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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 5, 2018, at 12 p.m.

Senate

MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2018

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JONI ERNST, a Senator from the State of Iowa.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, we thank You that although we plan our course, You determine the success of our journey. We praise You for the many amazing gifts You provide for our pilgrimage.

Lord, inspire our lawmakers to commit their plans to You, trusting the unfolding of Your loving providence. May they not depend only on persistent self-reliance, but draw upon the supernatural strength and wisdom You desire to give them. Today, fill this Chamber with Your presence and power.

We pray in Your strong Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer 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.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 4, 2018.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JONI ERNST, a Senator from the State of Iowa, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ORRIN G. HATCH,
President pro tempore.

Mrs. ERNST thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, the Senate will begin this week by voting on three more of the President's well-qualified nominees for the Federal judiciary.

First on the slate is Magistrate Judge Robert Wier, selected by President Trump to serve as a district judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky.

Judge Wier's sterling credentials and the support he enjoys from the legal community suggest that he will excel on the Federal bench. He graduated at the top of his class at the University of Kentucky, followed by a successful career in private practice. In 2006, he became a magistrate judge. In 2014, his colleagues unanimously reappointed him to a second term.

Judge Wier has the intellect, skill, and experience to take on this role. I will proudly vote to advance his nomination later today.

Following Judge Wier, we will consider Fernando Rodriguez for the Southern District of Texas and Annemarie Axon for the Northern District of Alabama.

In each case, the Senate's work will be upholding one of our most central constitutional responsibilities—to consider and confirm high-quality candidates.

ECONOMIC GROWTH

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, last week brought another set of encouraging headlines about our growing economy. In the month of May, the U.S. economy generated 223,000 new jobs. Unemployment has fallen to 3.8 percent, its lowest level since April of 2000. The proportion of American adults who are employed is as high as it has been at any point since the financial crisis.

We know these economic indicators can sometimes be noisy, but consider them alongside all of the other signs we have seen over the past year. Since President Trump was elected alongside a Republican Congress, the number of Americans who say they are optimistic about finding a good job has jumped 25 percentage points, and small business owners report in record numbers that they are optimistic about the prospects of hiring new employees.

The bottom line is clear: Under the policies of this unified Republican government, American workers, families,

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



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and business owners are achieving economic growth that is unmatched in recent memory. It is driven by a 21st century tax code that lets Americans keep more of their own money and encourages job creators to invest in our Nation's workers.

It is made possible by historic regulatory reform, which has leveled the playing field for American consumers and small businesses. From farmers and ranchers to community bankers, the burdens of an out-of-control regulatory state are being lifted.

So after a decade of stagnation, Republican policies have gotten Washington out of the way and freed American workers and job creators to do what they do best—build a dynamic economy that is literally the envy of the world.

But as impressive as some of these statistics may be, I think it is important to keep in mind that these stories are, at the end of the day, human stories. More than 1 million new jobs have been created just since we passed tax reform last December. That is not an abstract number. That is 1 million opportunities for young workers who are just starting out and need to begin climbing the first rungs of the economic ladder; for young fathers and mothers who can now leave a position where their pay has stayed flat for a new opening in their industry; or for midcareer professionals who were sidelined by a tough economy and can now suit up and check back in to the game.

These aren't just economic statistics; they are American men and women who have new chances to support their families and build their lives that they simply did not have under the policies of the previous administration.

I am glad that we fought and won—and will continue to win—major accomplishments for the middle-class families we represent.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Robert Earl Wier, of Kentucky, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, this week, we will be taking up the National Defense Authorization Act, which Congress has passed for 57 consecutive years to support and guide our country's military. Earlier this month, the Armed Services Committee voted overwhelmingly—25 to 2—to advance this important legislation to the Senate floor, so when I hear people say that there is no bipartisan consensus for anything in Washington these days, I think that is belied by the facts and certainly in this case by our bipartisan commitment to provide that support and guidance for our Nation's military.

According to the Department of Defense, there are 1.8 million Americans around the world on Active Duty in the U.S. military. The United States has 737 installations overseas, and the DOD—the Department of Defense—is the world's largest employer. Supporting all these people and the facilities they occupy is a Herculean task, and the Defense authorization bill is one very significant way that we do just that. It is how we make sure that all of our American servicemembers are trained, equipped, and paid and that our alliances are strengthened and our military facilities are properly modernized and maintained. We have an All-Volunteer military, and it is important for us to do all of these things in terms of quality of life, in addition to the basics, to prepare our warriors for hopefully an avoidable fight, but when it is unavoidable, to prepare them for that conflict.

In Texas, there are roughly 200,000 military men and women stationed in places like Fort Hood, Joint Base San Antonio, the Red River Army Depot, and Ellington Field. These are the people I think about as we take up this Defense authorization bill. They rely on us to deliver what we have asked them to do, to give them the tools, the equipment, and the training to do what we have asked them to do. That goal is increasingly difficult because the world is a very complex and dangerous place. The array of national security threats facing the United States is more complex and diverse than at any time since World War II. Our leadership at the Pentagon says that the strategic environment has not been this competitive since the Cold War. Simply put, America no longer enjoys the competitive edge it once had over our competitors and adversaries.

Secretary Mattis and the Department of Defense have admirably craft-

ed the national defense strategy that was delivered to Congress earlier this year laying out its strategic goal. This was a critical first step, but now the strategy must be implemented. The Defense authorization bill will align that strategy with the resources necessary to implement it—the investments, the policies, the authorizations—with the new orientation articulated in that strategy.

The Secretary of Defense will reevaluate the highest priority missions for the Department of Defense, the roles of the joint force, as well as the capabilities required to complete these missions.

All told, in its current form, the Defense authorization will support \$716 billion for our national defense. To those who would think that the price is too high, I would say there is no option. There is no nation in the world that is as capable of keeping the peace and deterring aggressors around the world. In fact, the No. 1 responsibility of the Federal Government is to provide for our common defense.

All of the rights that we enjoy in this great country of ours flow from the freedoms that are protected by our men and women in uniform. We have seen what has happened in the last few years when America has receded and retreated from its leadership role.

We don't have to fight all of these fights on our own. As General Mattis says, it is appropriate for Americans to fight by, with, and through our allies, which is the strategy we are using now rather than placing boots on the ground in many of these locations.

One important piece of the bill is bolstering recruitment, retention, and effectiveness of our Armed Forces.

A second important piece that was included in the committee markup of the NDAA is legislation I introduced called the Children of the Military Protection Act. This will close a jurisdictional loophole affecting military installations when minors commit criminal offenses on base. Because it is a military base, the Federal Government has the jurisdiction, but frequently Federal prosecutors don't have the time or the resources to prosecute the cases, so they fall through the cracks. This legislation will allow Federal prosecutors to relinquish jurisdiction to the State in these instances, allowing State-level authorities to take up the case when the Federal Government's other responsibilities and finite resources prevent it from being able to do so.

I am proud to join with Senator KING, the junior Senator from Maine, in this effort. This is a bipartisan priority that Members on both sides of the aisle should rally behind. Our children on our military bases must be protected at all costs. When they are assaulted, their assailant should not escape justice because of loopholes in the law.

Although the Federal Government maintains jurisdiction over military

bases, as I have said, unfortunately, it does not always assert its prosecutorial authority. Historically, Federal prosecutors have pursued roughly 15 percent of juvenile sex offense cases, and that is clearly not enough. We have to address this black hole for juvenile justice. We have to give local prosecutors the authority they need to go after these cases on our bases with the agreement of the Federal authorities.

I look forward to my legislation being a part of the NDAA when we vote on it perhaps as soon as next week.

There is one final aspect of the Defense authorization bill I would like to touch on, and it involves how we address future threats to our national security.

I have spoken quite a bit on the floor about the threat China poses to the United States, and they are not even coy about it. They have told us what their plan is. Their plan is to grow their economy and to grow their military in a way that dwarfs the power and economy of the United States.

Let me talk a little bit about the threat. I have spoken about that threat, but let me quote the chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, who recently said that it is “in the Indo-Pacific region [where] the United States faces a near-term belligerent threat armed with nuclear weapons and also a longer-term strategic competitor.” Of course, my friend Congressman MAC THORNBERRY is talking about China, “the competitor,” and the “belligerent threat” he identified was North Korea.

That is why this year’s Defense authorization bill, among other goals, prioritizes military readiness in the region and strengthens our key partnerships there. It promotes security and stability in the Indo-Pacific through exercises with our allies and supports improving Taiwan’s defense capabilities.

Even more important, the Defense authorization bill will include legislation I coauthored, along with the senior Senator from California Mrs. FEINSTEIN, known as the Foreign Investment Risk Review Modernization Act, or FIRRMA.

This legislation will allow us to better intercept threats to our national security posed by China when its companies masquerade as normal corporate actors, but, in fact, they are an arm of the Communist Party and the leadership in that country.

As has been well documented, China is intent upon, No. 1, stealing our intellectual property, and when they can’t do that, strategically investing to get access to both the intellectual property and the know-how to be able to take advantage of all the research and development expenditures we have made in our country and to short circuit that in developing their equivalent. Our legislation will modernize the review process of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States and ensure that we are better protected

from these sophisticated threats and help us maintain our technological edge in the national defense realm, but, as I said earlier, the Defense authorization bill is important for reasons that hit much closer to home.

In years past, this bill has authorized needed improvements at our military facilities. It has given our troops a much needed and much deserved pay raise and updated advanced aircraft, ships, and ground vehicles. These, too, have implications in all of our States, and Texas is no exception.

So when I vote on the Defense authorization bill, I will be thinking about servicemembers back in my State in addition to all those who serve in remote locations overseas. We need to get the Defense authorization bill across the finish line for them and for our country.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Democratic leader is recognized.

WELCOMING EVERYONE BACK

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, first, let me welcome you and all of my colleagues back from another productive State work period. I traveled a good deal around my State, spoke at a bunch of graduations, and found it fun and productive. I learned a lot. I am glad to be back but glad we were out in our States.

RUSSIA INVESTIGATION

First, Madam President, let me address the President’s recent comments on the Russia probe, then our negotiations with North Korea, and then healthcare.

This morning, the President tweeted that he has the “absolute right” to pardon himself and that the appointment of the special counsel is totally unconstitutional. President Trump, you went 0 for 2 on the Constitution this morning.

First, of course no President has the power to pardon himself or herself. If they did, the Presidency would function above and outside the law, counter to the very founding principles of our country. We don’t have a king. We are a nation of laws, not men. That is why the Founding Fathers created America; they didn’t like the monarchy. But if a President can pardon himself, it is virtually a monarchy, at least as far as the President is concerned. If Presidents had the power to pardon themselves, we would no longer be a democracy.

As the Department of Justice legal counsel wrote 4 days before Nixon resigned, “Under the fundamental rule

that no one may be a judge in his own case, the President cannot pardon himself.” This is virtually indisputable.

Does the President get to choose what he can pardon himself over— theft, murder, who knows? The President does not have the right to pardon himself. That is for sure.

Second, of course the appointment of the special counsel is constitutional. Never mind the fact that President Trump’s own Republican appointees made the appointment of the special counsel; this is far from the first special counsel to investigate a serious matter concerning the President. Again, if the President were beyond the reproach of any investigation, there would be no check on the President’s conduct. The President could engage in rife corruption and self-dealing without consequence. Surely, that is not what our constitutional system envisions. That is not the structure of America that the Founding Fathers set up and that we have followed for more than 200 years.

The President’s tweets are silly, farcical, and even absurd. They are not legal arguments to be treated seriously. Rather, they seem to reveal increasing desperation on the part of the President. President Trump has escalated his criticism of the Russia probe from smearing the special counsel and his team and hawking outrageous conspiracy theories to attacking the very legal architecture of our country.

Special Counsel Mueller has already issued more than a dozen indictments. He has secured several guilty pleas from top Trump campaign officials. The probe is not only legitimate; it is finding violations of the law on the part of the Trump campaign and others.

