

goes toward creating American jobs, rebuilding and revitalizing our neighborhoods, and bringing new money to our local economies. EB-5 participants, as required by the federal statute, must directly create or retain at least ten domestic jobs within two years, jobs that otherwise may have never come to the United States; and

Whereas, EB-5 regional centers serve as a mechanism for coordinating and attracting potential investor-immigrants as well as offering investor-immigrants enhanced services. Public regional centers can serve as international marketers for the area in which they represent. Public regional centers also serve as concentrators of economic development, compounding investment after investment into their local economies. Investor-immigrants using regional centers also benefit from a broader interpretation of the EB-5 job creation requirement. While the minimum investment requirements remain the same, immigrant-investors going through an EB-5 regional center may count indirect job creation as well; and

Whereas, The establishment of a state of Michigan EB-5 regional center would be a crucial component in the ongoing effort to rebuild our economy. State-sponsored regional centers provide an unparalleled ability to attract and retain potential investors. States like Michigan can bring investor-immigrants to the table in ways private regional centers cannot and develop solid, lasting relationships. Statewide regional centers can also develop and deploy an estimable portfolio of statewide resources like industrial site searches, facilitate connections with local suppliers, laborers, and other businesses, and provide a general orientation of the government and economic environment to business owners; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives,* That we memorialize the President and Congress of the United States to support Michigan's application for a state-sponsored EB-5 regional center; and be it further

*Resolved,* That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, Chairman and Ranking Member of the United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Chairman and Ranking Member of the United States House Committee on the Judiciary, Director of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-217. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan memorializing the President and Congress of the United States to support Michigan's request for 50,000 EB-5 visas to assist in the economic recovery of the city of Detroit; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 316

Whereas, Professionals with advanced skills in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM) are crucial to the continued development of our economy. However, Michigan continues to suffer from a shortage of workers with advanced training in STEM-related skills, and this shortage is expected to worsen over the coming years with STEM-related occupations growing 1.7 times the rate of non-STEM-related occupations. By 2018, Michigan is estimated to have 274,000 more STEM-related positions available than professionals to fill them. While we are committed to increasing STEM proficiency in our own students, Michigan must also seek out and retain professionals with advanced degrees to help build our economy now; and

Whereas, The city of Detroit has a special need for skilled professionals to help rebuild,

revitalize, and reinvigorate the city. In recent years, Detroit, an iconic American city, has seen an unprecedented decline in population, and the loss of local revenue has made it difficult for the city to meet its financial obligations. Recruiting skilled professionals is one step toward achieving economic recovery and relieving the city's acute unemployment. In addition to adding a valuable new dynamic to the local economy, with their employment comes new consumers, increasing demand, and job growth in other sectors; and

Whereas, Allowing immigrants to fill vacant STEM positions would provide an economic boost to the state of Michigan and the city of Detroit. Through the recruitment and retention of foreign-born professionals, targeted immigration can help quench the unmet demands of Michigan's labor market—avoiding the suppression of economic production and growth that results—and help fortify the long-term health of its economy. Immigrants working in the United States also leverage their skills to contribute to the American economy rather than increasing the productivity and value of another nation's economy; and

Whereas, Federal employment-based visa programs, particularly the EB-2 program, grant foreign-born professionals legal working status in the United States. Designed for individuals with advanced degrees or its equivalent, the EB-2 program permits foreign-born professionals with STEM-related or business skills to be employed with domestic businesses, businesses otherwise unable to fill these jobs with the existing labor market. This program also encourages immigrants with exceptional abilities—abilities in science, art, or business that are significantly above those of ordinary workers in the field—to obtain an EB-2 visa; and

