

Hearing no further debate, the question is on adoption of the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 795) was agreed to.

Mr. THUNE. I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

NATIONAL WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS MONTH

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 741.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 741) designating May 2026 as "National Wildfire Preparedness Month".

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 741) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of May 20, 2026, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar No. 774; and all nominations on the Secretary's desk in the Coast Guard, with the exception of Jesse M. Millard (PN846) and Ronzelle L. Green and Tabitha A. Schiro (PN849); that the nominations be confirmed; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

The following named officer for appointment to serve as the Director of the Coast Guard Reserve in the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 309(b):

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Dorothy J. Hernaez

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Coast Guard Reserve to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 2121(e):

To be lieutenant commander

Tevin A. White

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S
DESK

IN THE COAST GUARD

* PN791 - 1 COAST GUARD nominations (407) beginning EDWARD J. ABMA, and ending DEVON D. ZYCH, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 29, 2026.

* PN845 COAST GUARD nomination of Jon M. Kreischer, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 11, 2026.

* PN1077 COAST GUARD nominations (8) beginning CHRISTOPHER P. RABALAIS, and ending TODD A. RAY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 4, 2026.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 4784

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, the cloture motion with respect to Calendar No. 436, S. 4784, ripen following disposition of the Schwartz nomination on July 14.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

IRAN

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I want to take a moment to reflect on the costs of war. The heaviest burden is always paid by those who serve. In the President's war of choice against Iran, 13 American servicemembers have lost their lives, their families forever affected.

The damage to the global economy and the American economy also has been staggering. Energy prices and commodity prices worldwide have skyrocketed, worsening global poverty and food insecurity rates. At home, gas prices rose to an average of \$4.56 a gallon, the highest we have seen in 4 years. Mortgage rates jumped, and operating expenses surged for American farmers.

Moody's Analytics put the total U.S. cost at \$132 billion when factoring in military spending, rising prices, and interest rates. Every dollar spent on war is 1 less dollar to improve healthcare or repair our roads.

Here is another cost associated with the Iran war: \$29 billion. That is the es-

timate that Pentagon officials shared during a Senate Appropriations Defense Subcommittee hearing last month. That figure includes only short-term operational expenses and the costs associated with replenishing some munitions. However, it does not include the heavy cost required to repair or rebuild U.S. military bases and facilities in the Middle East that sustained damage from Iranian retaliatory strikes. And every service Secretary has come to Congress to tell us they are running out of money and will need to delay critical training for troops, defer maintenance on military bases, and pause duty station changes.

Yet, while Pentagon officials testified before Congress that the war apparently only cost \$29 billion, they were reportedly putting together a supplemental request for upwards of \$80 billion. That is on top of the \$1.5 trillion that the President has requested for the national defense budget for fiscal year 2027, at least \$350 billion of which the President hopes will come from yet another partisan reconciliation bill.

Can you imagine? \$1.5 trillion, with a t, for the national defense budget—a 50-percent increase over current funding levels. Has the Pentagon provided Congress with a detailed accounting of its expenses and needs associated with the cost of the Iran war? No. Do we know what will be in the Pentagon's supplemental request? No. Do we know when we will see a supplemental request? No. Will a reconciliation bill include strict financial guardrails for the Department of Defense? If it is anything like the \$150 billion that DOD received from the majority last year, probably not. I, for one, am not interested in giving the President a blank check, especially when he threatens further strikes against Iran one day, then touts a supposed peace deal the next.

Here is one more dollar figure I would like to point out: \$300 billion. That is the figure tied to a reconstruction fund that President Trump has apparently promised to Iran under the terms of the preliminary agreement he signed last week. This funding is apparently what is needed to help Iran rebuild its economy after the war—but the details are murky.

Who will provide this funding? Will it be the American taxpayers left holding the bag after the President's failed war? Unclear.

Will there be any constraints on how Iran can use this funding? Can they use it to reconstitute their military? Unclear.

What mechanism will there be for oversight of the fund? Also unclear.

Can you imagine the howls of outrage if President Obama, while negotiating the JCPOA, promised Iran \$300 billion in reconstruction funds? Under the JCPOA, economic relief for Iran was provided through certain sanctions waivers and access to its own previously frozen foreign assets. President Obama faced significant scrutiny from

my colleagues on the other side of the aisle on the release of those Iranian funds.

I recall many distortions about a \$1.7 billion payment at the time, including bogus claims that the United States was paying out for prisoner releases when, in reality, we were clearing up a decades-old legal settlement that had nothing to do with the JCPOA. Less than \$2 billion seems like pennies relative to the \$300 billion promise made by President Trump to the Iranians today.

