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Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Our Father, God, as we bow our heads in Your presence, may we also lift our hearts to the guidance of Your Divine Providence.

Remind our lawmakers that they will seek and find You when they have passionately pursued You. May Your Holy Spirit bring them new life and hope, making them equal to their experiences and responsibilities. Lord, lead them on the upward way to a higher plane of unity and peace as they strive to hold aloft Your banners of truth, justice, and love.

Lord, we will continue to rejoice in You, for You are the God of our salvation.

We pray in Your Holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

LETTERS OF RESIGNATION

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Chair lays before the Senate the letters of resignation from former Senator Thad Cochran of Mississippi and of CINDY HYDE-SMITH from the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce, which, without objection, are deemed read and spread upon the Journal and printed in full in the RECORD.

The letters follow:

U.S. SENATE,
Washington, DC, April 1, 2018.

Hon. PHIL BRYANT,
Governor, State of Mississippi,
Jackson, Mississippi.

DEAR GOVERNOR BRYANT: Serving as a Senator from Mississippi has been one of the great privileges and honors of my life. However, after much deliberation, I have decided I must leave the Senate before the end of my term.

I am, therefore, resigning my Senate seat effective 11:59 p.m. EST, April 1, 2018.

Respectfully,

THAD COCHRAN,
U.S. Senator.

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE,
CINDY HYDE-SMITH, COMMIS-
SIONER.

March 30, 2018.

Governor PHIL BRYANT,
Office of the Governor, Jackson, MS.

DEAR GOVERNOR: I hereby tender my resignation as Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce, effective 11:59pm, April 1st, 2018.

Sincerely,

CINDY HYDE-SMITH.

CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Chair lays before the Senate the certificate of appointment to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Thad Cochran of Mississippi. The certificate, the Chair is advised, is in the form suggested by the Senate.

If there be no objection, the reading of the certificate will be waived and it will be printed in full in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the certificate was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that, pursuant to the power vested in me by the Constitution of the United States and the laws of the State of Mississippi, I, Phil Bryant, the Governor of said State, do hereby appoint Cindy Hyde-Smith a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United

States until the vacancy therein caused by the resignation of William Thad Cochran, is filled by election as provided by law.

Witness: His excellency our Governor Phil Bryant, and our seal hereto affixed at Jackson, Mississippi this 2nd day of April, in the year of our Lord 2018.

By the Governor:

PHIL BRYANT,
Governor.

C. DELBERT HOSEMANN, JR.,
Secretary of State.

[State Seal Affixed]

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

The VICE PRESIDENT. If the Senator-designate will now present herself at the desk, the Chair will administer the oath of office.

The Senator-designate, Cindy Hyde-Smith, escorted by Mr. WICKER, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to her by the Vice President; and she subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations, Senator.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. YOUNG). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

REMEMBERING ZELL MILLER AND DANIEL AKAKA

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I would like to begin with a few words of tribute to two retired colleagues who passed away since we were last together.

On Friday, March 23, former Senator Zell Miller departed this life at the age

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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of 86. Those of us who served with Zell knew him as a kind and honorable man and a committed public servant.

He rose from a childhood without electricity and running water well into his school years to serve the State of Georgia as Governor and later as Senator. Zell Miller did so with grit and determination, never afraid to buck partisanship in favor of his principles.

Also, this past Thursday, Senator Daniel Akaka, our former colleague from Hawaii, passed away at the age of 93. He worked closely with Senator Inouye and others to advocate for his State. As the Senator himself once put it, he always preferred being a workhorse to a show horse.

The Senate offers our condolences to their families.

WELCOMING SENATOR HYDE-SMITH

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on an entirely different matter, we just welcomed a new colleague to this Chamber today. Senator CINDY HYDE-SMITH was sworn in. She became the 51st Senator and the first woman to represent Mississippi here in the Senate. Senator HYDE-SMITH brings experience as a State legislator and as the Mississippi commissioner of agriculture and commerce.

I know I speak for all Senators on both sides of the aisle in welcoming our new colleague. We look forward to working together and continuing this record of accomplishment for the American people.

NOMINATIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on another matter, this week the Senate will turn to one of its most important constitutional responsibilities, the personnel business. We have a number of nominees to consider in the next several days.

First is Claria Horn Boom, President Trump's pick to serve as a Federal district judge for both the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky. Through her work in both the public and private sectors, Ms. Boom has distinguished herself as a problem-solver, a trusted adviser to clients and her community.

Letters in support of her nomination share a theme: She has the skills and experiences to excel as a district judge. "High standards, ample preparation, and a fears intellect"; "unfailingly thoughtful, gracious, and diligent"—these are just some of the ways Ms. Boom is described by those she served and worked with in Kentucky. The Judiciary Committee came to the same conclusion, advancing her nomination on a voice vote.

Later today the full Senate will vote to advance this talented and non-controversial nominee, and then I hope we will be able to quickly confirm her.

Then, in the coming days, we will consider several more judges and im-

portant nominees for the Department of Labor, the EPA, and the National Labor Relations Board. These and many other positions remain vacant nearly a year and a half into the Trump administration.

Qualified nominees stand ready, but Senate Democrats are using the procedural playbook to obstruct and delay. In many cases, for example, they are insisting that the Senate exhaust postcloture time even on unobjectionable district court nominees who have gone on to overwhelming confirmation—for examples, Walter Counts, who was confirmed 96 to 0, or Karen Gren Scholer, who was confirmed 95 to 0.

I will have more to say on these partisan tactics in the coming days. For now, let me make one thing clear. The Senate's workweek will not end—will not end—until all of these amply qualified nominees are confirmed.

TAX REFORM

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, now on one final matter, there is just one more week until the deadline for Americans to file our 2017 tax returns. It is not exactly a national holiday, but this year there is a silver lining. This April is the last time Americans will file taxes under the old, outdated Tax Code that is on its way out, thanks to historic tax reform.

A year from now, families will be filing under a simpler and fairer tax code that lets them keep more of what they have earned and send less to the IRS. They will benefit from a doubled standard deduction, from major expansions in key provisions like the child tax credit, and, of course, from significantly lower tax rates.

All told, the average family of four earning a median income of around \$70,000 could see a tax cut of over \$2,000. But let's remember, the American people do not need to wait until next year to start seeing the fruits of once-in-a-generation tax reform.

Job creators are already implementing plans to hire, expand, and invest in their American workers. Millions of workers have already received word of a tax reform bonus, permanent raise, or other new benefits, such as paid family leave policies or expanded retirement assistance. That includes thousands of employees of Southwire, a wire manufacturer that employs hundreds of Kentuckians at its location in Hawesville. For hard-working men and women at Southwire, tax reform means bonuses and expanded educational opportunities.

The benefits of our new 21st century Tax Code are certainly no secret. As Americans put the finishing touches on their tax returns under the old, outdated system for the last time, there is good news to look forward to, and there is good news that is actually already here.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2629 AND H.R. 5247

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand there are two bills at the desk due for a second reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The leader is correct.

The clerk will read the bills by title for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2629) to improve postal operations, service, and transparency.

A bill (H.R. 5247) to authorize the use of eligible investigational drugs by eligible patients who have been diagnosed with a stage of a disease or condition in which there is reasonable likelihood that death will occur within a matter of months, or with another eligible illness, and for other purposes.

Mr. MCCONNELL. In order to place the bills on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to further proceedings en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bills will be placed on the calendar.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

WELCOMING SENATOR HYDE-SMITH

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, first, let me welcome back my fellow Senators after a productive State work period. Let me welcome our newest Senator, CINDY HYDE-SMITH, the junior Senator from Mississippi. She is the first woman to represent the State of Mississippi, and I welcome her warmly to this Chamber.

REMEMBERING DANNY AKAKA

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, over the past weeks, as we have been away, we have heard of the passing of two of our Senators: Zell Miller and Danny Akaka.

I would like to say a few words about Danny Akaka, who was a good friend of mine. In everything he did, he was a soldier, a teacher, and a statesman. He embodied the spirit of Hawaii. He was so sincere in his beliefs and such a kind and gentle man that Senators went out of their way to help him and, of course, he fought so hard for his State. He taught us so much in his modesty, in his persistence, and in his love of his constituents.

So for all he taught us, for his service and for his friendship, we say "mahalo" one final time.

CONGRATULATING SENATOR DUCKWORTH

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, it was TAMMY DUCKWORTH who first informed me of Senator Akaka's passing, and it shows God's rhythms of life, the passing of Danny Akaka, after a long service and wonderful life, and now we have

just learned of the birth of TAMMY DUCKWORTH's child. It is a milestone. TAMMY DUCKWORTH, a few hours ago, became the first Senator to give birth while in office. We are very glad to hear that she and her newborn daughter are happy and healthy.

COMMONSENSE VALUES

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, like all of my colleagues, I spent the past few weeks crisscrossing my State meeting with constituents. I am always struck by their commonsense values. Folks want to be able to afford quality healthcare. That is probably their greatest worry. They know healthcare is so vital to them and for families. They know costs keep going up. They are worried about premiums, especially after the Republican Congress has done so much to sabotage our healthcare system; talking about tearing down the healthcare system but never building it up in any way.

Folks also want a good job with decent benefits and higher wages, but they are not seeing much of that in the wake of the Republican tax bill. In fact, many of them are disappointed that they are not receiving more. They are seeing corporations buy back a lot of their stock, which boosts compensation for executives and shareholders, but they don't see that much of a bump in their paychecks. The bottom line is, they are asking: Why are the wealthy getting so much more money in the tax break than we are? I have heard that from one end of my State to the other.

Another problem: folks want to be able to send their kids to school and know they will be safe. I talked to one mom whose daughter just doesn't want to go to school after what happened in Parkland. She is afraid. She is 7 years old.

A few weeks ago, I marched with hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers in the March For Our Lives. Their energy and optimism and dedication give me hope that finally the time has come for Congress to take meaningful action on gun safety.

Another example where our Republican colleagues who run this Senate haven't done enough—not close to enough—is on the issue of gun safety. On these issues and more, the Republican majority has done very little. What they have done has been on behalf of entrenched special interests: tax cuts for corporations and the super-wealthy, gutting healthcare to pay for more tax cuts, and holding back on commonsense gun safety laws like universal gun safety checks because the NRA opposes it.

The American people are fed up with large, special, and powerful interests getting their way, while average folks get left behind. That is what I heard while traveling my State.

In November, the American people will have a chance to move this country in a dramatically different direction, away from the corporate special

interest-driven politics, away from the swamp—I will talk more about that later, but President Trump has made it worse, despite claims that he is making it better—and toward politics that work for the middle class and those struggling to get there. The enthusiasm among so many Americans—not just core Democrats but others—of going to the polls and making their voices heard because they want a change in direction in this country was heartening and strengthening to me. The Democratic Senate minority is working to get away from those special interest politics. That is what a Democratic majority will deliver if elected in November.

NOMINATION OF ANDREW WHEELER

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, this week the Senate will consider several nominations, including the nomination of Andrew Wheeler to be Deputy Administrator at the Environmental Protection Agency. Mr. Wheeler—not atypical of this administration, not atypical of the dense swamp that they have made a whole lot worse—is, what else, an industry lobbyist who has worked on behalf of big polluters and climate change deniers. He spent years working to undermine or lobby against environmental protections he may soon oversee. As a lobbyist, he helped raise money for a few Republican Senators who sit on the committee that recently approved his nomination. Swamp, President Trump? You are creating it; you are making it a lot worse.

Wheeler's nomination fits the pattern in the Trump administration of nominating industry lobbyists to lead agencies that are supposed to be a watchdog over those very industries. The nerve it takes for President Trump and his allies to preach "drain the swamp" after all the President has done to fill the swamp since coming to Washington. His Cabinet is filled with multimillionaires, hedge fund managers, corporate executives, and former lobbyists with sprawling conflicts of interest. Mr. Wheeler is only the latest in a long line of swamp nominees. I will be opposing his nomination.

EPA ADMINISTRATOR PRUITT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, the Wheeler nomination sheds even more light on the current storm surrounding EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt. If there was ever somebody who characterizes the swamp, it is Scott Pruitt, and all Americans should believe that, regardless of your views on the environment or whether wind or solar or natural gas or oil or coal is the right form of energy.

What Pruitt is doing is just incredible. In a relatively brief tenure at EPA, he has amassed an embarrassing list of scandals. He has ordered the construction of an expensive soundproof office at the EPA for reasons un-

known, when none of his predecessors, Democratic or Republican, saw any need for such a facility. He has typically flown coach when paying for travel out of his own pocket but elected to fly first class when the taxpayers foot the bill. After moving to Washington, Administrator Pruitt rented an apartment for a cutrate price from—guess who—an energy lobbyist and former campaign donor who represents multiple clients with businesses before the EPA during Pruitt's tenure.

The level of hypocrisy in this administration is staggering. President Trump says he is going to drain the swamp. Pruitt characterizes the swamp in just about all of his actions, and Trump sticks by him. If you want to drain the swamp, Mr. President, get rid of Mr. Pruitt.

Unfortunately, President Trump has stood by Pruitt, despite obvious abuses of the taxpayers' money and trust. Why? Well, he likes what he is doing to unwind critical environmental protections on behalf of powerful industries.

The bottom line is simple. President Trump is so beholden to the special interests that supported Administrator Pruitt and his extreme, anti-green, industry-driven agenda that he is willing to turn a blind eye to serious ethical problems. If Big Oil and Big Gas are happy with EPA Administrator Pruitt, so, it seems, is President Trump.

In supporting Administrator Pruitt, President Trump is lowering the bar of government ethics and accountability to the floor. What abuse of the American people's trust will President Trump not tolerate if Administrator Pruitt is allowed to continue in his position despite flagrant graft? How can the President, with a straight face, say he aims to drain the swamp when he allows a man like Pruitt to stay? How much will President Trump let the standards for ethical conduct in his administration deteriorate?

I say to President Trump: The corruption and incompetence of this administration has reached a fever pitch.

President Trump, if you truly mean to drain the swamp—and it doesn't seem that you do—you ought to fire Administrator Pruitt immediately. Accept his resignation. Let him leave, which alone will clean up Washington in a way that Pruitt has not cleaned up our environment.

CBO REPORT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, now, on the CBO report.

Today CBO came out with a report that revised its projections of the deficit, saying they have "increased markedly" since the Republican tax bill added about \$1.9 trillion to the deficit. By 2020, the annual deficit will surpass \$1 trillion.

It is a reminder of just how wrong the predictions were that the Republican tax bill would somehow pay for itself. It is also a reminder of how unconcerned the current Republican Party is about deficits.

When it comes to tax cuts for big corporations and the rich, deficits are no impediment, but now that these tax cuts are in place, I predict that deficits will once again morph into a dire problem, a scourge on the Nation, an excuse for Republicans to target Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security.

That has been the playbook since the Bush era: explode the deficit with tax cuts for the rich and powerful, then use the deficit they created as a reason to cut Social Security and Medicare.

Lo and behold, this week the majority in the House will vote on a balanced budget amendment—a way for Republicans to force cuts to Medicare and Medicaid and Social Security. It is hard to believe they can say it with a straight face, but we will hear Republican Members say this week that Washington needs to get its fiscal House in order, only a few months after they added \$1.5 trillion to the deficit by tax cuts that mainly benefited the wealthy and the powerful. It is the height of hypocrisy.

The American people deserve better than this patronizing Kabuki theater. They deserve a Congress squarely focused on helping the middle class, not the powerful, not the special interests, not those at the very top of the economic ladder. So far, this Republican Congress has shown it is not up to the job, and every day more and more Americans realize that.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. HIRONO. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. ERNST). Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Claria Horn Boom, of Kentucky, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to place a maile lei on the lectern during my remarks.

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

REMEMBERING DANIEL KAHIKINA AKAKA

Ms. HIRONO. Madam President, I rise today in remembrance of Senator Daniel Kahikina Akaka. Senator Akaka, who served in the Senate for 23 years and sat at this desk, passed away on Friday morning, with his wife of nearly 70 years, Millie, and his extended family at his side.

Since his passing, people across Hawaii have shared their memories of and tributes to Senator Akaka. Each of their stories has a common thread—Senator Akaka's dedication to living with "aloha." Senator Akaka embodied the "aloha" spirit. From meeting nearly every Hawaii family who came to his office for a Capitol tour to serving as a tireless advocate for veterans, the Native Hawaiian community, and Hawaii families, Senator Akaka's care, empathy, and compassion were evident to everyone who knew him.

When I was elected to the Senate, I requested Senator Akaka's desk to be my desk. I did this because it represented continuity as Senator Akaka's successor, and the desk is a symbol to me of his years of service and the "aloha" he had for this body and the people of Hawaii.

The last time I saw Senator Akaka was at last year's American Logistics Association Hawaii conference. This gathering brings together Hawaii businesses from across the State to market their products for sale to military commissaries. Over 20 years ago, Senator Akaka worked with small businesses and the military commissary network to create this conference because he understood how much receiving a commissary contract would mean to Hawaii's businesses, especially Hawaii's small businesses.

The conference started with one small table with a few products and grew to an entire ballroom full of local products and entrepreneurs. Last year, the conference was named for Senator Akaka.

That is who Senator Akaka was. He brought people together to solve problems and create opportunities. His legislative style wasn't flashy or over the top. He put his head down and got to work, and he built relationships with colleagues to get things done.

