

RECOGNIZING A & J AUTO REPAIR

• Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, as a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each month I recognize and celebrate the American entrepreneurial spirit by highlighting the success of a small business in my home State of Idaho. However, in honor of Veterans Day on November 11, this month I will honor a veteran-owned small business for each of the 10 days the Senate is in legislative session. The personal sacrifices made by America's veterans have protected the very freedoms and values that give each of us and our children the ability to achieve the American dream. The skills veterans learn as members of the military are invaluable and undoubtedly contribute to Idaho's flourishing veteran business community. I am proud of the sacrifices veterans have made to protect our country and that they are choosing Idaho to call home when they complete their service in the military. As your U.S. Senator from the great State of Idaho, it is my pleasure to recognize A & J Auto Repair in Twin Falls as the veteran-owned Idaho Small Business of the Day for November 13, 2019.

A & J Auto Repair is owned and operated by Charles "Abe" Abrahamson, who served in the United States Marine Corps, and his wife Robin. Abe is an active member of the American Legion and was recently recognized as the 2019 American Legion National Recruiter of the Year for his work recruiting more than 700 new members in 2018.

In 2013, the Abrahamsons opened A & J Auto Repair to provide automotive maintenance and repair services to the Magic Valley. Factory trained and certified technicians at A & J Auto Repair service all makes and models of cars, trucks, and sports utility vehicles. Abe Abrahamson is certified to service Volkswagen and Audi vehicles. The company prides itself in providing customers with accurate and timely repairs. A & J Auto Repair technicians and staff work hard to provide exceptional, personalized services at affordable prices.

Congratulations to Abe and Robin Abrahamson and all of the employees at A & J Auto Repair for being selected as the veteran-owned Idaho Small Business of the Day for November 13, 2019. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to your continued growth and success. •

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, 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.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:13 a.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. 1424. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure the Secretary of Veterans Affairs permits the display of Fallen Soldier Displays in national cemeteries.

H.R. 3224. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for increased access to Department of Veterans Affairs medical care for women veterans.

H.R. 3996. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for certain requirements relating to the use of the design-build construction method for Department of Veterans Affairs construction projects, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4162. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the period under which an election must be made for entitlement to educational assistance under the All-Volunteer Educational Assistance Program of Department of Veterans Affairs, to phase out the use of such program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4356. An act to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to allow certain individuals to terminate contracts for telephone, multichannel video programming, or internet access service, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4360. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the due process accorded veterans with respect to recovery of overpayments made by the Department and other amounts owed by veterans to the United States, to improve the processing of veterans benefits by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4477. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a plan to address certain high risk areas identified by the Comptroller General of the United States regarding the Department of Veterans Affairs in the 2019 HighRisk List of the Government Accountability Office, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4625. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to require that educational institutions abide by certain principles as a condition of approval for purposes of the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4771. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to permit appellants to appear in cases before the Board of Veterans' Appeals by picture and voice transmission from locations other than facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1424. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure the Secretary of Veterans Affairs permits the display of Fallen Soldier Displays in national cemeteries; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 3224. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for increased access to Department of Veterans Affairs medical care for women veterans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 3996. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for certain requirements relating to the use of the design-build construction method for Department of Veterans Affairs construction projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

S. 2840. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, and for other purposes.

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-3144. A communication from the Director of the Issuances Staff, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the