

22. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification. Moreover, the benefits to be derived from this sale, as outlined in the Policy Justification, outweigh the potential damage that could result if the sensitive technology were revealed to unauthorized persons.

23. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of Slovakia.

STRENGTHENING PROTECTIONS FOR SOCIAL SECURITY BENE- FICIARIES ACT OF 2018

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I rise today in support of H.R. 4547, the Strengthening Protections for Social Security Beneficiaries Act of 2018, a bipartisan bill developed by House Ways and Means Social Security Subcommittee Chairman SAM JOHNSON and Ranking Member JOHN LARSON. This bill updates the representative payee program by strengthening oversight and beneficiary protections, while improving payee selection and quality. As a true testament to Chairman JOHNSON and Ranking Member LARSON's bipartisan work, the bill passed both the House of Representatives and the Senate unanimously just before Congress adjourned in March.

Social Security's Representative Payment program provides financial management for the Social Security and Supplemental Security Income, SSI, payments of beneficiaries who are incapable of managing their Social Security or SSI payment. Today almost 6 million representative payees manage benefits on behalf of about 8 million Social Security beneficiaries and SSI recipients. Most often, the representative payee is a family member, like a spouse or a parent. When friends or family are not available to serve as payees, Social Security can use qualified organizations to be representative payees.

Most payees perform their duties responsibly and with care. Some do not, and stakeholders in this process have raised concerns. The Social Security Advisory Board, the National Academy of Sciences, the Government Accountability Office, and Social Security's inspector general have uncovered problems with current policy and ideas for improvement. It has been almost 15 years since the last significant change to the law in this area, and this bill makes several needed policy changes and common sense improvements.

The bill strengthens oversight of representative payees by requiring additional types of reviews of payee performance and draws on the expertise of the protection and advocacy system of each state to conduct the reviews. The bill reduces the burden on families by eliminating the requirement to file the annual accounting form for representative payees who are parents or spouses and are living with the beneficiary. The bill requires data exchanges between SSA and State foster care agencies to identify when there is a change

in status of a beneficiary in foster care and reassess whether the payee is appropriate. The bill allows new beneficiaries to make an advance payee designation. Finally, the bill codifies current policy that bars felons from serving as a payee and requires SSA to recheck all existing payees.

In 2016, my office was contacted by Lexie Gruber, a former foster youth from Connecticut. Lexie's story brought a human face to this issue and showed where the system had gone wrong. This young woman had recently aged out of foster care, graduated college at the top of her class, and moved to Washington, DC, for a new job, a success story that is unfortunately all too rare for children who have grown up in foster care. Lexie was working hard, but still struggled to afford living expenses in an expensive city while trying to work hard to save for law school. That was before the IRS notified her that the value of outstanding SSI overpayments were going to be withheld from her tax returns. This was outstanding debt she didn't know she had for benefits she never even got. To me, this is the definition of unjust. She had to contact Congress for help and since then has worked tirelessly to help ensure that other former foster youth aren't forced through her experience. This bill fixes this flaw in the system to ensure that youth aging out of care, struggling to make it on their own, aren't held liable for the mistakes of or misinformation from foster care agencies.

I thank Chairman JOHNSON, Ranking Member LARSON, and their staff for putting together this bipartisan bill. It is another example of what can be accomplished when working together.

HONORING DEPUTY JACOB PICKETT

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize and honor the extraordinary service and sacrifice of Boone County Deputy Jacob Pickett of Zionsville, IN. His life was characterized by selflessness, dedication to his community, and a deep love for his family and faith.

Jake graduated from Brownsburg High School in 2002. He graduated from the Marion County Sheriff's Office Training Academy in 2010 and the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy in 2014. He was employed as a detention deputy with the Marion County Sheriff's Office for 3 years. After serving the Marion County Sheriff's Office, he served as a deputy at the Tipton County Sheriff's Department from 2013 to 2015. In 2015, he began his work in Boone County as a taser instructor, K-9 team leader, and a member of the Fraternal Order of Police No. 110. From the start, his colleagues say they knew he would be a great officer and that he was the one who would be there to help if anyone ever needed him.