Senator Akaka's work on behalf of our Nation's veterans also reflected his persistent, effective style. After serving in World War II, Senator Akaka went to college under the GI bill and became an educator. As chairman of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, he was a strong advocate for expanding the GI bill for a new generation of veterans. He authored the post-9/11 GI bill, which was signed into law in 2011.

Senator Akaka also championed the cause of the Filipino veterans of World War II in Congress. These veterans fought for the United States but were denied the benefits and citizenship they were promised. Senator Akaka introduced legislation that would restore these veterans' benefits and, with his leadership, this bill passed the Senate.

Later he and Senator Inouye successfully included language in the 2009 stimulus bill that provided onetime payments for these Filipino veterans through the newly created Filipino Veterans Equity Compensation Fund.

Senator Akaka also introduced bipartisan legislation to allow these veterans to reunite with their children and families in the United States. While this bill did not pass, President Obama established through executive order the Filipino World War II Veterans Parole Program in 2016 to allow the children of these veterans to reunite with their parents in the United States. Some of these veterans have been waiting for decades to reunite with their children.

Although Senator Akaka had retired, his insistence on bipartisanship helped to build broad support for President Obama's decision to issue this Executive order.

Senator Akaka was also instrumental in building support to award the Filipino Veterans of World War II the Congressional Gold Medal that passed in 2016, after years of continued effort.

Senator Akaka was also a champion for America's Native people and served as chairman of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee. As the first Native Hawaiian to serve in the U.S. Senate, Senator Akaka fought to expand funding for Native Hawaiian healthcare, education, and housing programs.

In 1993, President Clinton signed into law Senator Akaka's apology resolution, which acknowledged the Federal Government's role in the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom in 1893. The resolution's unanimous passage marked the 100th anniversary of the overthrow and was a watershed moment for Native Hawaiians. It served as the first official admission by the United States of the role it played in the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom.

Senator Akaka later worked on the Hawaiian Home Lands Recovery Act. This law required the United States to make the Hawaiian homelands whole by ensuring a repayment of lost use of lands originally set aside by Congress but which were nevertheless transferred to or otherwise acquired by the Federal Government.

The apology resolution and the Lands Recovery Act provided the foundation for Senator Akaka's namesake legislation—the Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act, often referred to as the Akaka bill, to establish a process to secure Federal recognition for Native Hawaiians to achieve parity with the Alaska Natives and American Indians.

When I served in the House of Representatives, I introduced the House companion to the Akaka bill and testified about the importance of passing this legislation in both the U.S. House and the U.S. Senate. Senator Akaka reintroduced the Akaka bill for more than 10 years, but it did not pass before he retired.

A former longtime Akaka staff member reflected on the Senator's commitment to the Native Hawaiian community. She said:

Senator Akaka worked tirelessly to address the longstanding issues resulting from the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii. He felt strongly that there needed to be a process to bring all parties to the table because without such a process these issues remained festering sources of emotional pain that would stand in the way of Hawaii being able to move forward as a state and for Native Hawaiians to move forward as indigenous peoples.

Building on his work, in 2016, the Department of the Interior adopted rules creating a process that could reestablish a government-to-government relationship between the United States and Native Hawaiians. While the Native Hawaiian community has differences on the issue of Federal recognition, everyone can agree that Senator Akaka pushed for the passage of the Akaka bill because he wanted equity and justice for Native Hawaiian people.

Senator Akaka's advocacy for our country's Native people could best be summarized in his own words during his farewell address to the Senate, where he said:

The United States is a great country. One of the things that makes us so great is that though we have made mistakes, we change, we correct them, we right past wrongs. It is our responsibility as a nation to do right by America's native people, those who exercised sovereignty on lands that later became part of the United States. While we can never change the past, we have the power to change the future.

Many people also may not know that Senator Akaka was just as committed to protecting Hawaii's land and water resources as he was to improving the lives of Hawaii's people. In 1992, Senator Akaka successfully passed his Tropical Forest Recovery Act into law, which served as a basis for Federal conservation efforts that protect Hawaii's plants and forests.

As with so many of his initiatives, the Senator was much ahead of his time. This act provided a vision and blueprint for tomorrow's conservation ethic, one that stressed the integration of ecology, livelihoods, and culture; in short, an ethic that emphasized sacred relationship between people and place, community and sustainably managed resources.

Senator Akaka also leaves behind a demonstrated commitment to bipartisanship. He was widely known for his faithful attendance at the Senate Prayer Breakfast every week. Colleagues who attend that breakfast regularly asked me about how he and Millie were doing.

During his farewell speech, Senator Akaka said:

In Congress and in our nation, we are truly all together, in the same canoe. If we paddle together in unison, we can travel great distances. If the two sides of the canoe paddle in opposite directions, we will only go in circles.

Senator Akaka is deeply missed by all the people in Hawaii, and I dare say

he will be deeply missed by his colleagues in both the U.S. House and the Senate. The maile lei is here to signify his devotion and commitment to the people of Hawaii.

I yield the floor to my colleague Senator BRIAN SCHATZ.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

Mr. SCHATZ. Madam President, I thank Senator HIRONO for her poignant remarks, and I want to offer my condolences to the family.

Senator Daniel Kahikina Akaka died on Friday at the age of 93, leaving behind a legacy of integrity, kindness, and service to Hawaii and to the Nation.

In Washington, Senator Akaka was an ambassador of "aloha." He showed people kindness, respect, and hospitality rarely seen in this town. He didn't just represent Hawaii's interests in the Congress; he showed the world what Hawaii represents; in the words of President Kennedy, "all that we are and all that we hope to be."

He started that service as a welder in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He fought in World War II in the Pacific arena, traveling to places like Tinian and Saipan. When World War II ended, he took advantage of the GI bill to attend the University of Hawaii to become a teacher—an occupation he never fully left behind.

Senator Akaka served for 36 years in Congress—14 years in the House and 22 in the U.S. Senate. He was loved by colleagues in both parties because he was kind to everyone. In fact, he never said a bad word about anyone, not even in private. The foundation for his kindness came from his faith, which he learned from his mother Annie.

He was a faithful attendee of the weekly Senate Prayer Breakfast, where he would lead Members singing hymns. He always began with the history of each song—a tradition he passed on to our own Chaplain, Chaplain Black, who continues it today.

Danny Akaka was also very humble. There were times he didn't get credit for the work he did here because he didn't care about the credit. He cared about the work, about making a difference for people, especially those whom he represented.

He was deeply convinced that the government could improve people's lives because he had seen that in his own life as a beneficiary of the GI bill. He would become the Senator who modernized that bill, bringing it into the 21st century. He always fought hard for veterans—for their benefits and their recognition, no matter the color of their skin or their country of origin. When someone once challenged him on the cost of benefits for veterans, he answered by saying: "The price has already been paid, many times over, by the service of the brave men and women who wore our nation's uniform."

Senator Akaka never forgot the costs of war on our country, and he did ev-

erything he could to make sure his colleagues didn't either. He voted against the Iraq war and advocated for peace and nuclear nonproliferation throughout his career.

He was unrelenting when it came to the causes that were most important to him. As the only Native Hawaiian to ever serve in the U.S. Senate, he never stopped working to see Native Hawaiians recognized in a government-to-government relationship with the United States.

In his years on the Indian Affairs Committee, including as the chairman, he successfully sponsored the apology resolution, which recognized that the overthrow of the Queen—the only monarch in the United States—was illegal and facilitated by agents of our own Federal Government.

This was the theme of Senator Akaka's career—to advocate for people who did not have power and for people who were vulnerable. He was a champion for the Federal Government employees who, to this day, continue to be a punching bag for some. He sponsored the 2012 Whistleblower Protection Act, which ensures that Federal workers cannot be retaliated against if they report waste, fraud, and abuse. That was just one of the many things he did to make the Federal Government a better employer.

Senator Akaka also fought for consumers. He helped people who were trying to get out of credit card debt. He made sure investors had an advocate at the Securities and Exchange Commission, and he protected people who sent remittances around the world so they aren't swindled out of their hard-earned money.

Every morning he would begin his day by meeting visitors from Hawaii. Those connections to his constituents—to home—drove his work and kept him focused on helping Hawaii.

Much of his work was possible because of the bipartisanship relationships he built with other Senators. Some of his best friends in the body—Senators INHOFE, COCHRAN, and BARRASSO—were people with whom he did not agree very often. Every Member of this body—those who knew Senator Akaka and those who didn't—can learn from his legacy—a legacy of quiet leadership, of treating others the way you want to be treated, and focusing on the things that matter to the people we are here to represent.

I want to end with a few words from Chaplain Black. This is what he had to say about Senator Akaka:

There's something called ethical congruence—it refers to when your actions back up your rhetoric. And most of us struggle with that, because it's very easy to say something but much more difficult to live it. There's a verse in Scripture that says, we are living letters, so our lives should be something that people should be able to read. Francis of Assisi said: preach the gospel everywhere you go; when necessary, use words. Senator Akaka preached the gospel everywhere he went, and very rarely had to use words. That's the kind of ethical congruence that he had.

The U.S. Senate and our country would be better off if there were more leaders like Danny. He fought for the vulnerable, promoted peace, and looked for common ground. Most of all, he embodied the “aloha” spirit and showed us all what it means to have a pure heart and be a true public servant.

Our thoughts are with the family of Senator Akaka today, with Millie, his children, his grandchildren, his great-grandchildren, and his staff. He will be remembered and greatly missed.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MORAN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING ZELL MILLER

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, on the 23rd day of March, 2018, just a little over 2 weeks ago, Zell Bryan Miller of the State of Georgia—former Member of this body, former Governor of the State of Georgia, former State senator in the State of Georgia, former chairman of the Democratic Party in the State of Georgia—who contributed immensely to his State, passed away at his beloved home in Young Harris, GA, in Towns County.

I am here to pay tribute to Zell and his life and his contributions to our country, both for a purposeful reason, as far as a fellow Member, but also for a very personal reason for me, because he is an individual I met through politics, became one of my best friends through politics, and probably had more influence personally on my life than anybody else I know in public service.

As I said, Zell died in Young Harris, GA, the home of Young Harris College. Zell Miller was, first of all, a teacher and a writer. He wrote over 10 books. He taught. He was educated at the University of Georgia. He taught at Young Harris College. He always taught throughout his career. Even as Governor and Lieutenant Governor, he was an instructor and a teacher. He was professorial, but he was tough as nails. There was only one way to do it and that was the Zell way, he used to say, and he knew how to get it done.

He was for four terms the Lieutenant Governor of Georgia. He then ran for Governor in 1990. I happened to be his opponent in 1990, and I will get to that in just a minute. He won that election. It was pretty close. It has gotten a lot closer since then. Pretty soon, when I have grandchildren, I am going to tell them all I won. So far, that is not the case. But he won, and he was elected twice to be Governor of Georgia.

As Governor of Georgia, he embraced education as a major issue. As I said, he was a teacher and was all about teaching. He did something that no-

body had ever done and in numbers that were very impressive. He created what is known as the HOPE Scholarship, funded by the Georgia Lottery. A lot of lotteries have been passed and a lot of liquor referendums have been passed by promising people that the money was going to go to education, but it never really did. In Georgia, the way it was done is that it came out of the debates that he and I had in our race for Governor. We finally passed a constitutional amendment to allow legal gambling in Georgia and then passed the HOPE Scholarship, which was where the money went. We tied up all the money made from the lottery separately for three things: college scholarships for eligible Georgia students, 4-year-old voluntary prekindergarten for Georgia pre-Ks to the age of 4, and technology and innovation and wiring and infrastructure in our public schools.

The election was in 1990. He was elected in 1990 as the Governor of Georgia. He served two terms, but by the end of the decade, the lottery had passed. Since its passage, 1.8 million Georgia children have gotten their college education—1.8 million—and 1.6 million Georgia 4-year-olds have gone to prekindergarten voluntarily. Georgia’s public schools are wired. They are on the internet. We deliver content through distance learning. It is at the leading edge of technology in public education of any State in the country.

Now, politicians can take credit for a lot of things, but I don’t know of anybody who can take credit for 1.8 million college degrees, 1.4 million prekindergarten programs, wiring schools for the information technology of the 21st century, and doing it all based on a personal effort and commitment to see to it that the more we are educated, the better the State will be.

I said that Zell was an author. He was an author and a marine. He served in the Marine Corps from 1953 to 1956. He wrote a number of books about the Marine Corps. He wrote a number of articles about the Marine Corps. He wrote one book called “Corps Values.” The values he learned in the Marine Corps he used throughout his life in education, as Governor, as a father, and as a family man.

Zell’s wife is Shirley Miller. Shirley is a wonderful lady, and I got to be with her a little bit 2 weeks ago during the services. Zell and Shirley are Georgia’s forever first family, not just because they were Governor and first lady together and Lieutenant Governor and first lady together but also because Shirley was a partner with Zell. She wasn’t just his wife. Shirley worked tirelessly for Zell and for the State of Georgia, and to this day, she works tirelessly for our State. During Zell’s more difficult years—over the last few years having the difficulties he had healthwise—Shirley was there to be with Zell every single day.

Zell Miller came to the Congress of the United States in a very unique

way. Paul Coverdell, who had the seat that I hold today, died. Paul was a Republican. He was in his second term as a Republican. Roy Barnes was the Governor of Georgia, a Democrat, and when Paul Coverdell died, Roy Barnes called Zell up, who was then the immediate past Governor, and said: Zell, I need you to go to Washington and serve for me because the body is getting pretty close politically up there. We need to make sure a Democrat is in that place to replace Paul.

I wasn’t involved in the conversation because I was hoping they were going to call me up, which I will get to in a minute. They didn’t, but they did later. But they hadn’t done it at that time. Roy said to Paul: You just have to do it for me, Governor Miller. You have to make sure that Georgia stays Democratic.

Zell went on public television and said: I want to accept this appointment to the U.S. Senate to fill this seat, but I am going to vote like Paul Coverdell.

He knew how important Paul’s service had been in the State. He knew the conservative movement had taken the State and was moving in that direction. Zell was a man of conscience and principle who recognized the importance of the U.S. Senate seat, but, more importantly, he recognized the wishes of the voters. He told Roy Barnes, he told me, and he told everybody in the State: I am going to take it, but I will vote like Paul Coverdell.

When that 4 years was up of finishing that term of Paul Coverdell, Zell Miller decided not to run again. I was in the U.S. House at that time, and he ran a press conference here in Washington to say: I will not seek reelection. That was in 2003.

I got on the phone, called my wife, and said: I am going to go see Zell. If he is not going to run, I am going to run for that seat. That would be a good way to end my career and make a contribution to my State.

I called Zell, and I said: Governor, can I come to see you this weekend in Young Harris.

He said: Yes, come on.

So I got in my pickup truck, which is a good way to drive in North Georgia, where a pickup truck is a standard operating vehicle. It was kind of a snowflake morning in North Georgia and the North Georgia mountains in Young Harris. I sat down with Zell at the fireplace, with Woodrow and Gus, the two dogs, talking about politics. Finally, I got around to the subject of saying: Well, Zell, the reason I am here is that you announced that you are not going to run for reelection. I want to know if you have any issue with my running to replace you.

He said: Put your shoes on, son. You can win that seat. Let me know what I can do to help you.

I have never forgotten the encouragement, never forgotten what he said, and never forgotten the challenge I felt I had to thank the guy who had beaten me for Governor in 1990—to make a

statement like that when I was going to seek to replace him in the U.S. Senate 24 years later. It made a lot of difference to me in my life.

Zell was a unique individual, and there has never been one like him. He was a Democrat the day he was born, and he was a Democrat the day he died.

A lot of people remember he wrote a book, "A National Party No More," which made a lot of Democrats mad. He spoke at the Democratic National Convention and made a lot of Republicans mad, and then he spoke at the Republican National Convention—the only elected person in history to deliver the keynote address at both national conventions, Republican and Democratic—not in the same year but in the same decade.

Zell said what he thought, he thought what he said was right, and he delivered on everything he ever said, and if he ever was wrong, he apologized. In his latter years, he appointed many of his former opponents to offices of importance in our State.

For me, this is the first time I can publicly say thank you to Zell Miller. I know he is looking down, and I hope he is listening to what I am about to say.

When he beat me in 1990 and when I ran to replace Sam Nunn when Sam stepped down in 1996 and lost that seat as well, I thought I was through with public service. I had made my best effort and done as well as I could serving in the legislature but couldn't make it to that higher place.

After I had run for Sam Nunn's seat, about 2 months after the race was over, Zell called me up, in August 1996, and said: Johnny, I have a problem. I have a Republican State school superintendent and a Democratic legislature, and they are fighting like hell, and I can't solve the problem. But if I name you as school board chairman, then you can come over here and balance this out, get the politics out of it, and help to solve the problem.

Governor, I appreciate that, but I know what happens on a school board: You have 11 members on the board. I am chairman, and there are 10 other people who vote. You can't change 10 people's minds unless you know who those 10 people are.

He said: You tell me who else to appoint. I will fire the others and appoint the new people. Come over to the mansion.

So I went over to the mansion, and we sat there with his operator at the telephone desk and for 2 hours called people I knew I could trust and believed in to help me with public education. I asked them to serve with me on the State board of education, take it over, clean up the mess which had taken place and which Zell acknowledged thoroughly.

I accepted, he made the appointment, and over 2 years, we had a remarkable time period. In large measure because I thought my political career was over, I didn't think about what I was doing as much politically as I thought prac-

tically for kids. Zell wanted very much to see public education as the apex of his career, and so he wanted to make sure in that second term, it was. I accepted. He worked hard. We joined together, and we—to this day—had a great period of time for public education in our State in terms of improvement, cashing in on the HOPE scholarship, and doing all the things that we did later on.

