

Congress passed the Taylor Force Act, making clear that the United States will not provide assistance that directly benefits the Palestinian Authority until it stops incentivizing violence by paying salaries to prisoners convicted of terrorism against Israeli or American citizens.

Should there be any question about where the entirety of the U.S. Senate—Democrats and Republicans—stand, all 100 Senators signed a letter calling for Israel's inclusion in the Global Entry Program.

Our relationship with Israel is rooted in this bipartisanship. We are stronger for it, and so is Israel. It is disappointing to see some try to drive a political wedge in this historical support.

Those who would try to use Israel or support for the U.S.-Israel relationship as a political football are not helping this relationship, nor are they helping promote either American or Israeli security. Along with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I will continue to be a vocal advocate for a robust U.S.-Israel relationship rooted in strong bipartisan support.

90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LOEW'S THEATER BUILDING

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I join the city of Providence and the State of Rhode Island in celebrating the 90th anniversary of the Loew's Theatre Building, home of the Providence Center for the Performing Arts. From silent films to the Mighty Wurlitzer to live concerts and Broadway productions, the Loew's Theatre Building has delighted, educated, and entertained generations of Rhode Islanders.

On October 6, 1928, the theater opened its doors to more than 14,000 people who came to see its splendor and the silent film "Excess Baggage." Designed by the renowned theater architects George and C.W. Rapp, the Loew's Theatre featured marble columns, gilded plasterwork, and crystal chandeliers.

After early years of success, the theater saw a decline in its economic fortunes as movie attendance waned. The theater sustained damage during the hurricanes of 1938 and 1954 and barely escaped demolition in the 1970s. Fortunately, local leaders stepped in to save this landmark. In 1977, the Loew's Theatre Building was officially listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and the following year, a non-profit organization was founded to restore its luster and establish a performing arts center for the community to enjoy.

Today the Providence Performing Arts Center is a hub of cultural activity. It not only brings top-flight productions to town but also offers a broad selection of community outreach programs, fulfilling its mission of serving "the entertainment needs of the State's various populations by presenting the widest possible variety of arts and cultural events." The center

presents free, community concerts featuring the Mighty Wurlitzer, the rare 1927 pipe organ, one of only three ever made. There is a seats for servicemembers initiative that offers preferred orchestra seating to our military families. There are arts scholarships, summer theater programs, and special opportunities for students to experience live theater productions.

Ninety years ago, Rhode Islanders flocked to the Loew's Theatre Building to share in something grand. We are grateful for the steady leadership and many contributions of the board of directors, dedicated staff, and generous benefactors who have made this historic landmark a living institution that continues to enrich the cultural life of our community. The Providence Performing Arts Center is still grand. May it continue to be so for generations to come.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO LISA C. FREEMAN

• Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Lisa C. Freeman for becoming the first female president of Northern Illinois University, NIU.

Lisa C. Freeman was appointed president of NIU in September of 2018, becoming the first permanent female president in NIU's 123-year history. She has been a member of NIU's senior leadership team and a professor of biology since 2010. She became executive vice president and provost in May 2014. Throughout her time at NIU, Freeman has worked to support all aspects of the university's mission, emphasizing NIU's continued commitments to promoting the social mobility of students, producing high impact scholarship, and engaging with the region. Prior to joining NIU, Freeman dedicated 16 years to serving as a faculty member at Kansas State University. She also served as the associate vice president for innovation for K-State Olathe.

Freeman has been widely recognized for her important contributions to her professions. Among those honors and awards are Outstanding Veterinarian of the Year, 2002, Castle Bank Community Leader, 2015, and the NIU Trans-Action Ally, 2018.

I commend Lisa's hard work, passion, and commitment to inspiring and empowering our next generation of leaders, entrepreneurs, educators, artists, engineers, and professionals. May her continued leadership serve as an inspiration to us all.●

160TH ANNIVERSARY OF YWCA USA

• Ms. HEITKAMP. Mr. President, I want to proudly applaud the work of YWCA USA as they celebrate an incredible milestone. For 160 years, they have been at the forefront of the Nation's most critical movements. They have led the charge in women's em-

powerment, the fight against racism and discrimination, and efforts to strengthen families and communities. From voting rights to civil rights, from affordable housing to pay equity, from violence prevention to healthcare reform, YWCA has been a force for progress for 160 years.

With the help of 210 local associations, across 46 States and the District of Columbia, this organization continues to serve over 2 million women, girls, and their families each year. Being one of the largest networks for domestic violence and sexual assault services in the country, the YWCA reaches over half a million women and girls annually. Furthermore, community YWCA associations reach over 260,000 women with economic empowerment programs and over 160,000 people through their racial justice education and training programs.

In my home State of North Dakota, the YWCA Cass Clay and the YWCA Minot have been a trusted place for women and children to turn as they escape violence, homelessness, and crisis. Through these services, they are fulfilling their mission to provide safety, security, and hope to those who need it most.

When I came to the Senate, the Violence Against Women Act, or VAWA, was the first bill that I cosponsored, and I am proud that it worked to give victims of abuse the resources they need to seek justice and recover from the trauma they experienced. I am still working to prevent those programs from expiring, and I am proud that the North Dakota chapters of YWCA have helped protect women and children, especially in the continuing crisis of violence against women in tribal communities.

