

Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1493 MARINE CORPS nomination of William W. Inns, III, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1496 MARINE CORPS nomination of Craig A. Elliott, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1497 MARINE CORPS nominations (3) beginning BILL W. BROOKS, JR., and ending KYLE L. HOLLIS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1498 MARINE CORPS nominations (734) beginning EDWARD J. ABMA, and ending JOSEPH A. ZIMMERMANN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1499 MARINE CORPS nominations (23) beginning JUSTIN R. ANDERSON, and ending MICHAEL D. WILCOX, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1500 MARINE CORPS nomination of Steven P. Hulse, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

IN THE NAVY

PN1244 NAVY nominations (2) beginning PAUL F. MAGOULICK, and ending LI SUNG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 14, 2017.

PN1303 NAVY nomination of Nicholas H. Steging, Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 1, 2017.

PN1304 NAVY nomination of Jonathan S. Durham, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 1, 2017.

PN1324 NAVY nominations (3) beginning LAURA C. GILSTRAP, and ending DIANA TRANYU, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 11, 2017.

PN1429 NAVY nomination of Todd D. Husty, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 8, 2018.

PN1430 NAVY nomination of Dawn M. Stankus, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 8, 2018.

PN1485 NAVY nomination of Paul I. Ahn, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

PN1486 NAVY nomination of Allen G. Gunn, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 18, 2018.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

PROTECTING YOUNG VICTIMS FROM SEXUAL ABUSE AND SAFE SPORT AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2017

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask the Chair to lay before the Senate the message to accompany S. 534.

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 534) entitled "An Act to prevent the sexual

abuse of minors and amateur athletes by requiring the prompt reporting of sexual abuse to law enforcement authorities, and for other purposes," do pass with an amendment.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, nearly a year ago, I met with six gymnasts. All of these young women were world-class athletes. All of them had put their faith in USA Gymnastics. And all of them were sexually abused by an adult who had earned their trust.

It was one of the most difficult meetings I have held as a Senator. Listening to their stories of abuse and how the system let them down left me with equal parts sadness and rage.

These young women weren't telling me their stories to get legislation passed, but that afternoon, I promised them I would do all I could to make sure no one else ever experienced the agony that they had.

I am proud that the Senate will come together and pass the Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act in order to send it to the President's desk.

This bill is intended to protect young athletes who participate in amateur sports from the sexual abuse that these gymnasts had to suffer.

In the House, Representative SUSAN BROOKS from Indiana and Representative LOIS FRANKEL from Florida, who cochair the Women's Caucus, partnered with us on this bill. They have been strong champions in protecting young women from abuse.

This bill wouldn't have been possible without the courageous survivors who shared their stories.

Some of the same women who I spoke with in February came back to Washington in March to speak about the bill. It was a very powerful hearing that touched many of us.

One of those brave women was Jamie Dantzscher, who won a bronze medal in 2000.

Jamie told the Judiciary Committee in moving testimony that she fell in love with gymnastics at a very young age. Her parents had to beg her to leave the gym after practice because gymnastics brought her such joy.

While she competed with the national team led by USA Gymnastics, team doctor Larry Nassar was assigned to provide her with medical treatment.

As any young woman would, Jamie put her faith in Nassar, who was employed by USA Gymnastics, but her faith was turned on its head in horrifying ways. In Jamie's words: "What I have only recently come to understand is that the medical treatment he performed for my back pain and other injuries was sexual assault. Dr. Nassar abused me at the USA National Training Center in Texas. He abused me in California and at meets all over the world. Many times the abuse took place in my own room, in my own bed. Worse, he abused me in my hotel room in Sydney at the Olympic Games."

Jamie went on: "When I first spoke out about my abuse at the hands of Dr.

Nassar, I thought I was the only one. I was disbelieved and even criticized by some in the gymnastics community for bringing this disturbing issue to light."

It is impossible to imagine the horror that Jamie felt, but what we do know is that Jamie wasn't the only victim.

Jessica Howard was a 15-year-old rhythmic gymnast when Nassar began abusing her. She testified that her first few years of training were "pure bliss." Eventually, she was sent to Nassar for hip problems. Nassar told her she shouldn't wear underwear for her treatments.

Jessica was confused, but she was fearful to say anything to anyone. She believed she would be prevented from pursuing her dreams if she said anything. This is how so much of this abuse was conducted, under a shroud of fear that the athletes' dreams would be quashed.

Later in her life, Jessica served on USA Gymnastics' board of directors. In Jessica's words: "As an adult, I spent years serving on the USA Gymnastics Board of Directors with a mission of protecting children in my sport from the psychological abuse that I endured. But the meetings seemed to revolve around two things: money and medals. When a sexual abuse case came up during my time on the board, the concern was about the reputation of the coach, not the accusation of the athlete. As I have attempted to come to terms with what happened to me as a teenager, it has become glaringly obvious that USA Gymnastics has not done nearly enough to protect athletes from any form of abuse."

Jessica and others like her were silenced by a culture of complicity where those in power refused to promote a safe environment and survivors could report abuse. That is what the bill we will pass aims to change.

Finally, I would like to talk about another gymnast we heard from more recently. Aly Raisman, one of the most decorated Olympic gymnasts ever, revealed that she, too, was sexually abused by Larry Nassar, starting when she was 15 years old.

As Aly said, "I didn't know anything differently. We were told he is the best doctor."

As a result, Nassar used this trust to manipulate hundreds of victims so they couldn't fully understand that they were being abused.

When telling her story, Aly asked, "Why are we looking at why didn't the girls speak up? Why not look at what about the culture? What did USA Gymnastics do, and Larry Nassar do, to manipulate these girls so much that they are so afraid to speak up? I am angry."

I think we should all be angry by what we have heard from these brave young women. When I heard these stories, I found a common theme: The very institutions tasked with protecting these athletes allowed this egregious conduct to occur.

In my view, these governing bodies were, at best, complicit in the devastation wrought on these young children