I could go on and on, but I will just say this: I have worked with a lot of people, and I have known a lot of people. I have never known a better one than Zell Miller. I have never known anyone more true to their word, more solid to be counted on, who accepted their oath of office and every responsibility that went with it, who would say they were sorry when they needed to say they were sorry and would fight like hell when they needed to fight like hell and would never take no for an answer if they wanted you to do the right thing for the State of Georgia.

For me on this night in Washington, DC, having gone to the funeral of my dear friend Zell Miller, having shared with his family and many others who loved him as I have over the years during those 2 days in Atlanta, let me close by saying that one of Georgia's greatest citizens and probably our greatest Governor, Georgia's first family in perpetuity, Zell and Shirley Miller, will be missed greatly by our State and will be missed greatly by me. I thank God I had the opportunity to know Zell Bryan Miller and learn from him in the best way you can, and that is by working for him.

God bless you, Zell. Thank you for what you did on behalf of the people of Georgia. God bless you and the United States of America.

I suggest the absence of a quorum. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Claria Horn Boom, of Kentucky, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky.

Mitch McConnell, Jerry Moran, John Cornyn, John Hoeven, John Kennedy, Johnny Isakson, Chuck Grassley, Cory Gardner, James E. Risch, Thom Tillis, Pat Roberts, David Perdue, Mike Rounds, John Thune, Roy Blunt, Richard Burr, Tom Cotton.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. ERNST). By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Claria Horn Boom, of Kentucky, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LANKFORD). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 96, nays 2, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 64 Ex.]

YEAS—96

Alexander	Gardner	Murray
Baldwin	Gillibrand	Nelson
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Bennet	Grassley	Perdue
Blumenthal	Harris	Peters
Blunt	Hassan	Portman
Booker	Hatch	Reed
Boozman	Heinrich	Risch
Brown	Heitkamp	Roberts
Burr	Heller	Rounds
Cantwell	Hoeven	Rubio
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Cardin	Inhofe	Schatz
Carper	Isakson	Schumer
Casey	Johnson	Scott
Cassidy	Jones	Shaheen
Collins	Kaine	Shelby
Coons	Kennedy	Smith
Corker	King	Stabenow
Cornyn	Klobuchar	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	Lankford	Tester
Cotton	Leahy	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Tillis
Cruz	Manchin	Toomey
Daines	Markey	Udall
Donnelly	McCaskill	Van Hollen
Durbin	McConnell	Warner
Enzi	Menendez	Warren
Ernst	Merkley	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Moran	Wicker
Fischer	Murkowski	Wyden
Flake	Murphy	Young

NAYS—2

Hirono	Sanders
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NOT VOTING—2

Duckworth	McCain
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The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 96, the nays are 2.

The motion is agreed to.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at a time to be determined by the majority leader, in consultation with the Democratic leader, the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 376. I ask consent that there then be 10 hours of debate, equally divided in the usual form; that following the use or yielding back of time, the Senate vote on the nomination with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid

upon the table; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; that no further motions be in order; and that any statements relating to the nomination be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. ALEXANDER. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. UDALL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

MO UDALL AND JOHN MCCAIN

Mr. UDALL. Mr. President, last Wednesday, in Arizona, at the Grand Canyon, a number of us gathered to honor Mo Udall and JOHN MCCAIN and their friendship and partnership, which made America a lot better.

For months, JOHN was looking forward to this gathering. He mentioned it to me several times last year. He was very excited. You could kind of see the sparkle in his eyes, but he was unable to attend because of the battle he is fighting. Looking back, the friendship between Mo and JOHN was remarkable—how different they were but how well they got along.

In 1982, Arizona could not have elected two more different Members to the U.S. House of Representatives. Mo Udall was elected to a 12th term. A third-generation Arizonan, Mo was a tall, lanky, Lincolnesque, one-eyed Mormon who tried to cheat his way into serving in World War II; self-effacing and humorous, a liberal Democrat in a conservative State who championed the environment and Native Americans and one of the most powerful and respected Members of the House, who chaired the Interior Committee critical to Arizona's welfare.

And JOHN MCCAIN, an easterner and newcomer to Phoenix, having arrived only 2 years before running for Congress; a carpetbagger, some said; a stocky, handsome son and grandson of four-star Navy admirals who easily made his way into the U.S. Naval Academy, only to graduate 894 out of 899 in his class, due to his extreme rebelliousness. JOHN is a man self-described as a "freshman right-wing Nazi" when he entered Congress but as a naval officer who could have been freed from imprisonment as a POW in Vietnam, yet refused to leave his men behind and instead suffered unimaginable torture and pain for over 5 years.

Despite his novice as an Arizona politician, JOHN MCCAIN knew enough to beg to secure a place on the Interior Committee. At that point, Mo's decency and JOHN's courage met. While JOHN was new to Arizona politics and, by his own admission, could not tell a copper mine from a cotton field, he had promise, being elected president of his minority Republican class.

Mo graciously, and with no political gain in sight that Mo could see, took JOHN under his generous, broad wing. Mo taught JOHN the power of consensus and bipartisanship, and, in turn, John had the guts to buck his own party. Together, they forged a remarkable partnership.

Mo is marked by graciousness, humility, and humor; JOHN by bombast, independence, and courage. They were a perfect match. They sided together to protect the Grand Canyon. They sided together to protect Arizona wilderness. They sided together to improve the lives of our first Americans. They sided together to upend the campaign finance system, to try to make sure politicians are beholden to their constituents, not to special interests.

JOHN took these positions in sharp contrast to his party. After Mo retired from the House and JOHN had entered the Senate, JOHN continued to take fearless positions. He championed immigration reform. He supports curbing methane emissions.

Many Americans will never forget—and I was standing right about here when this happened—when, on July 28, 2017, JOHN MCCAIN stepped into the well of the Senate and gave an unexpected thumbs down to his party's desperate attempt to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

In 1982, Mo and JOHN appeared to be worlds apart—Arizona politicians representing liberal Tucson and conservative Phoenix, who would necessarily be at odds, yet they shared so much. Both stood by their principles, but both believed in working across the aisle to get things done for the American people. Both put country over personal ambition, fame, and fortune. Both were men of integrity, and both were courageous. All of us can learn from their duty to country over selves, their commitment to working for all Americans, and their dedication to working with the party across the aisle to reach consensus.

Morris King Udall and JOHN SIDNEY MCCAIN III were unlikely political allies and even more unlikely friends, but they were both, and both are true American heroes.

Heroism is not born of words and bravado and bragging; heroism is born of silent deeds that help others. Mo and JOHN accomplished much by deed. Both are true Arizonans, true Americans, and true heroes.

I am privileged to have known both men—to have grown up with Uncle Mo, to have campaigned with him, and to have shared his stories and stolen his jokes and to have served in the Senate and to serve with JOHN MCCAIN.

JOHN and I have worked together on many issues. We have traveled internationally. Our work together on the Senate Indian Affairs Committee has produced real results for Native Americans.

After this Grand Canyon event I described in some of the remarks up there, I went to visit JOHN at his ranch

in Sedona. He is working hard to recover and wants to return to the Senate. His spirits are good. He was returning calls and working on statements while we visited. He was planning ranch projects right in front of us that had to do with the cottonwoods that were out in front of us as we were looking out at his place. His wonderful wife Cindy, a strong and talented woman in her own right, was at his side and working to make sure things were shipshape at the ranch. What a unique and loving partnership.

JOHN, we wish you and Cindy the very best and look forward to your speedy return.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, notwithstanding rule XXII, I ask unanimous consent that at 12:10 p.m. on Tuesday, April 10, the Senate vote on confirmation of the Boom nomination and that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; further, that the cloture vote in relation to the Ring nomination occur at 2:15 p.m.

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

NOMINATIONS DISCHARGED

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Energy Committee be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following nominations: PN1637, PN1653, and PN1680.

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

The clerk will report the nominations en bloc.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nominations of James Reilly, of Colorado, to be Director of the United States Geological Survey; Theodore J. Garrish, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (International Affairs); and James Edward Campos, of Nevada, to be Director of the Office of Minority Economic Impact, Department of Energy.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; that no further motions be in order; and that any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the RECORD.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Reilly, Garrish, and Campos nominations en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

ACSC CONGRESS WEEK

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I would call my colleagues' attention to the recent 229th anniversary of the first quorum of the U.S. Congress.

The House of Representatives achieved a quorum on April 1, 1789. Five days later, on April 6, the Senate marked that milestone.

Each year, the Association of Centers for the Study of Congress, ACSC, commemorates this anniversary by observing Congress Week during the first week of April. Commemorative events around the country encourage students to explore the work of the U.S. Congress and its constitutional role in our government and promote advanced scholarly research.

The ACSC was founded in 2003. It includes more than 40 organizations and institutions that help to preserve and make available the archival records of Members of Congress.

Each year, the annual meeting of the ACSC brings together Members of Congress who create the records, archivists who preserve the records, teachers who incorporate them into their lesson plans, and scholars who study them in order to advance our understanding of congressional history and the evolution of the political process. This year's annual meeting will be hosted by the Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics at the University of Kansas.

Thanks to the work of the ACSC and its member organizations, we have substantially improved the number and research value of congressional collections being preserved nationwide, producing an educational resource for legislative branch studies that rivals the presidential library system.

I am happy to report that the McConnell Center at the University of Louisville is one such member organization. Created in 1991, the McConnell Center nurtures "Kentucky's next generation of great leaders" with programs focused on service, leadership, and civic education. Last spring, at the annual meeting of the ACSC, I had the pleasure of participating in a fireside chat with the McConnell Center archivist,

Deborah Skaggs Speth. We discussed the importance of Members preserving their records, which shed important light on what we do on behalf of the American people, and how we do it.

In 2008, Congress unanimously passed H.Con.Res. 307. It recommended that Members' records be properly maintained, that each Member take all necessary measures to manage and preserve their records, that they arrange for the deposit or donation of their records with a research institution that is properly equipped to care for them, and that they make them available for educational purposes at an appropriate time.

Organizations like the McConnell Center and the Dole Institute, in collaboration with the ACSC, are diligently working to ensure the preservation of records for generations of students and scholars.

I encourage my colleagues to preserve the records of their service in a research institution, where they can contribute to this vital, necessary, and growing component of our Nation's documentary heritage.

REMEMBERING SERGEANT WILLIE SANDLIN

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to remember a man called Kentucky's greatest hero, who served our Nation in the First World War and later received our highest military recognition, the Medal of Honor. SGT Willie Sandlin, a native of Leslie County, KY, single-handedly attacked and disabled three German machinegun nests during the Battle of the Argonne Forest in 1918. With only a rifle, an automatic pistol, and four hand grenades, Sergeant Sandlin's heroism resulted in the death of 24 German soldiers and the capture of 200 more.

At that time, Sergeant Sandlin was under the command of General John J. "Blackjack" Pershing, the commander of the American Expeditionary Force, who personally recommended him for the Medal of Honor and presented the award to him in February of 1919.

In a recent edition of the Kentucky Humanities Magazine, Dr. James M. Gifford, the CEO and senior editor of the Jesse Stuart Foundation, published a profile on the life of Sergeant Sandlin. Dr. Gifford traced his journey, from his birth in Appalachian poverty, through his remarkable service in the Great War, to his campaign to improve literacy rates in Kentucky. Named for the renowned author and Kentucky Poet Laureate, the Jesse Stuart Foundation publishes important works from Appalachian authors to help the region's unique heritage flourish. I would like to thank Dr. Gifford for his study of this proud son of Kentucky.

I ask unanimous consent that a copy of Dr. Gifford's article on Sergeant Sandlin's life be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Kentucky Humanities Magazine, Fall 2017]

SERGEANT SANDLIN: MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT

(By James M. Gifford)

In 1917, after several years of provocation, America declared war on Germany. By November of the following year, the United States had sent two million men overseas.

In the bloody fighting that took place in the Meuse-Argonne Forest in the fall of 1918, thousands of Americans distinguished themselves, including two young men from central Appalachia who received the Medal of Honor. On September 26, 1918, Sergeant Willie Sandlin, acting alone, attacked and disabled three German machine gun nests. During his heroic assaults, Sandlin killed 24 German soldiers and assisted in the capture of 200 more. Less than two weeks later, Corporal Alvin York led an attack on a German machine gun nest, taking 35 machine guns, killing at least 25 enemy soldiers, and capturing 132. Sandlin was from Hyden in Leslie County, Kentucky, and York was from Pall Mall, Tennessee, a community just across the Kentucky line. Although York and Sandlin shared the same military distinctions and emerged from similar Appalachian communities, their lives after World War I were remarkably different. York acquired money and fame and became a national icon and an international celebrity. Sandlin lived in modest circumstances, ill-health, and purposeful obscurity until he died of war-inflicted gas poisoning at age 59.

If war is a rich man's war and a poor man's fight, then Willie Sandlin represented millions of poor men who became soldiers during World War I. Born into Appalachian poverty, on January 1, 1890 on Long's Creek in Breathitt County, Kentucky, Sandlin's parents were John "Dirty Face" Sandlin (born March 17, 1867) and Lucinda Abner Sandlin (born December 1870). John and Lucinda had five sons: Willie, Charlie, John, Elihue (Sonny), and Mathew (Mathy). When Willie was a boy, his father was imprisoned for murder, and Willie's mother and father divorced in 1900. Lucinda, who was half Native American, died in childbirth in 1900, so Willie and his motherless siblings were divided among relatives, as was the custom of the day. Willie and his brothers Charles and John were raised by his father's relatives in Leslie County.

Sandlin enlisted in the Army on April 16, 1913, and served under John J. Pershing on the Mexican border. He re-enlisted in 1917 and was soon on his way to Europe as part of the American Expeditionary Force. Sandlin arrived on France's bloody Western Front in time to take part in the Battle of the Argonne Forest, the massive Allied offensive that finally defeated Kaiser Wilhelm's war-weary German army. The Meuse-Argonne Offensive, also known as the Battle of the Argonne Forest, was a major part of the final Allied offensive of World War I that stretched along the entire Western Front. It was fought from September 26, 1918, until the Armistice of November 11, 1918, a total of 47 days. The Meuse-Argonne Offensive was the largest in United States military history, involving 1.2 million American soldiers.

Sandlin and his men were in several battles during the summer of 1918. Then at Bois de Forges, France, on September 26, 1918, Sandlin emerged as one of the greatest heroes of World War I. He was in charge of a platoon of 59 men when the day began. Following an all-night artillery barrage, Sandlin's platoon was ordered to advance that day toward a specific, important military objective. The line had been fighting for hours, advancing slowly, when the doughboys were stopped by withering fire from

carefully placed machine gun nests, two guns to each nest. At 7 a.m., orders were given to "halt and lie down." While others were trying to stay below the hail of deadly gunfire, Willie Sandlin had a rendezvous with destiny that changed his life forever. Sandlin observed a narrow lane between the firing line of the two guns. Arming himself with four hand grenades, an automatic pistol, and a rifle, he charged the nests alone. Advancing within 75 yards of the guns, he threw his first grenade, which fell short and exploded without effect. He raced forward while the enemy emptied two automatic revolvers at him. When he was less than 50 yards away from the intense machine gun fire, he threw his second grenade, which struck the nest. He then threw two more grenades, charged the nest, and killed three more German soldiers with his bayonet, making a total of eight enemy combatants that he killed there.

Sandlin's platoon advanced and he again took command of his men. The Americans moved forward and flanked another machine gun nest and Sandlin dispatched it in the same way, utilizing grenades. When his grenades were spent, four men still defended the nest. Sandlin had killed them all with his bayonet by the time his platoon arrived. The line continued to advance and at 2 p.m. Sandlin destroyed a third German machine gun nest and its occupants in similar fashion. His heroic assaults resulted in the death of 24 German soldiers and the capture of 200 more German soldiers. Sandlin's commander, General John J. "Blackjack" Pershing, praised him for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty" and recommended him for the Medal of Honor, detailing his heroic actions and praising the 28-year-old Sandlin's "splendid example of bravery and coolness to his men." Pershing personally presented the Medal of Honor to Sandlin in February of 1919 at Chaumont, the general headquarters of the AEF. Pershing would later describe Sandlin as the outstanding regular army soldier of World War I.

When the war ended, Sandlin returned home to Leslie County for six months. In December, 1919, because of his exemplary military record, he was appointed special escort for the bodies of soldiers who had died overseas. Sandlin left for France in January 1920. Later that year, Sandlin returned home and married the former Belvia Roberts, a woman he began courting at a box dinner social after he first returned from Europe. Their happy marriage produced one son and four daughters who reached adulthood: Vorres, born in 1921, followed by Leona, Nancy Ruth, Florence, and Robert E. Lee Sandlin. Cora and Rose died of childhood diseases before their fourth birthdays.

Like his more famous counterpart, Tennessee's Alvin York, Sandlin returned home with a heightened commitment to education and community service. In the years following WWI, eastern Kentuckians were working to improve the quality of life in their mountain homeland. Two of the region's greatest leaders were Mary Breckinridge, founder of the Frontier Nursing Service at Hyden in 1925, and Cora Wilson Stewart, founder of the "Moonlight School" program to promote literacy. Newspapers reported that Willie Sandlin, "Kentucky's greatest hero" had joined the crusade "to help stamp out illiteracy in Kentucky." Sandlin toured the state with Stewart and spoke in hundreds of towns and villages. He was so devoted to Mrs. Stewart and her campaign that he and Belvia named their second child after her—Cora Wilson Stewart Sandlin.