I am grateful for my partnership with YWCA in advocating for children who have experienced trauma. Traumatic experiences, like abuse or a parent's substance use disorder, can lead to health and behavior complications later in life. Children and youth who have experienced four or more traumatic events are three times more at risk of heart disease or lung cancer, while those who have experienced six or more traumatic events are 30 times more likely to attempt suicide. The YWCA has promoted my Trauma Informed Care for Children and Families Act, which is a critical step to address childhood trauma in the United States.

I will continue to stand in solidarity with the YWCA in North Dakota and the rest of the country in strong support of their mission to eliminate racism, empower women, stand up for social justice, help families, and strengthen communities.

Congratulations to the YWCA on 160 years of improving the lives of women and girls all over the country.●

TRIBUTE TO GENO MARTINI

• Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the retirement of

city of Sparks Mayor Geno Martini, a dedicated public servant, a proven leader in northern Nevada, and a friend. As a citizen of Sparks for 71 years, Mayor Martini has been an integral part of our community, and is a Nevadan through and through.

As a Sparks High School and University of Nevada, Reno, graduate, Mayor Martini has devoted his life to improving the community he is proud to call home. Mayor Martini served as mayor of Sparks for over 13 years and was also a member of the Sparks City Council. He has played an instrumental role in a number of projects that benefit the Sparks community. Whether it is his work on the North Truckee Drain project that helps prevent flooding for businesses and homeowners or his efforts to redevelop the Sparks Marina and transform an abandoned parking structure into a beautiful apartment home community, Mayor Martini's legacy of leadership will be preserved through the positive impact that his work will have on this community for generations to come.

His colleagues credit the development and revitalization of downtown Sparks to Mayor Martini's efforts. We have seen tremendous economic growth in the city of Sparks and much of that would not have been possible without the leadership of Mayor Martini.

Additionally, Mayor Martini is a longtime advocate for those who serve the city and has worked to provide support to the community's residents who are in need. For instance, he helped to increase funding for Sparks' police and fire departments and played a key role in the creation of the community assistance center to shelter and offer outreach to individuals and families who are homeless. Further, he helps at-risk children in our community who cannot otherwise participate in recreation programs due to financial hardships by raising funds for the Sparks Youth Scholarship Program.

I congratulate Mayor Martini on his retirement and thank him for his years of service to our community. Sparks and Nevada are better places because of Mayor Martini, and his efforts and stewardship will not be forgotten.●

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-6772. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of General Vincent K. Brooks, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6773. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Fiscal Year 2017 Inventory of Contracted Services"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6774. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursu-

ant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the situation in or in relation to the Democratic Republic of the Congo that was declared in Executive Order 13413 of October 27, 2006; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6775. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Sudan that was declared in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6776. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Wassenaar Arrangement 2017 Plenary Agreements Implementation" (RIN0694-AH44) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6777. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Suspension of Community Eligibility; Georgia; Acworth, City of, Cobb County, et al." ((44 CFR Part 64) (Docket No. FEMA-2018-0002)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6778. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the designation as an emergency requirement the amount (including the transfer of funds) so designated by the Congress in the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018, pursuant to section 251 (b) (2) (A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, for the Community Development Fund; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-6779. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, "Review of Medicare's Program for Oversight of Accrediting Organizations and the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Validation Program: Fiscal Year 2017"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6780. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to Malaysia to support the transfer of six MD530G Scout/Attack helicopters, one MD530G Flight Training device, and MD530G training to Malaysian Army in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTTC 18-044); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6781. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Food Additives Permitted in Feed and Drinking Water of Animals; 25-Hydroxyvitamin D3" ((21 CFR Part 573) (Docket No. FDA-2013-F-1540 and FDA-2014-F-0296)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 5, 2018; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6782. A communication from the Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's annual submission regarding agency compliance with the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act and revised Office of Manage-

ment and Budget (OMB) Circular A-123; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6783. A communication from the Director of Regulation, Legislation, and Interpretation, Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Minimum Wage for Contractors; Updating Regulations to Reflect Executive Order 13838" (RIN1235-AA27) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2018; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6784. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "2017 Annual Report to the Congress on the Native Hawaiian Revolving Loan Fund"; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-6785. A communication from the Federal Liaison Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Changes to the Claim Construction Standard for Interpreting Claims in Trial Proceedings Before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board" (RIN0651-AD16) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2018; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-6786. A communication from the Regulation Policy Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "VA Acquisition Regulation: Describing Agency Needs; Contract Financing" (RIN2900-AP81) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2018; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-6787. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Television Broadcasting Services; Block Island and Newport, Rhode Island" ((MB Docket No. 18-153) (DA 18-962)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6788. A communication from the Associate Chief of Infrastructure and Policy, Wireline Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment" ((FCC 18-133) (WT Docket No. 17-79; WC Docket No. 17-84)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6789. A communication from the Division Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Toll Free Assignment Modernization" ((FCC 16-137) (WC Docket No. 17-192; CC Docket No. 95-155)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6790. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to violations of the Antideficiency Act that involved fiscal year 2006 Procurement Marine Corps (PMC) funds and was assigned case number 16-01; to the Committee on Appropriations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted: