

## VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 114, the adoption of S. Res. 690, Authorizing the en bloc consideration in Executive Session of certain nominations on the Executive Calendar. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted nay.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 115, the motion to close further debate on confirmation of the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 728, Kevin Warsh, of Florida, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of fourteen years from February 1, 2026. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted nay.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 116, the Confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 728, Kevin Warsh, of Florida, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of fourteen years from February 1, 2026. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted nay.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 117, the motion to invoke cloture on Executive Calendar No. 727, Kevin Warsh, of Florida, to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of four years. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted nay.

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**HONORING NORTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT ON NATIONAL POLICE WEEK**

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I rise during Police Week to honor the brave men and women in North Carolina and across the Nation who serve in law enforcement. Police Week is a solemn and humbling experience, as thousands of officers and their families come to our Nation's Capital and pay tribute to their fellow officers who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect their communities.

Every name that is added to the memorial wall is a monument to that officer's heroism and legacy of courage, selflessness, and ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. This kind of heroism and sacrifice is one far too familiar for North Carolinians who have heard stories of brave officers giving their last full measure of devotion while protecting our State. Today, I wish to list and honor five of these heroes that North Carolina has lost since last year's Police Week in May 2025.

Often, we hear of the dangers law enforcement faces in their profession, but rarely do civilians truly grasp the real risks borne by officers which exist even during "routine" parts of the job, even something as normal as transporting an inmate to a hospital to receive medical care can turn deadly.

Officer Flattes, a detention officer for the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office in western North Carolina, was fatally shot when an inmate who was being transported for medical care

took a detention officer's firearm during a scuffle. Officer Flattes was 56 years old and was shot by the inmate he was seeking to help. This story and others like it are sobering reminders of the true risks facing law enforcement everywhere. Officer Flattes is survived by his wife, who also served with the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office, as well as his 6 children and 15 grandchildren. To them and to Officer Flattes, I rise to say thank you for their sacrifice and his heroism.

We must also remember WakeMed Campus Police Officer Roger Smith, who shares a story far too similar to Officer Flattes. Officer Smith was working in the WakeMed emergency department when a struggle ensued with an armed individual that left Officer Smith shot and wounded. Despite the best efforts of doctors, Officer Smith succumbed to his wounds later that morning. Officer Smith is survived by his two daughters, mother, brother, granddaughter, and long-time partner. Officer Smith previously served 16 years as a Knightdale police officer and as a volunteer firefighter, making his loss one felt throughout his community.

The next person to honor is North Carolina Master Trooper Stien Davis, Jr. Trooper Davis was killed in a single-car crash on NC Highway 130 just after midnight when he lost control of his car before riding off of the road and flipping his vehicle upside down in a swamp. What is especially tragic about this loss is who Trooper Davis leaves behind; his young son, mother, siblings, and fiancée, all of whom have felt and shared a loss that escapes words. This tragic accident resulted in the death of a young trooper who loved his family, his community, and his career in law enforcement.

Sadly, there is another master trooper that I rise to honor today, Master Trooper Steven J. Perry. Trooper Perry was killed when his patrol car was struck in a head-on collision by someone driving the wrong way at 3 in the morning. Trooper Perry was 30 years old and had served the State of North Carolina for almost 7 years when he was killed. He is survived by his then 9-month-old daughter. Because of one person's bad choice, the State of North Carolina has lost one of its finest sons.

Finally, I rise to honor Forsyth County Sheriff's Deputy Kaleb Mitchell. Deputy Mitchell, like the other heroes mentioned before, was killed during what was a routine moment of his day. Deputy Mitchell was killed when he was struck by a driver going over 100 miles per hour in a 55-mph zone, who then crossed a dividing line and hit Deputy Mitchell. Deputy Mitchell was later pronounced dead after being taken to a hospital immediately after the collision. He is survived by his expectant wife, his 2-year-old child, his parents, and his siblings. One of his brothers also serves with the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office. There are no

words to fully express the heartbreak and loss these families have suffered, feelings that are only sharpened by the ordinary nature of what was happening when each officer died.