Willie Sandlin never presented himself as a celebrity. He was too modest to seek public adoration and too shy to enjoy the attention

of the media, but he did, on several occasions, attend local and national meetings where he was recognized as a Medal of Honor recipient. Throughout the 1920s, Sandlin continued to attend Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) meetings in the hope that the VFW could help him receive additional benefits as a wounded, injured, and disabled veteran.

Like many wounded veterans, Sandlin wasted no time in pursuing benefits. In 1921, government physicians at a Veterans Center in Richmond, Kentucky, examined Sandlin and reported that he was "suffering a serious lung infection as a result of gas inhaled" in the Battle of the Argonne Forest. To make a claim for increased compensation, in 1925 Sandlin appeared before the United States Veterans' Bureau in Lexington. Sandlin was only receiving \$10 a month compensation for being a Medal of Honor recipient, a reduction from the \$40 a month he was receiving when he was "invalided home." In 1928, at age 38, Sandlin should have been in his physical prime when he moved back to a house on his father-in-law's property. Instead, according to some newspaper accounts, he was very ill. Sandlin "coughed and wheezed a great deal," especially in the winter. By 1928, Sandlin had spent time in hospitals in Chillicothe and Cincinnati, Ohio, and "other places." An old army buddy encouraged Willie to move to Colorado because he thought "the dry air and high altitude" would help him. But Willie would not leave his eastern Kentucky homeland, and he didn't have enough money to travel if he had wanted to. "I'm not one-third the man I used to be before the war," he observed without complaint. "If I take 25 steps up the hill, I'm done for. My wind's gone." In 1928, Indiana Senator Arthur R. Robinson and others presented a bill to Congress which "would enlist and retire as a captain Willie Sandlin, Kentucky hero of the world war, who is now destitute." The whole unproductive process of seeking the benefits he deserved became exhausting and demoralizing to Willie Sandlin, yet he had no choice but to continue.

Aware of Sandlin's financial difficulties, Senator Hiram Brock, who represented Leslie County in the state legislature, continued his efforts to get funds from the state government to purchase a farm for Sandlin. Senator Brock's efforts had been inspired by the American Legion's efforts to raise money to provide a home for Sandlin and his family so they could "live with the common comfort of life." During the 1920s, the VFW had established a "Hero Fund" and called upon "all patriotic citizens, along with members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars" and "others throughout the country to mail in their contributions to the VFW, McClelland Building, Lexington, Kentucky." VFW leaders said there would have been no need to raise funds to buy a home for the Sandlins if Willie had been willing to "sell his birthright for a mess of pottage." According to VFW leaders, a "celebrated moving picture concern" had offered Willie \$500 a week to re-enact his heroic deeds, but "Sandlin refused to capitalize on his war records" and turned down "other offers to profit from his patriotism."

Life after the war was just one medical examination after another for Willie. He was examined at Cincinnati in 1928 and given a 69 percent disability rating, which would have entitled him to a fair compensation. But the Louisville Veterans' Bureau, which had jurisdiction over Sandlin, appealed that rating to the Bureau of Appeals at Chicago and the bureau then placed the case before the Veterans' Bureau in Washington. Bureaucracies do not always yield justice, and technicalities blocked compensation for him, making a special action by Congress necessary. Despite his continuing efforts, Sandlin, who had been wounded twice and gassed twice,

never received any disability compensation from the Veterans Bureau, and he never received a penny of the money that was donated by private citizens to purchase a farm for him and his family.

By the beginning of the Great Depression, Willie Sandlin realized that he would probably not receive any money from the Veterans Administration Bureau to compensate him for his warsustained injuries. So the Sandlins did what tens of thousands of Appalachian families did: "they hunkered down" and "did the best they could with what they had." They became subsistence farmers. Drawing on practices that were more than a century old, subsistence farmers, like the Sandlins, produced almost everything they needed from their farms and nearby fields and forests. They raised cows, hogs, and chickens for meat, which was supplemented by food from vegetable gardens and orchards. During the Depression, Willie and Belvia both worked extremely hard to make a good life and a good home for their children. During those years, Willie also worked as a supervisor on a WPA road project.

Although Sandlin's health continued to worsen, he still had a large family to support. So, in 1941, for the first time in his life, Willie sought political office and ran unsuccessfully as an Independent for Leslie County jailer.

In December 1941, a journalist called on the Sandlins at their home. Willie, Belvia, and their guest sat comfortably in "a long living room" and talked about "a number of things," but soon the conversation turned to Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor and America's entrance into another world war. Willie refused to talk about his heroics in World War I, but he told his visitor that if his health were better and if "the navy would take [me, I would] join tomorrow." In the early spring of 1942, the old warrior, who was 52 years old and in very bad health, went to Hyden and registered for the draft.

Early in May 1949, Willie's breathing problems grew much worse. Belvia took him to the hospital in Hyden; two days later he was transported by ambulance to the Veteran's Hospital in Louisville. Belvia went with him and stayed in the hospital room for the next three weeks, along with her daughters, Florence and Vorres. One of them was always in Willie's room.

In the early morning hours of May 29, Belvia and Vorres had gone to the lobby to rest while Florence remained in the room with her father, sitting next to Willie's bed and holding his hand. Doctors had advised Willie to move to Phoenix. They thought the climate and environment there might improve his health. He squeezed his daughter's hand and said, "We missed the train [to Phoenix]." And then he was dead. He went easy, with a smile and a sigh. He was originally buried in the Hurricane Cemetery in Hyden; however, in September 1990, Sandlin's widow had his remains re-interred in the Zachary Taylor National Cemetery in Louisville. When Belvia died in 1999, at age 98, she was buried next to her husband.

Now he belongs to the ages. He had been raised in poverty and had grown into a quiet, resolute man of courage and honor. Willie Sandlin spent a lifetime accepting adversity and inequity and meeting life's challenges with a smile and a "can do" attitude. All he wanted from life was to serve his country, build a home, and enjoy his loving family, and he achieved his goals through hard work. Only death can stop men like Willie Sandlin.

REMEMBERING ROBERT MADON

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, today I would like to join the citizens

of Pineville, KY, in remembering the life of Mayor Robert Madon. Bob, who led his community for nearly two decades, passed away earlier this year at the age of 83. Throughout his life of accomplishment for his hometown, Bob earned the affection of his neighbors and the gratitude of the people he served so well.

Graduating from Pineville High School, Bob attended the Millersburg Military Institute before joining the U.S. Air Force to serve in Korea. Bob returned to Bell County after his military service and, like so many of his fellow veterans, was active in his local American Legion post and other civic organizations.

One of the oldest traditions in southeastern Kentucky is the Mountain Laurel Festival. Named after the mountain laurel flower that commonly grows in Appalachia, the annual festival celebrates the region's heritage through concerts, carnivals, craft and talent shows, a parade, and a beauty pageant. This May, Pine Mountain State Park will host the 88th annual festival. For many years, Bob was an integral part of the festival's success, as the general chairman in 1966 and serving on the advisory board from 1967 to 1972. The pinnacle of the festival's traditions is the selection of the Mountain Laurel Princess and the Mountain Laurel Queen. Young women from local high schools compete for the title of princess, and universities from throughout the Commonwealth send candidates seeking the queen's crown. Serving as its emcee, Bob was the voice of the festival and the contest for many years.

One of Bob's friends remembers his passion for the Mountain Laurel Festival. "He was everywhere making sure people were picking up debris from their yard, mowing the grass, painting the curbs, cleaning up the city." When Pineville was on display for visitors, Bob worked hard to help it shine. In 1995, the festival honored Bob by including him in its hall of fame. He would later also receive the festival's "Outstanding Service Award" and the "Lifetime Honorary Directors Award" as well-deserved recognition of Bob's unrelenting work to make the festival a success every year.

In 1968, at the request of the new governor, Louie Nunn, Bob decided to leave Bell County and begin a political career in Frankfort. As an administrative assistant to Governor Nunn in the first Republican administration in two decades, Bob served the people of the Commonwealth in State government.

After his time in Frankfort, Bob returned to his hometown to fill a vacancy on the Pineville City Council in 1971. Later, Bob was named a city judge and served in that capacity until his election as the mayor of Pineville in 1977. Beginning his first term as mayor only months after the devastating flood, Bob certainly had an overwhelming task ahead of him.

That April, the Cumberland River topped the floodwall and devastated

the community. During the crisis, Bob was integral to ensuring the safety of these Kentuckians. According to one of his friends, "Bobby made sure that everybody got up on the hill." Bob led the effort to rebuild, serving on the flood related projects committee, and as mayor helped bring millions of dollars to extend the floodwall to prevent future tragedies. Working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Bob oversaw the project. It was completed in 1988, the year after he left office.

After a period out of public office, Bob was elected as mayor again in 1994 and served until the end of 2002. He was again reelected for his final term in 2007 before leaving in 2008. During his time in office, Bob oversaw the construction of a new U.S. 25E bypass, which was later named in his honor.

While leading Pineville as its mayor, Bob also participated in the Kentucky League of Cities, KLC. This organization is dedicated to helping cities and their leaders accomplish their goals through trainings, advocacy, and policy research. For nearly three decades, Bob was a director of the KLC and served one term as its president.

Bob's passion for his community extended far beyond public service. He spent years of his life in many other pursuits speaking directly with the families of Pineville. During a professional career that included managing a number of radio stations and the Pineville-Sun Cumberland Courier, Bob was also the voice of the Pineville Mountain Lions. An avid sports lover, he later became a Kentucky High School Sports Association official in both boys and girls basketball games. Bob was also a faithful member of the First Baptist Church in Pineville, singing in the choir and working as the associate Sunday school superintendent.

Those who knew Bob—and that seemed to be just about everyone in Pineville—recalled that he was always talking about his hometown. For anyone who shared their concerns with him, Bob would do his best to fix them. His life was one of passion for his neighbors, and the whole Pineville community benefited from his work. His son Scott even followed in Bob's footsteps and serves as the current mayor of Pineville.

Bob's memorial service drew hundreds of people to pay their respect to the man who made such a significant impact on their lives. The people's outpouring of support was a fitting tribute to the man who lived his life for his neighbors. Elaine and I would like to extend our condolences to Bob's loving family, his friends, and the entire Pineville community.

TRIBUTE TO TED HAMPTON

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to congratulate Ted Hampton, of Knox County, KY, who was named the 2017 Man of the Year by the Knox County Chamber of Commerce during an event at Union

College's student center. For more than 50 years, Ted has served as the CEO of Cumberland Valley Rural Electric Cooperative. At his hiring, Ted was one of the youngest distribution managers in the country. Now, he has the distinction of being the second longest serving in the country.

Throughout his tenure leading the organization, Ted has overseen the building of a new headquarters, a branch office, and the hiring of hundreds of employees. One of his colleagues spoke highly of Ted's service, saying his greatest accomplishment has been keeping his employees as safe as possible.

At the awards ceremony, Ted was joined by his wife, Margie, and their 8-year-old granddaughter Tori. During his remarks to accept the award, Ted warmly acknowledged all of his co-workers for their work to serve the area. I would like to join the Knox Country community on congratulating Ted on this award, and I urge my colleagues to join me.

BUDGETARY REVISIONS

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, on March 22, 2018, I filed adjustments to enforceable budgetary levels to accommodate spending in H.R. 1625, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018, P.L. 115-141. Included in the spending that qualified for cap adjustments was program integrity funding that is classified as off-budget. The previous adjustment correctly increased the allocation to the Appropriations Committee to accommodate this spending but also increased the spending aggregate for fiscal year 2018. Under the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the spending aggregate should only reflect on-budget amounts. As such, I am reducing the spending aggregate by \$295 million in budget authority and \$257 million in outlays.

I ask unanimous consent that the accompanying table be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

REVISION TO BUDGETARY AGGREGATES	
(Pursuant to Sections 311 and 314(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974)	
	\$s in millions 2018
Current Spending Aggregates:	
Budget Authority	3,400,136
Outlays	3,221,606
Adjustments:	
Budget Authority	-295
Outlays	-257
Revised Spending Aggregates:	
Budget Authority	3,399,841
Outlays	3,221,349

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30

calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. BOB CORKER,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 16-48, concerning the Department of the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$1.31 billion. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

CHARLES W. HOOPER,
Lieutenant General, USA, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 16-48

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$0.15 billion.

Other \$1.16 billion.

TOTAL \$1.31 billion.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

One hundred and eighty (180) 155mm M109A5/A6 Medium Self-Propelled Howitzer structures for conversion to one hundred and seventy-seven (177) 155mm M109A6 Paladin Medium Self-Propelled Howitzer systems.

Three (3) Fire Support Combined Arms Tactical Trainers (FSCATT) static training devices.

One hundred and eighty (180) M2 HB .50 Cal Machine Guns.

Eight (8) Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data Systems (AFATDS).

Non-MDE: Also included are M109A5/A6 overhaul, conversion and refurbishment services; Special Tools and Test Equipment; Basic Issue Items (BII); Driver's Vision Enhancer (DVE) Wide system; Program Management Support; Verification Testing; System Technical Support; Transportation; spare and repair parts; communications equipment; personnel training and training equipment; tool and test equipment; repair and return; publications and technical documentation; Quality Assurance Team (QAT); U.S. Government and contractor engineering; technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (VTG).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: SR-B-VFM and SR-B-VAZ.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Annex attached.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 5, 2018.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia—155mm M109A6 Paladin Medium Self-Propelled Howitzer System

The Government of Saudi Arabia has requested a possible sale of one hundred and eighty (180) 155mm M109A5/A6 Medium Self-Propelled Howitzer structures for conversion to one hundred and seventy-seven (177) 155mm M109A6 Paladin Medium Self-Propelled Howitzer systems; three (3) Fire Support Combined Arms Tactical Trainers (FSCATT) static training devices; one hundred and eighty (180) M2 HB .50 Cal Machine Guns; and eight (8) Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data Systems (AFATDS). Also included are M109A5/A6 overhaul, conversion and refurbishment services; Special Tools and Test Equipment; Basic Issue Items (BII); Driver's Vision Enhancer (DVE) Wide system; Program Management Support; Verification Testing; System Technical Support; Transportation; spare and repair parts; communications equipment; personnel training and training equipment; tool and test equipment; repair and return; publications and technical documentation; Quality Assurance Team (QAT); U.S. Government and contractor engineering; technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated cost is \$1.31 billion.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of an important partner which has been and continues to be a leading contributor of political stability and economic progress in the Middle East. This sale will increase the Royal Saudi Land Force's (RSLF) interoperability with U.S. forces and conveys U.S. commitment to Saudi Arabia's security and armed forces modernization.

The proposed sale will improve Saudi Arabia's capability to meet current and future threats and provide greater security for its border regions and critical infrastructure. The RSLF currently has M109A2, A3 and A5 howitzers in its inventory. These additional modernized howitzers will enhance Saudi Arabia's ability to support its deployed forces and defend its borders. Saudi Arabia will have no difficulty absorbing these vehicles into its armed forces.

The prime contractor for this requirement is unknown at this time. There are no known offset agreements in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. or contractor representatives to Saudi Arabia. Support teams will travel to the country on a temporary basis.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 16-48

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. This sale will involve the release of sensitive technology to Saudi Arabia. The RSLF seeks to purchase the 155mm M109A6 Paladin

Medium Self-Propelled Howitzer system. The Paladin M109A6 howitzer is the fourth product improvement to the original M109 self-propelled howitzer. It features improvements in the areas of survivability, reliability, availability, maintainability, responsiveness, and terminal effects. The M109A6 is an armored, full tracked howitzer carrying 37 complete conventional rounds and two Copperhead projectiles and operated by a crew of four. It is designed with a new turret structure that facilitates integration of the various turret improvements and vulnerability reduction measures. It improves overall crew compartment layout and space. The howitzer can travel at a maximum speed of 38 miles per hour and has a maximum cruising range of 186 miles. The M109A6 can operate independently, from on the move, it can receive a fire mission, compute firing data, select and take up its firing position, automatically unlock and point its cannon, fire and move—all without external technical assistance. Firing the first round following a move in under 60 seconds, a "shoot and scoot" capability protects the crew from counterbattery fire. The M109A6 is capable of firing up to four rounds per minute to ranges of 30 kilometers. The M109A6 features increased survivability characteristics such as day/night operability and Nuclear, Biological, Chemical (NBC) protection with climate control and secure voice and digital communications. The crew remains in the vehicle throughout the mission.

2. The Electronic Fire Control System (EFCS). Commonly referred to as the Paladin Fire Control System (PFCS), it is the major change for the Paladin M109A6 Howitzer from the manual fire control system used on the M109A5. The integrated electronic digital Fire Control System includes an Embedded Trainer. It gives the howitzer the ability to operate over a widely dispersed area and to move and emplace using the on-board fire control system (Dynamic Reference Unit Hybrid Replacement Inertial Navigation System) and a plug-in AN/PCN-13A Defense Advanced Global Positioning System Receiver with a Selective Availability Anti-spoofing Module (SAASM). The M109A6 can move and position within an assigned position area, process technical firing data, and fire a mission without relying on aiming circles and wire lines. The M109A6 can change position more frequently, an advantage against enemy fire.