As wrong as President Trump was in his tweets this morning, you have to wonder, why is he asserting his right to pardon himself? Why is he questioning the constitutionality of an investigation in the first place? For a man who constantly proclaims his innocence, President Trump is doing an awfully good impersonation of someone who believes he has something to hide. It is hard to think of another explanation for the increasingly ridiculous and far-fetched legal theories peddled by the President and his lawyers.

The pundits and the analysts in the media are debating whether it makes smart, strategic sense for President Trump to sit down for an interview with the special counsel. They are asking the wrong question. The President’s strategy and political interests shouldn’t be the basis for whether he sits down with the special counsel.

If the special counsel requests an interview with the President as part of his investigation, the President should agree to provide testimony. If President Trump has done nothing wrong, as he so often and so loudly claims, he should have nothing to fear by sitting down with the special counsel.

NORTH KOREA

On another matter, Madam President, North Korea, over the last few weeks, we have seen an on-again, off-again routine from the Trump administration when it comes to the potential summit between President Trump and Kim Jong Un. Now that the meeting will seemingly proceed as planned, we want to make sure that the President's desire for a deal with North Korea doesn't saddle the United States, Japan, and South Korea with a bad deal.

We are all hoping the President succeeds. We are all rooting for peace. We very much hope he will be able to achieve a strong and enduring agreement because the danger of a nuclear-armed, ICBM-equipped North Korea is very, very real to the United States. But the President needs to be willing to take time to construct a good deal, and if he finds that one is not achievable, the President must be willing to walk away from the table.

In a letter to the President, Senator MENENDEZ and I strongly urged the administration to ensure that any agreement with North Korea meets five key principles.

First, North Korea must dismantle or remove every single one of its nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons.

Second, North Korea must end the production and enrichment of uranium and plutonium for military purposes and permanently dismantle its nuclear weapons infrastructure. That means test sites, all nuclear weapons research and development facilities, and enrichment facilities have to be destroyed.

Third, North Korea must continue to suspend all ballistic missile tests.

Fourth, North Korea must commit to anytime, anywhere inspections for both its nuclear and ballistic missile programs, including all nondeclared, suspicious sites. If inspectors reveal any violation, we must be permitted to implement snapback sanctions.

Lastly, any agreement between the United States and North Korea must be permanent.

If President Trump meets with Kim Jong Un and reaches a deal that meets these principles, he will have made the world a much safer place. But if he tries to reach a deal with Kim Jong Un just for the sake of reaching a deal, and if the agreement fails to live up to the principles we have laid out, then he will have been bested at the negotiating table yet again.

These five principles are the lens through which Senate Democrats will evaluate any deal with North Korea. If the deal doesn't live up to these standards, then the President should not expect Democratic support in the Senate if he tries to lift sanctions to implement an agreement.

HEALTHCARE

Finally, Madam President, on healthcare, today, health insurers in the State of Washington proposed an average rate increase of 19 percent. In my home State of New York, insurers

are requesting an increase of 24 percent, half of which they said is due to the Republicans' repeal of the healthcare coverage requirement.

Following rate increases in Virginia, Maryland, Vermont, and Oregon, these increases confirm what we already know to be a trend: The policies of the Trump administration and congressional Republicans are driving up healthcare costs for millions of Americans.

President Trump promised the American people that healthcare would be "far less expensive and far better" but once again has failed to deliver. Instead of "far less expensive and far better," Americans have gotten health coverage that is far more expensive and will be far worse, and it is a direct result of Republican policies and President Trump's actions.

President Trump has deliberately sowed major uncertainty in the marketplace. He will start offering expanded junk insurance plans, and congressional Republicans repealed the coverage requirement in their tax bill. Each of those actions, taken separately, have destabilized our healthcare system. Taken together, these policies are causing chaos, skyrocketing rates, and the return of dark days in which people with preexisting conditions faced higher premiums, denied care, and medical bankruptcy.

On healthcare, as on many issues, President Trump made bold promises but has failed to deliver the results that middle-class Americans need and expect. On healthcare, he has swung at the ball and struck out.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

"GASPEE" DAYS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, the night spanning June 9 and 10 marks the anniversary of a key chapter in American history—one whose first shots spurred our Nation on toward independence from Britain, yet one that remains unfamiliar to most Americans today, which is why I come here each year to tell the tale of the *Gaspee* Raiders.

I encourage my colleagues and all students of history to explore this chapter in more depth, in histories such as "An Empire on the Edge" by Nick Bunker or "The Burning of Her Majesty's Schooner *Gaspee*: An Attack on Crown Rule Before the American Revolution" by Steven Park.

Here is the tale in brief form.

It is 1772. Tensions between England and the Colonies have grown increasingly strained. Rhode Island is a seafaring, trading colony, without much regard for His Majesty's taxes. King

George III stations the revenue cutter HMS *Gaspee* under the command of Lieutenant William Dudingston, in Rhode Island waters. The *Gaspee*'s mission: to interdict smuggled goods and enforce the payment of the Crown's taxes.

Lieutenant Dudingston was an arrogant sort, who quickly became infamous for destroying fishing vessels, seizing cargo, and flagging down ships only to harass, humiliate, and interrogate the colonial sailors. According to Gabriel Weis in his 1916 "Guide to Newport, Rhode Island," "This unprincipled ruffian had ruthlessly ravaged the Rhode Island coast for several months, destroying unoffending fishing vessels and confiscating everything he could lay hands on."

Rhode Island seamen and traders chafed at the harsh tactics of Dudingston. A number of them delivered a petition seeking relief against the *Gaspee* to Rhode Island Chief Justice Stephen Hopkins, later a signer of the Declaration of Independence. On this occasion, Hopkins provided a legal opinion saying that British officers were obliged to present their orders and commission to Rhode Island's Governor before entering local waters, asserting a measure of colonial sovereignty.

Dudingston, of course, refused such an impudent notion and threatened to hang any man who tried to oppose the *Gaspee*. His first mistake, in the winter of 1772, was to seize a sloop named "Fortune," along with its cargo of rum and sugar, from Nathanael Greene, the wealthy son of a Quaker minister. As Daniel Harrington wrote in the *Providence Journal* last year, "the patriotic fervor . . . sweeping the colonies [had] seemed to elude [Nathanael Greene] until Dudingston snagged his Fortune and ignited the righteous spirit of resentment that now consumed him."

After first suing Dudingston for the return of his ship—and winning—Nathanael Greene would join the Revolutionary cause, ultimately commanding Rhode Island's army and then rising in General Washington's ranks to become the commander of the Southern Campaign of the Revolutionary War. During the war, General Cornwallis wrote to his wife: "That damned Greene is more dangerous than Washington."

Thank you very much, Lieutenant Dudingston, for igniting Nathanael Greene's righteous spirit.

Dudingston's various provocations continued until they reached the breaking point on June 9, 1772, when he set his sights on the sailing vessel *Hannah*, traversing Narragansett Bay from Newport to Providence. The *Gaspee* ordered the *Hannah* to stop and allow a search. On board the *Hannah*, Captain Benjamin Lindsey refused and continued on his course to Providence, ignoring warning shots fired by the *Gaspee*. Knowing that his *Hannah* was lighter and had a shallower draft than the *Gaspee*, Lindsey raced up Narragansett Bay and over the shoals off Pawtuxet

Cove. The heavier *Gaspee* kept up its chase of the *Hannah* but ran aground in the shallow waters off Namquid Point. The *Gaspee* was stuck fast on the shoal in a falling tide.

Captain Lindsey sailed on to Providence and, with the prominent merchant John Brown, later the founder of Brown University, rallied local patriots to a meeting at Sabin's Tavern, in what is now Providence's East Side. The Rhode Islanders gathered there made a fateful decision.

The British Navy was the most powerful military force on the planet. The British Crown was the most powerful political force on the planet. The Rhode Islanders had managed to strand one of His Majesty's vessels, a symbol of their oppression, helpless in an outgoing tide.

They resolved to attack.

In the early moonless hours of June 10, several dozen men—perhaps benefiting somewhat from the refreshments of Sabin's Tavern—led by John Brown and Abraham Whipple, shoved off in longboats from Providence, with blackened faces and muffled oars, to row through 6 miles of dark waters for the *Gaspee*.

As the boats surrounded the *Gaspee*, Whipple called out and demanded Lieutenant Dudingston surrender his ship. One witness later recounted his demand in this form—forgive me for the language involved, but it is historically correct.

I am the sheriff of the county of Kent, God damn you. I have got a warrant to apprehend you, God damn you; so surrender, God damn you.

Dudingston refused this polite offer and instead ordered his men to fire upon any men who attempted to board. The determined Rhode Islanders then forced their way aboard the *Gaspee*, and a struggle ensued. In the melee, Lieutenant Dudingston was shot in the groin and arm by musket balls. Gabriel Weis wrote: "The attack on the '*Gaspee*' caused the first bloodshed in the struggle for American independence, and was the first resistance to the British Navy."

Brown and Whipple's men soon overpowered the British crew and took control of the ship. Brown ordered one of his Rhode Islanders, a physician named John Mawney, to tend to Dudingston's wounds. He survived. They transported the captive Englishmen safely to shore and then returned to the abandoned *Gaspee* for one final act of defiance to the Crown and riddance to the ship: The Rhode Islanders set the *Gaspee* afire.

Now, the *Gaspee* was a gunship, and gunships store gunpowder, and the gunpowder is kept below decks in a powder magazine. The *Gaspee* burned until—wham—its powder magazine exploded, blasting into the Rhode Island night what remained of His Majesty's meddling ship, her debris flying across the blast-lit waters of Narragansett Bay.

Word quickly spread of the Rhode Islanders' daring raid. The news was

spread through pulpits and pamphlets up and down the Colonies, stoking the flames of revolution. The furious King George offered huge rewards for the capture of the insolent rebels. A trial in England was announced, but in characteristic, impressive solidarity, not one Rhode Islander would step forward to identify a single one of the raiders. The royal threats broke vainly against the silent solidarity of the Rhode Islanders. The royal nooses hung empty. The story of the *Gaspee* is just one part of a daring Rhode Island resistance, stretching across the years and months before the *Gaspee* incident, into that explosive night on Narragansett Bay, and on throughout the Revolution.

His Majesty's Navy had not heard the last of Abraham Whipple, for instance. In 1775, Abraham Whipple was in command of a small fleet facing off against the British frigate the HMS *Rose*. The captain of the British ship sent a menacing and accusatory note to Captain Whipple:

From Captain Sir James Wallace of the *Rose*:

You, Abraham Whipple, on the 10th of June 1772, burned His Majesty's vessel, the *Gaspee*, and I will hang you at the yard-arm.—James Wallace.

To which note Whipple replied with acerbic brevity:

To Sir James Wallace, Sir:
Always catch a man before you hang him.—Abraham Whipple.

By the way, Rhode Islander John Millar, two centuries later built a replica of the HMS *Rose* which obtained a starring role in the movie "Master and Commander" as Captain Aubrey's warship, the *Surprise*.

Rhode Island is proud of our role in sparking our Revolution. We have made a tradition of celebrating the *Gaspee* incident with our annual *Gaspee* Days celebration and parade in Warwick, just ashore of where the *Gaspee* was led aground.

This year, the Rhode Island State Archives is staging a new exhibit called "*Gaspee* Raiders: Pirates or Patriots." King George was pretty clear about which, but we are pretty clear also about which. There, visitors can learn about the events of June 1772 and even experience the entire *Gaspee* Affair in virtual reality.

Much of the world does not remember the burning of the *Gaspee*, but we do not forget. Beyond our State borders, most Americans think of other events as catalysts of the Revolutionary War. More than a year after the *Gaspee* incident, up in Massachusetts, some Boston worthies fortified their courage with strong drink and pushed tea bales off the deck of a British vessel. That is not bad—I guess it ruined the tea—but, personally, I think it is more impressive more than a year earlier to have blown up the British ship and shot its captain, but, for whatever reason, the Boston Tea Party is the better known historical event.

