

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT, AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask that the Chair lay before the Senate the message to accompany H.R. 6147.

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

*Resolved*, That the House disagree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 6147) entitled "An Act making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.", and ask a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Frelinghuysen, Aderholt, Simpson, Calvert, Cole, Diaz-Balart, Graves of Georgia, Young of Iowa, Rutherford, Mrs. Lowey, Messrs. Price of North Carolina, Bishop of Georgia, Ms. McCollum, Mr. Quigley, and Ms. Pingree, be the managers of the conference on the part of the House.

#### COMPOUND MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move that the Senate insist on its amendment, agree to the request by the House for a conference, and authorize the Chair to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate at a ratio of 6 to 5.

I know of no further debate on the motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate on the motion, the question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

#### APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair appoints the following conferees on the part of the Senate:

The PRESIDING OFFICER appointed MS. MURKOWSKI, MS. COLLINS, MR. LANKFORD, MR. HOEVEN, MR. SHELBY, MRS. HYDE-SMITH, MR. UDALL, MR. REED, MR. COONS, MR. MERKLEY, and MR. LEAHY conferees on the part of the Senate.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask that the Chair lay before the Senate the message to accompany H.R. 6157.

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

*Resolved*, That the House disagree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 6157) entitled "An Act making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.", and ask a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Frelinghuysen, Ms. Granger, Messrs. Cole, Calvert, Womack,

Aderholt, Rogers of Kentucky, Mrs. Roby, Mrs. Lowey, Mr. Visclosky, Mses. DeLauro, Roybal-Allard, and McCollum, be the managers of the conference on the part of the House.

#### COMPOUND MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. I move that the Senate insist on its amendment, agree to the request of the House for a conference, and authorize the Chair to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate at a ratio of 4 to 3.

I know of no further debate on the motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

#### APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair appoints the following conferees on the part of the Senate:

The Presiding Officer appointed Mr. SHELBY, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MORAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. LEAHY conferees on the part of the Senate.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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. 1054, 1055, 1056, 1058, and 1059.

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

The clerk will report the nominations en bloc.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nominations of Michael A. Hammer, of Maryland, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Democratic Republic of the Congo; Dereck J. Hogan, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Moldova; Philip S. Kosnett, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Kosovo; Stephanie Sanders Sullivan, of Maryland, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Ghana; and Judy Rising Reinke, of Virginia, 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 Montenegro.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sen-

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

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Hammer, Hogan, Kosnett, Sullivan, and Reinke nominations en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar Nos. 1001, 1002, 1003 and all nominations placed on the Secretary's desk in the Foreign Service; that the nominations be confirmed; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

#### IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Randy W. Berry, of Colorado, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal.

Donald Lu, of California, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Kyrgyz Republic.

Alaina B. Teplitz, of Colorado, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Maldives.

#### NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

#### IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE

PN1743 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (27) beginning Michael Calvert, and ending Marvin Smith, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 12, 2018.

PN1800—1 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (12) beginning Polly Catherine Dunford-Zahar, and ending William M. Patterson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 9, 2018.

PN1800—2 FOREIGN SERVICE nomination of Tanya S. Urqueta, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 9, 2018.