

The transaction described in the attached certification involves the permanent transfer of (70) M39 ATACMS Missiles to the Government of Ukraine via Turkish private entity MKE AŞ and U.S. private entities Pansophico and Patriot Defense Group. This transfer is consistent with U.S. security assistance objectives.

The United States government is prepared to authorize this transfer, having taken into account political, military, economic, human rights, and arms control considerations. Detailed information is contained in the attached certification.

Receiving Committees:

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

We hope you find this information useful. Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions.

Sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER BERGAUST,
Senior Bureau Official,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

Enclosure.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE TRANSMITTAL NO. RSAT
26-11496

*Notice of Proposed Permanent Transfer of
Major Defense Equipment**

(1) Name of the Countries or International Organization Proposing to Make Such Transfer: Government of Türkiye ("Türkiye").

(2) Description of Article of Service Proposed to be Permanently Transferred:

(70) M39 ATACMS Missiles.

(3) Name of the Proposed Recipient of Such Article:

The Government of Ukraine, via Turkish private entity MKE AŞ and U.S. private entities Pansophico and Patriot Defense Group.

(4) The Reasons for the Proposed Transfer: Türkiye seeks to reduce its inventory of older defense articles to focus its financial resources on modernization and sustainment of existing systems.

Ukraine seeks to acquire these systems to bolster its offensive and defense fire support capabilities as it resists the Russian invasion. Ukraine already possesses munitions of the same or essentially similar type.

(5) Date Transfer is Proposed to be Made: Immediately after the congressional notification period is complete.

(6) Date Notification was Delivered to Congress: August 3, 2026.

*Major Defense Equipment is as defined in section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

NOMINATION OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL VINCENT J. NOBLE

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I am correcting the record and releasing my hold on Executive Calendar No. PN681-2, the promotion of Lt. Col. Vincent J. Noble.

When I placed a hold on this promotion on March 24, 2026, I had gathered, from public reporting, including a New York Times article from 2007, that Vincent J. Noble was part of a Marine unit that fired at civilians as he and his patrol traveled 7 miles along a highway in Jalalabad, Afghanistan, on March 4, 2007, killing 19 civilians indiscriminately.

Following my initial public statement regarding my concerns about this military promotion, I received additional information from the Department of Defense clarifying the nature of Noble's conduct in March 2007, over

which the U.S. Marine Corps Court of Inquiry had conducted an in-depth investigation.

Based on the official documents I have received from the Department of Defense related to Noble's time with the Marines, as well as additional public reporting from the Military Times, I now know that Noble was not involved in massacring civilians on March 4, 2007.

The U.S. Marine Corps Court of Inquiry convened in January 2008 determined the marines defended themselves appropriately and proportionally against the March 4, 2007, ambush, that no punitive or adverse administrative actions were warranted against the personnel of the convoy, and that the findings of the initial investigating officer were inconsistent with the evidence considered by the court.

I had originally received an incomplete and inaccurate representation of Noble's actions. Now, I am relieved to know he was not responsible for these civilians' deaths.

I have also been concerned with Lieutenant Colonel Noble's admission of falsified military records. However, these events have been dealt with by the Commander, Marine Forces Central Command, with Noble having pleaded guilty and admitting his conduct unbecoming an officer.

I remain hopeful that Noble proves to be a better colonel than he had been earlier as a captain, and I am releasing my hold.

NOMINATION OF KENNETH SORENSEN

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the nomination of Kenneth Sorenson to serve as U.S. Attorney for the District of Hawaii. Mr. Sorenson has devoted four decades to the Department of Justice, serving with distinction as an assistant U.S. attorney, first assistant U.S. attorney, criminal chief, senior litigation counsel, and most recently as acting and interim U.S. attorney. Throughout his career, he has successfully prosecuted complex cases involving espionage, terrorism, public corruption, narcotics trafficking, and violent crime, earning multiple awards from the Department of Justice and the FBI, including the prestigious J. Michael Bradford Award recognizing the Nation's most outstanding assistant U.S. attorney. His extensive experience, steadfast commitment to the rule of law, and record of public service make him well qualified to continue leading the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Hawaii, and I support his nomination.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, on Wednesday, August 5, 2026, I participated in the Minnesota Farmfest Governor Forum in Redwood County, MN. Had I been present, I would have voted nay on the vote before the Senate to

confirm Erica Schwartz, of Florida, to be Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, rollcall vote No. 220, Executive Calendar No. 910.