In fact, many of my colleagues, having heard me give this speech, tell me

they never even heard this story. Maybe it is because Massachusetts had two of our first Presidents, the Adams' father and son, and they talked it up. Maybe after the war, Rhode Islanders just went home to their farms and boats and businesses while Massachusetts wrote the early history books. Whatever the reason, the seizing and burning and blowing up the *Gaspee* deserves a more prominent place in Revolutionary history.

We are the State that first enshrined separation of church and State in the New World. Samuel Slater sparked America's Industrial Revolution with his mill in Pawtucket, and we drew first blood in the fight for American independence that night on Narragansett Bay. The *Gaspee* Affair is not a peculiar, drunken anomaly; it is part of a robust and early resistance by a proud colony, now a proud State.

I thank the Presiding Officer.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. 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.

CLOTURE MOTION

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 Robert Earl Wier, of Kentucky, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. 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 Robert Earl Wier, of Kentucky, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District 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 Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator

from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON), and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 90, nays 1, as follows:

(Rollcall Vote No. 112 Ex.)

YEAS—90

Alexander	Gardner	Murray
Baldwin	Gillibrand	Paul
Barrasso	Graham	Perdue
Bennet	Grassley	Peters
Blumenthal	Harris	Portman
Blunt	Hassan	Reed
Booker	Hatch	Risch
Boozman	Heitkamp	Roberts
Brown	Heller	Rounds
Burr	Hoeben	Rubio
Cantwell	Hyde-Smith	Sanders
Capito	Inhofe	Sasse
Cardin	Isakson	Schatz
Carper	Johnson	Schumer
Casey	Jones	Scott
Cassidy	Kaine	Shelby
Collins	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	Merkley	Warren
Ernst	Moran	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Murkowski	Wicker
Fischer	Murphy	Wyden

NAYS—1

Hirono

NOT VOTING—9

Coons	Heinrich	Nelson
Duckworth	McCain	Shaheen
Flake	Menendez	Young

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 90, the nays are 1.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Ohio.

VOLCKER RULE

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, last winter, this body passed a \$1.5 trillion deficit-financed tax cut for millionaires, for billionaires especially, and for corporations that ship jobs overseas. More than 80 percent of the benefits will go to the top 1 percent of the wealthiest people by the end of this decade.

Two weeks ago, Congress passed another big giveaway to Wall Street, loosening taxpayer protections on big banks that had received a combined \$239 billion in taxpayer bailouts. We know Wall Street can never get enough handouts. Too many people in this body, too many people down the hall in the House of Representatives, too many people in the Oval Office, too many people in Washington never get tired of giving these handouts away. From the day President Obama, almost a decade ago, signed Wall Street reform into law, a top Wall Street lobbyist said that it was halftime, meaning the game was not over, and they were going to keep fighting back.

Before the ink was dry on his signature, those lobbyists went to work trying to undo the rules we put in place to protect taxpayers and consumers. We are seeing the result of that lobbying

in Congress, and we are seeing it at the agencies that are supposed to be policing our financial industry.

Last week, the Federal Reserve announced proposed changes to what is known as the Volcker rule. We put this rule in place after the crisis to stop big banks from taking big risks with Americans' money. Those complicated, risky bets were a big reason for the financial crisis that devastated our economy, cost millions of Americans their jobs, cost millions of Americans much of their savings, and left taxpayers on the hook to clean up Wall Street's mess.

Lehman Brothers invested heavily in toxic mortgage-backed securities, eventually leading to \$32 billion in trade losses and the biggest bankruptcy in U.S. history. They took bank deposits, putting the U.S. taxpayer on the hook for those losses.

Hedge funds sponsored by Bear Stearns, which also took Americans' individual deposits, suffered massive losses on complex bets based on exotic subprime mortgages. During the crisis, Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley, and Citigroup also lost big on bets backed by subprime mortgages, and Goldman Sachs had to bail out a hedge fund.

Congress instructed the Federal Reserve to write strict rules to prevent that from ever happening again—to make sure that banks use the taxpayer safety nets to serve their customers, not bet against them.

Banks should be in the business of making investments in the real economy, not casino-style trades using families' checking and savings accounts. It took agencies more than 3 years to finalize the Volcker rule, which was completed in 2013 after the consideration of thousands upon thousands of public comments. Now they want to undo it all?

The rollbacks announced last week would gut core components of the Volcker rule. They would make it easier for banks to take speculative bets. The New York Times stated that the balance of power will tip immediately to traders from regulators. It will shift the power from watchdogs to the big banks themselves, from public servants who are looking to protect the public's interests to executives who are making tens of millions—occasionally, hundreds of millions—of dollars in their trading.

Instead of establishing strict limits on banks, the proposed rule changes will ask us to trust the banks to guard against risky trades. It says: Go ahead and police yourselves. Yet we know how well that turned out the last time.

The rule changes will allow banks to more easily place bets under the guise of so-called hedging. This increases the chances of yet another scandal like the London Whale episodes of 2012 when JPMorgan lost \$6 billion in one bad bet. Do we want to make it easier for them to do it again with Americans' savings accounts? Why weaken the rules now?

It is not as if the banks are suffering under this rule. Think about how the banks are doing now. The FDIC released new data last month that banks increased their profits by 13 percent last year, and that is before accounting for the windfall from the tax bill. When you add in the tax bill, banks' profits went up 28 percent last year on top of the double-digit percent almost every year from 2010 and 2011 and 2012 and 2013 and 2014 and 2015 and 2016 and 2017.

The banking sector bought back \$77 billion worth of stock last year. Last year, the CEOs of the six largest banks got an average raise of 22 percent. These were CEOs who were already making millions and millions of dollars. Keep in mind that the average bank teller in this country makes about \$12.50 an hour. Yet the CEOs of these banks—some of them already making \$10 million and \$20 million a year—got a 22-percent increase.

This is not some dying industry that is crying out for help. If anything, it is an industry that needs a more watchful eye. The largest banks paid \$240 billion worth of fines 10 years ago after the collapse. Wells Fargo can't go more than a few months without having a scandal. Deutsche Bank is struggling with poor risk management and inadequate capital.

So why put taxpayers and bank customers at risk? We have a pretty good idea why.

Just take a look who this administration has put in charge. The White House looks like a retreat for Wall Street executives. We have former OneWest banker Joseph Otting running the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. As if the Volcker rule rollback were not bad enough, he announced last week that he wants to get banks into the business of financing payday loans. Otting has other plans to gut the Community Reinvestment Act—a 40-year-old law that ensures that banks serve their communities.

Fed Vice Chair Randal Quarles recently gave a speech, saying that, just as we predicted, the Federal Reserve wants to loosen rules on foreign megabanks—these banks that are in this country, like Deutsche Bank and Santander and some of these big banks—that have, clearly, from time to time, abused the public trust. We are going to loosen the rules that regulate foreign banks in this country? He said last week's changes to the Volcker rule were just the start. He said it was the first effort to weaken the rule.

People like Randal Quarles—people who didn't spot the crisis the last time they were watchdogs, when they were in government 15 years ago, people who profited off the very crisis they failed to prevent—may have forgotten what these risky bets did to so many families in this country. Maybe they have succumbed to the collective amnesia that affects more and more people in this town. Families in my State haven't forgotten. Workers' savings were wiped out. They watched college

accounts and retirement savings shrink and shrink. Hopes and dreams were dashed.

Americans can't afford to go back to the days when Wall Street gambled with their hard-earned money. The crisis has cast a long shadow over these families. Today, 4 out of 10 adults can't afford an emergency expense of \$400. If your car breaks down and it costs \$500 or \$600, you don't have the money to do that if you are much of the American public. You go to a payday lender who charges you exorbitant interest rates. You go back and go back because you can't get ahead.

One in four renters pays more than 50 percent in income to keep a roof overhead. One in four renters pays 50 percent in income or more to keep a roof overhead. One bad thing happens in their lives—a child gets sick; they miss work for a few days; they can't make payments because they have had broken-down cars. All kinds of things can happen. They can be evicted, and many of them are. More and more workers have irregular schedules and incomes that vary up and down from month to month. It is those Americans we are sent here to serve.

It also comes back to whose side you are on. Are you going to stand with hard-working Americans or with risky Wall Street traders? We need to go home and listen a little more to the people we serve and a little less to special interests. That is how we create an economy that values work and that serves the common good, not by falling all over ourselves in this body to serve Wall Street.

UNION ORGANIZING

Mr. President, last week, American workers had a victory. Boeing flight technicians in South Carolina voted to join a union for the first time, giving them a voice in their workplace and the freedom to bargain for the pay and the benefits they have earned. This will make a tremendous difference in the lives of those workers, but we know far too many Americans aren't so lucky. Tens of millions of Americans have no voice in the workplace, and when they try to organize a union, they are almost always met with resistance from corporations at every turn.

Boeing fought these workers' efforts tooth and nail. The corporate leaders used every trick in the book to try to prevent these workers from organizing and from standing up and speaking with a collective voice. It took three tries for workers to finally overcome that corporate obstruction. Their fight is not over. Boeing is appealing the results of the election in a last, desperate attempt to silence these workers.

For too many workers, hard work doesn't pay off. They are paid less, and they have little economic security. Corporate profits have gone up. The GDP has gone up. Executive compensation has gone up. Executive salaries have skyrocketed. Workers, simply, haven't shared in the wealth they have created.

More workers have no control over their own schedules. They work odd hours. They have no paid sick leave and no overtime pay. Companies use temporary workers and independent contractors to pay people less for the same work. Workers on the traditional payroll have often seen their wages and benefits stagnate and their job security whittled away. That is what happens when workers have no voice and no power in the workplace. We have to change that because it is not corporations that drive the economy; it is workers.

We know it from the way we write tax bills here. When we write a tax bill that focuses on the middle class and gives tax breaks to them, the economy grows because you build the economy up. When we pass a tax cut here, overwhelmingly, it goes to the wealthiest people and the largest corporations. The trickle-down effect creates very, very few jobs. When workers can bargain for higher pay and better benefits that reflect the dignity of work that they do, we are all better off. That is how you grow the economy.

This victory for Boeing's workers is a small but important step in the right direction. Now we need to give workers all over this country the same power in their own workplaces.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LANKFORD). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

IMMIGRATION

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I am coming to the floor tonight to talk about the issue of immigration here in the United States of America.

I think all of us are very familiar with the Statue of Liberty—a symbol we know about from the time we begin to talk, a symbol that represents much of the history of our country, where so many of us coming from every corner of the globe have family histories that involve parents or grandparents or great-grandparents or, generations ago, people fleeing persecution from around the world.

That welcoming sign—"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free"—those words inscribed on the base of the Statue of Liberty represent the fact that when it comes to people fleeing persecution, America is a place ready to receive them.

This isn't just something that is woven into the history of our country. It is not just something woven into the DNA of our souls as Americans. It is also woven into our laws—our national laws and our international treaties—for how to treat refugees fleeing persecution. It works like this: A family who has been in horrific circumstances can come to the U.S. border and an-

nounce that they are fleeing persecution and wish to seek asylum in the United States of America. They are then given a court date to appear to present their case. Their case has to be substantial, it has to be documented, and the court will decide whether it meets the test of whether they are legitimately in fear for their lives or for their children's lives should they return to their homeland overseas. That is the process.

But we have a new policy that was announced just in April and amplified in a speech by the Attorney General in May, last month. This new process says that when those families come to the United States fleeing persecution, we are going to proceed to take the children away from the parents while they are awaiting adjudication—the day to come before a judge to present their case on their affliction abroad.

Let me explain this in more significant terms. Families who have experienced trauma abroad are then subjected to trauma when they arrive at our border. This is the new policy that Jeff Sessions announced in April and gave a speech about in May. He called it "zero tolerance" because he wanted to put a positive spin because somehow those words carry positive weight. But let me state this: There is nothing positive about subjecting children to trauma who are fleeing trauma abroad. It is un-American. It is inhumane. It is absolutely in every moral sense wrong, and the administration knows it.