3. The Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System (AFATDS) provides the multi-service automated Fire Support Command, Control and Communications portion of the Army Battle Command System (ABCS). AFATDS enables the maneuver commander to plan and execute attacks on the right target, at the right time, with the right weapons system, and the right munitions. It provides for maximum utilization of the fire support assets available on an expanding battlefield. It supports the close, deep, and rear battle fire support requirements of land and littoral doctrine. AFATDS is designed for full interoperability with the other ABCS Battlefield Functional Areas as well as with the Fire Support capabilities of the Navy's Joint Maritime Command Information System (JMCIS) and the Air Force's Theater Battle Management Core System (TBMCS).

4. The Driver's Vision Enhancer Wide (DVE Wide) improves survivability and mission capability by providing drivers with wider fields of view as well as the elimination of blind spots to safely navigate through dust, sand, haze, smoke, light fog and the blackest night. The front facing DVE Wide integrates three state-of-the-art 640 × 480, 17 μm uncooled infrared sensors, which output a stitched video of a 107 × 30 field of view (POV). The DVE Wide can receive, manage

and display video from multiple external cameras on the vehicle. The driver can electronically pan through the 107° total horizontal field of view allowing the driver the ability to see both sides of the road. The vehicle wheel track indicators aid the driver in clearly identifying any potential impediments to safe operation. The DVE Wide is fully backwards compatible with all fielded DVE units, which means that any vehicle currently equipped with a DVE system can be readily upgraded. It is also forward compatible with new, high resolution, touch-screen displays. The DVE Wide is an UNCLASSIFIED system.

5. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements of the M109A6, the information could be used to develop countermeasures or equivalent systems which might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

6. A determination has been made that Saudi Arabia can provide the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

7. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. BOB CORKER,
*Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 18-04, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of the United Kingdom for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$500 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely

CHARLES W. HOOOPER,
Lieutenant General, USA, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 18-04

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: United Kingdom.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$ 0 million.
Other \$500 million.
Total \$500 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Non-MDE: Defense articles and services for continued follow-on support to the MQ-9 Reaper program including: contractor logistics support, manpower and base support, publication and technical documentation, depot and organizational level maintenance and equipment, minor modifications and upgrades, software support, spare and repair/return parts, program studies, U.S. Government and contractor engineering and technical support, and other related elements of program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (UK-D-QDL).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any:
UK-D-SMI-\$375m—23 Feb 2007;
UK-D-SMJ-\$69m—11 Oct 2007;

UK-D-YAC-\$20m—1 May 2008;
UK-D-GAA-\$122k—19 Nov 2008;
UK-D-YAF-\$24m—3 Mar 2011;
UK-D-SMK-\$70m—17 Nov 2011;
UK-D-QBH-\$20m—6 Aug 2013;
UK-D-GAY-\$106m—10 Dec 2014;
UK-D-QBQ-\$103m—11 Dec 2015;
UK-D-YAY-\$134m—23 Aug 2016;
UK-D-QBR-\$5m—30 Mar 2017;
UK-D-VAC-\$5m—22 Mar 2017;
UK-D-YAI-\$132m—8 May 2017

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 4, 2018.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

United Kingdom—MQ-9 Continuing Contractor Logistics Support

The Government of the United Kingdom has requested to buy defense articles and services for continued follow-on support to the MQ-9 Reaper program including: contractor logistics support, manpower and base support, publication and technical documentation, depot and organizational level maintenance and equipment, minor modifications and upgrades, software support, spare and repair/return parts, program studies, U.S. Government and contractor engineering and technical support, and other related elements of program support. The total estimated program cost is \$500 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security policies of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally which has been, and continues to be, an important partner on critical foreign policy and defense issues.

The proposed sale is required to maintain the operational readiness of the United Kingdom's MQ-9 Reaper program and enable the United Kingdom to continue to operate its fleet of MQ-9 Reapers in support of coalition operations. The United Kingdom will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractors will be General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. in San Diego, CA, and MAG Aerospace in Woodland, VA. At this time, there are no known offset agreements. Any offset agreements will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor(s).

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to the United Kingdom.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. BOB CORKER,
*Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 17-71, concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Germany for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$2.50 billion. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,
GREGORY M. KAUSNER,
(For Charles W. Hooper, Lieutenant General, USA, Director).

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-71

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Germany

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$.95 billion.
Other \$1.55 billion.
Total \$2.50 billion.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):
Four (4) MQ-4C Triton Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS).

One (1) Mission Control Station (MCS) comprised of one (1) Main Operating Base (MOB) (MD-3A) and one (1) Forward Operating Base (FOB) (MD-3B).

Ten (10) Kearfott Inertial Navigation System/Global Positioning System (INS/GPS) units (2 per aircraft plus 2 spares).

Ten (10) LN-251 INS/GPS units (2 per aircraft plus 2 spares).

Non-MDE: This proposed MQ-4C UAS sale will be a modified version of the USN Triton configuration. Also included is one Rolls Royce Engine (spare), communication equipment, support equipment, mission planning element to include Joint Mission Planning System (JMPS) Global Positioning System (GPS) items, Communications Security (COMSEC) equipment, mapping, training, support equipment, consumables, spare and repair parts, tools and test equipment, ground support equipment, flight test support, airworthiness support, personnel training and training devices, applicable software, hardware, publications and technical data, facilities and maintenance support, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics supports services, and other elements of unique engineering efforts required to support the integration, installation and functional platform compatibility testing of Germany's indigenous payload and other related elements of logistics and program support, and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (GY-P-SCK).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: GY-P-GPT.
(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 4, 2018.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Germany—MQ-4C Triton Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)

The Government of Germany has requested to buy four (4) MQ-4C Triton Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), one (1) Mission Control Station (MCS) comprised of one (1) Main Operating Base (MOB) (MD-3A) and one (1) Forward Operating Base (FOB) (MD-3B), ten (10) Kearfott Inertial Navigation System/Global Positioning System (INS/GPS), units (2 per aircraft plus 2 spares), and ten (10) LN-251 INS/GPS units (2 per aircraft plus 2 spares). This proposed MQ-4C UAS sale will be a modified version of the USN Triton configuration. Also included is one Rolls Royce Engine (spare), communication equipment, support equipment, mission planning element to include Joint Mission Planning System (JMPS) Global Positioning System (GPS) items, Communications Security (COMSEC) equipment, mapping, training, support equipment, consumables, spare and repair

parts, tools and test equipment, ground support equipment, flight test support, airworthiness support, personnel training and training devices, applicable software, hardware, publications and technical data, facilities and maintenance support, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics supports services, and other elements of unique engineering efforts required to support the integration, installation and functional platform compatibility testing of Germany's indigenous payload and other related elements of logistics and program support, and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total case value is \$2.50 billion.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally which has been, and continues to be, an important force for political and economic stability in Europe.

Germany is one of the major political and economic powers in Europe and NATO and a key partner of the United States in ensuring global peace and stability. The proposed sale of the MQ-4C Triton will support legitimate national security requirements and significantly enhance Germany's intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities and the overall collective security of the European Union and NATO.

The proposed sale of the MQ-4C Triton will close a crucial capability gap and will enhance bilateral and NATO interoperability and will help ensure that Germany is able to continue to monitor and deter regional threats. This proposed MQ-4C UAS sale will be a modified version of the United States Navy (USN) Triton configuration. The German Armed Forces will have no difficulty absorbing these systems into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractor will be Northrop Grumman Corporation Rancho Bernardo, CA, responsible for integration, installation and functional platform compatibility testing of the payload. Airbus Defence and Space, located in Germany, will be the prime contractor to Germany for the development and manufacturing, and will be responsible for the functional test, end-to-end test and installed performance. There are no known offset agreements in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of contractor representatives to Germany to perform contractor logistics support and to support establishment of required security infrastructure.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-71

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The MQ-4C Triton hardware and software procured for this potential sale are UNCLASSIFIED. The MQ-4C is optimized for long range and prolonged flight endurance. The MQ-4C Triton will be a forward deployed, land-based, autonomously operated system that provides a persistent maritime Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) capability to include data collection, analysis, and situational reporting. Aircraft system, sensor, and navigational status are provided continuously to the ground operators through a health and status downlink for mission monitoring. Navigation

is via inertial navigation with integrated global positioning system (GPS) updates. The vehicle is capable of operating from a standard paved runway. Real time missions are flown under the control of a pilot in a Mission Control Station (MCS). It is designed to carry a non-weapons maximum internal payload of 3,200 lbs, maximum external payload of 2,400 lbs, consisting primarily of sensors and avionics. The MQ-4C will include the Mission Control Station (MCS) which consists of the following components:

a. The Mission Control Station (MCS) is the MQ-4C Triton UAS ground control station required to operate the MQ-4C Triton UAS. The MOB MCS (MD-3A) provides MQ-4C Triton Aircraft Command & Control (C2). The MOB MCS consists of a primary and backup system, an embedded training capability, requisite data links, communication systems, antennas, computer work-stations and hardware/software for air vehicle, and tactical coordinator. The MOB MCS communications consists of both Line of Sight (LOS) and Beyond Line of Sight (BLOS) capabilities to control the Triton Unmanned Aircraft worldwide. The MOB technical data and documentation are UNCLASSIFIED.

b. The MQ-4C Triton UAS Forward Operating Base (FOB) (MD-3B) is used for aircraft launch and recovery and is physically located at the same location as the MQ-4C Triton aircraft. The FOB MCS is similar to the MOB MCS, but the FOB MCS does not process or control any payload information. The FOB MCS is manned by air vehicle operators only and used for line of sight Aircraft C2 while beyond line of sight control is used as a back-up communication line. The FOB MCS consists of requisite data links, communication systems, antennas, computer work-stations and hardware/software for air vehicle operator control. The FOB technical data and documentation are UNCLASSIFIED.

c. The MQ-4C employs a quad-redundant Inertial Navigation System/Global Positioning System (INS/GPS) configuration. The system utilizes two different INS/GPS systems for greater redundancy. The system consists of two LN-251 units and two Kearfott KN-4074E INS/GPS Units. The LN-251 is a fully integrated, non-dithered navigation system with an embedded Selective Availability/Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM), P(Y) code or Standard Positioning Service (SPS) GPS. It utilizes a Fiber-Optic Gyro (FOG) and includes three independent navigation solutions: blended INS/GPS, INS-only, and GPS-only. The Kearfott KN-4074E features a Monolithic Ring Laser Gyro (MRLG) and accelerometer. The inertial sensors are tightly coupled with an embedded SAASM P(Y) code GPS. Both systems employ cryptographic technology that can be classified up to SECRET.

2. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of specific hardware, the information could be used to develop countermeasures which might reduce weapons system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

3. A determination has been made that Germany can provide substantially the same degree of protection for sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sustainment program is necessary to the furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the policy justification.

4. All defense articles and services listed on this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of Germany.

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. BOB CORKER,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 17-72, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Australia for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$148 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

CHARLES W. HOOPER,
Lieutenant General, USA, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-72

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Australia

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$4.4 million.

Other \$143.6 million.

Total \$148.0 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Two thousand, five hundred four (2,504) rounds of M795 with Insensitive Munitions Explosive (IMX) 101 Explosive Fill 155mm HE Projectile.

Non-MDE includes: Also included are 155mm High Explosive, Illumination and White Phosphorous munitions, point detonating fuzes, electronic-timed fuzes, M231 and M232/M232A1 propelling charges, percussion primers, technical publications and books, technical data for operational maintenance, technical assistance and services, and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: AT-B-UCY and UEJ

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 4, 2018.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Australia—M795 with Insensitive Munitions Explosive (IMX) 101 Explosive Fill 155mm HE Projectile

The Government of Australia has requested to buy two thousand, five hundred four (2,504) rounds of M795 with Insensitive Munitions Explosive (IMX) 101 Explosive Fill 155mm High Explosive (HE) Projectile. Also included are 155mm High Explosive, Illumination and White Phosphorous munitions, point detonating fuzes, electronic-timed fuzes, M231 and M232/M232A1 propelling charges, percussion primers, technical publications and books, technical data for operational maintenance, technical assistance and services, and other related elements of logistics and program support. The total estimated program cost is \$148 million.

This proposed sale will enhance the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a strategic partner which has been, and continues to be an important force for political stability and economic progress in the East Asia and Pacific region.

The proposed sale of 155mm howitzer ammunition will improve Australia's capability to meet out-year Operational Readiness Training requirements. Australia will use this capability to strengthen its homeland defense and deter regional threats. Australia will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be determined at a later date. Material could potentially be sourced from a combination of stock and procurement. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Australia.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-72

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The M795 Insensitive Munitions Explosive (IMX) 101 Explosive Fill 155mm HE Projectile is UNCLASSIFIED. The M231/M232A1 Modular Artillery Charge System (MACS) consists of two propelling charges, the M231 and the M232/232A1, and associated packaging. The system is compatible with all current and planned 155mm field artillery weapons. MACS uses a "build-a-charge" concept in which increments are identical to all others in the same lot desiccation, retained for future use. The M231 is fired either singly (Charge 1-L) or in pairs (Charge-2L) to engage targets. The M232/M232A1 is fired in groups of 3 (Charge-3H) or groups of 4 (Charge-4H) or groups of 5 (Charge-5H) to engage targets. The highest classification level of the charge is UNCLASSIFIED.

2. Although the charges are UNCLASSIFIED, they have associated technology that is sensitive. Certain aspects of the performance, specifically the interior ballistics characteristics, and some of the design features are considered sensitive data. This UNCLASSIFIED sensitive data could be used by a technologically advanced potential enemy to duplicate the charges through reverse engineering. No technical data packages or test information should be supplied.

3. A determination has been made that Australia can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

4. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to Australia.

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. BOB CORKER,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 17-65, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Spain for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$1.3 billion. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to

issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

CHARLES W. HOOPER,
Lieutenant General, USA, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-65

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Spain.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment \$900 million.
Other \$400 million.
Total \$1,300 billion.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: The Government of Spain has requested the possible sale of seventeen (17) CH-47F cargo helicopters with customer-unique modifications.

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): Seventeen (17) CH-47F Cargo Helicopters with customer-unique modifications Twenty-one (21) Common Missile Warning System (CMWS) AN/AAR-57A(V)8 Forty-two (42) Embedded Global Positioning System (GPS) Inertial Navigation System (INS) (EGI).

Non-MDE: Also included are mission equipment, hardware and services required to implement customer-unique modifications, communication, Aircraft Survivability Equipment (ASE), and navigation equipment including AN/ARC-231 Multi-mode radios, AN/ARC-201D SINGGARS radios, AN/ARC-220 High Frequency (HF) Radio, Identification, Friend or Foe (IFF), AN/AAR-57A(V)8, and the Radar Signal Detecting Set (RSDS), AN/APR-39A(V)1, special tools and test equipment, ground support equipment, airframe and engine spare parts, technical data, publications, MWO/ECPs, technical assistance, transportation of aircraft and training, and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (SP-B-WBE).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 4, 2018.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Spain—CH-47F Aircraft

The Government of Spain has requested to buy seventeen (17) CH-47F cargo helicopters with customer-unique modifications, twenty-one (21) Common Missile Warning System (CMWS) AN/AAR-57A(V)8, and forty-two (42) Embedded Global Positioning System (GPS) Inertial Navigation System (INS) (EGI). Also included are mission equipment, hardware and services required to implement customer-unique modifications, communication, Aircraft Survivability Equipment (ASE), and navigation equipment including AN/ARC-231 Multi-mode radios, AN/ARC-201D SINGGARS radios, AN/ARC-220 High Frequency (HF) Radio, Identification, Friend or Foe (IFF), AN/AAR-57A(V)8, and the Radar Signal Detecting Set (RSDS), AN/APR-39A(V)1, special tools and test equipment, ground support equipment, airframe and engine spare parts, technical data, publications, MWO/ECPs, technical assistance, transportation of aircraft and training, and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total case value is \$1.3 billion.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of

the United States by improving the security of a NATO ally that has been, and continues to be, an important force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

The proposed sale of the CH-47F aircraft will improve Spain's heavy lift capability. Spain will use this enhanced capability to strengthen its homeland defense and deter regional threats. Spain will have no difficulty absorbing these aircraft into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Boeing Helicopter Company, Philadelphia, PA. The purchaser typically requests offsets. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Spain.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-65

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The CH-47F aircraft has been identified as Major Defense Equipment (MDE). The CH-47F is a medium lift, newly manufactured aircraft. The CH-47F has the common avionics architecture system (CAAS) cockpit, which provides aircraft system, flight, mission, and communication management systems. The CAAS consist of two dual-redundant MIL-STD-1553B data busses and an Ethernet LAN capable of supporting both IEEE 802.3 and ARINC 664. The CAAS includes five multifunction displays (MFDs), two general purpose processor units (GPPUs), two control display units (CDUs) and two data concentrator units (DCUs). The Navigation System will have two Embedded GPS/INS (EGIs), two Digital Advanced Flight Control System (DAFCS), one ARN-147 (VOR/ILS marker Beacon System), one ARN-153 Tactical Air Navigation System (TACAN), two air data computers, and one AN/APN-209 Radar Altimeter system. The communications suite is as follows: two each AN/ARC-231 Multi-mode radios providing VHF FM, VHF-AM, UHF, HQ II and Demand Assigned Multiple Access (DAMA) Satellite Communications (SATCOM), one each AN/ARC-201D SINGGARS radios with associated IFMs, and one each AN/ARC-220 High Frequency (HF) Radio. The Identifier, Friend or Foe (IFF) will be the APX-123A, which provides the additional functionality of MODE 5. Aircraft survivability equipment (ASE) will consist of the Common Missile Warning System (CMWS), AN/AAR-57A(V)8, and the Radar Signal Detecting Set (RSDS), AN/APR-39A(V)1. Support and fielding for the CH-47Fs and installed CAAS would require one copy of technical documentation, along with a Contractor Field Representative. Technical data and documentation for CH-47F systems are classified up to SECRET. The sensitive technologies include:

a. The AN/APX-123A Transponder is classified SECRET if Mode-4 or -5 Communications Security (COMSEC) keying material (KEYMAT) is loaded into the device.

b. The TSEC KY-100 is a radio encryptor that has sensitive technology and is classified SECRET if COMSEC KEYMAT is loaded into the device.

c. The AN/AAR-57A(V)8 CMWS is the detection component of the suite of countermeasures designed to increase survivability of current generation combat aircraft and

specialized special operations aircraft against the threat posed by infrared guided missiles.

d. The Radar Signal Detecting Set AN/APR-39A(V)1 provides the pilot with visual and audible warning when a hostile fire-control threat is encountered.

e. The KIV-77, is a Common Crypto Applique for Identification, Friend or Foe (IFF) that provides Mode 4/5 capability. The KIV-77 Applique physical dimensions are 3.5 in. x 4.25 in. x 1 in., 16-oz. The KIV-77 can be removed from the host and stored as an Unclassified Controlled Cryptographic Item (CCI).

f. The AN/PYQ-10 (C) Simple Key Loader (SKL) is a ruggedized, portable, hand-held fill device used for securely receiving, storing, and transferring electronic key material and data between compatible end cryptographic units (ECU) and communications equipment. It supports both the DS-101 and DS-102 interfaces, as well as the Crypto Ignition Key and is compatible with existing ECUs.

2. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of specific hardware, the information could be used to develop countermeasures which might reduce weapons system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

3. A determination has been made that Spain can provide substantially the same degree of protection for sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sustainment program is necessary to the furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

4. All defense articles and services listed on this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of Spain.

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. BOB CORKER,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 18-10, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Slovakia for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$2.91 billion. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

CHARLES W. HOOPER,
Lieutenant General, USA, Director.
Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 18-10

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Slovakia.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$2.01 billion.
Other \$.90 billion.
Total \$2.91 billion.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):
Fourteen (14) F-16 Block 70/72 V Configuration Aircraft.

Fifteen (15) M61 Vulcan 20mm Gun.
Sixteen (16) F-16V F110 General Electric Engine or F100 Pratt & Whitney Engine (includes 2 spares).

Sixteen (16) APG-83 Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) Radar (includes 2 spares).

Fourteen (14) Modular Mission Computers.
Fourteen (14) Link-16 Multifunctional Information Distribution System—JTRS.

Sixteen (16) LN260 Embedded Global Positioning Service Inertial Navigation System (EGI) (includes 2 spares).

Fourteen (14) Improved Programmable Display Generator (iPDG).

Thirty (30) AIM-120C7 Missiles.
Two (2) Guidance Sections for AIM-120C7.
One Hundred (100) AIM-9X Missiles.

Twelve (12) AIM-9X Captive Air Training Missile (CATM).

Twelve (12) AIM-9X CATM Guidance Units.
Twelve (12) AIM-9X Tactical Guidance Units.

Two hundred twenty-four (224) MAU-209C/B or MAU-169D Computer Control Group (CCG) for GBU-12 Paveway II 500lb Guided Bombs.

Two hundred twenty-four (224) MXU-650/B Airfoil Group for GBU-12.

Twenty (20) MAU-210 Enhanced CCG for Enhanced Paveway II (GBU-49).

Twenty (20) MXU-650 Airfoil Group for GBU-49.

One hundred-fifty (150) KMU-572F/B Guidance Kit for Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM) 500lb Guided Bomb (GBU-38).

Sixty (60) LAU-129 Guided Missile Launcher.

Thirty-six (36) MK-82 or BLU-111 500lb Inert Fill Bomb.

Four hundred (400) MK-82 or BLU-111 500lb Bomb Bodies.

Four hundred (400) FMU-152 Joint Programmable Fuze.

Six (6) AN/AAQ-33 Sniper Pods.

Non-MDE: Also included are fourteen (14) Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing System II; fourteen (14) AN/ALQ-213 Electronic Warfare Management Systems; sixteen (16) AN/ALQ-211 Advanced Integrated Defensive Electronic Warfare Suites; sixteen (16) AN/ALE-47 Countermeasure Dispensers; Advanced Identification Friend or Foe (AIFF), Secure Communications and Cryptographic Appliques; Joint Mission Planning System (JMPS); ground training device (flight simulator); Electronic Combat International Security Assistance Program (ECISAP) support; software and support; facilities and construction support; spares and repair/replace parts; personnel training and training equipment; publications and technical documentation; missile containers; DSU-38A/B Laser Illuminated Target Detector (GBU-54); munition support and test equipment; aircraft and munition integration and test support; studies and surveys; U.S. Government and contractor technical, engineering and logistical support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (LO-D-SAA); (LO-D-TAA) and Navy (LO-P-LAH)

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 3, 2018.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Slovakia—F-16 Block 70/72 V Configuration Aircraft

The Slovak Republic has requested to buy fourteen (14) F-16 Block 70/72 V configuration aircraft; up to sixteen (16) F-16 F110 General Electric or F100 Pratt & Whitney engines (MDE); fifteen (15) M61 A1 Vulcan 20mm Guns (MDE); sixteen (16) APG-83 Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) Radars (MDE); fourteen (14) Modular Mission Computers (MDE); fourteen (14) LINK-16 (MIDS-JTRS) secure communication systems (MDE); six-

teen (16) LN260 EGI Embedded Global Positioning System Inertial Navigation Systems (EGI) (MDE); fourteen (14) Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing Systems (MDE); fourteen (14) Improved Programmable Display Generators (iPDGs) (MDE); thirty (30) AIM-120C7 air-to-air missiles, one hundred (100) AIM-9X air-to-air missiles; twelve (12) AIM-9X Captive Air Training Missiles, two (2) AIM-120C7, twenty-four (24) AIM-9X additional guidance units; two hundred twenty-four (224) each Computer Control Groups and Airfoil Groups for GBU-12 Paveway II 500 lb Guided Bomb Kits; twenty (20) Enhanced Computer Control Groups for Enhanced Paveway II (GBU-49); one hundred fifty (150) KMU-572F/B Guidance Kits for Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM) 500lb Guided Bomb (GBU-38); sixty (60) LAU-129 Guided—Missile Launchers; thirty-six (36) MK-82 or BLU-111 500lb Inert Fill Bomb; four hundred (400) MK-82 or BLU-111 500lb Bomb Bodies; four hundred (400) FMU-152 Joint Programmable Fuzes; and six (6) AN/AAQ-33 Sniper Pods. Also included are fourteen (14) Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing System II; fourteen (14) AN/ALQ-213 Electronic Warfare Management Systems; sixteen (16) AN/ALQ-211 Advanced Integrated Defensive Electronic Warfare Suites; sixteen (16) AN/ALE-47 Countermeasure Dispensers; Advanced Identification Friend or Foe (AIFF), Secure Communications and Cryptographic Appliques; Joint Mission Planning System (JMPS); ground training device (flight simulator); Electronic Combat International Security Assistance Program (ECISAP) support; software and support; facilities and construction support; spares and repair/replace parts; personnel training and training equipment; publications and technical documentation; missile containers; DSU-38A/B Illuminated Target Detector (GBU-54); munition support and test equipment; aircraft and munition integration and test support; studies and surveys; U.S. Government and contractor technical, engineering and logistical support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$2.91 billion.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO partner that is an important force for ensuring peace and stability in Europe. The proposed sale will support Slovakia's needs for its own self-defense and support NATO defense goals. Slovakia intends to use these F-16s to modernize its Air Force and strengthen its homeland defense.

Slovakia intends for these aircraft to replace its current fleet of MiG-29s. Slovakia's current fighters are not interoperable with U.S. forces or regional allies. Purchase of the F-16V will provide Slovakia with fourth generation fighter aircraft capability that is interoperable with the United States and NATO.

The proposed sale of new F-16V's to Slovakia will not impact the regional balance of power.

The prime contractor will be Lockheed Martin, headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland. There are no known offset agreements in conjunction with this sale, however, we expect Slovakia to request some amount of industrial participation. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale may require assignment of a small number of U.S. Government representatives (less than 10) and a modest number of contractor representatives (less than 50) to Slovakia. It is likely that no permanent U.S. persons will actually be required in country.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 18-10

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended
Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. This sale involves the release of sensitive technology to Slovakia. The F-16 V Block 70/72 weapon system is UNCLASSIFIED, except as noted below. The aircraft uses the F16 airframe, and features advanced avionics and systems. It contains the General Electric F110 engine or Pratt & Whitney F100 engine, AN/APG-83 radar, digital flight control system, internal and external electronic warfare (EW) equipment, Advanced Identification Friend or Foe (AIFF), LINK-16 datalink, operational flight trainer, and software computer programs.

2. The AN/APG-83 is an Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) radar upgrade for the F-16. It includes higher processor power, higher transmission power, more sensitive receiver electronics, and synthetic aperture radar (SAR), which creates higher-resolution ground maps from a greater distance than existing mechanically scanned array radars (e.g., APG-68). The upgrade features an increase in detection range of air targets, increases in processing speed and memory, as well as significant improvements in all modes. The highest classification of the radar is SECRET.

3. AN/ALQ-211 AIDEWS provides passive radar warning, wide spectrum radio frequency jamming, and control and management of the entire EW system. The commercially developed system software and hardware is UNCLASSIFIED. The system is classified SECRET when loaded with a U.S. derived EW (threat) database.

4. The AN/APX-126 AIFF is a system capable of transmitting and interrogating via Mode 5. It is UNCLASSIFIED unless Mode 4 or Mode 5 operational evaluator parameters are loaded in to the equipment. Classified elements of the AIFF system include software object code, operating characteristics, parameters, and technical data.

5. The Embedded GPS-INS (EGI) LN-260 is a sensor that combines GPS and inertial sensor inputs to provide accurate location information for navigation and targeting. The EGI LN-260 is UNCLASSIFIED. The GPS crypto-variable keys needed for highest GPS accuracy are classified up to SECRET.

6. Multifunctional Information Distribution System (MIDS) is an advanced Link-16 command, control, communications, and intelligence (C3I) system incorporating high-capacity, jam-resistant, digital communication links for exchange of near real-time tactical information, including both data and voice, among air, ground, and sea elements. The MIDS terminal hardware, publications, performance specifications, operational capability, parameters, vulnerabilities to countermeasures, and software documentation are classified CONFIDENTIAL. The classified information to be provided consists of that which is necessary for the operation, maintenance, and repair (through intermediate level) of the data link terminal, installed systems, and related software.

7. Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing System (JHMCS II) is a modified HGU-55/P helmet that incorporates a visor-projected Heads-Up Display (HUD) to cue weapons and aircraft sensors to air and ground targets. This system projects visual targeting and aircraft performance information on the back of the helmet's visor, enabling the pilot to monitor this information without interrupting his field of view through the cockpit canopy. This provides improvement for close combat targeting and engagement. Hardware is UNCLASSIFIED; technical data and documents are classified up to SECRET.

8. The Improved Programmable Display Generator (iPDG) and color multifunction displays utilize ruggedized commercial liquid crystal display technology that is designed to withstand the harsh environment found in modern fighter cockpits. The display generator is the fifth generation graphics processor for the F-16. Through the use of state-of-the-art microprocessors and graphics engines, it provided orders of magnitude increases in throughput, memory, and graphics capabilities. The hardware and software are UNCLASSIFIED.

9. GBU-12 Paveway II (PW II), a Laser Guided Bomb (LGB), is a maneuverable, free-fall weapon that guides to a spot of laser energy reflected off of the target. The LGB is delivered like a normal general purpose (GP) warhead but the weapon guides to the laser spot to the target. Laser designation for the weapon can be provided by a variety of laser target designators. A LGB consists of a Computer Control Group (CCG) with laser detector sensor and a warhead specific Air Foil Group (AFG) that attaches to the nose and tail of a GP bomb body respectively. The GBU-12 is a 500lbs (MK-82 or BLU-111) GP bomb body fitted with the MXU-650 AFG, and MAU-209C/B or MAU-169D CCG to guide to its laser designated target. The hardware is UNCLASSIFIED; technical data and documents are classified up to CONFIDENTIAL.

10. GBU-49 Enhanced Paveway II (EP II), a LGB, is a maneuverable, free-fall weapon that guides to the target using a GPS-aided INS and dual mode laser. The EP II consists of a CCG with laser detector sensor, and a warhead specific AFG that attaches to the nose and tail of a GP bomb body. The GBU-49 is a 500lbs (MK-82 or BLU-111) GP bomb body fitted with the MXU-650 AFG and MAU-210 CCG to guide to its laser designated target. The hardware is UNCLASSIFIED; technical data and documents are classified up to CONFIDENTIAL without a Height of Burst (HOB) capability.

11. GBU-38 Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM) consists of a guidance tail kit that converts unguided free-fall general purpose bombs into accurate, adverse weather "smart" munitions. With the addition of a new tail section that contains an inertial navigational system and a global positioning system guidance control unit, JDAM improves the accuracy of unguided, general-purpose bombs in any weather condition. JDAM can be launched from very low to very high altitudes in a dive, toss and loft, or in straight and level flight with an on-axis or off-axis delivery. JDAM enables multiple weapons to be directed against single or multiple targets on a single pass. The GBU-38 consists of a warhead specific air foil group and a MK-82, BLU-111, or BLU-126 GP bomb body. The JDAM as an All Up Round and all of its components are UNCLASSIFIED, technical data and documents for JDAM are classified up to SECRET.

12. The GBU-54 Laser JDAM (LJDAM) is a variant of the JDAM when combined with a DSU-38 A/B Laser Sensor that uses both the BGPS and/or Laser guidance to guide a weapon into a target. The GBU-54 consists of a warhead specific AFG, DSU-38 Laser Sensor, and a MK-82 or BLU-111 bomb body. The LJDAM as an All Up Round and all of its components are UNCLASSIFIED, technical data and documents for LJDAM are classified up to SECRET.

13. FMU-152 is the Joint Programmable Bomb Fuze; a multi-function hard/soft target fuze that is used on for multiple different Mk-series bombs. The fuze can be programmed on the wing or in flight and is used with the JDAM, Paveway, and Enhanced Paveway bombs. The hardware is UNCLASSIFIED; technical data and documents are UNCLASSIFIED.

15. AIM-120C7 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile (AMRAAM) is guided missile featuring digital technology and micro-miniature solid-state electronics. AMRAAM capabilities include look-down/shoot-down, multiple launches against multiple targets, resistance to electronic countermeasures, and interception of high- and low-flying and maneuvering targets. The AMRAAM All Up Round is classified CONFIDENTIAL; major components and subsystems range from UNCLASSIFIED to CONFIDENTIAL. Technical data and other documentation are classified up to SECRET.

The AIM-120C7 is launched from the aircraft using a LAU-129 guided missile launcher. The LAU-129 provides mechanical and electrical interface between missile and aircraft. The LAU-129 system is UNCLASSIFIED.

16. AIM-9X 11 SIDEWINDER missile is an air-to-air guided missile that employs a passive infrared (IR) target acquisition system that features digital technology and micro-miniature solid state electronics. The AIM-9X II All Up Round is CONFIDENTIAL, major components and subsystems range from UNCLASSIFIED to CONFIDENTIAL, and technical data and other documentation are classified up to SECRET. The AIM-9X tactical and Captive Air Training Missile guidance units and Tactical Units are subsets of the overall missile.

17. M61 20mm Vulcan Cannon: The 20mm Vulcan cannon is a six barreled automatic cannon chambered in 20x 120mm with a cyclic rate of fire from 2,500-6,000 shots per minute. This weapon is a hydraulically powered air cooled gatling gun used to damage/destroy aerial targets, suppress/incapacitate personnel targets and damage or destroy moving and stationary light materiel targets. The M61 and its components are UNCLASSIFIED.

18. The SNIPER (AN/AAQ-33) targeting system is UNCLASSIFIED and contains technology representing the latest state-of-the-art in electro-optical clarity and haze, and low light targeting capability. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is classified SECRET. Software (object code) is classified CONFIDENTIAL. Overall system classification is SECRET.

19. This sale will also involve the release of sensitive and/or classified cryptographic equipment for secure communications radios, precision navigation with anti-jam capability, and cryptographic appliques and keying equipment. The hardware is UNCLASSIFIED, except where systems are loaded with cryptographic software, which may be classified up to SECRET.

20. Software, hardware, and other data or information, which is classified or sensitive, is reviewed prior to release to protect system vulnerabilities, design data, and performance parameters. Some end-item hardware, software, and other data identified above are classified at the CONFIDENTIAL and SECRET level. Potential compromise of these systems is controlled through management of the basic software programs of highly sensitive systems and software-controlled weapon systems on a case-by-case basis.

21. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware or software source code in this proposed sale, the information could be used to develop countermeasures which might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of systems with similar or advance capabilities. The benefits to be derived from this sale in the furtherance of the US foreign policy and national security objectives, as outlined in the Policy Justification, outweigh the potential damage that could result if the sensitive technology were revealed to unauthorized persons.