TRIBUTE TO JIM MACRAE

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and thank Jim Macrae for his extraordinary career of public service and for his contributions to expanding access to primary care for all Americans. As he retires from the Health Resources and Services Administration after decades of dedicated leadership, he leaves behind a legacy that has made our healthcare system stronger.

Throughout his career, Jim has been a tireless champion for community health centers and the millions of patients who rely on them for high-quality, affordable primary care. As Associate Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration's Bureau of Primary Health Care, he oversaw a huge expansion of community health centers, leading and strengthening one of our Nation's most successful healthcare programs and ensuring that community health centers can continue providing high-quality care in underserved communities across this country.

Primary care is the backbone of our healthcare system. Community health centers make up a major portion of that backbone. While we have made great progress towards ensuring all people have access to the primary care they need, there is much more to be done.

Community health centers provide affordable, quality primary medical, dental, and mental health care as well as access to low-cost prescription drugs to over 32 million people. In Vermont, nearly one out of every three people receive their primary healthcare through a community healthcenter across over 90 sites—something that I and my fellow Vermonters are very proud of. I thank Jim for his support of Vermont's work to build a vibrant network of community health centers across our State.

Over my years in the Senate and as chair and ranking member of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, I have worked hard to expand community health centers. Jim has been an effective partner in these efforts throughout the years. As Jim begins this well-earned retirement, I extend my deepest gratitude for his dedication to improving our healthcare system and the health of millions of Americans. We owe him our thanks and respect.

RECOGNIZING THE U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS STAFF

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, as we move into the August recess, I would like to remind my colleagues that the

bipartisan work the Senate does each day on behalf of the American people is possible in no small part because of our staff. Staff are always the first in line advocating for constituents and making American lives better, dedicating themselves to public service. As I wrap up my time in this Chamber and as the chair of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, I would like to thank my staff director Matthew Gallivan, my deputy staff director Danielle Janowski, and all of the staff that have served under their leadership: Margie Almanza, Ben Arquit, Will Arthur, Caroline Benson, Elizabeth Bielic, Bryce Billiot, Ty Bofferding, Garrett Buttrey, Daniel Chasen, Matthew Chingos, Sophie Connors, Claire Dunn, Cameron Durham, Jake Easter, Alaura Ervin, Keith Fernandez, Kyle Fortson, Patrick Fox, Romney Gripado, Kathryn Handler, Jackson Hern, Megan Kinner, Sinclair Kouns, Jeffrey Last, Stephen Lewernez, Alycia Maloney, Chad Miller, Anna Rose Moore, Clare Paoletta, Daniel Parker, Matthew Penner, Gigi Powers, TJ Prame, Joe Ramallo, Kristen Shatynski, Chung Shek, Michael Sinacore, Ryan Sweeney, Joanne Thomas, Matthew Thomas, Brianna Tibbetts, Dominic Travis, Todd Tuten, Luce Tysor, Jack Uhl, Micah Wortham, and Frank Zhang.

TRIBUTE TO REBECCA R. BRILES

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Rebecca Redding Briles on over 30 remarkable years of dedicated service to the people of North Carolina.

Rebecca began her public service career with Congressman Bill Cobey before joining Congressman Howard Coble's office in 1995 as a caseworker and community outreach representative. Working in a one-person district office, she managed all constituent requests for the region while serving as a trusted liaison between North Carolinians and the Federal Government. She provided expert assistance on a wide range of issues involving Federal agencies, represented the Congressman at community events throughout North Carolina's Sixth Congressional District, and built lasting relationships with constituents, local leaders, and public officials through her unwavering commitment to public service.

Rebecca continued her dedication to serving North Carolinians in Congresswoman Renee Ellmers' office from 2013 to 2015 as director of constituent services. In this leadership role, she managed operations across two district offices, mentored a team of constituent liaisons, and ensured that constituents received responsive, compassionate, and effective assistance.