Jake grew up with a kind heart, always standing up for those in need. He

was described by Rev. Steve Reeves, his little league coach and pastor who baptized him as a teenager, as someone who "had a kindness about him. He wanted to do well." His selflessness carried over into adulthood; whether it was serving in uniform, organizing a Christmas card drive, or volunteering to rescue animals, he continuously gave back to his community. Ultimately, Jake put his life on the line to protect the community he loves, and for his service, we are forever grateful.

The morning that he was killed, he was greeting students at Perry-Worth Elementary with his sidekick K-9, a German Shepherd named Brik. Those who knew Jake best said his love for Brik was unwavering, and he extended that love to his family and those in the community he worked to protect.

On Friday, March 2, 2018, Jake was fatally shot following a pursuit in Lebanon, IN. He was kept on life support for a few days, so that his life of service could continue through organ donation. After he was taken off life support, his heart was donated to a patient in need at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis.

A devoted and loving father and husband, he is survived by his wife, Jennifer Pickett, a teacher at White Lick Elementary School; his two sons; parents Marlin and Rebecca Pickett; sister Kristi M. Woo; niece Hannah N. Woo; parents-in-law Jon and Carol Lindstrom; brothers-in-law Jeremy Lindstrom and Christopher Lindstrom; his faithful K-9 partner Brik; and many other relatives and friends. Jake went above and beyond for his children, and it was well known that the happiest day of his life was when he became a father. He was often seen giving his sons rides around the yard on the lawnmower for fun, and he will be remembered by his loving spirit.

Jake set an example for others and will be remembered for his love for his family, his faith in God, and his bravery. Let us remember and emulate the example this man set for us and honor his commitment to serving his fellow citizens.

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

RECOGNIZING NAPERVILLE RESPONDS TO OUR VETERANS

● Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, today I wish to commemorate the "Strength and Honor" event being hosted by Naperville Responds to Our Veterans on April 11, 2018. This event aims to honor and give thanks to veterans around the community. This year's feature speaker, Mike Barbour, is a well-known Army veteran who has devoted his life to advocating for those who have so bravely fought for our country. I encourage veterans around the community to attend this event, enjoy a free lunch, and be paid the respect they so well deserve.

I applaud the commendable work being done by Naperville Responds to

Our Veterans and hope they have a successful event.●

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING HOWARD T. OWENS, JR.

● Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I rise today with a heavy heart to pay tribute to Howard T. Owens, Jr., an exemplary public servant, leader, and friend. Sadly, Mr. Owens passed away on April 3, 2018, at the age of 83. He will be remembered for his outstanding legacy of dedication to Connecticut as both a statesman and a judge.

Howard began his impressive career in public service as an assistant U.S. attorney and then as a State senator representing the city of Bridgeport and the town of Trumbull. I had the honor of briefly serving with Howard during my tenure in the Connecticut House of Representatives.

Beginning in 1974 through 1988, Howard held this seat with the exception of one term in 1984. He took every opportunity while in the capitol to improve the quality of life for not just those who elected him, but for all the people of Connecticut, whether it was promoting mass transit, especially for the urban centers, as senate cochair of the transportation committee or seeking a fairer justice system as senate cochair of the judiciary committee.

In 1998, Howard's passion for State service took on a new shape when he received the appointment to serve as a judge on the superior court. Throughout his time as a State judge, he presided over a number of high-profile cases, which earned Howard recognition for his patient, thoughtful oversight of complex divorce decisions.

Although dedicated to public service, Howard always made time for his friends, especially when they needed help—in the courtroom, as well as outside of it. His legacy of unfailing service and dedication to his community is evident when speaking with anyone who knew him. A caring man with a good sense of humor, he carried out his work humbly and with a sense of devotion to those close to him and to the rest of Connecticut.

Howard added inimitable wisdom to the capitol and the courthouse and is known by many of us throughout the State as a tireless supporter of Connecticut and the Nation's best interests. His commitment to the rule of law and loyalty to his friends and family have left a lasting, positive mark on Connecticut's legacy.

My wife, Cynthia, and I extend our deepest sympathies to Howard's family during this difficult time, particularly to his wife, Ann, and their four children. May their many wonderful memories of Howard provide them solace and comfort.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. WILLIAM "BILL" TUCKER

● Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Dr. William Tucker as he celebrates his 90th birthday. Bill is an entrepreneur and former government official and presently serves as president of Penn Century Corporation.