They first started debating this policy when the President came into office early last year, in January and February. They held these conversations and decided that it was way inappropriate for America to treat children in this fashion, subject these children fleeing persecution to trauma upon arrival in the United States of America, so they put it on hold for the better part of a year. Then last summer they decided they would experiment with it and have a pilot project. So at a few locations, they started this process of taking a family seeking asylum and ripping the children out of their parents' arms and sending them off to who knows where. The children didn't know where, the parents didn't know where, and the American people didn't know where, because when stories started to come up about this, the administration denied it was happening.

More and more stories started coming out. Then the administration said: We have a policy of, in some cases, taking children away from their parents in order to protect them from smugglers.

Now, I ask, does that make any sense to anyone? A family here in the United States, a family who is together—the children have the stability and security of being with their parents. They are no longer abroad. They are no longer in danger of a smuggler grabbing them or kidnapping them. And the administration says: We are protecting the kids from smugglers by ripping them away from their parents.

It is obviously such an incredibly phony story that no one would believe that story, so the administration started to wrestle with how to present this story. They came up with this zero tolerance. They really had to explain what they were doing. Here is the idea. They said: We believe that if we impose this kind of affliction on the children and the parents, families won't come here seeking asylum. So that is what this is about. This is about hurting children in order to dissuade families pursuing their rights under American and international law to ask for asylum here in the United States of America. This asylum is not granted to just anyone. People have to prove persecution abroad and a huge likely threat of injury, damage, and persecution should they return.

So now we have it. This is not a zero-tolerance policy; this is a zero-humanity policy.

When I say that we are subjecting these children to trauma, let me paint the picture for you. A family somewhere in the world has stood up to the local drug cartel. The local drug cartel has killed one or two of the members of that family and threatened the rest or gang-raped a daughter in the family and threatened to kill her and then to burn down the family's house. That is the type of trauma we are talking about.

The family says: We have to escape. We will flee. And they know that America has a Statue of Liberty. They know that America has received families over generations fleeing persecution, that this is in our tradition.

These children who have already been through so much knock on our door. They probably left their hometown and their house and just ran as fast as they could to escape before they suffered the injury they feared. They arrive here and they think: Wow, we made it. We made it through the various challenges of fleeing halfway across the world to come to America. Here, we can be treated well, be safe and sound.

They know that if they can prove their case, they can get asylum, and they have come to present their case. Then what happens? These children who don't know our country, who don't know the language, who don't know anything about how our systems work, are with their parents, and then up comes an official who says: I am taking the children away. The parents have no knowledge of where they will go. When will they be reunited? They have no knowledge of when they will be reunited. What will happen to my children? Then the parents and the children start screaming because they are terrified of being separated.

Well, we are putting these children through this trauma. So yesterday I went to Texas to try to see the facilities that are involved with this new policy. Specifically, there are two key places. One is operated by the Department of Homeland Security, and one is

operated by the Department of Health and Human Services.

Let's take a look at Homeland Security first. I was given permission to visit this facility. I very much appreciate being given that permission. This is not a picture that I took because I wasn't allowed to take in a camera. This isn't a picture of the facility that I visited, nor is this a recent picture, but I am presenting it here because this is what the big warehouse looked like that I visited. This is a general picture of what I saw.

I saw a smaller room—maybe about the size of the Senate Chamber—divided into a series of cages. Just to give you a rough approximation, these cages may be 15 feet by 15 feet with tons of people jammed in, so that if they all tried to lay down, there wouldn't be room for them to do so. They have space blankets like the space blankets in this picture. In this room I am describing, there weren't mattresses, but in this picture, there are. I will get to that in a moment. Some of the women crowded into some of these cages had children in their arms. Others were by themselves.

This is a processing facility. Next to this particular room is a much bigger warehouse room that looks more like this—a massive room. It has bigger cages that look like these cages made out of fencing.

I think about this one particular cage that I stood next to for a little while that was full of young boys. They were having them line up to prepare to get food. They had them line up by the shortest to the tallest. The littlest tyke must have been about as tall as this desk right here—I don't know, maybe 4 or 5 years old, something like that, on up through 16 and 17 years old.

What you have to realize is that some of these folks arrived as unaccompanied minors, but many of them came with their families as they sought asylum, and they had been separated from their parents. Their parents might have been in another cage somewhere across this facility, but they wouldn't necessarily be able to see them. They wouldn't necessarily be able to know where they are. They certainly didn't know what was going to happen to them.

So that is the processing side of this. After the children are separated, they are sent to a child detention center. That is the second step.

Let me go to another picture. I was standing here yesterday in front of a former Walmart. Above up where the Walmart sign would be, it instead says "Southwest Key Program." Then it says "Casa Padre." There is irony in that name, "Casa Padre." "Casa" means "house" in Spanish. "Padre" means "father," but there are no fathers there. There are no parents there—or so we are told; I wasn't able to get inside to see.

My team had contacted the Department of Health and Human Services and asked permission to visit, just as

my team had contacted the Department of Homeland Security to visit the processing center. The processing center said yes. This detention center for children said no. I thought, well, you know, as long as I am down in the vicinity, I am going to go by and just ask again because why would a facility want to have a policy of preventing Members of Congress from seeing what is going on inside? My understanding is that everyone has been turned down as far as seeing what is inside of this building.

It is reported that there are 1,000 children inside this Walmart without their parents. I think the American people have a right to know what is being done with their taxpayer dollars in treating children. Maybe if you go inside, you would see very clean mattresses and children playing games. It is a reputable nonprofit, as I understand it, that is operating this place. But what are the stories behind those children, and how long are those children there before they are shipped somewhere across the country to a foster home? They have no idea where they are going. They have no idea how they will be treated. They have no idea when they will see their parents again.

This is significant, unnecessary trauma being inflicted on children, and it is wrong. For the Trump administration to try to keep what is going on inside here a secret is unacceptable. Members of Congress need to be able to visit—not with 2 and 3 weeks' notice so the children can be shipped out and maybe the place can be cleaned up. You should have some chance to visit to see what it really looks like. How are the children really being treated? When it is rearranged, it can give you a false impression.

Members of Congress need to be able to talk to the children, to hear their stories to understand what they are going through. So I am calling on the administration to end this secrecy at these child detention centers. Apparently, there are a number of these across the country, but we don't even have that information. We don't know for sure how many children are in this former Walmart. We are told there are approximately 1,000.

Here is one thing we know: We know, because the Department of Homeland Security told us this, that they separated 658 children from their parents at processing facilities in a 12-day period in May. That is over 50 times a day that children are being ripped out of the hands of their parents, producing enormous trauma—and trauma not just for the child but trauma for the parent.

I am a parent. I have two children. They are no longer small tykes, but I can only imagine having escaped horrors overseas and then coming and having my children torn away from me, out of my arms, having my children snatched by an unknown force and sent to an unknown place.

It is important for Members of Congress, on reasonably short notice, to be

able to see what is going on in this building. So I knocked. There was a sign up here. This is probably what appears in this picture. It says: If you want to go inside, call this number. I asked people coming out: Can I come in and talk to a supervisor? They pointed to this sign. I called up, and they said they would send out a supervisor to talk to me. I waited 10 minutes and called again. They again said a supervisor would come out. I waited, and a supervisor did come out, but he didn't want to talk to me, he wanted to talk to the policemen he called.

Cop cars pulled up. He explained to the cops that he didn't want me on the property. I explained that when I had called, they said the supervisor would be happy to talk to me. I had been waiting for him, and in that sense, it was an invitation to be there. I pointed out that nobody asked me to leave the property, but that invitation to leave the property came soon enough thereafter.

Clearly the supervisor is under instructions not to share anything about how many children there are or about what is going on inside or any kind of activity. This is coming from the highest levels. When I was at the processing center, they told me that they were simply doing what they are being ordered to do from DC.

So there it is. The Attorney General and the President have created a new policy—a policy we have never seen in the United States of America of abusing children, causing trauma to children as a way to dissuade people from actually exercising their rights under our laws and under international laws to present their case for asylum.

Here are the policemen coming to talk to me. Here is the supervisor suggesting to them that perhaps he didn't want to have a conversation with a Senator trying to understand what was going on inside.

We have had various cases in our history of child-snatching. There was an article today in the New York Times that was about child-snatching during slavery, where children were ripped out of the arms of their parents and sold to far-away plantations, never to be seen again. The article went on to talk about child-snatching with Native American Tribes, where children were ripped out of the arms of their parents to be sent off to who-knows-where.

It is not an acceptable practice of any kind. It is morally bankrupt. It is harmful. We do not harm children in the United States of America in order to increase our leverage, to dissuade people from asserting their asylum rights and getting an asylum hearing. We do not do this—until now. It is morally bankrupt. It is so beyond wrong that the administration is wrapping it in secrecy, not allowing the press to see it. I am talking about without cameras—not something to violate the children's rights but to see what is going on inside. And they will not allow policymakers to see it. When

something is wrapped in secrecy like that, you know it is wrong. The administration knows it is wrong.

I call on my fellow Members here in the Senate to make it very clear to the administration that this is unacceptable. Every Member of this body and the House has every right to visit detention centers or any other immigration facility to see what is happening so that we can debate it here. We should hold a hearing in our HELP Committee—Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee—about what is going on with the organization for refugee resettlement and what they are doing detaining these thousands of children.

The reported numbers of children detained by our government—ripped out of the arms of families seeking asylum—have gone up 20 percent in 1 month. Some 10,000-plus children are being held at centers like this, foster homes, other halfway houses, and so forth around this country.

We have a responsibility in this Chamber to get to the bottom of what is going on and to put an end to it.

Thank you.

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.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, June 5, all postcloture time on the Wier nomination be considered expired and the Senate vote on the confirmation of the nomination; further, that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid on the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

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.

TRIBUTE TO HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ZEID RA'AD AL HUSSEIN

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I want to take a moment to pay tribute to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, who some here also know from his service as Jordan's Permanent Rep-

resentative to the United Nations and as Jordan's Ambassador to the United States.

The High Commissioner has held his post since September 1, 2014, and his term will end on August 31, 2018. He has carried out his responsibilities with exceptional courage, compassion, commitment, and even humor, qualities that are indispensable for any successful U.N. High Commissioner. In so doing, he has been the target of relentless attacks by government officials who abuse their authority by manipulating their countries' electoral processes and security forces to arrest, imprison, abuse, and even assassinate their critics, whether independent journalists, members of political opposition parties, or civil society activists.

In a speech delivered Tuesday at an international conference marking the 25th anniversary of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted on June 25, 2003, in response to the atrocities committed in the former Yugoslavia, the High Commissioner warned that human rights are under siege in many parts of the world, including Europe.

He said, "This anniversary could be the occasion for a polite celebration of the achievements of my Office over the past two and a half decades—and they are many. But today is not a time for soporific complacency. Human rights are sorely under pressure around the world—no longer a priority; a pariah. The legitimacy of human rights principles is attacked. The practice of human rights norms is in retreat. Here in Europe, ethno-populist parties are in the ascendant in many countries—fueling hatred and scarring their societies with deepening divisions."

No one should be surprised by this. We see the consequences every day, including in countries that are friends and allies of the United States. Legitimate dissent is labeled "terrorism." Those who defend human rights are themselves maligned and targeted. Dictators are feted, and their crimes are ignored. Xenophobia and racism are treated as legitimate responses to domestic problems.

As the High Commissioner noted, it is incumbent on each of us to defend human rights and to counter those who promote hatred and intolerance. What is the alternative? Despotism. Fascism. Isolationism. Forces and ideologies we have resisted and fought against for generations. We owe it to past and future generations, as the High Commissioner said, "to stand by our achievements and the advances which have been made." This is not only a moral imperative for upholding the values our country stands for and preserving our international reputation, but a pragmatic necessity for protecting our interests at home and abroad.