In 2015, Rebecca brought that same leadership and steadfast dedication to my office as regional director of constituent advocacy. She has been a trusted resource, providing expert assistance on immigration and U.S. De-

partment of State matters. Her work has helped employers secure critical workforce talent through successful visa coordination, including support for businesses expanding operations in North Carolina. She has also been a tireless advocate for veterans and Social Security beneficiaries.

When a North Carolina family faced severe financial hardship, Rebecca worked tirelessly to expedite the processing of their Social Security benefits. With the family's home on the brink of foreclosure, her persistent advocacy secured the timely release of those benefits, allowing them to remain in their home during a time of great need. This example reflects the compassion, persistence, and effectiveness that have defined Rebecca's work throughout her distinguished career.

Rebecca Redding Briles' lifetime of service to North Carolina stands as a testament to the extraordinary impact one dedicated public servant can make in the lives of others. I congratulate Rebecca on this well-deserved recognition and thank her for her unwavering commitment and compassionate service to the people of the great State of North Carolina.

TRIBUTE TO SUSAN RENE COLLINS

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Susan Rene Collins on her remarkable 23 years of dedicated service to the people of North Carolina.

Rene began her public service career with then-Congressman Richard Burr as a constituent advocate and continued serving alongside him after his election to the U.S. Senate as a senior constituent advocate from 2003 to 2022. Throughout her tenure, she demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the people of North Carolina, assisting thousands of constituents in navigating complex Federal agencies. She also led critical efforts during times of crisis, coordinating the rescue and evacuation of Americans from Lebanon, Peru, and Afghanistan. In addition, she helped North Carolina communities recover from devastating hurricanes by working closely with Federal, State, and local partners to ensure that countless families and individuals received the assistance they needed most.

Continuing her dedication to serving North Carolinians, Rene joined my office as a senior constituent advocate in 2022. She quickly became a trusted resource, providing expert assistance on immigration and U.S. Department of State matters. Her work has helped employers secure critical workforce talent through successful visa coordination, including support for businesses expanding operations in North Carolina and healthcare providers working to address physician shortages. She also continued her commitment to humanitarian service by assisting Afghan Special Immigrant Visa

recipients in navigating the relocation process safely, reflecting her steadfast dedication to serving others with professionalism and compassion.

Rene's commitment to public service extends far beyond the ordinary. In one extraordinary case, she worked tirelessly to secure visas for a father and his young son, who had been diagnosed with brain cancer and required life-saving treatment at Texas Children's Hospital. Not only did she obtain the visas, but she did so in record time, helping ensure the child received the medical care that ultimately saved his life. Her efforts forever changed the lives of that family.

Susan Rene Collins's lifetime of service to North Carolina stands as a testament to the extraordinary impact one dedicated public servant can make in the lives of others. I congratulate Rene on this well-deserved recognition and thank her for her unwavering commitment and compassionate service to the people of the great State of North Carolina.

TRIBUTE TO JANINE M. OSBORNE

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Janine M. Osborne on her remarkable 41 years of dedicated service to the people of North Carolina.

Janine began her public service career as a district representative for Congressman Howard Coble. From 1985 to 2015, she managed constituent requests and served as a trusted liaison between constituents and all levels of government. She provided expert assistance on a broad range of Federal matters, represented the Congressman at public events, and built lasting relationships with constituents and public officials throughout North Carolina's Sixth Congressional District.

Janine continued her commitment to serving North Carolinians in Congressman MARK WALKER's office from 2015 to 2021 as director of constituent services. In this role, she demonstrated exceptional leadership by supervising and mentoring a team of constituent liaisons while personally managing nearly half of all constituent cases received by the district office.

In 2021, Janine brought that same leadership and dedication to my office as deputy director of constituent services. She oversaw complex constituent casework, mentored staff, and served as a trusted resource. While carrying these responsibilities, she continued to maintain an active caseload, further strengthening the reputation my State offices have earned for delivering exceptional constituent service.

Janine's commitment to helping North Carolinians extends far beyond the ordinary. One of the most powerful examples of her dedication is her effort to secure the Medal of Honor for U.S. Army Captain Hugh R. Nelson, Jr. Spanning 7 years, this effort began in Congressman WALKER's office and culminated in my office, where then-