

The city of Kearney, the State of Nebraska, and the U.S. Senate are better because of Julie's wonderful work throughout the years.

She is a dedicated, committed person who focused on making life better for Nebraskans.

She is truly one of a kind.

I congratulate Julie on her remarkable career in public service. I thank her for her many years of service to our State and to our people, and I wish her a retirement full of joy and fulfillment.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO ANN MITCHELL

• Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, today I wish to recognize Ann Mitchell for her 20 years of outstanding dedication and visionary leadership as president and CEO of Montgomery Hospice. I am grateful to Ann for her tireless efforts to provide quality and compassionate end-of-life care and services to residents of Montgomery County, MD.

Ann understands that the experience of people who are dying is extremely personal and that each of us has a cultural identity that is part of our character. When people are in their final weeks of life, Ann believes that it is paramount that each of us is cared for with a deep respect for our cultural identity.

Ann considers herself a global citizen, as she grew up in seven countries around the world. She celebrates diversity and recognizes the value that a multicultural team brings to end-of-life care. Ann has worked diligently to make Montgomery Hospice diverse at all levels, including in senior management, and firmly supports inclusion and equity initiatives.

Montgomery Hospice is well-known for its inpatient hospice, "Casey House"; its comprehensive "Hospice at Home" service; and its compassionate "Bereavement Care" service. All Montgomery Hospice services support its mission "To Gentle the Journey" for the dying residents of Montgomery County, MD.

A trustee of Smith College, Ann graduated with a major in economics from Smith. She earned a master's in public health at Yale University. For the past 20 years, Ann has led Montgomery Hospice strategically in service to its patients, employees, and volunteers.

I have known Ann for over 20 years, and I can personally attest to the dedication and compassion she has brought to her job. It has been an honor to support her efforts as she enlisted many in our community in her important work. She has been totally committed to her mission of ensuring that every individual in her care is treated with the utmost respect and dignity, and our community is stronger and better because of her work.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing all that Ann Mitchell has done to make a difference in the lives of others.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, 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 and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

#### PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

##### REPORT RELATIVE TO THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13692 OF MARCH 8, 2015, WITH RESPECT TO THE SITUATION IN VENEZUELA—PM 4

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days before the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13692 of March 8, 2015, with respect to the situation in Venezuela, is to continue in effect beyond March 8, 2019.

The situation in Venezuela continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13692 with respect to the situation in Venezuela.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 5, 2019.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1112. An act to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to strengthen the background check procedures to be followed before a Federal firearms licensee may transfer a firearm to a person who is not such a licensee.

#### 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-474. A communication from the Chief of the Planning and Regulatory Affairs Branch, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP): Eligibility, Certification, and Employment and Training Provisions of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008" (RIN0584-AE54) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 1, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-475. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to transnational criminal organizations that was declared in Executive Order 13581 of July 24, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-476. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13441 with respect to Lebanon; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-477. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Libya that was originally declared in Executive Order 13566 of February 25, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-478. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security" (RIN2590-AA94) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 1, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-479. 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; Minnesota; Commercial and Industrial Solid Waste Incineration Units and Other Solid Waste Incineration Units Negative Declarations for Designated Facilities and Pollutants" (FRL No. 9990-45-Region 4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 1, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-480. 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; Ohio; Ohio Permit Rules Revisions" (FRL No. 9990-44-Region 5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 1, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-481. 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; Tennessee; NO<sub>x</sub>