Already this week, the Trump administration issued sweeping oil sanctions waivers, unlocking billions in new revenue for Tehran. And apparently, the U.S. is working with Qatar to free up billions of dollars in frozen assets available for Iran. These financial incentives for an adversary before we have compliance are remarkable.

Ultimately, I hope my colleagues reassert Congress' constitutional responsibilities when it comes to the war against Iran.

I am glad that the Senate adopted a resolution instructing the President to end the war yesterday, and I hope when it comes to the national budget or any supplemental request, we will uphold our power of the purse.

I also look forward to reviewing any final nuclear agreement with Iran as required under the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act.

Anything less is an abdication of our duties as Members of Congress.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL
LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 26-0X.

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are for-

warding Transmittal No. 26-0X. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 23-64 of September 11, 2023.

Recipients:

Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
Sincerely,

KAITLYN WOLFE,
Senior Bureau Official,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. RSAT 26-0X

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(B)(5)(C), AECA)

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Poland.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 23-64; Date: September 11, 2023; Implementing Agency: Army.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description: On September 11, 2023, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 23-64 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of ninety-three (93) Integrated Air and Missile Defense (IAMD) Battle Command System (IBCS) Engagement Operation Centers (EOCs); and one hundred seventy-five (175) IBCS Integrated Fire Control Network (IFCN) relays. Also included were network encryptors; IBSC software development and component integration; U.S. Government and contractor technical support; System Integration Lab (SIL) infrastructure; SIL test tools and equipment; U.S. Government and contractor technical support for SIL; flight test infrastructure and equipment; flight test targets; flight test range costs and fees; U.S. Government and Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) flight test services and support; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost was \$4 billion. Major defense equipment (MDE) constituted \$1.5 billion of this total.

This transmittal notifies the inclusion of the following MDE items: six (6) IAMD IBSC EOCs; and twelve (12) IBSC IFCN relays. The following non-MDE items will also be included: network encryptors; IBSC software development and component integration; U.S. Government and contractor technical support; Systems Integration Lab (SIL) infrastructure; SIL test tools and equipment; U.S. Government and contractor technical support for SIL; flight test infrastructure and equipment; flight test targets; flight test range costs and fees; and U.S. Government and OEM flight test services and support. The estimated total value of the new items is \$100 million. The estimated MDE value will increase by \$80 million to a revised \$1.58 billion. The estimated non-MDE value will increase by \$20 million to a revised \$2.52 billion. The estimated total case value will increase by \$100 million to a revised \$4.1 billion.

(iv) Significance: This notification accounts for requested additional MDE and non-MDE items not included in the original notification. The inclusion of this MDE represents an increase in capability over what was previously notified. The proposed sale will improve Poland's capability to meet current and future threats by providing a credible force that can deter adversaries and facilitate its participation in NATO operations. Poland will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy goals and national security objectives of the United States by

improving the security of a NATO Ally that is an important force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology:

The Sensitivity of Technology Statement contained in the original notification applies to items reported here.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: June 23, 2026.

REMEMBERING GORDON S. WOOD

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Gordon S. Wood, esteemed scholar and historian whose notable works examined and guided our understanding of the ideals that birthed and gave rise to the early American Republic.

Born in 1933 in Concord, MA, site of the earliest skirmishes of the American Revolution, Gordon Wood's interest in early American history seems almost inevitable. Dr. Wood attended Tufts University; after earning his degree, he served in the U.S. Air Force in Japan. He earned his master of arts and Ph.D. in history at Harvard University. In 1969, the same year he began his illustrious career at Brown University in Providence, RI, he published his seminal work, "The Creation of the American Republic, 1776-1787," which received the prestigious Bancroft Prize.

Throughout his career, Dr. Wood authored 10 books, including "The Radicalism of the American Revolution," which was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for History. It was this achievement that, perhaps, most forcefully launched him from the realm of academia into the world of public humanities. Dr. Wood's work analyzed how the Colonists' rejection of British monarchy radically shaped not only self-governance, but also the ways in which their nascent ideas of liberty and equality wove themselves into every facet of American society, politics, and culture.

In their brazen embrace of such radical notions, the Colonists transformed from King's subjects to citizens of a modern, democratic republic.

For 40 years at Brown University, Gordon Wood was a devoted teacher and humanist, a brilliant lecturer, and a mentor who engaged generations of students and critical thinkers. He supported new perspectives and historical analysis, welcomed discussion and debate. In recognition of his vigorous scholarship and vast contributions to the humanistic disciplines, President Obama presented Dr. Wood with the 2010 National Humanities Medal.

After retiring in 2008, he continued to research, write, and lecture widely. He held the prestigious title of Alva O. Way University Professor and Professor of History Emeritus at Brown University. Dr. Wood remained steadfast about the centrality of these revolutionary beliefs: liberty and equality, born out of the Enlightenment, boldly propelled early Americans to democratic republicanism and independence.