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 BENEFICIARIES 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

football team to a Division 1-AA national championship title in 1985. Following his college graduation, Mr. Quilling began his coaching and teaching career in Montana, as well as at high schools in Denver, CO, San Antonio, TX, and Roy, UT. Before coming to Carson City in 2000, Mr. Quilling also worked at Box Elder High School for 7 years in Brigham, UT, where he won several regional championships and a State championship in 1995.

As Nevada's senior U.S. Senator, I know that Mr. Quilling will be sorely missed by the thousands of students and athletes he came across and mentored during his career. My thoughts and prayers go out to his three children, family, and loved ones during this difficult time.●

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

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

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

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the Secretary of the Senate, on March 23, 2018, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1625. An act to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to include severe forms of trafficking in persons within the definition of transnational organized crime for purposes of the rewards program of the Department of State, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the enrolled bill was signed on March 23, 2018, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. LANKFORD).

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the Secretary of the Senate, on March 23, 2018, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ARRINGTON) had signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 4851. An act to establish the Kennedy-King National Commemorative Site in the State of Indiana, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the enrolled bill was signed on March 23, 2018, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the Secretary of the Senate, on April 2, 2018, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MOONEY) had signed the following enrolled bills:

S.772. An act to amend the PROTECT Act to make Indian tribes eligible for AMBER Alert grants.

H.R. 4547. An act to amend titles II, VIII, and XVI of the Social Security Act to improve and strengthen the representative payment program.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the enrolled bills were signed on April 2, 2018, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. BLUNT).

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2629. A bill to improve postal operations, service, and transparency.

H.R. 5247. An act to authorize the use of eligible investigational drugs by eligible patients who have been diagnosed with a stage of a disease or condition in which there is reasonable likelihood that death will occur within a matter of months, or with another eligible illness, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on April 2, 2018, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S.772. An act to amend the PROTECT Act to make Indian tribes eligible for AMBER Alert grants.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. HOEVEN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

S. 1870. A bill to amend the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 to secure urgent resources vital to Indian victims of crime, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-220).

By Mr. THUNE, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 1668. A bill to rename a waterway in the State of New York as the "Joseph Sanford Jr. Channel" (Rept. No. 115-221).

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 Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. PAUL):

S. 2631. A bill to amend section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, to require that the annual budget submissions of the President include the total dollar amount requested for intelligence or intelligence-related activities of each element of the Government engaged in such activities; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. NELSON):

S. 2632. A bill to accelerate the income tax benefits for charitable cash contributions for the relief of the families of the slain or injured victims of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. HARRIS (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 2633. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to civil forfeitures relating to certain seized animals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. 2634. A bill to free States to spend gas taxes on their transportation priorities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. HELLER, and Mr. SASSE):

S. 2635. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act and the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act to modify the offenses relating to fentanyl, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. MURPHY):

S. Res. 452. A resolution designating April 11, 2018, as the "Sesquicentennial of Connecticut's Navy Installation"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

s. 179

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 179, a bill to expand the use of E-Verify, to hold employers accountable, and for other purposes.

S. 372

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 372, a bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to ensure that merchandise arriving through the mail shall be subject to review by U.S. Customs and Border Protection and to require the provision of advance electronic information on shipments of mail to U.S. Customs and Border Protection and for other purposes.

S. 497

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 497, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of certain lymphedema compression treatment items as items of durable medical equipment.

S. 550

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 550, a bill to restore statutory rights to the people of the United States from forced arbitration.

S. 569

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 569, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide consistent and reliable authority for, and for the funding of, the Land and Water Conservation Fund to maximize the effectiveness of the Fund for future generations, and for other purposes.

S. 573

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 573, a bill to establish the National Criminal Justice Commission.

S. 611

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 611, a bill to amend the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to meet the needs of homeless children, youth, and families, and honor the assessments and priorities of local communities.

S. 811

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mrs. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 811, a bill to ensure that organizations with religious or moral convictions are allowed to continue to provide services for children.

S. 913

At the request of Mr. KING, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 913, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to establish an initiative, carried out by the Assistant Secretary for Aging, to coordinate Federal efforts and programs for home modifications enabling older individuals to live independently and safely in a home environment, and for other purposes.

S. 980

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 980, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for payments for certain rural health clinic and Federally qualified health center services furnished to hospice patients under the Medicare program.

S. 1112

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1112, a bill to support States in their work to save and sustain the health of mothers during pregnancy, childbirth, and in the

postpartum period, to eliminate disparities in maternal health outcomes for pregnancy-related and pregnancy-associated deaths, to identify solutions to improve health care quality and health outcomes for mothers, and for other purposes.

S. 1170

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1170, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons responsible for gross violations of internationally recognized human rights against lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 1270

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1270, a bill to direct the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to carry out programs and activities to ensure that Federal science agencies and institutions of higher education receiving Federal research and development funding are fully engaging their entire talent pool, and for other purposes.

S. 1303

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1303, a bill to prohibit discrimination in adoption or foster care placements based on the sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status of any prospective adoptive or foster parent, or the sexual orientation or gender identity of the child involved.

S. 1520

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1520, a bill to expand recreational fishing opportunities through enhanced marine fishery conservation and management, and for other purposes.

S. 1890

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1890, a bill to improve the understanding of, and promote access to treatment for, chronic kidney disease, and for other purposes.

S. 1923

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1923, a bill to prohibit firearms dealers from selling a firearm prior to the completion of a background check.

S. 1939

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1939, a bill to repeal the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act.

S. 1945

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Minnesota

(Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1945, a bill to regulate large capacity ammunition feeding devices.

S. 1989

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1989, a bill to enhance transparency and accountability for online political advertisements by requiring those who purchase and publish such ads to disclose information about the advertisements to the public, and for other purposes.

S. 2088

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2088, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the issuance of the Gold Star Installation Access Card to the surviving spouse, dependent children, and other next of kin of a member of the Armed Forces who dies while serving on certain active or reserve duty, to ensure that a remarried surviving spouse with dependent children of the deceased member remains eligible for installation benefits to which the surviving spouse was previously eligible, and for other purposes.

S. 2143

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2143, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to strengthen protections for employees wishing to advocate for improved wages, hours, or other terms or conditions of employment, to expand coverage under such Act, to provide a process for achieving initial collective bargaining agreements, and to provide for stronger remedies for interference with these rights, and for other purposes.

S. 2203

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2203, a bill to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration.

S. 2341

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2341, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the processing of veterans benefits by the Department of Veterans Affairs, to limit the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to recover overpayments made by the Department and other amounts owed by veterans to the United States, to improve the due process accorded veterans with respect to such recovery, and for other purposes.

S. 2391

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma

(Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2391, a bill to prohibit the United States Government from using or contracting with an entity that uses certain telecommunications services or equipment, and for other purposes.

S. 2393

At the request of Mr. COONS, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2393, a bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to provide Federal protection to the digital audio transmission of a sound recording fixed before February 15, 1972, and for other purposes.

S. 2427

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2427, a bill to establish a task force to identify countervailable subsidies and dumping.

S. 2448

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2448, a bill to provide for the issuance of a rule to advance next-generation technologies to provide alternatives to hydrofluorocarbons, and for other purposes.

S. 2461

At the request of Mr. DONNELLY, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2461, a bill to allow for judicial review of certain final rules relating to national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants for brick and structural clay products or for clay ceramics manufacturing before requiring compliance with the rules by existing sources.

S. 2497

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2497, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the Arms Export Control Act to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriations of funds to Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 2567

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2567, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance the national strategy for combating and eliminating tuberculosis, and for other purposes.

S. 2578

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors

of S. 2578, a bill to amend title 13, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Commerce to provide advanced notice to Congress before changing any questions on the decennial census, and for other purposes.

S. 2580

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2580, a bill to amend title 13, United States Code, to make clear that each decennial census, as required for the apportionment of Representatives in Congress among the several States, shall tabulate the total number of persons in each State, and to provide that no information regarding United States citizenship or immigration status may be elicited in any such census.

S. 2605

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2605, a bill to prohibit public companies from repurchasing their shares on the open market, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 432

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 432, a resolution congratulating the Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania on the 100th anniversary of their declarations of independence.

S. RES. 443

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 443, a resolution recognizing the 197th anniversary of the independence of Greece and celebrating democracy in Greece and the United States.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 452—DESIGNATING APRIL 11, 2018, AS THE “SESQUICENTENNIAL OF CONNECTICUT’S NAVY INSTALLATION”

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 452

Whereas the Navy Installation of Connecticut, regarded as Naval Submarine Base New London, had its beginning as a naval yard and storage depot on April 11, 1868;

Whereas the people of Connecticut made the installation possible when a deed of gift from the State of Connecticut and city of New London was signed, conveyed, and presented to Secretary of the Navy Gideon Welles;

Whereas the Navy Installation of Connecticut was first used for laying up inactive ships, then for refueling small naval ships traveling through the waters of New England, and ultimately as the first submarine base of the United States Navy;

Whereas October 18, 1915, marked the arrival at the Navy Installation of Connecticut of the submarines G-1, G-2, and G-4 under the care of the tender USS *Ozark*, soon followed by the arrival of submarines E-1, D-1, and D-3 under the care of the tender USS *Tonopah*, and on November 1, 1915, the arrival of the first ship built as a submarine tender, the USS *Fulton*;

Whereas, on June 21, 1916, Commander Yates Stirling, Jr., assumed the command of the newly designated Naval Submarine Base New London, the New London Submarine Flotilla, and the Submarine School;

Whereas the property of Naval Submarine Base New London expanded during the course of the involvement of the United States in World War I, with Congress approving more than \$1,000,000 for real estate and facilities expansion, which created 81 buildings to support 1,400 men and 20 submarines by the end of World War I;

Whereas the second largest expansion of Naval Submarine Base New London occurred during World War II when the submarine force exponentially grew in size, and the installation enlarged from 112 acres to 497 acres to accommodate the thousands of personnel that serviced the growing fleet;

Whereas the nuclear power age following World War II ushered technological advancements in submarine development with the advent of nuclear powered submarines and the arrival of the USS *Nautilus*, the first nuclear powered vessel in the world, when it was commissioned in 1954 at Naval Submarine Base New London;

Whereas the USS *George Washington*, the first nuclear ballistic submarine of the United States Navy, created further changes at Naval Submarine Base New London when it was commissioned there in 1959;

Whereas, in 2018, Naval Submarine Base New London extends along the east side of the Thames River, occupies approximately 687 acres, and houses more than 160 major facilities and more than 15 nuclear submarines;

Whereas Naval Submarine Base New London supports fleet readiness by providing quality service and facilities to its fleet, fighters, and families;

Whereas the mission of Naval Submarine Base New London is—

- (1) to homeport and put submarines to sea; and
- (2) to support the Submarine Center of Excellence, which trains submariners to take submarines to sea;

Whereas nearly every submariner in the United States Navy will be stationed at Naval Submarine Base New London for training, with a potential tour of duty in one of the attack submarines homeported at the installation, or with a pre-commissioning unit for a new submarine under construction at General Dynamics Electric Boat Shipyard in Groton, Connecticut;

Whereas Naval Submarine Base New London is home to more than 70 tenant commands and activities including—

- (1) the Undersea Warfighting Development Center;
- (2) the Submarine Learning Center;
- (3) the Naval Submarine School;
- (4) the Naval Submarine Medical Research Laboratory; and
- (5) the Naval Undersea Medical Institute;

Whereas Naval Submarine Base New London is one of the largest employers in southeastern Connecticut and employs more than 9,500 active duty, reserve, and civilian personnel; and

Whereas Naval Submarine Base New London will always be regarded as the first and finest submarine base of the United States Navy and the home of the submarine force: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 11, 2018, as the “Sesquicentennial of Connecticut’s Navy Installation”;

(2) commends the longstanding dedication and contribution to the Navy by the people of Connecticut, both through the initial deed of gift that established the Navy Installation of Connecticut, and through their ongoing commitment to support the mission and people assigned to the installation, presently known as Naval Submarine Base New London;

(3) honors the sailors and submariners who have trained and served at the Navy Installation of Connecticut throughout its 150-year history in support of the naval and undersea superiority of the United States;

(4) recognizes the indispensable role Naval Submarine Base New London plays in fortifying the national security of the United States at a time when adversaries seek to challenge the United States; and

(5) pledges continued support for the operation of Naval Submarine Base New London for years to come.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 114-198, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Creating Options for Veterans’ Expedited Recovery (COVER Commission): Matthew Amidon of Texas (Veteran).

The Chair announces, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 106-398, as amended by Public Law 108-7, and in consultation with the chairmen of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission: Roy Kamphausen of Connecticut.

AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT AND MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE ACT MODERNIZATION ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 304, H.R. 3445.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3445) to enhance the transparency and accelerate the impact of programs under the African Growth and Opportunity Act and the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 3445) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN TO FULFILL REPEATED PROMISES OF ASSISTANCE IN THE CASE OF ROBERT LEVINSON

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 355, S. Res. 85.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 85) calling on the Government of Iran to fulfill repeated promises of assistance in the case of Robert Levinson, the longest held United States civilian in our Nation’s history.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution, which had been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment and an amendment to the preamble, as follows:

(The part of the resolution intended to be stricken is shown in boldface brackets and the part of the resolution intended to be inserted is shown in italic.)

(Strike the preamble and insert the part printed in italic.)

Whereas United States citizen Robert Levinson is a retired agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), a resident of Coral Springs, Florida, the husband of Christine Levinson, father of their seven children, and grandfather of their six grandchildren;

Whereas Robert Levinson traveled from Dubai, United Arab Emirates, to Kish Island, Iran, on March 8, 2007;

Whereas, after traveling to Kish Island and checking into the Hotel Maryam, Robert Levinson disappeared on March 9, 2007;

Whereas, in December 2007, Robert Levinson’s wife, Christine, traveled to Kish Island to retrace Mr. Levinson’s steps and met with officials of the Government of Iran who pledged to help in the investigation;

Whereas for 10 years, the United States Government has continually pressed the Government of Iran to provide any information on the whereabouts of Robert Levinson and to help ensure his prompt and safe return to his family;

Whereas officials of the Government of Iran promised their continued assistance to the relatives of Robert Levinson during the visit of the family to the Islamic Republic of Iran in December 2007;

Whereas, in November 2010, the Levinson family received a video of Mr. Levinson in captivity, representing the first proof of life since his disappearance and providing some initial indications that he was being held somewhere in southwest Asia;

Whereas, in April 2011, the Levinson family received a series of pictures of Mr. Levinson, which provided further indications that he was being held somewhere in southwest Asia;

Whereas Secretary of State John Kerry stated on August 28, 2013, “The United States respectfully asks the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to work cooperatively with us in our efforts to help U.S. citizen Robert Levinson.”;

Whereas, on September 28, 2013, during the first direct phone conversation between the heads of governments of the United States and Iran since 1979, President Barack Obama raised the case of Robert Levinson to President of Iran Hassan Rouhani and urged the President of Iran to help locate Mr. Levinson and reunite him with his family;

Whereas, on August 29, 2014, Secretary of State Kerry again stated that the United States “respectfully request[s] the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran work cooperatively with us to find Mr. Levinson and bring him home”;

Whereas, on January 16, 2016, the Government of Iran released five United States citizens detained in Iran;

Whereas, on January 17, 2016, President Obama stated that “even as we rejoice in the safe return of others, we will never forget about Bob,” referring to Robert Levinson, and that “each and every day but especially today our hearts are with the Levinson family and we will never rest until their family is whole again”;

Whereas, on January 19, 2016, White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest stated that the United States Government had “secured a commitment from the Iranians to use the channel that has now been opened to secure the release of those individuals that we know were being held by Iran ... to try and gather information about Mr. Levinson’s possible whereabouts”;

Whereas the Government of Iran’s most recent commitment to assist in locating and returning Bob Levinson has not yielded any meaningful results;

Whereas, on November 23, 2016, the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (UNWGAD) adopted Opinion No. 50/2016, concerning Robert Levinson in which the UNWGAD found Iran responsible for the arbitrary detention of Mr. Levinson;

Whereas, on November 26, 2013, Mr. Levinson became the longest held United States civilian in our Nation’s history; and

Whereas the Federal Bureau of Investigation continues to offer up to a \$5,000,000 reward for information leading to Mr. Levinson’s safe return: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that March 9, 2017, [marks] marked 10 years since the disappearance of Robert Levinson from Kish Island, Iran;

(2) recognizes that Robert Levinson is the longest held United States civilian in our Nation’s history;

(3) notes that repeated pledges by officials of the Government of Iran to provide their Government’s assistance in the case of Robert Levinson have not led to any meaningful progress in locating or returning Robert Levinson;

(4) urges the Government of Iran to take meaningful steps towards fulfilling its repeated promises to assist in locating and returning Robert Levinson, including immediately providing all available information from all entities of the Government of Iran regarding the disappearance of Robert Levinson to the United States Government;

(5) urges the President and the allies of the United States to continue to press the Government of Iran at every opportunity to locate and return Robert Levinson, notwithstanding ongoing and serious disagreements the United States Government has with the Government of Iran on a broad array of issues, including Iran’s ballistic missile program, sponsorship of international terrorism, and human rights abuses;

(6) notes that in addition to these other serious issues, further delay in locating and returning Robert Levinson remains a significant obstacle to improving United States-Iran relations; and

(7) expresses sympathy to the family of Robert Levinson for their anguish and expresses hope that their ordeal can be brought to an end in the near future.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendment be agreed to, the resolution, as amended, be agreed to, the committee-reported amendment to the preamble be agreed to, the preamble, as amended, be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The committee-reported amendment was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 85), as amended, was agreed to.