I want to thank the High Commissioner for his extraordinary efforts during the past 4 extremely challenging years. He has been a tireless, principled defender of universal human rights,

and in doing so, he has set a high bar for those who follow in his footsteps.

I ask unanimous consent that the High Commissioner's remarks be printed in the RECORD.

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

STATEMENT BY UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ZEID RA'AD AL HUSSEIN ON THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIENNA DECLARATION

MINISTER KNEISSL.

EXCELLENCIES, COLLEAGUES, FRIENDS.

Twenty five years ago, it was here, in this city of confluence and cultural connection that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action was adopted—and with its crucial description of human rights as “universal, indivisible, interdependent and inter-related”, cut through the artificial division of civil and political rights from rights that are cultural, economic and social.

The Cold War had ended, and the first words of the preamble marked a great hope for a new era, with interdependent countries engaging in a common approach to the causes of human suffering:

“Considering that the promotion and protection of human rights is a matter of priority for the international community.”

It was here that the world unanimously reaffirmed that every refugee from persecution is entitled to asylum, and called for effective protection for all those who are compelled to become migrants.

It was here that States urged immediate and strong measures to combat racism, xenophobia and religious hatred, and to ensure participation by the poorest people in decision-making.

It was here in Vienna that States recommended the creation of the mandate which I am honoured to occupy: the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

But today we seem to be headed in another direction.

Backwards. To a landscape of increasingly strident, zero-sum nationalism, where the jealously guarded short-term interests of individual leaders outweigh the search for solutions to our common ills. Backwards, to an era of contempt for the rights of people who have been forced to flee their homes, because the threats they face there are more dangerous even than the perils of their voyage.

Backwards, to a time of proxy regional and global warfare—a time when military operations could deliberately target civilians and civilian sites such as hospitals, and chemical gases were openly used for military purposes.

Backwards, to an era when racists and xenophobes deliberately enflamed hatred and discrimination among the public, while carefully cloaking themselves in the guise of democracy and the rule of law.

Backwards, to an era when women were not permitted to control their own choices and their own bodies. An era when criticism was criminalised, and human rights activism brought jail—or worse.

So this anniversary could be the occasion for a polite celebration of the achievements of my Office over the past two and a half decades—and they are many. But today is not a time for soporific complacency. Human rights are sorely under pressure around the world—no longer a priority; a pariah. The legitimacy of human rights principles is attacked. The practise of human rights norms is in retreat. Here in Europe, ethno-populist parties are in the ascendant in many countries—fuelling hatred and scarring their societies with deepening divisions.

Where these parties have achieved power, they have sought to undermine the independ-

ence of the judiciary and silence many critical voices in the independent media and civil society. They have propagated distorted and false views of migrants and human rights activists. Almost everywhere, across Europe the hatred they direct at migrants has infiltrated the mainstream parties and skewed the political landscape towards greater violence and suffering.

In this country—which more than most should be aware of the dangers of ethnically divisive rhetoric, given the historical role of Karl Lueger—false and incendiary statements have been recently made which are fundamentally at odds with the Vienna Declaration.

Minister Kneissl, Excellencies,

As Viktor Frankl so often wrote, it is compassion, and contribution to the lives of others, which form the anchor of an honourable life. And the way to honour the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action is to act on it. Human rights are not just words to be nodded at sagely at anniversaries. They are meant, above all, to be put into practice, and anchored especially in the daily experiences of the poorest and most marginalised people—such as those who flee the destruction of their hopes by conflict and deprivation.

There will be no peace for any country until there is respect, and justice. There will be no sustainable prosperity unless all can benefit. Human equality and dignity are the path towards peace in the world: the path of real patriotism, building societies grounded in harmony, not divisiveness and hate.

So it is time to stand up for what the Vienna Declaration truly represents.

We need to use this anniversary to begin to mobilize a much broader community to defend human rights with our fierce, and passionate commitment. We need to make clear the vital, life-saving importance of human rights for the daily lives and global future of our fellow human beings.

Many of us do still have space to voice our concerns. We need to stand by our achievements and the advances which have been made.

We need to push back against the haters, the destroyers, the isolationists and ethno-nationalists.

We need to move forward, defiantly, to ensure that those indivisible, universal, interdependent and interrelated rights are able to build on each other to shape a world of well-being and safety.

There is no time to lose. Let this be a turning point, so that the Vienna Declaration can stand proud—not as a decaying museum piece, but as the flag-bearer for a resurgent movement to build peace and progress.

Thank you.

INDIGENOUS ACTIVISTS IN THE PHILIPPINES

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I want to speak about a subject that other Senators should be aware of.

Many Members of Congress have visited the Philippines, a country with which we share a long history of strategic, economic, cultural, and other interests. We also know that, for many years, the Philippine Government has been fighting an extremist insurgency in Mindanao. The United States has been supporting the Philippine Government in that effort.

According to information I have received, on February 21, 2018, the Philippines State Prosecutor filed a legal petition to declare over 600 persons as “terrorists,” alleging that they are

members of the Communist party of the Philippines, CPP, and the New Peoples Army, NPA, two groups designated by the United States as foreign terrorist organizations. The list was published after the collapse of the peace negotiations between CPP-NPA and the Philippine Government last year.

By itself, that might not be objectionable. There are terrorists in the Philippines. The problem with this “terrorist list” is that the government is apparently using it to persecute people who have nothing to do with terrorism, but who have engaged in legitimate, peaceful dissent and protests in opposition to government policies that threaten their way of life.

The list includes a number of indigenous rights defenders who, as far as I am aware, are not at all affiliated with the CPP-NPA. These individuals are known and respected nationally and internationally for their consistent, lawful efforts to protect human rights for the most vulnerable and marginalized populations in the Philippines. By criminalizing their work and including these activists on an official terrorist list, the administration of President Duterte is endangering the lives of these and other human rights defenders and community leaders. It is a misuse of the justice system to deny their rights to free expression, association, and assembly—rights we take for granted and that are enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The affected individuals are now subject to warrantless arrests, surveillance, and freezing of assets. Their lives and the lives of their families are in danger. Human Rights Watch has described the petition as “a virtual government hit list,” noting the “long history in the Philippines of state security forces and pro-government militias assassinating those labeled as NPA members or supporters.” In March 2018 alone, there were reportedly at least three cases of extrajudicial killings of indigenous leaders, all known for their work to organize communities for the protection of indigenous lands.

Two of the more high-profile targeted activists, Joan Carling and Victoria Tauli Corpuz, were fortunate to have been out of the country when the list was published. Carling is an indigenous activist from the Cordillera region in the Philippines. She has been working on indigenous issues at the grassroots and international levels for more than 20 years. Ms. Carling has been elected twice as the Secretary General of the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact, AIPP, representing AIPP's 47 member-organizations in 14 countries. She was appointed by the U.N. Economic and Social Council as an indigenous expert-member of the U.N. Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues for 2014-16.

Victoria Tauli Corpuz was appointed as the U.N. Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples by the U.N. Human Rights Council in 2014. She is an indigenous leader from the

Kankana-ey Igorot people of the Cordillera region in the Philippines. As an indigenous activist, she has worked for over three decades to protect indigenous rights and as an advocate for women's rights.

As a consequence of the Duterte administration's action, these women suddenly have no home to return to. They cannot risk going back to the Philippines. Still, they are fortunate compared to those targeted leaders who remain in the country. The terrorist list also includes members of indigenous communities in Mindanao who were displaced from their lands in President Duterte's antiterrorism sweep and now live precariously in evacuation camps.

Much of this reportedly has to do with powerful business interests in collusion with corrupt officials in the government. In the recent past, the Philippine Government has fast-tracked priority infrastructure development projects. Some of these projects are reportedly planned to be built on ancestral indigenous lands, despite opposition from indigenous communities and the failure to secure indigenous peoples' free, prior, and informed consent as required by Philippine law and as contained in the 2007 U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Indigenous leaders have objected to these projects, insisting that the government respect their rights and obtain their consent for projects that affect them.

The United States has long supported efforts of the Philippine Government and civil society to unlock the country's potential to achieve inclusive, sustainable economic growth. As ranking member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on the Department of State and Foreign Operations, I have supported programs to help the Philippines combat poverty, strengthen democratic institutions, enhance maritime security, and protect the rights of its people.

Criminalizing these indigenous rights defenders would reverse progress the country has made and threaten the functioning of civil society which is fundamental to any democracy. Joan Carling, Victoria Tauli Corpuz, and other indigenous leaders and activists who from all indications are guilty of nothing more than defending their territories and cultures do not belong on a "terrorist" list. Instead, the government should be defending their rights and protecting their safety and the safety of other indigenous leaders and human rights activists.

Our own government, the Departments of State and Defense and the U.S. Agency for International Development, as well as international financial institutions we support, should ensure that development activities are carried out in accordance with the rights of local communities, including the right of indigenous peoples to free, prior, and informed consent.

We all oppose terrorism wherever it occurs, but our collective approach to

preventing terrorism has too often made the problem worse, especially when the result is the curtailment of basic freedoms. Labeling as "terrorists" political opponents or civil society activists who do not advocate or engage in violence and who, to the contrary, have been threatened and attacked for defending their rights is one example of this, and it is an increasingly common tactic of governments; yet there are few if any ways more likely to cause people to resort to violence than by misusing government power to suppress legitimate dissent. Far from stopping terrorism, adopting such abusive tactics sets back our collective efforts against terrorism.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION AGAINST IMPUNITY IN GUATEMALA

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, many of us here are familiar with the International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala, known as CICIG. The U.S. Congress and Republican and Democratic administrations have supported it for years, and with few exceptions, it is strongly supported by the Guatemalan people. That is because CICIG, working closely with the Office of the Attorney General, has proven what many Guatemalans thought impossible, that even the most powerful government officials who commit major crimes believing they are above the law can be brought to justice.

CICIG was created in December 2006, when the United Nations and Guatemala signed a treaty-level agreement setting up CICIG as an independent body to support the Office of the Attorney General, the National Civilian Police, and other Guatemalan Government institutions in the investigation and prosecution of particularly sensitive and difficult cases. I vividly remember that time, when impunity for even the worst crimes was a virtual certainty in Guatemala.

During more than 35 years of internal armed conflict an estimated 200,000 Guatemalans, mostly rural Mayan villagers, were murdered—the vast majority by the army. Many were rounded up and never seen or heard from again. Thanks largely to the efforts of the Guatemala Forensic Anthropology Foundation, the tortured remains of many hundreds have been found in unmarked mass graves, some on former military bases. Hardly anyone has been punished for those atrocities, and past attempts to investigate and prosecute some of the individuals responsible were stymied.

Even in the years since that dark period, almost anyone, especially those in positions of authority, got away with anything, including assassinations and robbing the public treasury. Today, few crimes involving official corruption and violations of human rights are prosecuted, and even fewer result in conviction and punishment.

But those that have been credibly investigated and brought to trial are due

to the courageous efforts of CICIG and its commissioner, Ivan Velasquez, a respected Colombian jurist, and the recently retired attorney general, Thelma Aldana, who carried on the tradition of independence and integrity established by her predecessor, Claudia Paz y Paz. These prosecutors have given hope not only to victims who long ago lost faith in Guatemala's dysfunctional justice system, but also to many members of the business community who recognize that, without an independent judiciary and confidence that the rule of law will be enforced, Guatemala will never attract the foreign investment it needs to develop.

Predictably and throughout its history, CICIG has come under attack from those who have enriched themselves at public expense and escaped justice, including for heinous crimes. Fearing prosecution, they have sought to challenge CICIG's legitimacy and impugned the character and conduct of its commissioner. Each time, CICIG has survived, thanks to the support of the international community.

Today, CICIG is once again being attacked, including by some senior officials, who have sought to exploit factual misrepresentations, including those echoed in the Guatemalan and U.S. media, about a troubling case involving members of a Russian family who entered Guatemala with fraudulent passports. This has even resulted in a portion of the funds appropriated by Congress for CICIG to be temporarily blocked from disbursement.

