calling and a duty. That sense of purpose was evident in the way Representative Clampitt approached his work and in the relationships he built with constituents.

He remained committed to his district until the very end, having recently secured victory in his party’s primary election, a reflection of the

trust and confidence placed in him by the people he served. His strength while battling his illness resonated deeply with his colleagues and his constituents.

Beyond his legislative accomplishments, Mike Clampitt will be remembered as a man deeply connected to his community: a neighbor, a friend, and a public servant who cared deeply about western North Carolina.

To his family, friends, colleagues, constituents, and his legislative assistant Young Bae, we extend our deepest condolences. His life of service leaves a lasting legacy in the mountains of North Carolina.●

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF RAEFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

● Mr. BUDD. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a significant milestone in Raeford, NC's history. This year, the city celebrates its 125th anniversary.

Raeford's history began long before its municipal incorporation in 1901. In the 18th and 19th centuries, the Gaelic-speaking Highland Scots settled in the region, and their heritage is still proudly celebrated today at historic sites like the Mill Prong House. The city's namesake is tied to its early pioneer spirit. In 1885, two influential residents, John McRae, a turpentine distillery operator, and A.A. Williford, a general store owner, established the name for the local post office by combining their names, "Rae" and "ford."

In 1899, the community's population grew as the Aberdeen and Rockfish Railroad was extended. This growth paved the way for Raeford's official municipal incorporation 125 years ago. Then, in 1911, the city of Raeford was rightfully designated as the county seat of the newly formed Hoke County.

In 1918, Camp Bragg was established in Raeford during World War I. Today, Fort Bragg serves as America's 9-1-1 military force and is home to the elite 82nd Airborne Division and our Nation's Special Operations Forces. The military installation now occupies one-third of the land in Hoke County, and the city of Raeford remains a steadfast support system for our men and women in uniform and their families.

Over the past 125 years, Raeford has built a storied history as a metropolitan hub with a smalltown feel and a tight-knit community. Residents of Raeford have gone on to proudly represent their city, their State, and their country as world-class athletes, Olympians, and, of course, military heroes. There is no doubt that the city of Raeford represents the best of North Carolina's spirit, driven by hard work and united by a deep sense of community.

Please join me in celebrating 125 years of Raeford, NC's rich heritage and patriotic service.●

RECOGNIZING SIEVERT'S FURNITURE & FLOORS

● 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 Sievert's Furniture & Floors of Emmet County, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

In 1970, John Raymond "Doc" Sievert and his wife Judy opened Sievert's Refrigeration, an appliance store that they ran out of their garage. After years of hard work, the Sieverts grew and expanded the business into a furniture and flooring store, adopting their current namesake Sievert's Furniture & Floors. Through Doc's entrepreneurial tenacity and support from his family, he created a successful business in Estherville that has steadily evolved into a trusted local institution, and his legacy lives on today.

In 2015, Doc and Judy's son Jeff became the full owner of Sievert's Furniture & Floors after serving as co-owner for 14 years. Jeff takes pride in running his family business because it allows him to work with his children and grandchildren, just like his parents did. Today, Sievert's Furniture & Floors is occupying its fourth location after moving to a bigger store to meet rising demand for their flooring services. The business offers a wide selection of mattresses, furniture, recliners, sofas, flooring, and decorative home furnishings. A dedicated team of 12 employees provides exemplary customer service, making customers feel like a part of the family. Under Jeff's leadership, the business has continued to grow while maintaining its family-centered approach, ensuring that each generation continues the values that built the company.

Sievert's Furniture & Floors is also active in various communities within Emmet County. They are members of the Estherville Chamber of Commerce, consistent donors to local sports teams, the Special Olympics, and Pheasants Forever. Every year, Sievert's sets aside funds for 10 charitable causes. This continued investment in local organizations highlights their commitment not just to their business success, but to giving back to the community that has supported them for decades.

It is my honor to recognize the Sievert family and the entire team at Sievert's Furniture & Floors for their outstanding contributions and presence in their community. I look forward to their continued success and wish them the very best in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO THE FIRST GRADE STUDENTS AT CAMPTON ELEMENTARY

● Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I am honored to recognize the first grade

students at Campton Elementary as April's Granite Staters of the Month. The Campton students are learning American Sign Language to help communicate with and include one of their classmates Ben, who is deaf.

Ben is the only deaf student at Campton Elementary and participates in class with the help of a teacher's aide and Cheryl Ulicny, who is a certified teacher of the deaf. As Ben's classmates have gotten to know him, some of his friends wanted to learn how to sign as a way to better include Ben and grow closer to him. Quickly, the entire class decided to take on the challenge and started to learn American Sign Language, through a mix of lessons from Cheryl and everyday conversations with Ben. The practice has spread beyond first grade too, and staff throughout the building meet up at what they call ASL Club, to learn and practice their signing skills. Today, almost every student and staff member at Campton Elementary knows at least a sign or two.

The first grade students at Campton Elementary embody the Granite State spirit of valuing the contributions of all our citizens and working to fully include everyone in our communities. Their work to learn American Sign Language is why I am glad to name them April's Granite Staters of the Month.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Hanley, 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 2:29 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, without amendment:

S. 98. An act to require the Federal Communications Commission to establish a vetting process for prospective applicants for high-cost universal service program funding.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1343. An act to require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a plan for the Assistant Secretary to track the acceptance, processing, and disposal of certain Form 2998s, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1681. An act to require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications