

against independent media outlets that resulted in the closure of independent newspaper The Cambodian Daily in early September 2017;

Whereas the Government of Cambodia has ordered several radio stations to stop the broadcasting of Radio Free Asia and Voice of America;

Whereas the next general election in Cambodia is scheduled for July 29, 2018, and the CPP continues to use intimidation and misuse of legal mechanisms to weaken political opposition and media organizations in order to retain its power;

Whereas the Cambodian parliament in 2017 passed two repressive amendments to Cambodia's Law on Political Parties that allow authorities to dissolve political parties and ban party leaders from political activity, and which contain numerous restrictions tailored to create obstacles for opposition parties in an attempt to maintain the CPP's hold on power;

Whereas Kem Sokha, the President of CNRP, was arrested on September 3, 2017, and charged with treason and conspiring with the United States Government to overthrow the Government of Cambodia, and if convicted faces up to 30 years in prison, which sets the stage for the CNRP to be dissolved;

Whereas the United States Embassy in Cambodia has publicly called for the immediate release of Mr. Sokha and the removal of restrictions on civil society;

Whereas the CNRP's previous leader, Sam Rainsy, remains in exile due to an outstanding warrant for his arrest in a politically motivated criminal case;

Whereas Human Rights Watch reported that local elections held in Cambodia on June 4, 2017, took place in a "threatening environment hostile to free speech and genuine political participation, leading to elections that were neither free nor fair";

Whereas international election monitoring groups reported fundamental flaws in the electoral process and violations of Cambodia's election campaign rules during June's local election;

Whereas the Interior Ministry of Cambodia demanded that two election-monitoring organizations cease their activities just months after the local elections for allegedly violating the LANGO law, which will allow the CPP to continue to increase restrictions on election monitoring as the 2018 national elections approach;

Whereas despite irregularities in the electoral process, the CNRP made significant gains in local elections compared to previous cycles, making clear that national elections in 2018, if they are conducted freely and fairly, will be tightly contested; and

Whereas national elections in 2018 will be closely watched to ensure openness and fairness, and to monitor whether all political parties and civil society groups are allowed to freely participate: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to promote democracy, human rights, and the rule of law in Cambodia;

(2) condemns all forms of political violence in Cambodia, and urges the cessation of ongoing human rights violations;

(3) urges Prime Minister Hun Sen and the Cambodian People's Party to end all harassment and intimidation of Cambodia's opposition and foster an environment where democracy can thrive and flourish;

(4) urges the Department of the Treasury, in consultation with the Department of State, to consider placing all senior Cambodian government officials implicated in the abuses noted above on the Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) list;

(5) urges the Government of Cambodia to free Mr. Kem Sokha immediately and unconditionally;

(6) calls on the Government of Cambodia to respect freedom of the press and the rights of its citizens to freely assemble, protest, and speak out against the government; and

(7) supports electoral reform efforts in Cambodia and free and fair elections in 2018 monitored by international observers.

#### RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 337, S. Res. 338, S. Res. 339, and S. Res. 340.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2017, THROUGH MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2017

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted, on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Friday, November 17, at 11 a.m.; Tuesday, November 21, at 11 a.m.; Friday, November 24, at 11 a.m.; I further ask that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, November 24, it next convene at 4 p.m., Monday, November 27; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Friedrich nomination, with the time until 5:30 p.m. equally divided between the two leaders or their designees; finally, that notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, the cloture motion filed on the Katsas nomination ripen following disposition of the Friedrich nomination.

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

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come be-

fore the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:45 p.m., adjourned until Friday, November 17, 2017, at 11 a.m.

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

##### DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

MELISSA F. BURNISON, OF KENTUCKY, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF ENERGY (CONGRESSIONAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS), VICE BRADLEY CROWELL.

JOHN G. VONGLIS, OF NEW YORK, TO BE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, VICE JOSEPH S. HEZIR.

LINDA CAPUANO, OF TEXAS, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION, VICE ADAM E. SIEMINSKI.

##### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

JOHNNY COLLETT, OF KENTUCKY, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, VICE MICHAEL K. YUDIN.

##### OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

MICHAEL K. ATKINSON, OF MARYLAND, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY, OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, VICE IRVIN CHARLES MCCULLOUGH III.

##### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

##### To be colonel

RICHARD G. ADAMS  
CHRISTOPHER PAUL BACA  
GAVIN M. BATCHELDER  
GEOFFREY O. BILLINGSLEY  
FREDRIC LEE BLAKE  
MICHAEL M. BLAKE  
BRIAN C. BOWMAN  
ROBERT KYLE BRADY  
STEVEN ANTHONY BREITFELDER  
SEAN T. BRENNAN  
MICHAEL S. BURK  
RICHARD D. CARTER, JR.  
MATTHEW W. CAUDELL  
PATRICK D. CHARD  
SCOTT MATTHEW CHARLTON  
KEITH AKIRA CHIKASAWA  
JEFFREY DAVID COATS  
JEFFREY RUSSELL COLE  
DAVID W. COMPTON  
KEVIN ROBERT CURLEY  
VINCENT E. CYRAN  
JAMES L. DALTON  
JAMES S. DINSMORE  
GARY L. DODGE  
FRANCISCO J. DOMINGUEZ  
GEORGE HENRY DOWNS  
MICHAEL N. DUGAS  
JASON ROBERT FALLIS  
ANDY FITORRE  
LAWRENCE R. FLANNIGAN  
PATTI LYNN FRIES  
KEVIN B. GEORGE  
SCOTT RICHARD GILLOON  
JOYCE M. GORDON  
ERIC ALAN GUTTORMSEN  
GLEN O. HARDEN  
MILES K. HARKEY  
STEPHEN J. HENSKA, JR.  
SCOTT C. HUMPHREY  
CHARLES HENRY HUTSON  
PAUL EDUARDO JARA  
CATHERINE MARIE JUMPER  
NATHAN WILLIAM KEARNS  
JASON WILLIAM KNIGHT  
CHAD W. KORBERG  
DANIEL J. KRAMER II  
JEFFREY GYNN LAIBLE  
LANSE ERIC LAVOY  
JOSEPH J. LIENERT  
BRIAN LEROY MANDT  
KERRY JOHN MCCAULEY  
WILLIAM D. McCONNELL  
ADAM STEWART MERCIER  
CHRISTOPHER A. MILLER  
MIRCEA A. MITRAN  
TROY C. MORGAN  
PAUL MICHAEL MORTON  
CHARLES WESLEY NICHOLS, JR.  
FRANCES RENEE OLEEN  
HUMBERTO PABON, JR.  
FAUSTO ALFREDO PADILLA  
DANIEL J. POTAS  
TIMOTHY A. PUZAN  
ROBERT T. REDMAN  
CHARLES D. RILEY