There is simply no speech, no award, no memorial or honor that we can bestow upon these officers and families that can lessen their sacrifice or ease their pain, but what we must do no matter what is remain thankful for their sacrifice and honor the legacies of these men who died protecting our State and its people.

In my remaining time in the Senate, I will continue to push for the passage of the Protect and Serve Act, legislation that I introduced that makes it a Federal crime to intentionally harm, or attempt to harm, a law enforcement officer. It also gives prosecutors new tools to penalize criminals who target law enforcement.

Officers go to work every day prepared to make the ultimate sacrifice for their communities, and they need our support now more than ever. The Protect and Serve Act is supported by law enforcement groups across the Nation, including the Fraternal Order of Police, the National Association of Police Organizations, the Police Officers Defense Coalition, the North Carolina Fraternal Order of Police, the National Sheriffs Association, and the Major County Sheriffs Association.

To every officer serving today: Thank you for your unwavering courage; you have earned our unending gratitude. To the families of the fallen: Your loss is shared by a grateful nation. We will never forget your loved one's service, nor their sacrifice. God bless them. God bless law enforcement. And may God bless the United States of America.

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**NATIONAL POLICE WEEK**

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, National Police Week serves as a solemn reminder of the courage and sacrifice shown by the men and women in law enforcement who lost their lives in service to others. This week, we set aside time to honor their memory and recognize the families, friends, and fellow officers who continue to carry their loss with strength and grace.

Behind every officer is a family that serves alongside them. They share in the sacrifices, the uncertainty, and the responsibility that comes with a life of public service. These officers are more than public servants. They are parents, neighbors, mentors, coaches, and leaders who play an essential role in the communities they call home. In my home State of Mississippi and across the country, we are so proud of these dedicated individuals who serve with integrity, professionalism, and honor.

This year, we honor the three Mississippi officers whose names have been added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, three heroes who protected our communities and whose legacy will live on.

We remember: Joshua Brashears, a Jackson County Sheriff's deputy who died from injuries after his patrol vehicle struck several horses on a dark road in Stone County on October 17, 2025. He served in law enforcement for more than 21 years and is survived by two children and his parents.

We remember: Martin Shields, Jr., a Hinds County deputy who was shot and killed while responding to a domestic call on February 23, 2025. After serving with the Jackson and Ridgeland Police Departments, he sadly only served with Hinds County Sheriff's Department for 9 months before his death. He is survived by his wife and daughter.

And we remember: Bryan Pippin, a Jackson police officer who passed away from COVID-19 complications. He served with the Jackson Police Department for nearly 20 years, often working parades in the motorcycle unit.

We honor the memory of these fallen officers and stand beside their families with enduring respect.

As we remember those we have lost, we also must continue supporting those who serve today. That means ensuring law enforcement has the tools, resources, and support needed to do their jobs safely and effectively, while also showing appreciation for their sacrifices.

To every officer serving our communities, know that we recognize your service and the sacrifices inherent with ensuring public safety. During National Police Week and every week throughout the year, let us stand together in gratitude for all who protect and serve.

May God bless our fallen officers, the families who miss them, all who wear the badge, and the United States of America.

#### NATIONAL SALVATION ARMY WEEK

Mr. KAINÉ. Mr. President. I rise today to recognize May 11 to May 17, 2026, as National Salvation Army Week.

Founded in 1865, the Salvation Army has been unfailingly committed to serving those in need without discrimination. For more than 150 years, the Salvation Army has provided essential social services, including disaster relief, food assistance, shelter, rehabilitation programs, and youth development initiatives in local communities across the United States.

