

Whereas those countries have been critical partners in countering transnational threats, including terrorism, illicit trafficking, and regional instability;

Whereas Central Asia and the Caucasus serve as a vital geopolitical bridge connecting East and West, facilitating critical global trade, energy security, and digital connectivity via corridors such as the Middle Corridor;

Whereas the ongoing governance reforms, anti-corruption initiatives, and economic modernizations within those countries strengthen their long-term resilience and institutional independence;

Whereas the United States seeks to foster resilient, independent economic ecosystems in Central Asia to enhance market access, private investment, and supply chain security; and

Whereas deepening educational, cultural, and professional exchanges between the United States and the peoples of Central Asia promotes mutual understanding and shared prosperity: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the countries of Central Asia on 35 years of independence;

(2) affirms the strategic importance of the United States' relationship with Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan;

(3) fully supports the inherent right of all countries to determine their own foreign policy, security arrangements, and economic alliances without external coercion; and

(4) affirms that the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the countries of Central Asia are foundational to the peace, security, and balance of power across Eurasia.

SENATE RESOLUTION 817—AUTHORIZING THE EN BLOC CONSIDERATION IN EXECUTIVE SESSION OF CERTAIN NOMINATIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE submitted the following resolution; which was submitted and read:

S. RES. 817

Resolved, That it shall be in order to move to proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following nominations on the Executive Calendar:

(1) Calendar Number 729: John Breslow, of Arizona, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Cyprus.

(2) Calendar Number 730: Todd Steggerda, of Virginia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Office of the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva, with the rank of Ambassador.

(3) Calendar Number 731: Adam Cassady, of Virginia, to be Ambassador at Large for Cyberspace and Digital Policy.

(4) Calendar Number 732: Preston Wells Griffith III, of Virginia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Vienna Office of the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador.

(5) Calendar Number 733: Preston Wells Griffith III, of Virginia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the International Atomic Energy Agency, with the rank of Ambassador.

(6) Calendar Number 734: Fleet White, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Political-Military Affairs).

(7) Calendar Number 739: Kenneth Sorenson, of Hawaii, to be United States Attorney for the District of Hawaii for the term of 4 years.

(8) Calendar Number 740: Johnson TeeHee II, of Oklahoma, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Oklahoma for the term of 4 years.

(9) Calendar Number 746: Timothy VerHey, of Michigan, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Michigan for the term of 4 years.

(10) Calendar Number 747: James Arnott, of Missouri, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Missouri for the term of 4 years.

(11) Calendar Number 748: Jack Chambers, of West Virginia, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of West Virginia for the term of 4 years.

(12) Calendar Number 749: Jason Holt, of Oklahoma, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of Oklahoma for the term of 4 years.

(13) Calendar Number 757: Michael Kavoukjian, of Florida, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Kingdom of Norway.

(14) Calendar Number 759: William Trachman, of Colorado, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the United Republic of Tanzania.

(15) Calendar Number 761: Eric Wendt, of California, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Albania.

(16) Calendar Number 762: David Brat, of Virginia, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Commonwealth of Australia.

(17) Calendar Number 764: Frank Garcia, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation for a term expiring September 22, 2031.

(18) Calendar Number 766: Glen Smith, of Iowa, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development.

(19) Calendar Number 781: Sean Costello, of Alabama, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama for the term of 4 years.

(20) Calendar Number 782: Michael Vance, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Intelligence and Research).

(21) Calendar Number 820: Michael McDonald, of the District of Columbia, to be Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Humanities for a term of 4 years.

(22) Calendar Number 821: James Macy, of Wisconsin, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board for the term of 5 years expiring August 27, 2030.

(23) Calendar Number 822: David M. Prouty, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board for the term of 5 years expiring August 27, 2031. (Reappointment)

(24) Calendar Number 823: Brett Matsumoto, of Maryland, to be Commissioner of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor, for a term of 4 years.

(25) Calendar Number 824: William Hague, of Washington, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

(26) Calendar Number 826: Kaveh Farzad, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (International Affairs).

(27) Calendar Number 832: Don Richard Berthiaume, Jr., of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of Justice.

(28) Calendar Number 834: Charlton Allen, of North Carolina, to be General Counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of 5 years.

(29) Calendar Number 835: Christopher Michael De Bono, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of 15 years.

(30) Calendar Number 836: Sharon E. Goodie, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of 15 years.

(31) Calendar Number 837: Bradford Pentony Wilson, of New Jersey, to be Archivist of the United States.

(32) Calendar Number 840: Brian Cavanaugh, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary for Management, Department of Homeland Security.

(33) Calendar Number 841: James Woodruff, of Florida, to be Chairman of the Merit Systems Protection Board.

(34) Calendar Number 842: Michael Christopher DiLorenzo, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of 15 years.

(35) Calendar Number 843: Craig Edward Leen, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of 15 years.

(36) Calendar Number 844: Christine Michelle Macey, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of 15 years.

(37) Calendar Number 845: John Barlow Timmer, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of 15 years.

(38) Calendar Number 846: Cameron Hamilton, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

(39) Calendar Number 847: Charles Baldis, of Virginia, to be Special Counsel, Office of Special Counsel, for the term of 5 years.

(40) Calendar Number 848: James Andrew Crowell IV, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals for the term of 15 years.

(41) Calendar Number 849: Stuart Gordon Nash, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals for the term of 15 years.

(42) Calendar Number 850: Rudolph Bauer, of South Carolina, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Belize.

(43) Calendar Number 853: Barbera Thornhill, of North Carolina, to be Director of the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking, with the rank of Ambassador at Large.

