

the National Defense Authorization Act is enacted well before the Nuclear Posture Review and the President's fiscal year 2011 budget request are completed, but it will still be an opportunity to educate the Senate.

The Kyl amendment as modified also states that the Senate urges the President to maintain his position that the post-START agreement will not contain limitations on ballistic missile defense systems, space capabilities, or advanced conventional weapons systems of the United States. I am absolutely confident, based on the Obama-Medvedev statements of April 1 and July 6, 2009, that their instructions to negotiators are not to include such limitations in the agreement.

For example, there will be "a provision on the interrelationship of strategic offensive and strategic defensive arms," but "a provision" does not mean a limitation on U.S. missile defense or space capabilities. Similarly, the existing START Treaty has "a provision" regarding antiballistic missile systems but does not limit those systems.

Regarding the Senate's desire to avoid limitations on "advanced conventional weapons," I would just emphasize that the adoption of this substitute amendment is not intended to be a backdoor way to oppose limitations on strategic delivery vehicles.

In short, I believe that the Kyl substitute amendment adopted last week should do no harm and that the administration can use it to begin the process of educating the Senate on a matter we will have to address in any event. Again, I commend Senators KYL and LEVIN for reaching this result.

NOMINATION OF THOMAS A. SHANNON, JR.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I want to note for the record that I will object to any unanimous consent request relating to the nomination of Thomas A. Shannon Jr., to be Ambassador to Brazil. On July 28, I wrote a letter to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk asking for a clarification of the President's position regarding the U.S. ethanol tariff in light of Mr. Shannon's stated view on the tariff. I will continue to object to any unanimous consent request proffered with respect to Mr. Shannon's nomination until such time as the administration responds to my letter and I have an opportunity to review such response.

OIL SPILL PREVENTION ACT

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, the managers' amendment to S. 685, the Oil Spill Prevention Act, will eliminate the authorization of appropriations from the international seafarer protection provision, reduce a bi-annual Coast Guard reporting requirement to an annual reporting requirement, and remove an annual Coast

Guard reporting requirement that is no longer necessary or appropriate. These modifications to the committee-reported bill render it revenue neutral.

CONGRATULATING JOHN LECLAIR

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I wish to congratulate St. Albans VT, native John LeClair for being chosen as a 2009 inductee into the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame.

John LeClair had a remarkable amateur and professional hockey career. The first American-born player to record three consecutive 50-goal seasons in the National Hockey League, LeClair played 16 years in the NHL—with stops in Montreal, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh—and he helped the Montreal Canadiens capture the Stanley Cup in 1993. He registered 406 goals and 413 assists for 819 points in 967 career games, which ranks him 13th on the NHL's alltime points list among American-born players. LeClair also was a 2-time Olympian, where he netted 34 career points, 22-12, 31 games in a Team USA uniform.

Most hockey fans remember LeClair for his dramatic two game-winning goals in overtime during the 1993 Stanley Cup Finals, for being a member of the dreaded "Legion of Doom" line with the Philadelphia Flyers, and for leading Team USA to a Silver Medal in the 2002 Winter Olympics.

Vermonters, though, go further back with their native son. After his high school graduation from Bellows Free Academy in St. Albans, the Montreal Canadiens drafted LeClair with the 33rd pick in the 1987 entry draft. Instead of immediately going to the NHL, LeClair chose to attend the University of Vermont, where he thrilled Catamount fans for four, exciting seasons. Less than a week after playing his final collegiate game, LeClair signed with Montreal and hit the ice with the Canadiens right away.

While LeClair quickly went on to stardom and fame in the NHL, he always enjoyed a loyal following back home. Many Vermonters are naturally Canadiens fans because Montreal is so close to Vermont, but it was amazing to see how many people converted to Flyer fans when LeClair moved to Philadelphia and Penguin fans when he moved to Pittsburgh. I remember that no matter whether it was hockey season or not, it seemed like you couldn't walk down the street in St. Albans or Burlington or Rutland without seeing someone wearing some sort of Flyers paraphernalia, which stood out because of the team's distinguishing orange and black colors.

Once again, I congratulate John LeClair on this high honor of being selected as a member of the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame. I ask unanimous consent to have a copy of a July 29 article from the Burlington Free Press printed in the RECORD.

The material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Burlington Free Press, July 29, 2009]

LECLAIR TO ENTER U.S. HOCKEY HALL OF FAME—ST. ALBANS NATIVE IS AMONG CLASS OF '09

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO.—Former University of Vermont and NHL star John LeClair of St. Albans, Vt., will be inducted into the United States Hockey Hall of Fame.

USA hockey's 2009 class was announced Tuesday, and it also includes former NHL players Tony Amonte and Tom Barrasso, the 1998 U.S. Olympic women's team and the late Frank Zamboni, inventor of the storied ice resurfacing machine.

The date of the induction ceremony will be announced in August.

During an NHL career that included five seasons with the Montreal Canadiens, 10 with the Philadelphia Flyers and two as a Pittsburgh Penguin, LeClair registered 406 goals and 413 assists for 819 points in 967 career games.

The winger helped Montreal win the Stanley Cup in 1993, was the first American-born player with three straight 50-goal seasons from 1995 to 1998, and was on USA's silver-medal team at the 2002 Olympics in Salt Lake City.

LeClair is also a member of UVM's Hall of Fame. He netted 56 goals and 60 assists in four years as a Catamount.

Amonte scored the winning goal against Canada in the deciding game of the first World Cup of Hockey in 1996.

Barrasso won two Stanley Cups as a goalie for the Pittsburgh Penguins.

The 1998 U.S. Olympic Women's team won the gold medal at the Winter Games in Nagano, Japan.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

75TH BIRTHDAY OF REUBEN K. HARPOLE, JR.

• Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, today I honor Reuben K. Harpole, Jr.—a man who has changed countless lives in Wisconsin through his selfless devotion to helping people.

Reuben developed an entrepreneurial spirit growing up in Milwaukee. His family worked at the family grocery store, sold their home-raised chickens in the front yard, and rented out bicycles. This work ethic went with him throughout his life. He went on to serve our Nation in Korea from 1957 to 1959. Then he came back home, earned his bachelor's degree, and began his professional life as a teacher and community activist.

With 31 years service to University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and continued community activism, Reuben helped mold the future of Wisconsin. In the 1960s Reuben began working to direct youth away from gangs into fruitful career paths. When central Milwaukee's health services were shutting down in the 1970s, Reuben worked with local, county, and university officials to reinstate much needed assistance. He helped establish the Isaac Coggs Health Center and a coalition of neighborhood health organizations. Reuben also founded or developed the College Prep Program at Marquette University High School, the UWM Center for Urban Community Development, the

Harambee Ombudsman Program, and the Children's Performing Arts Group that has evolved into the renowned Ko Thi Dance Company.

Reuben has also been an outstanding advocate for our African-American community in Milwaukee. He has written forewords for several books about African-American history in Milwaukee. He voluntarily conducts tours of Black Milwaukee, which brings a real-life perspective to his work in African-American history. A multitude of African-American programs and organizations are indebted to his service including the NTU African Rites of Passage Program, the Aseantu Adult Rites of Passage Institute, the Black Holocaust Museum, and the Milwaukee 100 Black Men Group. In fact, it was on Reuben's invitation to a gathering that I met with Martin Luther King, Jr., during one of his few visits to Milwaukee many years ago.

Even after retirement, he continues to be a great leader in the community. Most notably, he joined the Helen Bader Foundation. Through this he is able to help programs and centers secure the funds they need to function and more successfully serve the community.

The work he has done for Milwaukee continues to grow as the many people he has inspired are starting to follow in his footsteps. I would like to specifically note the Volunteer Reading Tutoring Program at the UWM Reading Clinic. A truly great person is one who not only does great works but also inspires other to do so as well.

I am proud to call Reuben a fellow Wisconsite and a dear friend. I wish him and his lovely wife Mildred good health, happiness, and many more years to come.●

CONGRATULATING EILEEN COLLINS

● Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I would like to add to the RECORD my most heartfelt congratulations to Eileen Collins for her recent induction into the National Aviation Hall of Fame. As an Elmira, NY, native, Eileen is the first female pilot and commander of a NASA shuttle. She has orbited the Earth 573 times. As a child, Eileen was inspired to be a pilot by watching the planes over the Elmira-Corning Regional Airport and the Harris Hill glider field. She joined the Air Force in 1978 and was recruited to join NASA as one of its earliest female pilots in 1990. The communities of New York's Southern Tier are so proud of Eileen's historic achievements.

As the first female pilot and shuttle commander, Eileen Collins is an inspiration and true role model to girls and young women nationwide. Her achievements prove that women everywhere can, and should, reach for the stars.●

CONGRATULATING ABBY WAMBACH

● Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I would like to add to the RECORD my most heartfelt congratulations to Abby Wambach for her history making 100th goal. This achievement is only the fifth in women's USA soccer history that 100 goals have been scored by one player. As this goal is felt throughout the USA and worldwide soccer community, I especially want to recognize how much Abby and her remarkable achievement mean to the Rochester community. As seen by the cheering in her game on July 19, there is no more fitting place to achieve this momentous goal and Rochester could not be prouder.

Abby Wambach has made a lasting impression on the women's USA soccer team and has inspired generations of young women throughout New York and the Nation. She has helped her team win Olympic gold in Athens and countless World Cup matches. I applaud her tremendous achievement and it is my hope that her accomplishment will inspire countless generations of our youth to strive for excellence.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, 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 nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:38 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 bills and joint resolution:

H.R. 509. An act to reauthorize the Marine Turtle Conservation Act of 2004, and for other purposes.

H.R. 556. An act to establish a program of research, recovery, and other activities to provide for the recovery of the southern sea otter.

H.R. 1035. An act to amend the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental and Native American Public Policy Act of 1992 to honor the legacy of Stewart L. Udall, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1293. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for an increase in the amount payable by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to veterans for improvements and structural alterations furnished as part of home health services.

H.R. 1803. An act to amend the Small Business Act to establish a Veterans Business Center program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1807. An act to provide distance learning to potential and existing entrepreneurs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3325. An act to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to reauthorize for 1 year the Work Incentives Planning and Assistance program and the Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security program.

H.J. Res. 44. Joint Resolution recognizing the service, sacrifice, honor, and professionalism of the Noncommissioned Officers of the United States Army.

At 2:25 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following act, without amendment:

S. 1513. An act to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 509. An act to reauthorize the Marine Turtle Conservation Act of 2004, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 556. An act to establish a program of research, recovery, and other activities to provide for the recovery of the southern sea otter; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 1293. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for an increase in the amount payable by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to veterans for improvements and structural alterations furnished as part of home health services; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 1803. An act to amend the Small Business Act to establish a Veterans Business Center program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

H.R. 1807. An act to provide distance learning to potential and existing entrepreneurs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

H.R. 3325. An act to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to reauthorize for 1 year the Work Incentives Planning and Assistance program and the Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security program; to the Committee on Finance.

H.J. Res. 44. Joint resolution recognizing the service, sacrifice, honor, and professionalism of the Noncommissioned Officers of the United States Army; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2505. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed technical assistance agreement to include the export of technical data, defense services, and defense articles to Israel for equipment installation and support services related to the Digital Army Program on behalf of the Israeli Ministry of Defense in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.