The Salvation Army serves more than 27 million Americans annually, offering compassion, hope, and support to the most vulnerable populations, including individuals experiencing homelessness, veterans, seniors, human trafficking survivors, and those recovering from addiction. Across the Nation, the Salvation Army operates shelters, food pantries, job training programs, and emergency disaster relief efforts that strengthen communities and improve lives.

The Salvation Army continues to be a trusted partner at the local, State,

and Federal levels, providing critical services that address poverty, hunger, and natural disasters. Volunteers, donors, and officers of the Salvation Army exemplify the spirit of service, working tirelessly to provide relief and opportunity for those in need—and should be recognized and commended for their commitment to the betterment of others.

I am grateful for the work that the Salvation Army accomplishes every day and applaud its dedication to social service.

#### NATIONAL SALVATION ARMY WEEK

Mrs. BRITT. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize May 11 to May 17, 2026, as National Salvation Army Week. I join the junior Senator from Virginia in expressing my sincere gratitude to the Salvation Army for all they do to support and provide for Americans across the Nation.

For over a century, the Salvation Army has been committed to "Doing the Most Good." This good is carried out in countless ways including feeding the hungry, rebuilding homes, providing addiction recovery services, assisting with disaster relief, and combating human trafficking. For the past 160 years, it has been evident: Where there is need, the Salvation Army steps up.

Today, the Salvation Army humbly serves nearly 28 million Americans annually, offering warm beds, nutritious meals, and financial assistance. I am especially grateful for Alabama's local Salvation Army units for their tireless efforts and impactful work within our communities. After several tornadoes hit our State in 2023, the Salvation Army came to Alabama's aid to provide resources including over 1,800 meals for affected families. Each year, the Salvation Army partners with the University of Alabama at Birmingham to bring gifts and joy to thousands of children during the Christmas season. And in true Alabama fashion, local Salvation Army chapters have mobilized to the frontlines of disaster response across the Nation to lend a helping hand and provide essential supplies to families devastated by natural disasters.

I am extremely proud to celebrate the far-reaching and critical work carried out by the Salvation Army each and every day. Their dedicated volunteers and members step up in communities across our Nation to meet urgent needs with compassion, dignity, and unwavering commitment. This work not only meets immediate challenges, but also restores hope for so many families.

I am honored to recognize National Salvation Army Week and to express my deep appreciation for the Salvation Army's tireless work in uplifting lives, strengthening communities, and "Doing the Most Good" for Americans across our Nation.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:52 a.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 bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2071. An act to require the United States Executive Directors at the international financial institutions to oppose certain projects involving shrimp production.

H.R. 2267. An act to require the Attorney General to submit to the Congress a report that includes demographic data of persons determined to be ineligible to purchase a firearm based on a background check performed by the National Instant Criminal Background Check System.

H.R. 2853. An act to combat organized crime involving the illegal acquisition of retail goods and cargo for the purpose of selling those illegally obtained goods through physical and online retail marketplaces.

H.R. 3709. An act to amend the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 to establish a Financial Agent Mentor-Protege Program within the Department of the Treasury, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4437. An act to reduce the regulatory burden on certain well managed and well capitalized financial institutions, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4478. An act to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to permit Federal banking agencies to examine qualifying insured depository institutions with under \$6 billion in total assets not less than once during each 18-month period, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8352. An act to authorize peace officer standards and training agencies to access criminal history records, and for other purposes.

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 12:27 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 3497. An act to establish a medal of service for law enforcement officers and first responders.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 2071. An act to require the United States Executive Directors at the international financial institutions to oppose certain projects involving shrimp production, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 2267. An act to require the Attorney General to submit to the Congress a report that includes the demographic data of persons determined to be ineligible to purchase a firearm based on a background check performed by the National Instant Criminal Background Check System; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 2853. An act to combat organized crime involving the illegal acquisition of retail goods and cargo for the purpose of selling those illegally obtained goods through physical and online retail marketplaces; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 3709. An act to amend the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 to establish a Financial