In 1951, Bill married the Honorable C. Delores Tucker, who later went on to become the first African-American woman to serve as Pennsylvania's Secretary of State. As a young man, Bill proudly served in the U.S. Army from 1951 to 1953. Shortly after, he attended Lincoln University where he graduated in 1960 with a bachelor of arts degree. In May 2011, he received an honorary doctorate in humane letters from Lincoln University.

Before retiring from government service in 1991, Bill served as a confidential assistant to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce during the Carter administration and later served as associate director of the U.S. Department of Commerce's Office of Business Liaison, working as an assistant to the secretary. Bill provided years of invaluable service to the Department and embodied what it means to be a public servant.

Bill went on to become vice chair of the Bethune DuBois Institute, and it was in this role that he founded the annual Children's Christmas Dinner Party for disadvantaged children, first held in Washington, DC. In 2004, through the Philadelphia Martin Luther King, Jr. Association for Non-violence, Inc., he orchestrated the first Annual Children's Christmas Dinner Party for underserved children from the Philadelphia and surrounding areas at the Wyndham Franklin Plaza Hotel, which serviced over 3,800 children that year.

As a committed community activist, Bill has dedicated his life to defending others. He has served as president of the Associated Real Estate Brokers of Philadelphia and a board member of the National Negro Business League, the Urban League of Philadelphia, the Philadelphia Chapter NAACP, and many others. His commitment to helping shape his community has been an inspiration to us all.

Bill set the prime example of leadership and courage during his life. His activism and many years of community and public service are significant to many who have been touched by his work. I wish Bill a happy 90th birthday and express my gratitude for all the work he has done.●

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RBC HERITAGE PRESENTED BY BOEING GOLF TOURNAMENT

● Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, each year Hilton Head Island in South Carolina is proud to host the RBC Heritage Presented by Boeing Golf Tournament at the Harbour Town Golf Links at the Sea Pines Resort. With Harbour Town's

red and white striped lighthouse as a backdrop, a world-class golf tournament is held annually the week after the Masters. Our tournament champions have included a notable number of Hall of Fame golfers: Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, Nick Faldo, Hale Irwin, Bernhard Langer, Johnny Miller, Greg Norman, Nick Price, Tom Watson, and Payne Stewart.

More than 1,200 volunteers staff the tournament during the week. Their work is felt and seen by the more than a hundred thousand people who attend the tournament every year and the millions more who watch the tournament broadcast in 226 countries. Last year, the tournament infused over \$96 million into the State of South Carolina's economy.

Even more notable than the golf is the impact the Heritage Classic Foundation has on the local communities in South Carolina and Georgia. Since 1987, \$38 million has been distributed to those in need in these two States. Since 1993, 322 high school seniors have received more than \$4.1 million for 4-year college scholarships. This fall, 34 Beaufort County collegians will receive foundation grants at an expenditure of \$159,000.

Last year, the foundation helped facilitate more than \$2.9 million in donations. The Heritage Champions Fore Charity has produced more than \$7.2 million for participating nonprofit groups. Last year, the Birdies for Charity program distributed \$216,000 in pledge donations, bringing the total to \$5.7 million since it was created in 2000. The nonprofit groups that staff the tournament concession stands made \$247,706 for their charities in 2017.

On behalf of all South Carolinians, I want to express my deep appreciation and congratulations to the RBC Heritage Presented by Boeing Golf Tournament on the occasion of its 50th anniversary and wish them another successful tournament this week.●

REMEMBERING SHANE QUILLING

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to memorialize Shane Quilling, Carson High School's physical education teacher and head football and softball coach who unexpectedly passed away at the age of 53.

Remembered as a compassionate teacher and coach, Mr. Quilling's loss will have a profound impact on Carson High School and the greater Carson community. As the Reno Gazette Journal recently noted, Coach Quilling's "main goal in life was to help make everybody a better person, to strive for their best, no matter what they did in life."

Born in Sidney, MT, Mr. Quilling attended Sidney High School, where he was a football, track, and basketball athlete. After graduating from high school, he studied at Montana State University-Bozeman on a football scholarship where he helped lead the