

Whereas, on January 19, 2016, White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest stated that the United States Government had “secured a commitment from the Iranians to use the channel that has now been opened to secure the release of those individuals that we know were being held by Iran . . . to try and gather information about Mr. Levinson’s possible whereabouts”;

Whereas the Government of Iran’s most recent commitment to assist in and the diplomatic channel dedicated to locating and returning Bob Levinson have not yielded any meaningful results;

Whereas, on November 23, 2016, the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (UNWGAD) issued Opinion No. 50/2016, concerning Robert Levinson in which the UNWGAD found Iran responsible for the arbitrary detention of Mr. Levinson;

Whereas, on November 26, 2013, Mr. Levinson became the longest held United States civilian in our Nation’s history; and

Whereas the Federal Bureau of Investigation continues to offer a \$5,000,000 reward for information leading to Mr. Levinson’s safe return: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that March 9, 2017, marks 10 years since the disappearance of Robert Levinson from Kish Island, Iran;

(2) recognizes that Robert Levinson is the longest held United States civilian in our Nation’s history;

(3) notes that repeated pledges by officials of the Government of Iran to provide their Government’s assistance in the case of Robert Levinson have not led to any meaningful progress in locating or returning Robert Levinson;

(4) urges the Government of Iran to take meaningful steps towards fulfilling its repeated promises to assist in locating and returning Robert Levinson, including immediately providing all available information from all entities of the Government of Iran regarding the disappearance of Robert Levinson to the United States Government;

(5) urges the President and the allies of the United States to continue to press the Government of Iran at every opportunity to locate and return Robert Levinson, notwithstanding ongoing and serious disagreements the United States Government has with the Government of Iran on a broad array of issues, including Iran’s ballistic missile program, sponsorship of international terrorism, and human rights abuses;

(6) notes that in addition to these other serious issues, further delay in locating and returning Robert Levinson remains a significant obstacle to improving United States-Iran relations; and

(7) expresses sympathy to the family of Robert Levinson for their anguish and expresses hope that their ordeal can be brought to an end in the near future.

SENATE RESOLUTION 86—RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF AMERICORPS MEMBERS AND ALUMNI TO THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. TESTER, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. REED, Ms. WARREN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BLUNT, Mr.

MANCHIN, and Mr. CASEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 86

Whereas, since its inception in 1994, the AmeriCorps national service program has proven to be a highly effective way to engage the people of the United States in meeting a wide range of local and national needs and promote the ethics of service and volunteerism;

Whereas, since 1994, more than 1,000,000 individuals have taken the AmeriCorps pledge to “get things done for America” by becoming AmeriCorps members;

Whereas, each year, AmeriCorps, in coordination with State service commissions, provides opportunities for approximately 80,000 individuals across the United States to give back in an intensive way to communities, States, and the United States;

Whereas AmeriCorps members have served more than 1,400,000,000 hours nationwide, helping to—

- (1) improve the lives of the most vulnerable people of the United States;
- (2) protect the environment;
- (3) contribute to public safety;
- (4) respond to disasters; and
- (5) strengthen the educational system of the United States;

Whereas, since 1994, more than \$8,700,000,000 in AmeriCorps funds have been invested in nonprofit, community, educational, and faith-based groups and those funds leverage hundreds of millions of dollars in outside funding and in-kind donations each year;

Whereas, in 2016, AmeriCorps members recruited and supervised more than 2,300,000 community volunteers, demonstrating the value of AmeriCorps as a powerful force for encouraging people to become involved in volunteering and community service;

Whereas, in 2016, AmeriCorps members served at approximately 21,000 locations across the United States, including at nonprofit organizations, schools, and faith-based and community organizations;

Whereas AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps campuses in Mississippi, Maryland, Iowa, California, and Colorado strengthen communities and develop future leaders through team-based service;

Whereas AmeriCorps members nationwide, in return for the service of those members, have earned more than \$3,300,000,000 to use to further their own educational advancement at colleges and universities across the United States;

Whereas AmeriCorps members, after their terms of service with AmeriCorps end, have been more likely to remain engaged in their communities as volunteers, teachers, and nonprofit professionals than the average individual;

Whereas, in 2009, Congress passed the bipartisan Serve America Act (Public Law 111-13; 123 Stat. 1460), which authorized the expansion of national service, expanded opportunities to serve, increased efficiency and accountability, and strengthened the capacity of organizations and communities to solve problems;

Whereas national service programs have engaged millions of people in the United States in results-driven service in the most vulnerable communities of the United States, providing hope and help to individuals with economic and social needs;

Whereas national service and volunteerism demonstrate the best of the spirit of the United States, with people turning toward problems and working together to find community solutions; and

Whereas AmeriCorps Week, observed in 2017 from March 4 through March 11, is an

appropriate time for the people of the United States to salute current and former AmeriCorps members for their positive impact on the lives of people in the United States, to thank the community partners of AmeriCorps for making the program possible, and to encourage more people in the United States to become involved in service and volunteering: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) encourages the people of the United States to join in a national effort to—

(A) salute AmeriCorps members and alumni; and

(B) raise awareness about the importance of national and community service;

(2) acknowledges the significant accomplishments of the members, alumni, and community partners of AmeriCorps;

(3) recognizes the important contributions made by AmeriCorps members and alumni to the lives of the people of the United States; and

(4) encourages individuals of all ages to consider opportunities to serve in AmeriCorps.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I have 9 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:

ARMED SERVICE COMMITTEE

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet March 9, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet March 9, 2017, at 10 a.m.

FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet March 9, 2017 at 10:30 a.m.

FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet March 9, 2017 at 10:45 a.m., to hold a hearing entitled “Resolving the Conflict in Yemen: U.S. Interests, Risks, and Policy.”

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet on March 9, 2017 at 10 a.m., in SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

VETERANS’ AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The Committee on Veterans’ Affairs is authorized to meet March 9, 2017, at 10 a.m., in room SD-G50 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet March 9, 2017, at 2 p.m., in room SH-219 of the Senate Hart Office Building.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet March 9, 2017, at 2 p.m., in room SH-219 of the Senate Hart Office Building.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON REGULATORY AFFAIRS AND
FEDERAL MANAGEMENT

The Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet March 9, 2017, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled, "Agency Use of Science in the Rulemaking Process: Proposals for Improving Transparency and Accountability."

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 114-323, appoints the following individual to serve as a member of the Western Hemisphere Drug Policy Commission: Ambassador Cliff Sobel of Florida.

The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 99-93, as amended by Public Law 99-151, appoints the following individuals to serve as members of the United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: the Honorable CHUCK GRASSLEY of Iowa, Chairman, the Honorable JOHN CORNYN of Texas, the Honorable JAMES RISCH of Idaho, and the Honorable DAVID PERDUE of Georgia.

The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 106-79, appoints the following Senator to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission: the Honorable THAD COCHRAN of Mississippi.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF AMERICORPS MEMBERS AND ALUMNI TO THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 86.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 86) recognizing the contributions of AmeriCorps members and alumni to the lives of the people of the United States.

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

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed

to, and 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 resolution (S. Res. 86) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2017

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 2 p.m., Monday, March 13; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2017, AT 2 P.M.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:46 p.m., adjourned until Monday, March 13, 2017, at 2 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SONNY PERDUE, OF GEORGIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.

THE JUDICIARY

JONATHAN H. PITTMAN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, VICE JEANETTE J. CLARK, RETIRED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. SEAN L. MURPHY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. TONY D. BAUERNFEIND
BRIG. GEN. MARK D. CAMERER
BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM T. COOLEY
BRIG. GEN. STEPHEN L. DAVIS
BRIG. GEN. PATRICK J. DOHERTY

BRIG. GEN. JAMES A. JACOBSON
BRIG. GEN. DAVID A. KRUMM
BRIG. GEN. JEFFREY A. KRUSE
BRIG. GEN. MICHAEL A. MINIHAN
BRIG. GEN. SHAUN Q. MORRIS
BRIG. GEN. THOMAS E. MURPHY
BRIG. GEN. DAVID S. NAHOM
BRIG. GEN. STEPHEN W. OLIVER, JR.
BRIG. GEN. JOHN M. PLETCHER
BRIG. GEN. SCOTT L. PLEUS
BRIG. GEN. JOHN T. RAUCH, JR.
BRIG. GEN. BRIAN S. ROBINSON
BRIG. GEN. RICKY N. RUPP
BRIG. GEN. DIRK D. SMITH
BRIG. GEN. KIRK W. SMITH
BRIG. GEN. PAUL W. TIBBETS IV
BRIG. GEN. ANDREW J. TOTH
BRIG. GEN. MARK E. WEATHERINGTON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. DAGVIN R. M. ANDERSON
COL. JASON R. ARMAGOST
COL. CRAIG R. BAKER
COL. GENTRY W. BOSWELL
COL. RICHARD H. BOUTWELL
COL. RYAN L. BRITTON
COL. BRIAN R. BRUCKBAUER
COL. LANCE R. BUNCH
COL. TODD D. CANTERBURY
COL. CASE A. CUNNINGHAM
COL. EVAN C. DERTIEN
COL. MICHAEL L. DOWNS
COL. TROY E. DUNN
COL. DEREK C. FRANCE
COL. DAVID M. GAEDECKE
COL. PHILIP A. GARRANT
COL. ANTHONY W. GENATEMPO
COL. KRISTIN E. GOODWIN
COL. CHRISTOPHER J. IRELAND
COL. DAVID R. IVERSON
COL. JOEL D. JACKSON
COL. RONALD E. JOLLY, SR.
COL. MICHAEL G. KOSCHESKI
COL. DAVID J. KUMASHIRO
COL. JOHN D. LAMONTAGNE
COL. LEAH G. LAUDERBACK
COL. CHARLES B. MCDANIEL
COL. JOHN C. MILLARD
COL. ALBERT G. MILLER
COL. JOHN J. NICHOLS
COL. ROBERT G. NOVOTNY
COL. LANSING R. PILCH
COL. DONNA D. SHIPTON
COL. JEREMY T. SLOANE
COL. PHILLIP A. STEWART
COL. DAVID H. TABOR

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. PAUL A. OSTROWSKI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. SEAN B. MACFARLAND

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. FRANCISCO A. ESPAILLAT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. RONALD J. PLACE

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. JEFFREY A. ROACH