

risk assessments to better understand and to improve resilience to the effects of EMPs and GMDs across all critical infrastructure sectors, including coordinating the prioritization of critical infrastructure at greatest risk to the effects of EMPs and GMDs.

“(3) COORDINATION.—

“(A) REPORT ON TECHNOLOGICAL OPTIONS.—Not later than December 21, 2020, and every 4 years thereafter until 2032, the Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Energy, the heads of other appropriate agencies, and, as appropriate, private-sector partners, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees, a report that—

“(i) assesses the technological options available to improve the resilience of critical infrastructure to the effects of EMPs and GMDs; and

“(ii) identifies gaps in available technologies and opportunities for technological developments to inform research and development activities.

“(B) TEST DATA.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than December 20, 2020, the Secretary, in coordination with the heads of Sector-Specific Agencies, the Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary of Energy, shall—

“(I) review test data regarding the effects of EMPs and GMDs on critical infrastructure systems, networks, and assets representative of those throughout the Nation; and

“(II) identify any gaps in the test data.

“(ii) PLAN.—Not later than 180 days after identifying gaps in test data under clause (i), the Secretary, in coordination with the heads of Sector-Specific Agencies and in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Energy, shall use the sector partnership structure identified in the National Infrastructure Protection Plan to develop an integrated cross-sector plan to address the identified gaps.

“(iii) IMPLEMENTATION.—The heads of each agency identified in the plan developed under clause (ii) shall implement the plan in collaboration with the voluntary efforts of the private sector, as appropriate.

“(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed to affect in any manner the authority, existing on the day before the date of enactment of this subsection, of any other component of the Department or any other Federal department or agency, including the authority provided to the Sector-Specific Agency specified in section 61003(c) of division F of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (6 U.S.C. 121 note), including the authority under section 215 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 824o), and including the authority of independent agencies to be independent.”.

(c) NATIONAL ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS.—

(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term “national essential functions” means the overarching responsibilities of the Federal Government to lead and sustain the Nation before, during, and in the aftermath of a catastrophic emergency, such as an EMP or GMD that adversely affects the performance of the Federal Government.

(2) UPDATED OPERATIONAL PLANS.—Not later than March 20, 2020, each agency that supports a national essential function shall prepare updated operational plans documenting the procedures and responsibilities of the agency relating to preparing for, protecting against, and mitigating the effects of EMPs and GMDs.

(d) BENCHMARKS.—Not later than March 26, 2020, and as appropriate thereafter, the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and, as appropriate, the private sector, may develop or update, as nec-

essary, quantitative and voluntary benchmarks that sufficiently describe the physical characteristics of EMPs, including waveform and intensity, in a form that is useful to and can be shared with owners and operators of critical infrastructure. Nothing in this subsection shall affect the authority of the Electric Reliability Organization to develop and enforce, or the authority of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to approve, reliability standards.

(e) PILOT TEST BY DHS TO EVALUATE ENGINEERING APPROACHES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September 22, 2020, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Energy, and in consultation with the private sector, as appropriate, shall develop and implement a pilot test to evaluate available engineering approaches for mitigating the effects of EMPs and GMDs on the most vulnerable critical infrastructure systems, networks, and assets.

(2) BRIEFING.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the pilot test described in paragraph (1) is completed, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Energy, shall jointly brief the appropriate congressional committees on the cost and effectiveness of the evaluated approaches.

(f) PILOT TEST BY DOD TO EVALUATE ENGINEERING APPROACHES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September 22, 2020, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of Energy, shall conduct a pilot test to evaluate engineering approaches for hardening a strategic military installation, including infrastructure that is critical to supporting that installation, against the effects of EMPs and GMDs.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after completing the pilot test described in paragraph (1), the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report regarding the cost and effectiveness of the evaluated approaches.

(g) COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONAL PLANS.—Not later than December 21, 2020, the Secretary of Homeland Security, after holding a series of joint meetings with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Commerce, the Federal Communications Commission, and the Secretary of Transportation shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report—

(1) assessing the effects of EMPs and GMDs on critical communications infrastructure; and

(2) recommending any necessary changes to operational plans to enhance national response and recovery efforts after an EMP or GMD.

(h) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by striking the item relating to section 320 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 320. EMP and GMD mitigation research and development and threat assessment, response, and recovery.”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I have 7 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are au-

thorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 12, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 12, 2019, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 12, 2019, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing on the following nominations: Chad F. Wolf, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Strategy, Policy, and Plans, Jeffrey Byard, of Alabama, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and Troy D. Edgar, of California, to be Chief Financial Officer, all of the Department of Homeland Security, John McLeod Barger, of California, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service, and B. Chad Bungard, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 12, 2019, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISHERIES, WATER, AND WILDLIFE

The Subcommittee on Fisheries, Water, and Wildlife of the Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 12, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE, CUSTOMS, AND GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

The Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness of the Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 12, 2019, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ANTITRUST, COMPETITION POLICY AND CONSUMER RIGHTS

The Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights of the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 12, 2019, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I have 2 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 12, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on pending nominations.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 12, 2019, at 3:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing on pending nominations.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following members of my staff be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the Congress: Thomas Huelskoetter, Gnora Gumanow, Ashley Semanskee, Michael Moynihan, Nicola Hill, Hilary Gelfond, Eric Parolin, Sheree Hickman, Forrest Graves, Anne McDonald, Celeste Acevedo, Anne Cox, and Skyler Broucker-Knapp.

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

HONORING THE VICTIMS OF THE MASS SHOOTING IN VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 248, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 248) honoring the victims of the mass shooting in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the measure.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 248) was agreed to.

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

COMMEMORATING THE VICTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND IN THE 2019 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION I WOMEN'S LACROSSE CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate

proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 249, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 249) commemorating the victory of the University of Maryland in the 2019 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Women's Lacrosse Championship.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I further ask that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 249) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

BLUE WATER NAVY VIETNAM VETERANS ACT OF 2019

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 299.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 299) to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

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

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 299) was passed.

Mr. LANKFORD. 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.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2019

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., Thursday, June 13; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings

be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate be in a period of morning business under the previous order.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:48 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, June 13, 2019, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

CARL WHITNEY BENTZEL, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSIONER FOR THE TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2024, VICE MARIO CORDERO, RESIGNED.

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

ASHLEY JAY ELIZABETH POLING, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING NOVEMBER 22, 2024, VICE NANJI E. LANGLEY, TERM EXPIRED.

THE JUDICIARY

DAVID B. BARLOW, OF UTAH, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH, VICE CLARK WADDUPS, RETIRED.

ROBERT ANTHONY MOLLOY, OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS, TO BE JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS FOR A TERM OF TEN YEARS, VICE CURTIS V. GOMEZ, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FERNANDO L. G. SABLON, OF GUAM, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF GUAM AND CONCURRENTLY UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE FRANK LEON-GUERERO, TERM EXPIRED.

THE JUDICIARY

KEVIN RAY SWEAZEA, OF NEW MEXICO, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO, VICE ROBERT C. BRACK, RETIRED.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate June 12, 2019:

THE JUDICIARY

PAMELA A. BARKER, OF OHIO, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO.

COREY LONDON MAZE, OF ALABAMA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA.

RODNEY SMITH, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA.

THOMAS P. BARBER, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA.

JEAN-PAUL BOULEE, OF GEORGIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA.

WITHDRAWALS

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on June 12, 2019 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nominations:

JEFFREY NADANER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, VICE DAVID W. MILLS, RETIRED, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON JANUARY 16, 2019.

LOUIS DEJOY, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 17, 2020, VICE JAMES M. DEMERS, TERM EXPIRED, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON JANUARY 16, 2019.