

new sales every 7.5 minutes, and raise \$100,000 in capital every 11 minutes. Job growth for SBDC clients is nearly 10 times greater than job growth for the average business.

Under the leadership of Dr. Richard Grogan, the New Hampshire SBDC State director, New Hampshire SBDCs have helped thousands of small business owners and entrepreneurs realize their dreams, start new businesses, and create jobs. Last year alone, New Hampshire SBDC counseled and trained more than 2,500 businesses and assisted in the formation of more than \$39 million in capital for New Hampshire's small businesses.

For example, NH SBDC has been instrumental for Julie Lapham, the founder and chief sales officer of a startup in Dover, NH, called Popzup. Popzup is a family-owned business that provides a new popcorn product for health-conscious consumers. As Julie explained it, her local SBDC helped to prepare her for a Shark Tank-style pitch competition in which she took home a first-prize award of \$10,000. They have helped her understand her financing options and continue to stay involved and support her company's growth.

I hope my colleagues will join me and Chairman RISCH in celebrating SBDC Day and acknowledging their local SBDCs for their accomplishments and the role that they play in helping small businesses create jobs.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### REMEMBERING PABLITA TA-NEZ-BAH ABEYTA

• Mr. UDALL. Mr. President, Ta-Nez-Bah means in Navajo "one who completes a circle." Ta-Nez-Bah was an apt middle name for Pablita Abeysa whose life encircled art, advocacy, and dedication to Native peoples.

Pablita Ta-Nez-Bah Abeysa was born in Gallup, NM, in 1953, to Narciso Ha-So-De Abeysa and Sylvia Ann (Shipley) Abeysa. Her father was Navajo and an internationally recognized painter and silversmith. Her mother was Anglo and a Quaker and an accomplished ceramist and weaver in her own right.

Pablita and her six siblings were raised in and around the arts and the traditions of the Navajo people. Each had an artistic talent. Her sister Elizabeth was a masterful sculptor and ceramic artist; her brother Tony is a highly acclaimed painter and jeweler; and her sister Alice Seely is a nationally recognized sculptor, painter, and jeweler.

Pablita attended the Institute for American Indian Arts in Santa Fe and received a masters in public affairs from the University of New Mexico in 1983.

She then headed off to Washington, DC, where she would combine advocacy and art the rest of her life and where she would play a key role in founding

the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian, NMAI.

Pablita had a full career on Capitol Hill for many years until her retirement, always advocating for Native causes. She lobbied for the Navajo Nation; worked as a legislative aide to U.S. Representative Ben Nighthorse Campbell from Colorado; staffed the U.S. House Interior Committee's Office of Indian Affairs under my uncle, U.S. Representative Mo Udall; held a legislative liaison position at the Smithsonian Institute; and served as special assistant with the NMAI.

Pablita attended the first congressional hearing on NMAI in 1987, worked for its establishment through congressional legislation, and worked on its highly successful private fundraising drive. Her work was instrumental to starting and building the museum.

Pablita was also an accomplished sculptor. Inspired by the strength, beauty, and serenity of Native women, her sculptures have been described as "smooth, round and sensuous." Her artwork won many awards at the Santa Fe Indian Market, was included in a Smithsonian National Museum of American History exhibition, and is held in the permanent collection of the NMAI. Pablita commented of her sculptures that ". . . the female figurines sing, talk, and reflect the seasons and Navajo spiritual ceremony. I am making a statement with my art about the importance of family, community and my heritage."

Pablita passed away January 31, 2017, at age 63. She completed many circles in her life, and I honor all that she accomplished.●

##### REMEMBERING WILSON M. HALONA

• Mr. UDALL. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to Wilson Miles Halona, an outstanding member of the Navajo Nation, a loving husband and father, and a courageous American veteran. Sadly, at age 95, he passed away February 28, 2017.

Mr. Halona was born January 1, 1922, in the Chuska Mountains near Tohatchi, NM. His maternal clan was the Ashiichi, Salt People Clan, and his paternal clan was To'hani, Near the Water People Clan. He was the son of sheep herders, Barney and Annie Halona. One of his sons tells the story of Mr. Halona's mother going into labor with him as she was herding sheep in the middle of winter. She stopped to give birth, outside in the cold, and then went back to herding. He came from strong stock.

This is the second time I have had the privilege to honor Mr. Halona. The first was on November 20, 2012, at the Pueblo Indian Cultural Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Mr. Wilson was a World War II hero, but had not received the recognition he deserved. Almost 60 years after the war, his family worked to make sure he received the acknowl-

edgment and medals he earned for his bravery and service.

Mr. Halona was part of the D-Day invasion. Serving in the Army, he and his fellow soldiers landed in Normandy, on Utah Beach, in July 1944. They were part of the third wave of American soldiers to land, and there were already many casualties scattered on the beach.

