

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President is authorized to enter into a cooperative project agreement with Israel under the authority of section 27 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2767), to carry out research on, and development, testing, evaluation, and joint production (including follow-on support) of, defense articles and defense services, such as the use of directed energy or high powered microwave technology, to detect, track, and destroy unmanned aerial vehicles that threaten the United States or Israel.

(2) APPLICABLE REQUIREMENTS.—The cooperative project agreement described in paragraph (1) shall—

(A) provide that any activities carried out pursuant to the agreement are subject to—

(i) the applicable requirements described in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of section 27(b)(2) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2767(b)(2)); and

(ii) any other applicable requirements of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.) with respect to the use, transfers, and security of such defense articles and defense services under that Act;

(B) establish a framework to negotiate the rights to intellectual property developed under the agreement; and

(C) include appropriate protections for sensitive technology.

(d) REPORT ON COOPERATION.—

(1) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees (as that term is defined in section 101(a) of title 10, United States Code), the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a report describing the cooperation of the United States with Israel with respect to countering unmanned aerial systems that includes each of the following:

(A) An identification of specific capability gaps of the United States and Israel with respect to countering unmanned aerial systems.

(B) An identification of cooperative projects that would address those capability gaps and mutually benefit and strengthen the security of the United States and Israel.

(C) An assessment of the projected cost for research and development efforts for such cooperative projects, including an identification of those to be conducted in the United States, and the timeline for the completion of each such project.

(D) An assessment of the extent to which the capability gaps of the United States identified pursuant to subparagraph (A) are not likely to be addressed through the cooperative projects identified pursuant to subparagraph (B).

(E) An assessment of the projected costs for procurement and fielding of any capabilities developed jointly pursuant to an agreement described in subsection (c).

(2) LIMITATION.—No activities may be conducted pursuant to an agreement described in subsection (c) until the date that is 15 days after the date on which the Secretary of Defense submits the report required under paragraph (1).

TITLE III—ENSURING ISRAEL'S QUALITATIVE MILITARY EDGE

SEC. 301. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States to ensure that Israel maintains its ability to counter and defeat any credible conventional military, or emerging, threat from any individual state or possible coalition of states or from non-state actors, while sustaining minimal damages and casualties, through the use of superior military means, possessed in sufficient quantity, including weapons, command, control, communication, intel-

ligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance capabilities that in their technical characteristics are superior in capability to those of such other individual or possible coalition states or non-state actors.

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

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the en bloc consideration of the following nominations: Executive Calendar Nos. 630, 631, 632, 730, 732, 767.

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

The clerk will report the nominations en bloc.

The bill clerk read the nominations of Emily Coody Marks, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Alabama; Jeffrey Uhlman Beaverstock, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama; Holly Lou Teeter, of Kansas, to be United States District Judge for the District of Kansas; Colm F. Connolly, of Delaware, to be United States District Judge for the District of Delaware; Maryellen Noreika, of Delaware, to be United States District Judge for the District of Delaware; and Jill Aiko Otake, of Hawaii, to be United States District Judge for the District of Hawaii.

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Marks, Beaverstock, Teeter, Connolly, Noreika, and Otake nominations en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 697.

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

The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Jason Klitenic, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

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

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Klitenic nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in 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 WILL T. SCOTT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, in the marble halls of the Kentucky State Capitol building in Frankfort, visitors will discover numerous portraits of those who have served our Commonwealth in our highest offices. Depictions of Kentucky's Governors, legislators, and supreme court justices line the halls as memorials to those public servants. On August 7, another portrait will be added, paying tribute to an individual who has served our State and our Nation with distinction.

William Thompson Scott, known by his friends as "Will T.," is a native of Pike County in eastern Kentucky and served as an associate justice on the Kentucky Supreme Court from 2005 to 2015. Known for his humor and congenial nature, Justice Scott clearly earned his colleagues' respect when they elected him to serve a 4-year term as the deputy chief justice. With the esteem of his peers and those he served, Justice Scott's tenure on the supreme court can be remembered for his positive impact on the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Even before his first election to the high court, Justice Scott actively engaged in the service of our Commonwealth and our Nation for much of his life. Interrupting his undergraduate studies at Eastern Kentucky University in 1966 to voluntarily enlist in the U.S. Army, he proudly served our Nation in Vietnam as a first lieutenant

and earned the Bronze Star Medal. When he was discharged, he returned to Kentucky and received his bachelor's degree from Pikeville College before studying law at the University of Miami in Florida.

After spending a few years as a trial attorney, Will T. found a way to employ his skills for the good of his neighbors and became an assistant Commonwealth's attorney for Pike County in 1981. A few years later, he was elected as a circuit court judge in Kentucky, beginning what would be his long and distinguished career serving on the bench.

When his portrait joins those of other jurists from Kentucky's past, Justice Scott's legacy will be enshrined for future generations to study, interpret, and appreciate. So as Justice Scott's friends, family, and colleagues gather to honor his career, I would like to ask my Senate colleagues to join me in thanking him for his service to our Nation and to the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID BECK

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, today it is my privilege to recognize a prominent member of Kentucky's agricultural community, David Beck. During his four decades with the Kentucky Farm Bureau, KFB, David has been an effective advocate for our farm families and rural communities. Now, after great success with KFB, he has decided to leave the bureau for a new challenge. David has accepted the role of president and CEO of Kentucky Venues, an organization responsible for many of the Commonwealth's most beloved traditions like the annual State fair.