The committee-reported amendment to the preamble in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The resolution, as amended, with its preamble, as amended, reads as follows:

S. RES. 85

Whereas United States citizen Robert Levinson is a retired agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), a resident of Coral Springs, Florida, the husband of Christine Levinson, father of their seven children, and grandfather of their six grandchildren;

Whereas Robert Levinson traveled from Dubai, United Arab Emirates, to Kish Island, Iran, on March 8, 2007;

Whereas after traveling to Kish Island and checking into the Hotel Maryam, Robert Levinson disappeared on March 9, 2007;

Whereas in December 2007, Robert Levinson's wife, Christine, traveled to Kish Island to retrace Mr. Levinson's steps and met with officials of the Government of Iran who pledged to help in the investigation;

Whereas for 10 years, the United States Government has continually pressed the Government of Iran to provide any information on the whereabouts of Robert Levinson and to help ensure his prompt and safe return to his family;

Whereas officials of the Government of Iran promised their continued assistance to the relatives of Robert Levinson during the visit of the family to the Islamic Republic of Iran in December 2007;

Whereas in November 2010, the Levinson family received a video of Mr. Levinson in captivity, representing the first proof of life since his disappearance and providing some initial indications that he was being held somewhere in southwest Asia;

Whereas in April 2011, the Levinson family received a series of pictures of Mr. Levinson, which provided further indications that he was being held somewhere in southwest Asia;

Whereas Secretary of State John Kerry stated on August 28, 2013, "The United States respectfully asks the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to work cooperatively with us in our efforts to help U.S. citizen Robert Levinson.";

Whereas, on September 28, 2013, during the first direct phone conversation between the heads of governments of the United States and Iran since 1979, President Barack Obama raised the case of Robert Levinson to President of Iran Hassan Rouhani and urged the President of Iran to help locate Mr. Levinson and reunite him with his family;

Whereas, on August 29, 2014, Secretary of State Kerry again stated that the United States "respectfully request[s] the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran work cooperatively with us to find Mr. Levinson and bring him home";

Whereas, on January 16, 2016, the Government of Iran released five United States citizens detained in Iran;

Whereas, on January 17, 2016, President Obama stated that "even as we rejoice in the safe return of others, we will never forget about Bob," referring to Robert Levinson, and that "each and every day but especially today our hearts are with the Levinson family and we will never rest until their family is whole again";

Whereas, on January 19, 2016, White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest stated that the United States Government had "secured a

commitment from the Iranians to use the channel that has now been opened to secure the release of those individuals that we know were being held by Iran . . . to try and gather information about Mr. Levinson's possible whereabouts";

Whereas the Government of Iran's most recent commitment to assist in locating and returning Bob Levinson has not yielded any meaningful results;

Whereas, on November 23, 2016, the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (UNWGAD) adopted Opinion No. 50/2016, concerning Robert Levinson in which the UNWGAD found Iran responsible for the arbitrary detention of Mr. Levinson;

Whereas, on November 26, 2013, Mr. Levinson became the longest held United States civilian in our Nation's history; and

Whereas the Federal Bureau of Investigation continues to offer up to a \$5,000,000 reward for information leading to Mr. Levinson's safe return: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that March 9, 2017, marked 10 years since the disappearance of Robert Levinson from Kish Island, Iran;

(2) recognizes that Robert Levinson is the longest held United States civilian in our Nation's history;

(3) notes that repeated pledges by officials of the Government of Iran to provide their Government's assistance in the case of Robert Levinson have not led to any meaningful progress in locating or returning Robert Levinson;

(4) urges the Government of Iran to take meaningful steps towards fulfilling its repeated promises to assist in locating and returning Robert Levinson, including immediately providing all available information from all entities of the Government of Iran regarding the disappearance of Robert Levinson to the United States Government;

(5) urges the President and the allies of the United States to continue to press the Government of Iran at every opportunity to locate and return Robert Levinson, notwithstanding ongoing and serious disagreements the United States Government has with the Government of Iran on a broad array of issues, including Iran's ballistic missile program, sponsorship of international terrorism, and human rights abuses;

(6) notes that in addition to these other serious issues, further delay in locating and returning Robert Levinson remains a significant obstacle to improving United States-Iran relations; and

(7) expresses sympathy to the family of Robert Levinson for their anguish and expresses hope that their ordeal can be brought to an end in the near future.

CONGRATULATING THE BALTIC STATES OF ESTONIA, LATVIA, AND LITHUANIA ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR DECLARATIONS OF INDEPENDENCE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 356, S. Res. 432.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 432) congratulating the Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania on the 100th anniversary of their declarations of independence.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution,

which had been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment, as follows:

(The part of the resolution intended to be stricken is shown in boldface brackets and the part of the resolution intended to be inserted is shown in italic.)

S. RES. 432

Whereas, in 1918, the people of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania declared their independence on February 24, November 18, and February 16, respectively, as sovereign, democratic countries;

Whereas, on July 28, 1922, the United States formally recognized Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania as independent countries;

Whereas the United States refused to recognize the Soviet Union's forcible incorporation of the Baltic states;

Whereas, in August 1991, the Baltic states regained their de facto independence from the Soviet Union, and on September 2, 1991, President George H.W. Bush recognized the restoration of their independence, reestablishing full diplomatic relations between the United States and Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania several days later;

Whereas, in the United States, communities of Baltic descent have contributed significantly to American culture, prosperity, and security and have helped strengthen United States relations with the Baltic states;

Whereas relations between the United States and Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania have developed into a robust partnership based on shared values and principles, including respect for the rule of law, human rights, freedom of speech, and free trade;

Whereas Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania have shown their resolve as responsible and dedicated members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) by contributing to regional and global security, including to operations in Afghanistan;

Whereas the Baltic states have been leaders in addressing and combatting 21st century security threats, exemplified by their active leadership and advancement of the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defense Center of Excellence in Estonia, the NATO Strategic Communications Center of Excellence in Latvia, and the NATO Energy Security Center of Excellence in Lithuania; and

Whereas Russia's continued aggressive and provocative actions against its neighboring countries, including violations of sovereign Baltic airspace, test both the region and the NATO alliance: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the people of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of their declarations of independence;

(2) commends the people and Governments of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania for their successful reforms and remarkable economic growth since 1991;

(3) applauds the productive partnership the United States enjoys with the Baltic states in many spheres, including NATO;

(4) recognizes the determination of the Governments of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania to strengthen transatlantic security through defense spending and host nation support for NATO deployments;

[(5) recognizes the commitment among the Baltic states to further respect for the values of democracy and human rights within their own countries and abroad; and]

[(6) reiterates the continued support of Congress]

(5) commends the Baltic states for their commitment to democracy and respect for human rights and for their leadership in furthering these values abroad; and

(6) reiterates the continued support of the Senate for the European Deterrence Initiative as a means for enhancing deterrence and increasing military capabilities on NATO's eastern flank.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendment be agreed to, the resolution, as amended, be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The committee-reported amendment was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 432), as amended, was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, as amended, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 432

Whereas in 1918, the people of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania declared their independence on February 24, November 18, and February 16, respectively, as sovereign, democratic countries;

Whereas, on July 28, 1922, the United States formally recognized Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania as independent countries;

Whereas the United States refused to recognize the Soviet Union's forcible incorporation of the Baltic states;

Whereas in August 1991, the Baltic states regained their de facto independence from the Soviet Union, and on September 2, 1991, President George H.W. Bush recognized the restoration of their independence, reestablishing full diplomatic relations between the United States and Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania several days later;

Whereas in the United States, communities of Baltic descent have contributed significantly to American culture, prosperity, and security and have helped strengthen United States relations with the Baltic states;

Whereas relations between the United States and Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania have developed into a robust partnership based on shared values and principles, including respect for the rule of law, human rights, freedom of speech, and free trade;

Whereas Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania have shown their resolve as responsible and dedicated members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) by contributing to regional and global security, including to operations in Afghanistan;

Whereas the Baltic states have been leaders in addressing and combatting 21st century security threats, exemplified by their active leadership and advancement of the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defense Center of Excellence in Estonia, the NATO Strategic Communications Center of Excellence in Latvia, and the NATO Energy Security Center of Excellence in Lithuania; and

Whereas Russia's continued aggressive and provocative actions against its neighboring countries, including violations of sovereign Baltic airspace, test both the region and the NATO alliance: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the people of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of their declarations of independence;

(2) commends the people and Governments of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania for their successful reforms and remarkable economic growth since 1991;

(3) applauds the productive partnership the United States enjoys with the Baltic states in many spheres, including NATO;

(4) recognizes the determination of the Governments of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania to strengthen transatlantic security through defense spending and host nation support for NATO deployments;

(5) commends the Baltic states for their commitment to democracy and respect for human rights and for their leadership in furthering these values abroad; and

(6) reiterates the continued support of the Senate for the European Deterrence Initiative as a means for enhancing deterrence and increasing military capabilities on NATO's eastern flank.

KEEP AMERICA'S REFUGES OPERATIONAL ACT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 3979.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3979) to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize the volunteer services, community partnership, and refuge education programs of the National Wildlife Refuge System, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

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

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. McCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Hearing no further debate, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 3979) was passed.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2018

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, April 10; 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. I further ask that following leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Boom nomination under the previous order. Finally, I ask that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

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.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:57 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, April 10, 2018, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

REBECCA KELLY SLAUGHTER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSIONER FOR THE TERM OF SEVEN YEARS FROM SEPTEMBER 26, 2015, VICE EDITH RAMIREZ, TERM EXPIRED.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WILLIAM CHARLES MCINTOSH, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, VICE MICHELLE DEPASS, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

MICHAEL FAULKENDER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, VICE KAREN DYNAN.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

KENNETH S. GEORGE, OF TEXAS, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE ORIENTAL REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY.

DAVID SCHENKER, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS), VICE ANNE W. PATTERSON, RESIGNED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be general

GEN. TERRENCE J. O'SHAUGHNESSY

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

To be brigadier general

COL. MICHAEL T. GEROCK

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. STEPHEN G. FOGARTY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be general

LT. GEN. STEPHEN R. LYONS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. RAYMOND S. DINGLE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. FRANCIS M. BEAUDETTE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADES INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. EUGENE J. LEOEUF
BRIG. GEN. STEPHEN E. STRAND

To be brigadier general

COL. AIDA T. BORRAS
COL. VINCENT E. BUGGS
COL. BARRY E. EDBERG
COL. CHERYN L. FASANO
COL. STEPHEN IACOVELLI

COL. ISAAC JOHNSON, JR.
COL. JAMES J. KOKASKA, JR.
COL. JOSEPH M. LESTORTI
COL. EDWARD H. MERRIGAN, JR.
COL. MICHAEL D. ROACHE
COL. BETH A. SALISBURY
COL. CHARLES S. SENTLELL III
COL. JAMELLE C. SHAWLEY
COL. ROBERT E. SUTER

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be admiral

ADM. PHILIP S. DAVIDSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. DAVID M. KRIETE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) MARY C. RIGGS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) ALAN D. BEAL
REAR ADM. (LH) BRIAN S. HURLEY
REAR ADM. (LH) ANDREW C. LENNON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) MICHELLE C. SKUBIC

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) EUGENE H. BLACK III
REAR ADM. (LH) WILLIAM D. BYRNE, JR.
REAR ADM. (LH) MARC H. DALTON
REAR ADM. (LH) JOHN V. FULLER
REAR ADM. (LH) MICHAEL P. HOLLAND
REAR ADM. (LH) HUGH W. HOWARD III
REAR ADM. (LH) JEFFREY W. HUGHES
REAR ADM. (LH) THOMAS E. ISHEE
REAR ADM. (LH) ROY I. KITCHENER
REAR ADM. (LH) STEPHEN T. KOEHLER
REAR ADM. (LH) SAMUEL J. PAPARO, JR.
REAR ADM. (LH) JEFFREY E. TRUSSLER
REAR ADM. (LH) WILLIAM W. WHEELER III
REAR ADM. (LH) KENNETH R. WHITESELL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS CHIEF OF CHAPLAINS OF THE NAVY, AND APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 5142:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

REAR ADM. (LH) BRENT W. SCOTT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. DARIN K. VIA

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. MICHAEL G. DANA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. DAVID H. BERGER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. STEPHEN E. LISZEWSKI
COL. LORNA M. MAHLOCK
COL. DAVID L. ODOM
COL. ARTHUR J. PASAGIAN
COL. SEAN M. SALENE
COL. KEVIN J. STEWART
COL. WILLIAM H. SWAN
COL. CALVERT L. WORTH, JR.

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

MICHAEL J. ABBOTT
ROBERTO ANIELLO BALZANO
LAURALEE ESTHEE BARNES
TRAVIS TOM BOLTJES
MATTHEW A. BOURASSA
MARK WILLIAM BRADLEY
JOHN S. BRINKLEY
KEITH A. BROWN
SHAUNTEY COOPER
SCOTT ANTHONY CORADI
JOE A. DESSENBERGER
LYNDY R. DOYLE
MICHAEL W. DUNFEE
MICHAEL SHANE DUNKIN
JOHN WILLIAM ERICKSON, JR.
BRANDON C. EVANS
LOUIS ANTHONY GALLINA
DEREK ALLAN GARDNER
WILLIAM C. GREEN, JR.
NORMAN THOMAS HEPNER
ROBERT DUSTIN HOADLEY
JOHNNY HOWARD
ARON G. HUGHES
THOMAS GREGORY ISENBERG
SHAWNE M. JOHNSON
RYAN KEITH JONES
JASON OTTO KLUMB
MICHAEL R. KNOWLES
MARG. KOBLENTZ
WILLIAM A. KOPP
DAVID S. LALONDE
PHILLIP LANE LATHAM, JR.
JAMIE D. LINDMAN
KATHERINE HAYDEN LINTON
MICHAEL E. LOCKETTE
ROBERT P. MANNING
CHAD THOMAS MARTIN
JEFFREY CLIFF MATHEWS
MICHAEL SEAN MATHEWS
YVONNE L. MAYS
PATRICK J. MCDONNELL
CASEY C. MCGINN
MARY W. MILD
RICHARD ALLEN MORGAN
KEVIN ALAN MULCAHY
THOMAS JEFFREY NEFE
JOHN P. FRIGMORE
JAMES F. QUAGLIAROLI
JOSEPH ELDON REID
MICHAEL JAY RUSHING
DAVID A. SCHLAGEL
JOSEPH M. SHIPP
YANCY S. SHORT
DANIEL ADAM SKODA
CHRISTOPHER BO SMITH
DENISE K. SWENENY
THOMAS F. TERRYTT
ROBIN LYNNE TIBADUIZA
KELLY SCOTT TRAYNHAM
MARK HENRY USTASZEWSKI
ANDREA H. VANLEEUWEN
LOLA DALANE WASHINGTON
TODD ANTHONY WILES
DONALD LUTHER WILSON, JR.
DAVID RUSSELL WRIGHT

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

ROBERTO SORIANOLIVAS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be major

JASON PALATAS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be major

JOSE R. REVELLES, JR.
KENNETH J. STRAUSS

THE FOLLOWING OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

D012279

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

RUSSELL B. GILLILAND

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

ERIK M. BAUER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

LAWRENCE W. HENRY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

KENNETH A. WILLEFORD

THE FOLLOWING OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

D012941

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY NURSE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be major

ROXANNE T. SICKLES

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

CHAD R. FITZGERALD

FOREIGN SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR PROMOTION WITHIN THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR:

POLLY CATHERINE DUNFORD-ZAHAR, OF FLORIDA
JAMES M. HOPE, OF TEXAS

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE FOR PROMOTION INTO THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, AS A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CLASS OF COUNSELOR:

JULIE CHEN, OF CALIFORNIA
SCOTT GORDON DOBBERSTEIN, OF MARYLAND
DAVID GOSNEY, OF CALIFORNIA
MELISSA A. JONES, OF CALIFORNIA
REBECCA OTTKE KRZYWDA, OF VIRGINIA
VEENA REDDY, OF CALIFORNIA
MILES FRANKLIN TODER, OF FLORIDA
HELEN MARY PATAKI, OF CALIFORNIA
SANGITABEN M. PATEL, OF TEXAS
WILLIAM M. PATTERSON, OF SOUTH CAROLINA
TANYA S. URQUIETA, OF SOUTH DAKOTA

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FOR PROMOTION WITHIN THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR:

SANDILLO BANERJEE, OF WASHINGTON

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE FOR PROMOTION INTO THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, AS A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CLASS OF COUNSELOR:

TODD AVERY, OF FLORIDA
IREAS COOK, OF TEXAS
DAO LE, OF CALIFORNIA
ROBERT PEASLEE, OF COLORADO

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR PROMOTION WITHIN THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER:

PETER A. MALNAK, OF NEVADA
MAUREEN A. SHAUKET, OF FLORIDA

DISCHARGED NOMINATIONS

The Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources was discharged from further consideration of the following nominations unanimous consent and the nominations were confirmed:

JAMES REILLY, OF COLORADO, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

THEODORE J. GARRISH, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF ENERGY (INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS).

JAMES EDWARD CAMPOS, OF NEVADA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MINORITY ECONOMIC IMPACT, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate April 9, 2018:

April 9, 2018

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

S2019

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

THEODORE J. GARRISH, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF ENERGY (INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS).

JAMES EDWARD CAMPOS, OF NEVADA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MINORITY ECONOMIC IMPACT, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

JAMES REILLY, OF COLORADO, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.