Whereas, The state of Michigan has requested a pilot program be instituted to reallocate 50,000 EB-2 visas over the next five years for use in the city of Detroit. As proposed, 5,000 visas would be made available to foreign-born professionals the first year, 10,000 visas for the next three years, and 15,000 visas would be available in the fifth year. Rather than taking from the national pool of annually-available EB-2 visas, the administration would reallocate any unused EB-1, EB-2, EB-3, and family-based preference visas into the EB-2 pilot program, making them available for employment opportunities in the city of Detroit; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives,* That we memorialize the President and Congress of the United States to support Michigan's request for 50,000 EB-2 visas to assist in the economic recovery of the city of Detroit; and be it further

*Resolved,* That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, Chairman and Ranking Member of the United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Chairman and Ranking Member of the United States House Committee on the Judiciary, Director of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-218. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia rescinding and withdrawing all past resolutions by the General Assembly applying to the Congress of the United States to call a convention for the purpose of amending the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 194

Whereas, there has been no convention convened to amend the Constitution of the

United States, and all amendments adopted to date have been initiated by two-thirds of the members of both houses of Congress and ratified by three-fourths of the states; and

Whereas, the operations of a convention are unknown and the apportionment and selection of delegates, method of voting in convention, and other essential procedural details are not specified in Article V of the Constitution of the United States; and

Whereas, the General Assembly of Virginia has not called for a convention to amend the Constitution of the United States in the recent past, but in the more distant past has called for a convention (i) by House Joint Resolution No. 168 in 1977 concerning a presidential item veto, (ii) by the second resolved clause of Senate joint Resolution No. 36 in 1976 concerning a balanced budget, and (iii) by other resolutions applying to the Congress to call a convention; and

Whereas, the status of these past resolutions is unclear and the prudent course requires the General Assembly to rescind and withdraw all past applications for a convention to amend the Constitution of the United States lest a convention be convened without current and careful consideration; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Delegates,* the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly of Virginia rescinds and withdraws all past resolutions by the General Assembly applying to the Congress of the United States to call a convention for the purpose of amending the Constitution of the United States including HJR No. 168 (1977), SJR No. 36 (1976), and all other resolutions calling for a convention; and, be it

*Resolved Further,* That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit certified copies of this joint resolution to the Archivist of the United States at the National Archives and Records Administration of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Virginia delegation to the United States Senate and House of Representatives.

POM-219. A resolution adopted by the Delaware County Board of Supervisors of the State of New York entitled "In Support of Home Rule 1494 'Blue Water Navy Accountability Act'"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

POM-220. A resolution adopted by the Legislature of Ulster County of the State of New York urging the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to postpone indefinitely its order issued August 13, 2013 and halt the creation of the New Capacity Zone; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-221. A petition from citizens of the State of New York relative to the repeal of the New York Secure Ammunition and Firearms Enforcement Act of 2013; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. LANDRIEU, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1237. A bill to improve the administration of programs in the insular areas, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113-146).

By Ms. LANDRIEU, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

H.R. 697. A bill to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in Clark County, Nevada, for the environmental remediation and reclamation of the Three Kids

Mine Project Site, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113-147).

By Ms. STABENOW, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, without amendment:

S. 1294. A bill to designate as wilderness certain public land in the Cherokee National Forest in the State of Tennessee, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Ms. STABENOW for the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

\*Timothy G. Massad, of Connecticut, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for a term expiring April 13, 2017.

\*Timothy G. Massad, of Connecticut, to be Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.\*

\*J. Christopher Giancarlo, of New Jersey, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for the remainder of the term expiring April 13, 2014.

\*Sharon Y. Bowen, of New York, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for a term expiring April 13, 2018.

By Mr. LEVIN for the Committee on Armed Services.

\*Brian P. McKeon, of New York, to be a Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense.

Air Force nominations beginning with Colonel David P. Baczewski and ending with Colonel Ricky G. Yoder, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 26, 2014. (minus 4 nominees: Colonel Mark W. Anderson; Colonel Michael E. Guillory; Colonel Thomas J. Owens II; Colonel Frank H. Stokes)

Air Force nomination of Lt. Gen. John E. Hyten, to be General.

Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Wendy M. Masiello, to be Lieutenant General.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. (Ih) Margaret G. Kibben, to be Rear Admiral.

Navy nomination of Capt. Brent W. Scott, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nomination of Vice Adm. Sean A. Pybus, to be Vice Admiral.

Marine Corps nomination of Col. John R. Ewers, Jr., to be Major General.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report favorably the following nomination list which was printed in the RECORD on the date indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that this nomination lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

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

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Bamidele J. Abogunrin and ending with Phillip M. Zeman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2014.

\*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE—TREATIES

The following executive report of committee was submitted:

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations:

[Treaty Doc. 111-7 Tax Convention with Hungary (without printed report)]

The text of the committee-recommended resolutions of advice and consent to ratification are as follows:

Section 1. Senate Advice and Consent Subject to a Declaration.

The Senate advises and consents to the ratification of the Convention between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Hungary for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income, signed at Budapest February 4, 2010, with a related agreement effected by exchange of notes February 4, 2010 (the "Convention") (Treaty Doc. 111-7), subject to the declaration of section 2.

Sec. 2. Declaration.

The advice and consent of the Senate under section 1 is subject to the following declaration: The Convention is self-executing.

[Treaty Doc. 111-8 Protocol Amending Tax Convention with Luxembourg]

Section 1. Senate Advice and Consent Subject to a Declaration.

The Senate advises and consents to the ratification of the Protocol Amending the Convention between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital, signed at Luxembourg on May 20, 2009, with a related agreement effected by exchange of notes May 20, 2009 (the "Protocol") (Treaty Doc. 111-8), subject to the declaration of section 2.

Sec. 2. Declaration.

The advice and consent of the Senate under section 1 is subject to the following declaration: The Protocol is self-executing.

[Treaty Doc. 112-5 Protocol Amending the Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters]

Section 1. Senate Advice and Consent Subject to a Declaration.

The Senate advises and consents to the ratification of the Protocol Amending the Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters, done at Paris May 27, 2010 (the "Protocol") (Treaty Doc. 112-5), subject to the declaration of section 2.

Sec. 2. Declaration.

The advice and consent of the Senate under section 1 is subject to the following declaration: The Convention is self-executing.

[Treaty Doc. 112-8 Tax Convention with Chile]

Section 1. Senate Advice and Consent Subject to a Declaration.

The Senate advises and consents to the ratification of the Protocol Amending the Convention between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital, signed at Luxembourg May 20, 2009, with a related agreement effected by exchange of notes May 20, 2009 (the "Protocol") (Treaty Doc. 111-8), subject to the declaration of section 2.

Sec. 2. Declaration.

The advice and consent of the Senate under section 1 is subject to the following declaration: The Convention is self-executing.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. LEE, Mr. KIRK, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 2218. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for the eligibility of certain territories and regions for designation for participation in the visa waiver program and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MARKEY:

S. 2219. A bill to require the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to update a report on the role of telecommunications, including the Internet, in the commission of hate crimes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 2220. A bill to provide protections for certain sports medicine professionals who provide certain medical services in a secondary State; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 2221. A bill to extend the authorization for the Automobile National Heritage Area in Michigan; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WALSH:

S. 2222. A bill to require a Comptroller General of the United States report on the sexual assault prevention activities of the Department of Defense and the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. REID):

S. 2223. A bill to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage and to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend increased expensing limitations and the treatment of certain real property as section 179 property; read the first time.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. UDALL of Colorado (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. CORKER, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. PORTMAN, and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. Res. 417. A resolution designating October 30, 2014, as a national day of remembrance for nuclear weapons program workers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. ENZI):

S. Res. 418. A resolution to honor Gallaudet University, a premier institution of higher education for deaf and hard of hearing people in the United States, on the occasion of its 150th anniversary and to recognize the impact of the University on higher education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. Res. 419. A resolution recognizing the celebration of National Student Employment Week 2014 at the University of Minnesota Duluth; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.