Graduating from Murray State University in Calloway County with a degree in agriculture, David set out to dedicate his career to promoting farm communities in Kentucky. Since joining KFB in 1977 as a field service director in Central Kentucky, David has worn a lot of hats within the organization. Advocating in Frankfort and in Washington and working to implement KFB programs at all levels, he has also done a lot of good.

In my work on the Senate Agriculture Committee, David has provided me with many valuable insights helping me better represent Kentucky farm families. Through multiple fly-ins and Farm Bills, we worked closely to develop policy to help support our agriculture communities. I would like to note one important project in particular we collaborated on: the 2004 Tobacco buyout. This landmark legislation not only reoriented our Depression-era Federal tobacco program toward the free market, but it also provided much-needed relief to some of the hardest hit farming communities in our State. With David's assistance, I championed this major legislation and worked with my colleagues in Congress to bring it to the President's desk.

In his role as KFB executive vice president, David has time and again proven his leadership to benefit the organization's members and farmers throughout the country. Through seminars, conferences, and workshops he led with the American Farm Bureau Federation, AFBF, David helped build the farm economy nationwide. One clear measure of his success is the growth in our Nation's farm communities during David's time advocating for American agriculture. The AFBF cites a growth of more than 3 million member families across the Nation in the last four decades. He has led a remarkable career and has so much to be proud of.

David's dedication to the Commonwealth has extended beyond the farm, helping families throughout Kentucky thrive. His work with our State's council on postsecondary education has helped students gain the skills they need to succeed in the workforce. By serving in leadership roles for the Kentuckians for Better Transportation, David helped encourage economic development with a safe and reliable infrastructure network. His passion for service runs deep, and David's experience continues to be an asset to the Commonwealth.

On behalf of the many men and women from our home State who have benefited from his leadership, I would like to express our gratitude to David for his career at the KFB. As he leaves the bureau to take the next steps in his career, I wish him the best and look forward to his great accomplishments to come.

RECOGNIZING THE COLCHESTER CAUSEWAY BIKE FERRY CREW

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, Vermont is special in large part because of the dedication and kindness that Vermonters show to neighbors and strangers alike. I would like to recognize a few Vermonters in particular who went out of their way to do what needed to be done to save the lives of others. On July 6, a number of boaters became stranded on the water near the Colchester Causeway Bike Ferry while enjoying themselves on Lake Champlain. Luckily for those in distress, the crew of the Bike Ferry was nearby, and sprang into action.

After quickly rescuing four people, Captain Brian Costello, deckhand and former coastguardsman Frank Malaki, and captain-in-training Richard Schattman were told that there were more people who needed assistance. Before long, all those who had been stranded were safe and sound, with warm clothes, water, and shelter, thanks to the ferry's crew.

Anyone who has enjoyed the beauty of our great Lake Champlain knows that, in bad weather, its calm, rolling waves can quickly turn treacherous. We have always been lucky to have the protection of the Coast Guard on the water in times of emergency, but it

should hearten many to hear that there are also professional, courageous, and selfless Vermonters like Captain Costello, Mr. Malaki, and captain-in-training Schattman nearby to lend a hand.

I share the pride of the Coast Guard in this lifesaving effort. I ask unanimous consent that the July 19, 2018, article from "My Champlain Valley" entitled "Bike-ferry crew recognized by Coast Guard for heroic rescue," which commemorates the bravery of these men, be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From My Champlain Valley, July 19, 2018]

BIKE FERRY CREW RECOGNIZED BY COAST GUARD FOR HEROIC RESCUE

(By Devin Bates)

SOUTH HERO, VT.—A crew from the Colchester Causeway Bike Ferry got some special recognition from the U.S. Coast Guard on Thursday for rescuing seven people in Lake Champlain earlier this month.

Coast Guard officials were so impressed with the crew's work that they came down to the causeway to express their gratitude and thank them for their heroic act.

The rescue happened the afternoon of July 6. Winds were gusty, reaching 25-30 mph. The ferry crew—Cpt. Brian Costello, former Coast Guardsman and deckhand Frank Malaki and Captain-in-training Richard Schattman—tracked down and rescued four people. Three kayakers—including one in the water—were rescued a short time later.

All seven of the boaters were wearing life jackets and were unharmed. The crew gave them warm clothes, shelter from the wind and bottled water.

The rescue occurred just days after 41 year-old Eric Plett of Weehawken, New Jersey, went missing after falling out of his kayak near Shelburne Point. Plett's body was recovered several days later after a search by the Coast Guard and state police.

"Any good Vermonter would respond to people in distress, whether it's on the water or on land, and we happened to be the closest," Costello said. "We also happen to have an experienced and trained crew."

While the crew members were modest about their efforts, Sector Commander Brian LeFebvre of the U.S. Coast Guard made sure to give them the recognition they deserved.

"I applaud the crew, their dedication and selfless service to the boating public, and I am truly thankful for the professional seamanship that you exercised in response to these potentially grave situations," LeFebvre said. "Bravo Zulu for a job extremely well-done, and thank you very much."

LeFebvre urged boaters to be safe out on the lake.

"Anything can happen at any given time when you're on the water, even when you least expect it," LeFebvre said. "It's always important to be wearing your life jacket, especially if you're on a paddle-craft or in a kayak."

DISCLOSURE OF CORPORATE POLITICAL SPENDING

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I rise today because Senate Republicans have blocked a vote on my amendment, No. 3532. My amendment is really quite simple. It would have struck language in the underlying bill that prohibits