

the provisions of this chapter from complying with the laws of any State with respect to student loan servicing practices, fees on postsecondary education loans, or other requirements relating to postsecondary education loans, except to the extent that those laws are inconsistent with any provision of this chapter, and then only to the extent of the inconsistency. The Bureau is authorized to determine whether such inconsistencies exist. The Bureau may not determine that any State law is inconsistent with any provision of this chapter if the Bureau determines that such law gives greater protection to the consumer. In making these determinations the Bureau shall consult with the appropriate Federal agencies.”.

(b) EXEMPTED TRANSACTIONS.—Section 104 of the Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. 1603) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “This title” and inserting “(A) IN GENERAL.—This title”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in subsection (a) shall prevent or be construed to prevent the provisions of chapter 6 from applying to any postsecondary education lender, loan holder, or student loan servicer (as those terms are defined in section 188).”.

(c) CIVIL LIABILITY.—Section 130 of the Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. 1640) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting “and any postsecondary education lender, loan holder, or student loan servicer (as such terms are defined in section 188) who fails to comply with any requirement imposed under chapter 6 with respect to any person” before “is liable to such person”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking “; or (iv)” and inserting “, or (iv)”; and

(II) by inserting “, or (v) in the case of a postsecondary education lender, loan holder, or student loan servicer (as such terms are defined in section 188) who fails to comply with any requirement imposed under chapter 6, not less than \$400 or greater than \$4,000” before the semicolon; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “, postsecondary education lender, loan holder, or student loan servicer” after “creditor” each place it appears; and

(C) in the matter following paragraph (4)—

(i) in the first sentence—

(I) by inserting “, postsecondary education lender, loan holder, or student loan servicer” after “creditor” each place it appears; and

(II) by striking “creditor’s failure” and inserting “failure by the creditor, postsecondary education lender, loan holder, or student loan servicer”;

(ii) in the fourth sentence, by inserting “other than the disclosures required under section 128(e)(12),” after “referred to in section 128,”; and

(iii) in the fifth sentence, by inserting “, postsecondary education lender, loan holder, or student loan servicer” after “creditor”;

(2) in subsection (c), by striking “creditor or assignee” each place it appears and inserting “creditor, assignee, postsecondary education lender, loan holder, or student loan servicer”;

(3) in subsection (e)—

(A) in the second sentence, by inserting “or chapter 6” after “section 129, 129B, or 129C”; and

(B) in the fourth sentence, by inserting “or chapter 6” after “or 129H”; and

(4) in subsection (h)—

(A) by striking “creditor or assignee” and inserting “creditor, assignee, postsecondary

education lender, loan holder, or student loan servicer”; and

(B) by striking “creditor’s or assignee’s liability” and inserting “liability of the creditor, assignee, postsecondary education lender, loan holder, or student loan servicer”.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO OBJECT TO PROCEEDING

I, Senator TAMMY DUCKWORTH, intend to object to proceeding to the nomination of Howard C. Nielson, Jr., of Utah, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah, dated March 6, 2018.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I have 6 requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 6, 2018, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 6, 2018, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the nomination of James Reilly, of Colorado, to be Director of the United States Geological Survey, Department of the Interior.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 6, 2018, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “Protecting E-Commerce Consumers and from Counterfeits.”

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS’ AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans’ Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 6, 2018, at 2 p.m., to conduct a joint hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 6, 2018, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SEAPOWERS

The Subcommittee on Seapower of the Committee Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Reilly Steel, a fellow with the Banking Committee, be granted floor privileges during the pendency of S. 2155.

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

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Ari Rabin-Havt be granted floor privileges for the remainder of this Congress.

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

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator BLUMENTHAL’s legislative fellow Mary Miller Flowers be granted floor privileges until the end of June 2018.

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

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 2018

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 7; further, 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. Finally, I ask that following leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 2155.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator PORTMAN and our Democratic colleagues.

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

The Senator from Florida.

RUSSIAN ELECTION INTERFERENCE

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I join our colleagues who have spoken about the concern of the Russian cyber attacks on this country.

Every day that passes, we gather new information about how Russia, at Vladimir Putin’s direction, has gone about interfering by committing cyber attacks on this country, not only in its stealing names and personal information but now in its interfering in our elections.

In a long indictment, Special Counsel Robert Mueller spelled out how the so-called Internet Research Agency—a front in Russia—created fake accounts on social media and other internet platforms. It spread divisive content, and it even organized political rallies in the United States with the help of unwitting Americans—all backed by one of Putin’s cronies through a so-called catering company. This indictment tells a pretty remarkable and alarming story, and if you are still not