

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Cuccia, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:48 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3071. An act to require executive agencies to consider equipment rental in any cost-effectiveness analysis for equipment acquisition, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3739. An act to amend the Act of August 25, 1958, commonly known as the "Former Presidents Act of 1958", with respect to the monetary allowance payable to a former President, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3973. An act to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require certain entities to develop internal risk control mechanisms to safeguard and govern the storage of market data.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 5:21 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1679. An act to ensure that the Federal Emergency Management Agency's current efforts to modernize its grant management system includes applicant accessibility and transparency, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 3071. An act to require executive agencies to consider equipment rental in any cost-effectiveness analysis for equipment acquisition, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3739. An act to amend the Act of August 25, 1958, commonly known as the "Former Presidents Act of 1958", with respect to the monetary allowance payable to a former President, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3973. An act to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require certain entities to develop internal risk control mechanisms to safeguard and govern the storage of market data; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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-3444. A communication from the Secretary of the Senate, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the receipts and expenditures of the Senate for the period from April 1, 2017 through September 30, 2017, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2017; ordered to lie on the table.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. CORKER for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

*Rebecca Eliza Gonzales, of Texas, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Kingdom of Lesotho.

Nominee: Rebecca Eliza Gonzales.

Post: LESOTHO.

(The following is a list of all members of my immediate family and their spouses. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, donee:

1. Self: None.
2. James Mahlangu: Spouse: None.
3. Imagine Gonzales: Minor child—son: None.
4. Parents: Estella Gonzales: None; Jose Rene Gonzales (deceased): None.
5. Rebecca Balli Ybarra—None; Henry Ybarra—None; Juan Gonzalez—None; Guadalupe Gonzalez—None. My grandparents are deceased.
6. Jerome Rene Gonzales: Brother: None; Amanda Lucia Gonzales: Sister-in-Law: None.

*Lisa A. Johnson, of Washington, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Namibia.

Nominee: Lisa A. Johnson.

Post: U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Namibia.

(The following is a list of all members of my immediate family and their spouses. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, and donee:

1. Self: None.
2. Spouse: N/A.
3. Children and Spouses: N/A.
4. Parents: Melville Richard Johnson, none; Stephanie JoAnne Johnson, none.
5. Grandparents: Herbert Richard Johnson—Deceased; Cora Alice Johnson—deceased; Ralph Williams—deceased; Delores Violet Williams—deceased.
6. Brothers and Spouses: Michael Richard Johnson (brother), none; Christina Oliva Johnson (his spouse), none.
7. Sisters and Spouses: N/A.

*Irwin Steven Goldstein, of New York, to be Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy.

*Sean P. Lawler, of Maryland, to be Chief of Protocol, and to have the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service.

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, for the Committee on Foreign Relations I re-

port favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

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

*Foreign Service nominations beginning with Lisa-Felicia Afi Akorli and ending with Stephanie P. Wilson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 1, 2017.

*Foreign Service nominations beginning with John R. Bass II and ending with Sung Y. Kim, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 1, 2017.

By Mr. MCCAIN for the Committee on Armed Services.

R. D. James, of Missouri, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army.

*Robert H. McMahon, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*Bruce D. Jette, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army.

*Shon J. Manasco, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

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

*Kirstjen Nielsen, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Homeland Security.

*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 Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 2120. A bill to prevent international violence against women, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. HELLER (for himself, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. GARDNER):

S. 2121. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require reporting of certain data by providers and suppliers of air ambulance services for purposes of reforming reimbursements for such services under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 2122. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 regarding reasonable break time for nursing mothers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LANKFORD:

S. 2123. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow above-the-line deductions for charitable contributions for individuals not itemizing deductions; to the Committee on Finance.