

lethal assistance, and democracy and humanitarian assistance, as authorized by the Ukraine Freedom Support Act, the Fiscal Year 2016 National Defense Authorization Act, and the Fiscal Year 2017 National Defense Authorization Act;

(6) urges the President of the United States to continue United States support for the Ukrainian economy and civil society, including continued support by international financial institutions, such as the International Monetary Fund;

(7) condemns efforts by the Government of the Russian Federation to intimidate and coerce nations in Eastern Europe from strengthening their ties with NATO and the European Union;

(8) supports efforts by the United States Government and United States allies to strengthen the energy sector in Ukraine in order to reduce Ukraine's dependence on natural gas imported from the Russian Federation;

(9) acknowledges the Government of Ukraine for its commitment to reform and encourages it to continue implementation of key reforms, including judicial reform, greater parliamentary oversight, further implementation of anti-corruption initiatives, including prosecutions and convictions of major figures involved in corruption schemes, budget and procurement transparency and accountability across government, civilian control of the military, and improved end-use monitoring and sustainment plans for United States security assistance items;

(10) urges the President of the United States not to agree to any final settlement of the conflict in Ukraine without the consent of the Government of Ukraine;

(11) pledges continued support for all democratic allies and partners of the United States facing increased Russian aggression;

(12) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to the Budapest Memorandum on security assurances;

(13) reiterates the obligation of all nations under the United Nations Charter to respect the territorial integrity and sovereignty of other nations;

(14) encourages United States allies in Europe to continue their coordinated efforts to counter Russian aggression in the region, including economic sanctions, increased defense spending, and greater action against Russian disinformation and propaganda in order to make clear that Russian efforts will not go unchecked;

(15) calls on the Government of the Russian Federation to provide greater access to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe's (OSCE) Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) in order to ensure credible international monitoring of compliance with the Minsk agreement; and

(16) calls on the Government of the Russian Federation to engage seriously in dialogue with the Government of Ukraine—in coordination with key international partners—in order to come to an agreement that respects Ukraine's sovereignty, ensures regional stability, and puts both nations on the path towards a permanent ceasefire.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 193. Mr. McCONNELL proposed an amendment to Treaty Doc. 114-12, Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Montenegro.

SA 194. Mr. McCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 193 proposed by Mr. McCONNELL to Treaty Doc. 114-12, supra.

SA 195. Mr. McCONNELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him

to Treaty Doc. 114-12, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 196. Mr. McCONNELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 195 submitted by Mr. McCONNELL to Treaty Doc. 114-12, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 197. Mr. McCONNELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification for Treaty Doc. 114-12, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 198. Mr. McCONNELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 197 submitted by Mr. McCONNELL to the resolution of ratification for Treaty Doc. 114-12, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 199. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to Treaty Doc. 114-12, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 200. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to Treaty Doc. 114-12, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 201. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to Treaty Doc. 114-12, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 202. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification for Treaty Doc. 114-12, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 203. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification for Treaty Doc. 114-12, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 193. Mr. McCONNELL proposed an amendment to Treaty Doc. 114-12, Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Montenegro; as follows:

At the end add the following:
"This Treaty shall be effective 1 day after ratification."

SA 194. Mr. McCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 193 proposed by Mr. McCONNELL to Treaty Doc. 114-12, Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Montenegro; as follows:

Strike "1 day" and insert "2 days".

SA 195. Mr. McCONNELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to Treaty Doc. 114-12, Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Montenegro; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end add the following:
"This Treaty shall be effective 3 days after ratification."

SA 196. Mr. McCONNELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 195 submitted by Mr. McCONNELL to Treaty Doc. 114-12, Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Montenegro; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike "3 days" and insert "4 days".

SA 197. Mr. McCONNELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification for Treaty Doc. 114-12, Protocol to the

North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Montenegro; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end add the following:
"This resolution shall be effective 5 days after ratification."

SA 198. Mr. McCONNELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 197 submitted by Mr. McCONNELL to the resolution of ratification for Treaty Doc. 114-12, Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Montenegro; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike "5" and insert "6".

SA 199. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to Treaty Doc. 114-12, Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Montenegro; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of Article I of the Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Montenegro, add the following:
"The Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Montenegro shall not obligate the United States Armed Forces to hostilities in accordance with Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 unless the United States Congress passes a declaration of war pursuant to article I, section 8, clause 11 of the United States Constitution."

SA 200. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to Treaty Doc. 114-12, Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Montenegro; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of Article I of the Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Montenegro, add the following:
"The Protocol is dependent on Montenegro meeting its commitment that defense expenditure is two percent of Montenegro's gross domestic product."

SA 201. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to Treaty Doc. 114-12, Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Montenegro; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of Article I of the Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Montenegro, add the following:
"The Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Montenegro is dependent on each member of NATO and Montenegro meeting its commitment that defense expenditure is two percent of its gross domestic product."

SA 202. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification for Treaty Doc. 114-12, Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Montenegro; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of paragraph (1) of section 3, add the following:

(C) The inclusion of Montenegro in NATO will contribute materially to the territorial defense of the United States.

SA 203. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification for Treaty Doc. 114-12, Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Montenegro; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of section 2, add the following:
 (8) FUTURE SENATE CONSIDERATION OF FUTURE NATO EXPANSION.—The Senate declares that any future initiative to expand NATO should be thoroughly debated and considered from inception, with the highest priority given to evaluating the benefits and risks of such an expansion to the security of the American people and the safety of members of the United States Armed Forces.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have one request for a committee to meet during today's session of the Senate. It has the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to Rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committee is authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on March 27, 2017, at 12 p.m., in SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of Calendar Nos. 25 through 30; that the nominations be confirmed; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

IN THE AIR FORCE

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. 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. Garratt
- 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. Espallat

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 106-286, appoints the following Member to serve on the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: the Honorable ANGUS S. KING, JR., of Maine.

PROVIDING FOR THE REAPPOINTMENT OF A CITIZEN REGENT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Rules Committee be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S.J. Res. 30.

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

The clerk will report the joint resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 30) providing for the reappointment of Steve Case as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the joint resolution be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 30) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S.J. RES. 30

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in accordance with section 5581 of the Revised Statutes (20 U.S.C. 43), the vacancy on the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, in the class other than Members of Congress, occurring by reason of the expiration of the term of Steve Case of Virginia on April 25, 2017, is filled by the reappointment of the incumbent. The reappointment is for a term of 6 years, beginning on the later of April 26, 2017, or the date of the enactment of this joint resolution.

PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A CITIZEN REGENT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Rules Committee be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S.J. Res. 35.

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

The clerk will report the joint resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows: