

Northern District of Alabama, and I certainly commend him for this accomplishment. At the time of his appointment, Judge Putnam was the youngest magistrate judge in the country at age 32.

Instrumental in the expansion of the role of magistrate judges, Judge Putnam worked to highlight their value in the judicial process. He acted as the chair and vice chair of the Northern District's Criminal Justice Act Administrative Committee, playing a significant role in ensuring the highest quality of representation of indigent criminal defendants in the Northern District under the Criminal Justice Act.

Judge Putnam is widely known for his volunteer work at the Cumberland School of Law in Birmingham, AL. He has taught a pretrial practice and procedure class since 2006 and directed many trial advocacy and moot court programs. The Cumberland School of Law named Judge Putnam the 2019 recipient of the Friend of the Law School Award in recognition of his time and dedication to the betterment of students at Cumberland. The Young Lawyers Section of the Birmingham Bar Association also selected him for the Judge Drayton Nobles James Award in 2016, where they honored his spirit of volunteerism.

As an advocate for the Northern District, Judge Putnam played an active role in using technology to improve efficiency. He has been a judicial resource for the Office of the Clerk while implementing procedural changes to the electronic filing system. Judge Putnam led the Court in establishing the eVoucher system, making it easier for attorneys and courts to process vouchers for appointed counsel in criminal cases.

Judge Putnam received his bachelor of arts from the University of Alabama and his juris doctorate from the University of Alabama School of Law. He graduated in the top 5 percent of his class and was a Hugo L. Black Scholar.

Judge Putnam's contributions to Alabama's judicial system are truly remarkable and will have an impact for generations to come. I am proud to take this time to recognize and thank him for his service to the people of our great State and his unwavering commitment to the rule of law. I join Judge Putnam's friends, family, and colleagues in wishing him the best of luck as he transitions into a new chapter of his life.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:57 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1200. An act to increase, effective as of December 1, 2019, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of cer-

tain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1812. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish Vet Center readjustment counseling and related mental health services to certain individuals.

H.R. 1947. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to exempt transfers of funds from Federal agencies to the Department of Veterans Affairs for nonprofit corporations established under subchapter IV of chapter 73 of such title from certain provisions of the Economy Act, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2045. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish in the Department the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2326. An act to amend the Social Security Act, to amend the Dignified Burial and Other Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act of 2012, and to direct the Secretaries of Veterans Affairs, Defense, Labor, and Homeland Security, and the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, to take certain actions to improve transition assistance to members of the Armed Forces who separate, retire, or are discharged from the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2333. An act to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an assessment of the responsibilities, workload, and vacancy rates of Department of Veterans Affairs suicide prevention coordinators, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2340. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide to Congress notice of any suicide or attempted suicide of a veteran in a Department of Veterans Affairs facility, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2359. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on the Department of Veterans Affairs advancing of whole health transformation.

H.R. 2372. An act to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an assessment of all memoranda of understanding and memoranda of agreement between Under Secretary of Health and non-Department of Veterans Affairs entities relating to suicide prevention and mental health services.

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-1338. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fluensulfone; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL 9992-69-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1339. A communication from the Program and Management Analyst, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Miscellaneous Conservation Provisions" (RIN0578-AA69) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 17, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1340. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Department of Energy Activities Relating to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, Fiscal Year 2018"; to the Committees on Energy and Natural Resources; Appropriations; and Armed Services.

EC-1341. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Hydroelectric Licensing Regulations Under the America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018" ((RIN1902-AF59) (Docket No. RM19-6-000)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2019; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1342. 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; Georgia; Permit Exemption for Fire Fighting" (FRL No. 9993-89-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1343. 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; Georgia; Miscellaneous Revisions" (FRL No. 9994-14-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1344. 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; Illinois; Redesignation of the Illinois Portion of the St. Louis, MO-IL Area to attainment of the 1997 Annual Standard for Fine Particulate Matter" (FRL No. 9994-11-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1345. 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; Indiana; Volatile Organic Liquid Storage Tank Rules" (FRL No. 9994-10-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1346. 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; Kentucky; Jefferson County Process Operations" (FRL No. 9993-90-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1347. 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; Massachusetts; Nonattainment New Source Review Program Revisions; Infrastructure Provisions for National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Nonattainment New Source Review Requirements for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standard" (FRL No. 9993-84-Region 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1348. 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; NC; Permitting Revisions" (FRL No. 9993-97-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1349. 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; Revisions to