

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.

By Mr. NELSON (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 2117. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to expand eligibility for the TRICARE program to include certain veterans entitled to benefits under the Medicare program due to conditions or injuries incurred during service in the Armed Forces and to waive the Medicare part B late enrollment penalty for such veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. UDALL, Mr. TESTER, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. Res. 326. A resolution recognizing the crew of the San Antonio Rose, B-17F, who sacrificed their lives during World War II, and honoring their memory during the week of the 75th anniversary of that tragic event; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. HOEVEN):

S. Res. 327. A resolution designating the week of November 5 through 12, 2017, as "National Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Awareness Week"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. UDALL, Mrs. ERNST, Mr. COONS, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. ENZI, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. CASEY, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. KING, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Mr. DAINES, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. THUNE, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. ROBERTS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Ms. WARREN):

S. Res. 328. A resolution recognizing November 25, 2017, as "Small Business Saturday" and supporting the efforts of the Small Business Administration to increase awareness of the value of locally owned small businesses; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. Res. 329. A resolution expressing support for the designation of October 2017 as "National Audiology Awareness Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. SHELBY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. UDALL, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. KING, Mr. WICKER, and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. Res. 330. A resolution mandating anti-harassment training for Senators and officers, employees, and interns of, and detailees to the Senate; considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 121

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 121, a bill to establish the veterans' business outreach center program, to improve the programs for veterans of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 403

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 403, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve access to health care through expanded health savings accounts, and for other purposes.

S. 497

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 497, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of certain lymphedema compression treatment items as items of durable medical equipment.

S. 793

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 793, a bill to prohibit sale of shark fins, and for other purposes.

S. 925

At the request of Mrs. ERNST, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 925, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the ability of health care professionals to treat veterans through the use of telemedicine, and for other purposes.

S. 1400

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1400, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to enhance protections of Native American tangible cultural heritage, and for other purposes.

S. 1539

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1539, a bill to protect victims of stalking from gun violence.

S. 1589

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1589, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Small Business Act to expand the availability of employee stock ownership plans in S corporations, and for other purposes.

S. 1738

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor

of S. 1738, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a home infusion therapy services temporary transitional payment under the Medicare program.

S. 1753

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1753, a bill to amend the S.A.F.E. Mortgage Licensing Act of 2008 to provide a temporary license for loan originators transitioning between employers, and for other purposes.

S. 1829

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1829, a bill to amend title V of the Social Security Act to extend the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program.

S. 1838

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1838, a bill to repeal the authority under the National Labor Relations Act for States to enact laws prohibiting agreements requiring membership in a labor organization as a condition of employment, and for other purposes.

S. 1871

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1871, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the role of podiatrists in the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 1936

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1936, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the designation of State approving agencies for multi-State apprenticeship programs for purposes of the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 2022

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2022, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for reciprocal marketing approval of certain drugs, biological products, and devices that are authorized to be lawfully marketed abroad, and for other purposes.

S. 2044

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2044, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect more victims of domestic violence by preventing their abusers from possessing or receiving firearms, and for other purposes.