Without recounting the bizarre facts of that case, suffice it to say that not a shred of credible evidence has been presented to support the allegations of abuse of authority leveled at CICIG and in particular at Commissioner Velasquez. That, however, does not appear to matter to those who have long sought an excuse to replace Velasquez with someone who is susceptible to intimidation. The Bitkov case, which has all the makings of a made-for-TV tragedy, should be appropriately resolved in the Guatemalan courts. The family should be treated justly and humanely. But CICIG is not the problem.

It is important to reiterate what the Guatemalan people know: CICIG is an absolutely essential institution that has enabled the office of the attorney general to break through the wall of impunity in ways that would never have been possible without CICIG's support. It is that simple. Without CICIG, there is no reason to believe that any case involving high-ranking officials or members of organized crime networks with the ability to intimidate and bribe prosecutors and judges and threaten or assassinate witnesses will be brought to justice.

It is also a fact that CICIG is only as effective as its commissioner and that, while even those who want to rein in CICIG publicly claim to support it, they make little secret of their goal to get rid of Velasquez.

Commissioner Velasquez is an experienced, courageous jurist with integrity. That is why he was hired for the job, and by all indications, he is guilty of nothing more than doing the job he was hired to do. The more he does so, the more those who fear prosecution will try to find ways to stop him. It is therefore very important at this time that the international community, including the United States, reaffirms its support for Velasquez and the fight against corruption and impunity in Guatemala.

It is noteworthy that the former attorney general has consistently voiced her support for Velasquez because, if anyone should know if there is a grain of truth to the allegations against him, it would be her. She knows from experience the motivations of those who are aligned against CICIG because they have also tried to intimidate her.

In order for CICIG and Commissioner Velasquez to effectively carry out CICIG's mandate through the remainder of its current term that ends in September 2019, he needs the support of the Guatemalan Government, the United Nations, the United States, and other governments that support justice in Guatemala. I commend the Department of State and U.S. Ambassador Arreaga for recognizing what is at stake and for seeking ways to ensure that CICIG and Commissioner Velasquez can carry out their responsibilities transparently and effectively. I also know that a majority of Democrats and Republicans respect Commissioner Velasquez and want CICIG to receive the funds it needs. I am confident that the funds will be released, that CICIG and the role of the Commissioner will be enhanced, and that the cause of justice for the Guatemalan people will be served.

NOMINATION OBJECTION

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I intend to object to any unanimous consent request relating to the nomination of William R. Evanina, to be Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center, PN1548.

During the course of the Judiciary Committee's inquiry into how the Justice Department and FBI handled the Clinton and Russia investigations, committee staff have reviewed text messages between Peter Strzok and Lisa Page. In some of the text messages, an individual named "Evanina" is mentioned in the context of government officials having briefed then Vice President-Elect Pence on national security related issues and planning to brief him a second time. The name was redacted from text messages initially provided to Congress.

"Evanina" most likely refers to the nominee who is and was at that time Acting Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center. The committee needs to more fully understand the meaning of the apparent references to Mr. Evanina in the

Strzok-Page texts and will need to obtain further context from him and the Justice Department in order to do so before I could consent to proceeding to consider his confirmation.

The committee has recently experienced increasing difficulty in obtaining relevant documents and briefings from the Justice Department and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, ODNI. For example, Deputy Attorney General, DAG, Rod Rosenstein personally assured me that the Senate Judiciary Committee would receive equal access to information provided to the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, HPSCI, with regard to any concessions in its negotiations regarding pending subpoenas from that committee. Two weeks ago, the ODNI and the DAG provided a briefing in connection with a pending HPSCI, subpoena to which no Senate Judiciary Committee member was invited. Thus far, the committee's attempts to schedule an equivalent briefing have been ignored.

Additionally, beginning November 29, 2017, I made requests for information from the inspector general of the Intelligence Community and ODNI regarding the diffusion of the IC whistleblower program and the highly unusual and problematic termination of the IC IG's former Executive Director for Whistleblowing and Source Protection. In March, having received none of the information I asked for, I formally and publicly objected to the confirmation of the ODNI general counsel nominee. To date, I still have received nothing. Therefore, I also object to Mr. Evanina's confirmation until and unless the ODNI provides a fulsome response to my letters. Additionally, I understand that Mr. Evanina was responsible for developing policies and procedures to address retaliatory security clearance actions pursuant to a statutory directive, but that it is not clear whether such policies and procedures have been implemented. I would like for Mr. Evanina to explain the status of those efforts.

Thus, unfortunately, I must object to any consideration of this nomination. My objection is not intended to question the credentials of Mr. Evanina in any way. However, the executive branch must recognize that it has an ongoing obligation to respond to congressional inquiries in a timely and reasonable manner.

REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the Republic of Azerbaijan, which celebrated the 100th anniversary of its declaration of independence on May 28.

The United States was one of the first countries to recognize Azerbaijan's independence. The country faced horrific challenges when it was invaded by the Bolsheviks in 1920 and later incorporated into the Soviet Union. With the end of the Cold War

and the demise of the USSR, Azerbaijan once again achieved its independence on August 30, 1991. Our country recognized Azerbaijan's independence that same year and established diplomatic relations with the Republic of Azerbaijan on February 19, 1992.

Azerbaijan is a key security partner of the United States. For example, Azerbaijani troops have served in Afghanistan since 2002 to assist the United States and our partners in NATO. Additionally, the country supports the United States through the Northern Distribution Network, which allows for the transit of nonlethal supplies through Azerbaijan's territory to our forces in Afghanistan and permits the overflight through its airspace of U.S. military personnel heading to Afghanistan.

Azerbaijan also stands as an example of a secular, Muslim-majority country that has excellent relations with its own Jewish community and has maintained diplomatic relations with our strong ally, Israel, for over 25 years.

Through the Southern Gas Corridor, Azerbaijan will provide energy to our allies in Europe, thus lessening the continent's reliance on Russia for gas.

For this and many other reasons, I commend the Republic of Azerbaijan and its people on this significant anniversary.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

BICENTENNIAL OF MADISON, NORTH CAROLINA

• Mr. BURR. Mr. President, today I wish to celebrate with the citizens of Madison, NC, the town's 200 years of rich history. Named for President James Madison, the town was acquired at auction in June 1818.

In Madison's infancy, tobacco was a high-demand commodity and employer in town due to its location on the Dan and Mayor Rivers, which offer fertile soil for cultivation. By the late 1800s, Madison was home to more than 40 tobacco factories, I reported to have been the largest grower of tobacco in the world at that time. In the early 1900s, Madison reaped the benefits of a growth in the textiles industry when Gem Dandy, Inc., opened for business in town. It remains headquartered there today. Madison gained another employer in the mid-1990s when Remington Arms made Madison home to its headquarters.

Today Madison boasts two historic districts and several landmarks listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

I am proud to offer my congratulations to the citizens of Madison, NC on the occasion of their bicentennial. •

REMEMBERING KATE KENNEDY

• Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Kate Kennedy, a pioneering and inspiring San Franciscan.

Kate Kennedy was born in County Meath, Ireland, in 1827, the second of seven children. After her father's death in 1841, she cared for her five younger sisters, even overseeing their education at home. During Ireland's Great Famine, Kate immigrated to the United States. She worked as a seamstress in New York before moving with the rest of her family to California in 1856.

Shortly after arriving in California, she began teaching in San Francisco's public schools. She rose to become the principal of the North Cosmopolitan Grammar School, but was only paid the salary of a primary school principal because she was a woman. In response to this injustice, she began a campaign for equal pay all school teachers. Her efforts were rewarded in 1874, when the California Legislature passed a law requiring female public school teachers paid the same as male counterparts.

Following her landmark victory, Kate continued to teach while advocating for other social issues like labor and tax reforms. She eventually ran for state superintendent of public instruction, becoming the first woman to run for Statewide office in California.

Although she didn't win, she continued to leave a mark on her adopted State. After being transferred for political reasons to a smaller school with a lower salary, Kate fought the demotion and was ultimately fired in retaliation by the schoolboard. She sued the board, taking her case all the way to the California Supreme Court. The court sided with Kate, delivering an opinion that still serves today as the foundation of teacher tenure in California.

Shortly after the court's ruling, Kate Kennedy passed away in Oakland, CA, and was buried in San Francisco's Laurel Hill Cemetery in 1890.

Kate Kennedy's commitment to justice and willingness to fight for her rights is truly inspirational. As the first woman to represent California in the U.S. Senate, I am proud to honor her legacy and the historic role she played in the ongoing struggle for equality.●

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES T. JONES

● Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, today I wish to celebrate the 100th birthday of Charles T. Jones, or better known to the people who love him as Captain Charlie, a proud West Virginian, military veteran, legendary businessman, servant of the community, and a dear friend. Throughout his century of life, Charlie has often been referred to as a coal miner, farmer, riverboat captain, and a Renaissance man.

While he grew up on the banks of the Kanawha River in West Virginia, Charlie attended school in New Jersey, where he spent many afternoons rowing on Lake Carnegie. This is where he met Albert Einstein, who would observe his rowing each afternoon. He would later earn a degree in business from Babson Institute in Massachusetts.

Charlie served his country in the U.S. Navy during World War II with the Navy Seabees in Guadalcanal and on a mine sweeper as an engineering officer off the coasts of Japan and the Philippines. The sense of service and duty he demonstrated while in the military is still something he carries with him to this day.

After the war's end, Charlie went to work for his family's coking coal business, Star Coal and Coke Company, which later became Amherst Coal Company, in 1946. The company was started by his grandfather in 1893. Due to the downturn in production and demand of coking coal, out of necessity, the company ventured into river transportation. In 1951, the family bought the Hatfield-Campbell Creek Coal Company, a business that operated steamboats, barges, and river terminals along the Kanawha and Ohio Rivers. He took over the river operations of the company and renamed them "Amherst Barge Co." Along the way, the company became Madison Coal and Supply Co. and is now known as Amherst Madison and still specializes in marine services, like towing, construction, shipping, and equipment repairs. Amherst and its affiliated companies have proudly employed thousands of West Virginians over the past 70 years.

Charlie is one of the most hard-working, humble, and giving people West Virginia has ever known. He is a long-time supporter of many business and charitable and community organizations throughout the Kanawha Valley. Over the years, he has served or currently serves on numerous boards and committees including Yeager Airport Authority Board, board of trustees for the University of Charleston, chairman emeritus of the Inland Waterways User Board, trustee emeritus of the WV Chapter of the Nature Conservancy, director emeritus of the Mariner's Museum, past chairman of the WV Mining and Reclamation Association, former director of the Charleston Area Medical Center Foundation, One Valley Bancorp, and the Western Pocahontas Corporation, Ohio Valley Improvement Association or DINAMO, and so many more.

His lifelong contributions have not been overlooked. Just last year, Charlie was honored as a Distinguished West Virginian by the Governor, entered into the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels by the people of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and inducted into West Virginia University College of Business and Economics' Business Hall of Fame, and recognized as a West Virginia "Who's Who" by the State Journal. Additionally, he has received previous honors such as the Charleston YMCA's Spirit of the Valley Award, induction into the Coal Mining Hall of Fame, Charleston Gazette-Mail's West Virginian of the Year, Seaman's Church Institute Lifetime Achievement Award, and the National Rivers Hall of Fame Achievement Award, to name only a few.

He credits his longevity to good genes, good luck, and a great wife and very supportive family, associates, and friends. Charlie and his wife, Mary Ellen, have been married for more than 45 years. He has four children: Laura Jones Pray, C. Tandy Jones, Jennifer Jones, and the late O. Nelson Jones. He is a member of the Oak Hill Baptist Church and the St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Charleston.

I know I speak for all West Virginians when I wish Charles T. "Captain Charlie" Jones a Happy 100th birthday and wish for many more.●

RECOGNIZING SILVER CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL

● Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise to celebrate the dedication of Silver Creek Middle School, SCMS, in Kensington, MD as it completes its inaugural year. SCMS opened on September 5, 2017, for 550 students in sixth and seventh grade.

