

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT HOO

• Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Robert Hoo, the founder of Nevadans for the Common Good, an organization dedicated to community and making the great State of Nevada a better place through public service. Robert was born and raised in China and moved to New York with his family after the Communist revolution. For the last 5 years, Robert has lived in Las Vegas and committed himself to the goals of his impressive organization.

Nevadans for the Common Good trains everyday citizens for public service, such as running for political office or becoming active on an issue. The organization is run by 40 generous institutions and is a collection of religious congregations, civic associations, professional organizations, schools, fraternities, sororities, and other community-based groups.

Robert understands the importance of a good and honest government that truly works for the people. Having experienced the impact of communism on his family in China, he only further appreciated American ideals, and these values fuel the work he does to this day.

Robert Hoo has taken public and community service very seriously. Before he moved to Nevada, Robert worked for a nonprofit organization in Connecticut and also for an organization that targeted neighborhood blight in East Brooklyn. The people of Nevada are very fortunate that Robert's journey took him to our State.

Lastly, Robert's dedication to finding common ground is truly admirable. In today's political environment, too often we focus on what divides us. Robert, on the other hand, chooses to focus on what unites us at the grassroots level and is committed to helping people solve real problems for others and themselves. The world needs more public servants that have Robert's dedication to helping others and making a difference.

I am both humbled and honored to acknowledge Robert Hoo for his outstanding work. His organization is making a difference for so many people who want to better our great State through public service. As the senior Senator from the great State of Nevada, I am proud to call Robert a Nevadan and applaud the work he has done and will continue to do for years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO BOBI PIKE-OATES

• Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Bobi Pike-Oates of Las Vegas for her service to our country and to the great State of Nevada. Bobi Pike-Oates served in the U.S. Air Force for 23 years, retiring with the rank of senior master sergeant. Now, even in retirement, she remains active in various groups and dedicated to helping veterans and the community.

Bobi Pike-Oates traveled the world during her time in the Air Force, serving in Hungary for Operation Joint Endeavor and in Turkey for Operation Provide Comfort. Being so far from home was, of course, very difficult, and we cannot adequately repay Bobi for the sacrifices she made in order to serve our country.

Throughout her time in the Air Force, Bobi earned awards and received recognition for going above and beyond in her service. During her time at Nevada's own Nellis Air Force Base, Bobi received the Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, as well as the Resource Advisor of the Year Air Warfare Center.

Even though she is now retired from the Air Force, Bobi Pike-Oates's commitment to serving her country remains just as strong. Currently, Bobi serves on various boards, commissions, and associations that help our veterans. Bobi is a board member for the Women Veterans of Nevada, a life member of the Air Forces Association, a charter member of the Women in Military Service for America, Air Force Sergeants Association, American Legion, life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and a life member of the Disabled American Veterans. She also serves on the State of Nevada Women Veterans Advisory Committee. Through these various organizations, Bobi continues to make Nevada proud.

I am both humbled and honored to acknowledge Bobi Pike-Oates for her service to our country. Her sacrifices and continued commitment to helping those who served makes me proud, and it is an honor to call her a fellow Nevadan. As Nevada's senior Senator, I look forward to seeing her continue to inspire others and work to help fellow veterans who, like her, make it possible for us to live in the freest nation on Earth.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS
SIGNED

At 10:58 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill and joint resolutions:

S. 544. An act to amend the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to modify the termination date for the Veterans Choice Program, and for other purposes.

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

S.J. Res. 35. Joint resolution providing for the appointment of Michael Govan as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

S.J. Res. 36. Joint resolution providing for the appointment of Roger W. Ferguson as a citizen regent of the Board of Regent of the Smithsonian Institution.

The enrolled bill and joint resolutions were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

MEASURES PLACED ON THE
CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 861. A bill to provide for the compensation of Federal employees affected by lapses in appropriations.

H.R. 1301. An act making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes.

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-1203. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Monoethanolamine; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9949-11) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 5, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1204. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Acetamiprid; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemption" (FRL No. 9959-90) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 5, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1205. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Samuel D. Cox, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1206. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; SC; Infrastructure Requirements for the 2012 PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standard" (FRL No. 9960-92-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 5, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1207. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; North Carolina; Motor Vehicle Emissions Control Program; Correcting Amendment" (FRL No. 9960-94-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 5, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1208. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Michigan; Part 9 Miscellaneous Rules; Correction" (FRL No. 9960-49-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 5, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1209. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Ohio; Removal of