Mr. Halona was a gunner. As he and his battalion started moving inland, they encountered heavy gunfire from Germans who were dug into mountaintops along the beach in cement bunkers. The American troops returned the gunfire and fought for over 3 hours before they destroyed two German bunkers. Mr. Halona's battalion stopped further casualties and took control of the beachfront.

They headed to Brussels and then on to Bonn and Luxembourg, where the U.S. had established a military base. Winter came upon them, and they were snowed in for 4 months. After the snow cleared, the battalion moved to take over Munich, where they saw firsthand the death and destruction of the Holocaust. In Stuttgart, they drove out the Germans, captured Hitler's top generals, transferred them to jail in Nuremberg, and kept guard. Mr. Halona himself guarded Reichsmarschall Hermann Goering for several hours. Mr. Halona credited his Navajo traditions and prayers for helping him during and after the war.

When Mr. Halona was finally given the honors owed in 2012, he received the Good Conduct Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with one Silver Service Star, World War II Victory Medal, the Honorable Service Lapel Button WWII, and the Sharpshooter Badge with Rifle Bar Presentation. I was deeply honored that he asked me to present his medals.

Mr. Halona served the Navajo Nation with distinction as well. He was a member of the Navajo Nation Council for four terms and president of the Tohatchi chapter for eight terms. He was first appointed to the advisory board for the Navajo Housing Authority and then served as its first chair. He was instrumental in developing the housing authority—The Navajo Housing Authority was one of the first tribal housing authorities to be funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development—and making sure that Navajo people had better living conditions. He worked to develop the Indian Health Service within the Navajo Nation and to build schools on the reservation. He even helped create the Navajo rodeo association. Mr. Halona's service to his tribe stretched far and deep.

Mr. Halona was married to his wife, Ruby Arviso, from 1942 until her passing in 2013. He had 7 children, and is survived by 5, along with 16 grandchildren and 29 great-grandchildren.

Wilson Miles Halona lived a life of service to family, tribe, and Nation. I honor his life and his work.●

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

## PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

NOTICE OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SOUTH SUDAN THAT WAS DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13664 OF APRIL 3, 2014—PM 3

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13664 of April 3, 2014, with respect to South Sudan is to continue in effect beyond April 3, 2017.

The situation in and in relation to South Sudan, which has been marked by activities that threaten the peace, security, or stability of South Sudan and the surrounding region, including widespread violence and atrocities, human rights abuses, recruitment and use of child soldiers, attacks on peacekeepers and humanitarian workers, and obstruction of humanitarian operations, continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13664 with respect to South Sudan.

DONALD J. TRUMP.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 22, 2017.

## MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:31 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 305. An act to amend title 4, United States Code, to encourage the display of the flag of the United States on National Vietnam War Veterans Day.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1297. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make technical corrections to the requirement that the Secretary of Homeland Security submit quadrennial homeland security reviews, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1353. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require certain additional information to be submitted to Congress regarding the strategic 5-year technology investment plan of the Transportation Security Administration.

## MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1297. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make technical corrections to the requirement that the Secretary of Homeland Security submit quadrennial homeland security reviews, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 1353. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require certain additional information to be submitted to Congress regarding the strategic 5-year technology investment plan of the Transportation Security Administration; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

## MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1181. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the conditions under which certain persons may be treated as adjudicated mentally incompetent for certain purposes.

## EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-1032. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Budget Blueprint of the United States Government for Fiscal Year 2018 received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 16, 2017; referred jointly, pursuant to the order of January 30, 1975 as modified by the order of April 11, 1986; to the Committees on the Budget; and Appropriations.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. HOEVEN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

S. 249. A bill to provide that the pueblo of Santa Clara may lease for 99 years certain restricted land, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-8).

## 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. BALDWIN (for herself and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 693. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the number of permanent faculty in palliative care at accredited allopathic and osteopathic medical schools, nursing schools, social work schools, and other programs, including physician assistant education programs, to promote education and research in palliative care and hospice, and to support the development of faculty careers in academic palliative medicine; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KING (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 694. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the standard charitable mileage rate for delivery of meals to elderly, disabled, frail, and at risk individuals; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 695. A bill to avoid duplicative annual reporting under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself, Mrs. MCCASKILL, and Mr. HELLER):

S. 696. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to appropriately limit the authority to award bonuses to Federal employees; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. DAINES:

S. 697. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to lower the mileage threshold for deduction in determining adjusted gross income of certain expenses of members of reserve components of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 698. A bill to establish a national program to identify and reduce losses from landslide hazards, to establish a national 3D Elevation Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 699. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish mental and behavioral health care to certain individuals discharged or released from the active military, naval, or air service under conditions other than honorable, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BROWN, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 700. A bill to improve the reproductive assistance provided by the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs to severely wounded, ill, or injured members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and their spouses or partners, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. KING, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 701. A bill to improve the competitiveness of United States manufacturing by designating and supporting manufacturing communities; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. PERDUE):

S. 702. A bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act and the Labor Management