

Congress on awards and settlements requiring payments from the Section 415(a) Treasury Account.

(3) [reserved]

#### **§ 9.05 Revocation, Amendment, or Waiver of Rules.**

(a) The Executive Director, subject to the approval of the Board, may revoke or amend these Rules by publishing proposed changes in the Congressional Record and providing for a comment period of not less than 30 days. Following the comment period, any changes to the Rules are final once they are published in the Congressional Record.

(b) The Board or a Hearing Officer may waive a procedural rule in an individual case for good cause shown if application of the rule is not required by law.

#### **§ 9.06 Notices.**

(a) All employing offices are required to post and keep posted the notice provided by the Office that:

(1) describes the rights, protections, and procedures applicable to covered employees of the employing office under this Act, concerning violations described in 2 U.S.C. § 1362(b); and

(2) includes contact information for the Office.

(b) The notice must be displayed in all premises of the covered employer in conspicuous places where notices to employees are customarily posted.

#### **§ 9.07 Training and Education Programs.**

(a) Not later than June 19, 2019 (i.e., 180 days after the date of the enactment of the Reform Act), and not later than 45 days after the beginning of each Congress (beginning with the 117th Congress), each employing office shall submit a report both to the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate on the implementation of the training and education program required under section 438(a) of the Act.

(b) *Exception for Offices of Congress.*—This section does not apply to any employing office of the House of Representatives or any employing office of the Senate.

#### **ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2019**

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., Thursday, June 20; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and the Senate resume consideration of the pending joint resolutions en bloc; further, that 15 minutes be under the control of Senator MENENDEZ and 5 minutes be under control of Senator RISCH prior to 11:30 a.m. tomorrow; finally, that all time since cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 1790 was invoked, recess, adjournment, morning business, and leader remarks and during the consideration of the resolutions en bloc, count postcloture on the motion to proceed to S. 1790.

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

Mr. INHOFE. For the information of all Senators, the Senate will vote on the confirmation of the Baranwal nomination at 1:45 p.m. tomorrow.

#### **ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. INHOFE. 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, following the remarks of our Democratic colleagues.

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

The Senator from New Jersey.

S.J. RES. 36

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I rise to begin the debate in support of 22 resolutions of disapproval and ask my colleagues to join me in asserting congressional prerogative over arms sales to foreign governments and to say unequivocally that our security partnership with Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, or any other nation is not a blank check.

On May 24, the Secretary of State attempted to bypass this body in order to push through 22 separate arms sales to Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates, claiming an ill-defined emergency regarding Iran. Make no mistake. Iran continues to be a threat to U.S. interests in the Middle East. It continues to jeopardize the greater stability of the region. It has been rightly designated a state sponsor of terrorism. I think it is safe to say that no one in this body has been tougher on Iran than I. But we must ask whether the administration's actions are making us safer from Iranian threats or actually putting us more at risk. Does this administration have a strategic, maximum pressure campaign in place to address Iran's nuclear capabilities or its destructive behavior or is the Trump administration's only plan to turn the Middle East into a pressure cooker with no release valve? I fear it is the latter.

Let me address the resolutions at hand, highlighting just a few. Arms sales are a critical national security tool, and reviewing and approving them are core functions of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. We are responsible for considering how each proposed sale fits into our broader foreign policy goals and our national security interests, including the capacity and interoperability of our partners.

The congressional review of arms sales is mandated for a reason—so that the Secretary of State explicitly cannot do what he tried to do last month with these 22 sales to Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

Despite the Secretary of State's claims, his May 24 justification lacks any detailed, persuasive information to demonstrate that these sales will somehow better enable the United States or our allies to address an imminent threat or “emergency” or that he was justified in trying to bypass Congress.

Beyond failing to consult with Congress, I am troubled by the administration's continued willingness to withhold information from Senators. Just 3 days prior to the announcement, this “emergency,” Secretary Pompeo

briefed the Senate on the very threat he now claims justifies invoking emergency authorities. Yet during this briefing, the Secretary did not mention, not once, any need to sell more arms to Saudi Arabia to address such a threat.

An “emergency” by definition is an urgent and unexpected event requiring immediate action. Yet last week, Assistant Secretary of State Clarke Cooper admitted in an open House hearing that the decision to make the emergency determination was in the works for months—for months. When pressed on how an emergency declaration couldn't be in the works for months, Cooper tried to argue that the “emergency” showed up sometime in between the 2 days that the Secretary briefed members and then made the notifications.

It doesn't work that way. If it is in the works for months, as you testified, and you were thinking about it, you should have told us.

Their abuse of emergency authorities will ultimately be detrimental to the State Department, the defense industry, and U.S. national security.

For decades, the Congress, multiple Presidential administrations, and the defense industry have engaged in the arms sales process in good faith. The Senate has approved billions of dollars of arms sales to dozens of countries.

Whenever I am concerned about a particular sale, I have sought to work with the administration, the recipient country, as well as defense firms to explain those concerns and to reach a mutually acceptable solution. This approach has served all parties well. It ensures that there is a check on the Executive, whoever that Executive is. It ensures there is oversight over the number and types of U.S. weapons that make their way around the world.

Allow me to outline a little bit of background regarding two of the resolutions we will vote on individually: S.J. Res. 36 and 38, for those keeping score. Then I would like to address border concerns with Saudi Arabia and implications for some of the other sales.

These two resolutions are related to the sale of precision-guided munitions and parts to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, weapons they have used in the killing of untold numbers of innocent civilians in their ongoing campaign in Yemen.

Over the course of 4 years, Saudi Arabia's air operations in Yemen have killed and maimed thousands of Yemeni civilians. Ninety thousand Yemenis have died. Eighty thousand children have died of starvation. Seven thousand or more cases of cholera are reported. Three million people are displaced—3 million people are displaced. Some statistics tell us that there are 14 million more on the brink of starvation. The United Arab Emirates has joined in this coalition in this fight on Yemen, and there are credible reports, concerns that I raised about abusive torture at Emirati detention centers