(44) Calendar Number 854: Christopher Anderson, of Wisconsin, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Kingdom of Cambodia.

(45) Calendar Number 855: Stanley Brown, of Virginia, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Equatorial Guinea.

(46) Calendar Number 856: Joseph Burkhalter, of Georgia, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Moldova.

(47) Calendar Number 857: John Hurley, of California, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, with the rank of Ambassador.

(48) Calendar Number 858: Daniel Perez, of Florida, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Federative Republic of Brazil.

(49) Calendar Number 859: Laurence Socha, of Illinois, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of The Gambia.

(50) Calendar Number 860: Juan Segura, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Western Hemisphere Affairs).

(51) Calendar Number 861: Juan Segura, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation for a term expiring September 20, 2026.

(52) Calendar Number 862: Juan Segura, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation for a term expiring September 20, 2032. (Reappointment)

(53) Calendar Number 863: Brendan Hanrahan, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (European and Eurasian Affairs).

(54) Calendar Number 864: Donald Blome, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Near Eastern Affairs).

(55) Calendar Number 865: Katherine Bowles, of Alabama, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs).

(56) Calendar Number 866: Edward Eppler, of Connecticut, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Transportation.

(57) Calendar Number 867: Karen Sessions, of Texas, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission for a term of 7 years from October 27, 2025.

(58) Calendar Number 868: Thomas B. Chapman, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term expiring December 31, 2028. (Reappointment)

(59) Calendar Number 869: Karen Jean Hedlund, of New York, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board for a term expiring December 31, 2030. (Reappointment)

(60) Calendar Number 870: David Cummins, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration for a term of 5 years.

(61) Calendar Number 871: Brien Lorenze, of Virginia, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission for a term of 7 years from October 27, 2024.

(62) Calendar Number 872: Hal Duncan, of Texas, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

(63) Calendar Number 873: Erich Hernandez-Baquero, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

(64) Calendar Number 874: Roger Mason, of Virginia, to be Director of the National Reconnaissance Office.

(65) Calendar Number 875: Jules Hurst III, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller).

(66) Calendar Number 899: Mark Cruz, of Oregon, to be Director of the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services, for the term of 4 years.

(67) Calendar Number 900: Kevin Lilly, of Texas, to be Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife.

(68) Calendar Number 903: Christopher Nassar, of Oklahoma, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Oklahoma for the term of 4 years.

(69) Calendar Number 904: Christopher Phelan, of Minnesota, to be Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers.

(70) Calendar Number 905: John Crews, of Virginia, to be a Member of the National Credit Union Administration Board for a term expiring August 2, 2031.

(71) Calendar Number 906: Sriprakash Kothari, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

(72) Calendar Number 907: Erin Browne, of New York, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury.

(73) Calendar Number 908: George McMaster, of South Carolina, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

(74) Calendar Number 909: Francis Brooke, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. President, I have six requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to Rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 23, 2026, at 10 a.m., to vote on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 23, 2026, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 23, 2026, at 10:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 23, 2026, at 9:47 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 23, 2026, at 11:45 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 23, 2026, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

LUNAR LANDING DAY ACT

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 5123, which is at the desk.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 5123) to amend title 36, United States Code, to designate July 20 as Lunar Landing Day.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (S. 5123) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 5123

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Lunar Landing Day Act".

SEC. 2. DESIGNATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of title 36, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating sections 106 through 115 as sections 107 through 116, respectively;

(2) by moving section 147 so as to appear after section 105 and by redesignating such section 147 as section 106;

(3) by redesignating the second section designated as section 106 and sections 107 through 116 as sections 107 through 116, respectively;

(4) by redesignating the second section designated as 116 and section 117 as sections 118 and 119, respectively;

(5) by moving section 146 so as to appear after section 119, as so redesignated, and by redesignating such section 146 as section 120;

(6) by redesignating the second section designated as section 118, the second section designated as section 119, and sections 120 through 135 as sections 121 through 138, respectively;

(7) by moving section 144 so as to appear after section 138, as so redesignated, and by redesignating such section 144 as section 139;

(8) by redesignating the second section designated as section 136, the second section designated as section 137, the second section designated as section 138, the second section designated as section 139, and sections 140 and 141 as sections 140 through 145, respectively;

(9) by moving section 148 so as to appear after section 145, as so redesignated, and by redesignating such section 148 as section 146;

(10) by moving the second section designated as section 145 so as to appear after section 146, as so redesignated, and by redesignating such section 145 as section 147;

(11) by redesignating the second section designated as section 142 and the second section designated as section 143 as sections 148 and 149, respectively; and

(12) by inserting after section 116, as so redesignated, the following:

"§ 117. Lunar Landing Day

"(a) DESIGNATION.—July 20 is Lunar Landing Day.

"(b) RECOGNITION.—All private citizens, organizations, and Federal, State, and local governmental and legislative entities are encouraged to recognize Lunar Landing Day through proclamations, activities, and educational efforts—

"(1) commemorating the first successful landing of humans on the Moon on July 20, 1969; and

"(2) inspiring the continued leadership of the United States in space exploration and science."

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 1 of title 36, United States Code, is amended by striking the items relating to sections 101 through 148 and inserting the following:

"101. American Heart Month.

"102. Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month.

"103. Cancer Control Month.

"104. Carl Garner Federal Lands Cleanup Day.

"105. Child Health Day.

"106. Choose Respect Day.

"107. Constitution Day and Citizenship Day.

"108. Columbus Day.

"109. Constitution Week.

"110. Father's Day.

"111. Flag Day.