

Guard Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petition or memorial was laid before the Senate and was referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-137. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of California relative to women's reproductive health; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 12

Whereas, January 22, 2017, marks the 44th anniversary of the United States Supreme Court's landmark decision in *Roe v. Wade*, which affirmed that every woman has a fundamental right to control her own reproductive decisions and to decide whether to end or to continue pregnancy, and is an occasion deserving of celebration; and

Whereas, *Roe v. Wade* has been the cornerstone of women's ability to control their reproductive lives, allowing every woman in the United States the right to decide when, if, and with whom to have children, and how many children to have; and

Whereas, Women's ability to control their reproductive lives has helped and facilitated their participation in the economic and social life of our nation; and

Whereas, *Roe v. Wade* has drastically reduced the maternal mortality rate for women terminating their pregnancies in the United States. In the years prior to the decision, illegal abortion accounted for approximately 17 percent of all reported deaths attributable to pregnancy and childbirth, and many women were severely injured as a result of "back alley" abortion procedures; and

Whereas, Interference with a woman's right to choose causes women to be forced into illegal and dangerous abortions, as they often were in the United States before the *Roe v. Wade* decision. Many women are forced to make these decisions today in countries where abortion is illegal and where the unsafe methods of illegal abortion lead to 13 percent of global maternal deaths annually, or eight maternal deaths every hour. Many survivors of an illegal abortion suffer serious and often permanent injuries; and

Whereas, *Roe v. Wade* continues to protect the health and freedom of women throughout the United States; and

Whereas, *Roe v. Wade* is in serious jeopardy due to President-elect Donald J. Trump's stated intention to nominate United States Supreme Court justices hostile to women's right to choose; and

Whereas, The State of California stands in strong support of every woman's fundamental right, as confirmed in *Roe v. Wade*, to make her own decisions regarding her pregnancy; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, That the Senate urges the President of the United States and the United States Congress to express their support for a woman's fundamental right to control her own reproductive decisions, as well as their support for access to comprehensive reproductive health care, including the services provided by Planned Parenthood; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States, and to the author for appropriate distribution.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. McCAIN for the Committee on Armed Services.

*Robert Behler, of Pennsylvania, to be Director of Operational Test and Evaluation, Department of Defense.

*Thomas B. Modly, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of the Navy.

*James F. Geurts, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

By Mr. JOHNSON for the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

*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.

*James Thomas Abbott, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years expiring July 1, 2020.

*Colleen Kiko, of North Dakota, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years expiring July 29, 2022.

*Ernest W. Dubester, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years expiring July 1, 2019.

By Mr. GRASSLEY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Gregory G. Katsas, of Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Brett Joseph Talley, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Alabama.

Emily Coody Marks, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Alabama.

Jeffrey Uhlman Beaverstock, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama.

Holly Lou Teeter, of Kansas, to be United States District Judge for the District of Kansas.

Bobby L. Christine, of Georgia, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia for the term of four years.

David J. Freed, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Pennsylvania for the term of four years.

*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.)

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 Mr. HELLER (for himself and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 2107. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Under Secretary of Health to report major adverse personnel actions involving certain health care employees to the National Practitioner Data Bank and to applicable State licensing boards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 2108. A bill to amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to modify temporarily certain rates of duty; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. TESTER, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. WARREN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. REED, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. COONS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. KING, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. MCCASKILL, and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 2109. A bill to count revenues from military and veteran education programs toward the limit on Federal revenues that certain proprietary institutions of higher education are allowed to receive for purposes of section 487 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. MCCASKILL:

S. 2110. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the non-applicability of non-Department of Veterans Affairs covenants not to compete to the appointment of certain Veterans Health Administration personnel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. DAINES:

S. 2111. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the treatment of applications for projects to construct new State homes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. ERNST (for herself and Mrs. MCCASKILL):

S. 2112. A bill to amend the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to improve the treatment at non-Department of Veterans Affairs facilities of veterans who are victims of military sexual assault, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 2113. A bill to amend title 41, United States Code, to improve the manner in which Federal contracts for design and construction services are awarded, to prohibit the use of reverse auctions for design and construction services procurements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. DAINES, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. INHOFE, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. ERNST, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 2114. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the 5307th Composite Unit (Provisional), commonly known as "Merrill's Marauders", in recognition of their bravery and outstanding service in the jungles of Burma during World War II; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. REED, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 2115. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to disallow any deduction for punitive damages, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DONNELLY (for himself and Mr. HELLER):

S. 2116. A bill to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to increase the asset threshold with respect to the on-site examination of certain insured depository institutions; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.