Students from Chevy Chase Elementary, North Chevy Chase Elementary, and Rock Creek Forest Elementary now attend SCMS. In recognition of the combination of students from three different elementary schools, SCMS dedicated its inaugural year to community building and has worked hard to create a strong sense of unity and common purpose.

Before the 2017-18 school year began, SCMS organized three community summer socials at parents' residences. More than 200 parents participated in these events and helped cultivate a supportive network before their students had even arrived at school. In addition, SCMS students and parents have organized two cleanups of nearby Silver Creek, for which the school is named. Students, teachers, and parents collaborated in these efforts to protect our environment.

In addition to community building, SCMS focuses on a global and holistic education. SCMS is an International Baccalaureate, IB, school with a Middle Years Programme. This program allows students to engage across cultures and subject areas to develop their self-understanding and a sense of their relationships to others and our society.

I am proud that Silver Creek Middle School is committed to a quality education and a collaborative educational environment for all of its students. I commend the dedicated faculty and staff at SCMS for all they do to help each of their students achieve his or her full potential. The Silver Creek Middle School community has my best wishes for a productive learning experience for many years to come.●

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

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.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE
RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the Secretary of the Senate, on May 29, 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:

H.R. 3663. An act to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Huntington, West Virginia, as the Hershel "Woody" Williams VA Medical Center.

H.R. 4910. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide outer burial receptacles for remains buried in National Parks, and for other purposes.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5515. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 50802 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-123), the Minority Leader appoints the following individual to serve as a Commissioner to the Commission on Social Impact Partnerships: Ms. Anne Wilson of San Rafael, California.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER
COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-5327. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standards of Conduct and Referral of Known or Suspected Criminal Violations; Standards of Conduct" (RIN3052-AC44) received in the Office of the President pro tempore of the Senate; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5328. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defensin Proteins Derived from Spinach in Citrus Plants; Temporary Exemption

from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9977-62) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5329. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures" (RIN0579-AC60) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 24, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5330. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment), transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Defense Biennial Core Report to Congress; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5331. A communication from the Senior Official performing the duties of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness) transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Reserve Component Equipment Procurement and Military Construction for fiscal year 2018; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5332. A communication from the Director of Defense Pricing and Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Repeal of DFARS Clause 'Right of First Refusal of Employment-Closure of Military Installations'" ((RIN0750-AJ54) (DFARS Case 2018-D002)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 23, 2018; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5333. A communication from the Director of Defense Pricing and Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Repeal of DFARS Provision 'Representation Regarding Combating Trafficking in Persons'" ((RIN0750-AJ67) (DFARS Case 2018-D003)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 23, 2018; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5334. A communication from the Director of Defense Pricing and Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Repeal of Restrictions on Chemical Weapons Antidote" ((RIN0750-AJ70) (DFARS Case 2018-D006)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 23, 2018; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5335. A communication from the Director of Defense Pricing and Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Delegation of Special Emergency Procurement Authority" ((RIN0750-AJ86) (DFARS Case 2018-D024)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 23, 2018; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5336. A communication from the Director of Defense Pricing and Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Modification of DFARS Clause 'Riding Gang Member Requirements'" ((RIN0750-AJ88) (DFARS Case 2018-D026)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 23, 2018; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5337. A communication from the Director of Defense Pricing and Procurement and

Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Micro-Purchase Threshold" ((RIN0750-AJ34) (DFARS Case 2018-D027)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 23, 2018; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5338. A communication from the Director of Defense Pricing and Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Repeal of DFARS Provision 'Alternate Line Item Structure'" ((RIN0750-AJ67) (DFARS Case 2018-D045)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 23, 2018; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5339. A communication from the Director of Defense Pricing and Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Repeal of DFARS Provision 'Alternate A, System for Award Management'" ((RIN0750-AJ54) (DFARS Case 2018-D044)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 23, 2018; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5340. A communication from the General Counsel, Government Accountability Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Impoundment Control Act of 1974 and the Release of Certain Withheld Amounts; to the Committees on Appropriations; and the Budget.

EC-5341. A communication from the General Counsel, Government Accountability Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Impoundment Control Act of 1974 and a Review of the President's Special Message of May 8, 2018; to the Committees on Appropriations; and the Budget.

EC-5342. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to violations of the Antideficiency Act; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-5343. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to North Korea that was declared in Executive Order 13466 of June 26, 2008; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5344. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the Western Balkans that was declared in Executive Order 13219 of June 26, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5345. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to material violations or suspected material violations of regulations relating to Treasury auctions and other Treasury securities offerings for the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5346. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of a national emergency declared in Executive Order 13222 with respect to the lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5347. A communication from the Acting Director, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress: The Comprehensive Inventory of U.S. Outer Continental Shelf Oil and

Natural Gas Resources—2018 Update”; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-5348. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Reform of Generator Interconnection Procedures and Agreements” (RIN1902-AF33) (Docket No. RM17-8-000) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 24, 2018; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-5349. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; Michigan; Regional Haze Progress Report” (FRL No. 9978-61-Region 5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5350. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; New Hampshire; Nonattainment Plan for the Central New Hampshire Sulfur Dioxide Nonattainment Area” (FRL No. 9978-27-Region 1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5351. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Continuous Opacity Monitoring Requirements for Municipal Waste Combustors” (FRL No. 9978-56-Region 3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5352. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Virginia; Emissions Statement Rule Certification for the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard” (FRL No. 9978-57-Region 3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5353. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval of California Air Plan Revisions; Butte County Air Quality Management District; Stationary Source Permits” (FRL No. 9978-18-Region 9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5354. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Delegation of Authority to the States of Iowa; Kansas; Missouri; Nebraska; Lincoln-Lancaster County, NE; and City of Omaha, NE, for New Source Performance Standards (NSPS), National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) Including Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) Standards” (FRL No. 9978-80-Region 7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the

Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5355. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Child Welfare Outcomes 2015: Report to Congress”; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5356. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Indexing Adjustments for Certain Provisions under Section 36B of the Internal Revenue Code” (Rev. Proc. 2018-34) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 24, 2018; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5357. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Guidance on Certain Payments Made in Exchange for State and Local Tax Credits” (Notice 2018-54) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5358. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Credit for Renewable Electricity Production and Refined Coal Production, and Publication of Inflation Adjustment Factor and Reference Prices for Calendar Year 2018” (Notice 2018-50) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 29, 2018; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5359. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Update of 2018 Standard Mileage Rates Notice” (Notice 2018-42) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 29, 2018; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5360. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Report in Response to the Sunscreen Innovation Act (P.L. 113-195) Section 586G”; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5361. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a fiscal year 2019 estimate for the Volunteers at Federally Supported Health Centers Assistant Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5362. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a fiscal year 2019 estimate for the Free Clinic Program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5363. A communication from the Deputy White House Liaison, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, two (2) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Education, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 23, 2018; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5364. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Control of Communicable Diseases; Technical Correction” (RIN0920-AA63) received during ad-

jourment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 29, 2018; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5365. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Communications and Legislative Affairs, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission’s Annual Sunshine Act Report for 2017; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5366. A communication from the Federal Co-Chair, Appalachian Regional Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission’s Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5367. A communication from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5368. A communication from the Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5369. A joint communication from the Chairman and the General Counsel, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report for the period of October 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5370. A communication from the Chairperson of the District of Columbia Judicial Nomination Commission, transmitting, pursuant to D.C. Code 1-204.34(d)(1), the nomination of Melissa Felder Zappala to be an Associate Judge for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5371. A communication from the Deputy Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “National Industrial Security Program” (RIN3095-AB79) (32 CFR 2004) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 24, 2018; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5372. A communication from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report on crime victims’ rights; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5373. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, Office of Justice Programs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Public Safety Officers’ Benefits Program” (RIN1121-AA85) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 29, 2018; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5374. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “GSA Fiscal Year 2017 Goaling Without Exclusions Report Required by Section 15(h)(3)(A)(ii) of the Small Business Act”; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-5375. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Financial Assistance, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of

a rule entitled “Debt Refinancing in 504 Loan Program” (RIN3245-AG79) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 23, 2018; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-5376. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Tuskegee Airmen River Days Air Show, Detroit River, Detroit, MI” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2018-0368)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5377. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Algonac Fireworks, St. Clair River, Algonac, MI” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2018-0248)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5378. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Neches River, Beaumont, TX” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2018-0376)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5379. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Ohio River, Metropolis, IL” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2018-0077)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5380. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Upper Mississippi River, St. Louis, MO” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2018-0430)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5381. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Navy Underwater Detonation (UNDET) Exercises, GU” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2017-0651)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5382. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; St. Clair Shore Fireworks, Lake St. Clair, St. Clair Shores, MI” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2018-0384)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5383. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Grosse Pointe War Memorial Red, White, and Blue Gala Fireworks, Lake St. Clair, Grosse Pointe” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2018-0266)) received dur-

ing adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5384. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Bay-Rama Fish Fly Festival, Lake St. Clair, New Baltimore, MI” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2018-0425)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5385. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Ohio River mile mark 27.8 to mile marker 28.2, Vanport, PA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2018-0441)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5386. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Laguna Madre, South Padre Island, TX” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2018-0444)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5387. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Ohio Street Beach Swim Course, Lake Michigan, Chicago Harbor, Chicago, IL” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2017-1066)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5388. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Bath Creek, Bath, NC” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2018-0416)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5389. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Corpus Christi Ship Channel, Corpus Christi, TX” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2018-0339)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5390. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; SF State University Graduation Fireworks Display, San Francisco Bay, San Francisco, CA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2018-0420)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5391. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Special Local Regulation; Monongahela, Allegheny, and Ohio Rivers, Pittsburgh Pennsyl-

vania” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2018-0224)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5392. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Special Local Regulation; Monongahela, Allegheny, and Ohio Rivers, Pittsburgh Pennsylvania” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2018-0320)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY, from the Committee on the Judiciary:

Report to accompany S. 2559, A bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to implement the Marrakesh Treaty, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-261).

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. CRUZ:

S. 2985. A bill to require a report on imprisonment of political prisoners in China; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 2986. A bill to award grants to States to support efforts at institutions of higher education to increase degree attainment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 177

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 177, a bill to provide for congressional review of the imposition of duties and other trade measures by the executive branch, and for other purposes.

S. 256

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 256, a bill to establish the Stop, Observe, Ask, and Respond to Health and Wellness Training pilot program to address human trafficking in the health care system.

S. 821

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 821, a bill to promote access for United States officials, journalists, and other citizens to Tibetan areas of the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes.

S. 1022

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1022, a bill to amend the Public

Health Service Act to facilitate assignment of military trauma care providers to civilian trauma centers in order to maintain military trauma readiness and to support such centers, and for other purposes.

S. 1050

At the request of Mr. WARNER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1050, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the Chinese-American Veterans of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated service during World War II.

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1050, *supra*.

S. 1112

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor 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. 1328

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1328, a bill to extend the protections of the Fair Housing Act to persons suffering discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity, and for other purposes.

S. 1358

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1358, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the treatment of certain direct primary care service arrangements and periodic provider fees.

S. 1596

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1596, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase certain funeral benefits for veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 1870

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 2047

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2047, a bill to restrict the use of funds for kinetic military operations in North Korea.

S. 2060

At the request of Mr. PETERS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S.

2060, a bill to promote democracy and human rights in Burma, and for other purposes.

S. 2076

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2076, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the expansion of activities related to Alzheimer's disease, cognitive decline, and brain health under the Alzheimer's Disease and Healthy Aging Program, and for other purposes.

S. 2105

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2105, a bill to modify the presumption of service connection for veterans who were exposed to herbicide agents while serving in the Armed Forces in Thailand during the Vietnam era, and for other purposes.

S. 2109

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2109, a bill to count revenues from military and veteran education programs toward the limit on Federal revenues that certain proprietary institutions of higher education are allowed to receive for purposes of section 487 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes.

S. 2141

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2141, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to reform procedures for determinations on disposition of charges and the convening of courts-martial for certain offenses under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and for other purposes.

S. 2252

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2252, a bill to amend the Animal Health Protection Act to support State and Tribal efforts to develop and implement management strategies to address chronic wasting disease among deer, elk, and moose populations, to support research regarding the causes of chronic wasting disease and methods to control the further spread of the disease, and for other purposes.

S. 2269

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2269, a bill to reauthorize the Global Food Security Act of 2016 for 5 additional years.

S. 2365

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2365, a bill to impose additional sanctions with respect to serious human rights abuses by the Government of Iran, and for other purposes.

S. 2404

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2404, a bill to amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to reauthorize the organic agriculture research and extension initiative.

S. 2501

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2501, a bill to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to provide for the establishment of a Ski Area Fee Retention Account.

S. 2559

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2559, a bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to implement the Marrakesh Treaty, and for other purposes.

S. 2578

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor 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. 2637

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2637, a bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to improve the quality, health outcomes, and value of maternity care under the Medicaid and CHIP programs by developing maternity care quality measures and supporting maternity care quality collaboratives.

S. 2652

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the names of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2652, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Stephen Michael Gleason.

S. 2667

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2667, a bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to provide for State and Tribal regulation of hemp production, and for other purposes.

S. 2802

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2802, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide the opportunity for responsible health savings to all American families.

S. 2863

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2863, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in commemoration of the opening of the National Law Enforcement Museum in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

S. 2878

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2878, a bill to improve the tracking of data on, and benefits paid to, public safety officers who are killed or disabled in the line of duty.

S. 2916

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2916, a bill to require a certain percentage of liquefied natural gas and crude oil exports be transported on United States-built and United States-flag vessels, and for other purposes.

S. 2937

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2937, a bill to protect children affected by immigration enforcement actions.

S. 2957

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2957, a bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to designate additional unlawful acts under the Act, strengthen penalties for violations of the Act, improve Department of Agriculture enforcement of the Act, and for other purposes.

S. 2979

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2979, a bill to rescind certain budget authority proposed to be rescinded in special messages transmitted to the Congress by the President on May 8, 2018, in accordance with title X of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act 1974.

S. CON. RES. 7

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 7, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that tax-exempt fraternal benefit societies have historically provided and continue to provide critical benefits to the people and communities of the United States.

S. RES. 460

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 460, a resolution condemning Boko Haram and calling on the Gov-

ernments of the United States of America and Nigeria to swiftly implement measures to defeat the terrorist organization.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2269. Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. ROBERTS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2270. Mr. MORAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5515, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2269. Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. ROBERTS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, which was ordered to lie on the table, as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title XXVIII, add the following:

SEC. ____ . NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES IN FORCE STRUCTURE OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY.

(a) NOTIFICATION.—Consistent with notification requirements set forth under section 993(a) of title 10, United States Code, the Secretary of the Army shall, as provided under subsection (b), notify the congressional defense committees and congressional members of the affected States of changes in force structure of a battalion-size unit or other units of approximately 500 members assigned at a military installation. In determining the change in force structure of a locality, the Secretary shall take into consideration both short-term and long-term cost factors.

(b) NOTICE REQUIREMENTS.—No action may be taken to effect or implement a change in force structure described under subsection (a) until—

(1) the Secretary of the Army—

(A) submits to Congress a notice of the proposed change in force structure, including the detailed scoring data analyzed by the Army and a justification for any changes to the methodology, attributes in the Military Value Analysis, and other categories weighed at the direction of the Secretary; and

(B) includes in the notice a report on the change in force structure as described under subsection (c); and

(2) a period of 90 days expires following the day on which the notice is submitted to the congressional defense committees and congressional members of the affected States as appropriate.

(c) REPORT ON THE CHANGE IN FORCE STRUCTURE.—The report referred to under subsection (b)(1)(B) is a report from the Secretary of the Army on the changes in force structure, including updates to the Procedures for Army Stationing related to the changes in force structure, as follows:

(1)(A) Military Value Analysis training attribute data and scoring for contiguous and non-contiguous training areas, including airspace, according to the associated installation, as separate and distinct training areas measured by average daily use and the cost of use.

(B) For purposes of determining training areas pursuant to this paragraph, non-contiguous training areas owned by the National Guard or other government agencies with formal agreements with the Army may be considered under the Military Value Analysis training attribute as a separate and distinct training area measured by average daily use and the cost of use.

(2) A standardized explanatory statement for each associated installation with a non-contiguous training area attribute that includes a justification for its use as it relates to the specific change in force structure under consideration and the cost and benefit to access a non-contiguous training area due to geographic separation, as described in Department of the Army Pamphlet (DA PAM) 5-13.

(3) Military Value Analysis investment attribute data and scoring for infrastructure surrounding each associated installation, including housing, schools, and transportation, funded by State or local governments and communities measured by the last five fiscal years.

(4)(A) Programmatic Environmental Assessment data and scoring for the projected cost of military construction and sustainment, restoration, and maintenance requirements, according to each associated installation, as separate and distinct measurements projected by the Future Year Defense Program planning to meet change in force structure mission requirements.

(B) For purposes of this paragraph, relocatable buildings or structures designated as temporary that are not eligible to receive sustainment, restoration, and maintenance funding, shall be measured as separate and distinct buildings or structures for each associated installation.

(5) Projected cost savings or cost avoidance to the Army that may impact the long-term total cost of the change in force structure, including total lifecycle cost factors of installation energy and utility costs, installation operating cost, installation renovation and maintenance cost, and the rate of basic allowance for housing.

(6) Projected cost savings to the Army and force structure unit members and their dependents measured by State and local exemptions in the form of a tax credit, State professional license reciprocity, education, employment, or other benefits as determined by the Secretary.

SA 2270. Mr. MORAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title III, add the following:

SEC. 340. PROHIBITION ON THE REDUCTION IN FORCE CAPACITY OR CAPABILITY OF THE ADVANCED TURBINE ENGINE ARMY MAINTENANCE OF THE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—No action may be taken—

(1) to reduce the capacity or capability of the Advanced Turbine Engine Army Maintenance (ATEAM) of the Army National Guard

to meet requirements and obligations to maintain engines, transmissions, and Full Up Power Packs (FUPP) for the Army National Guard, Army Materiel Command (AMC), and foreign military partners; or

(2) to restrict the potential workforce growth required to meet the requirements and obligations under paragraph (1).

(b) POLICIES.—The Department of the Army, in coordination with the National Guard Bureau, shall conduct a review and establish policies that clearly define ATEAM authorities to fulfill obligations under subsection (a).

NOTICE OF INTENT TO OBJECT TO PROCEEDING

I, Senator CHARLES E. GRASSLEY, intend to object to proceeding to the nomination of William R. Evanina, of Pennsylvania, to be Director of National Counterintelligence and Security Center, dated June 4, 2018.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2018

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, June 5; 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 Wier 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 7:06 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, June 5, 2018, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

VERONICA DAIGLE, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE FREDERICK VOLLRATH, RESIGNED.

CASEY WARDYNSKI, OF ALABAMA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY, VICE DEBRA S. WADA.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

ELAD L. ROISMAN, OF MAINE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 5, 2023, VICE MICHAEL SEAN PIWOWAR, RESIGNED.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

PETER A. FELDMAN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 26, 2019, VICE JOSEPH P. MOHOROVIC.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

KAREN DUNN KELLEY, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, VICE BRUCE H. ANDREWS, RESIGNED.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

GEOFFREY ADAM STARKS, OF KANSAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS FROM JULY 1, 2017, VICE MIGNON L. CLYBURN, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

BRIAN A. NICHOLS, OF RHODE ISLAND, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE.

BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS

MICHAEL PACK, OF MARYLAND, TO BE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR THE TERM OF THREE YEARS. (NEW POSITION)

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 lieutenant general

LT. GEN. GIOVANNI K. TUCK

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 lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. JOSEPH T. GUASTELLA, JR.

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 lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. BRIAN T. KELLY

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. ROBERT G. CARRUTHERS III
COL. QUVATOR R. GORE
COL. ADAM L. ROBINSON
COL. KEVIN L. VINES

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

To be brigadier general

COL. STEPHEN M. RUTNER

IN THE NAVY

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) MARCUS A. HITCHCOCK

IN THE ARMY

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

To be colonel

DENNIS R. BELL
RONALD L. BURKE
TAYLOR B. CHANCE
MATTHEW J. ENROTH
DAWN FITZGHUGH
CHAD D. FOSTER
CLINTON GEORGE
CARY HONNOLD
ERIC D. LOMBARDINI
ANDREW L. MCGRAW
STEPHANIE L. MONT
LISA T. READ
BRETT J. TAYLOR

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

To be colonel

THEODORE W. CROY III
JOHN F. DETRO
SARAH B. GOLDMAN
SCOTT R. GREGG
AMY L. JACKSON
ROBERTO E. MARIN
STEPHANIE A. MEYER

ROBERT D. MONTZ
JAMES G. PAIRMORE
JAMES L. PULLIAM
JASON L. SILVERNAIL
BILL A. SOLIZ

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

To be colonel

EDGAR G. ARROYO
WERNER J. BARDEN
BURKE L. BRISTOW
MATTHEW G. CLARK
GARY S. COOPER
JASON B. CORLEY
JAMES E. CRAIG
GARRICK L. GRAMER
JOHN M. EVANS
SHELLEY N. FRANCO
LEE C. FREEMAN
JACOB H. GIN
ANTHONY D. GRAY
GARY A. HUGHES
ANTHONY M. KING
JOHN W. LEE
SEAN C. LESTER
ROBERT A. LETIZIO
DEREK J. LICINA
INGRID LIM
ELIASIB LOZANO
MARK S. MANEVAL
JAMES N. MASTERSON
SEAN A. MCMURRY
STEVEN A. MEADOW
TRACY MICHAEL
TROY MORTON
KEVIN A. PECK
JEFFREY L. REIBESTEIN
CHRISTIAN P. RICHARDS
SHANE A. ROACH
GERI L. ROBERTSONFIELDS
WILLIAM J. M. SMITH
NELSON S. SO
ERIC SPOTTS
SCOTT J. STOKAEZ
VICTOR A. SUAREZ
JOSEPHINE E. L. THOMPSON
JOHN A. URCIUOLI
CARYN R. VERNON
KENNETH L. WALTERS
REBECCA A. ZINNANTE
G010491

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS 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 colonel

JEFFREY M. ALLERDING
DEBRA A. CHAPPEL
CHERYL A. CREAMER
FRANCISCO C. DOMINICCI
STACEY L. FERRIIRA
TAMARA S. FUNARI
KIMBERLY M. GESLAK
AMY J. HADSALL
DONALD E. KIMBLER, JR.
JOHN V. KULIG
CHRISTINE M. LUDWIG
BRUCE MATHEWS
KARI A. MCRAE
JAMES R. NOLIN
CLAUSYL J. PLUMMER
THOMAS O. RAWLINGS
AMY K. ROY
JENNIFER M. SCHMALTZ
JODELLE M. SCHROEDER
SANDRA A. SNIPES
KEVIN E. SNYDER
WARREN A. STEWART
ELBA M. VILLACORTA
VANESSA WORSHAM

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

To be colonel

BRIAN F. SAYLER

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

To be lieutenant colonel

WILLIAM B. MURPHY

To be major

TODD R. ANGSTMAN
DAVID M. SOLORZANO

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

ERIC N. HATCH
DENEEN K. PERSON
YANNICK N. WILLIAMS

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

To be lieutenant colonel

ANTHONY HALL

To be major

AARON R. GRAY
BENJAMIN D. LAZO
CHRISTINA M. WRIGHT

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

MICHAEL G. MOURITSEN

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

To be colonel

DAVID E. ROBERTS

IN THE MARINE CORPS

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

To be major

BRETT M. MCCORMICK