

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 12 noon tomorrow, the Senate vote in relation to the Paul amendment to H.R. 6172, if offered. I further ask that at 1:30 p.m. tomorrow, the Senate vote on the passage of H.R. 6172, as amended, as under the order of March 16.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

CONFIRMATION OF TROY D. EDGAR

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise in opposition to the confirmation of Troy Edgar to be Chief Financial Officer of the Department of Homeland Security.

The nominee would have authority over the transfer and reprogramming of funds within the Department of Homeland Security. While he has pledged to notify Congress in advance of any such action, this administration has made it clear that it will continue to use every available tool to fund the wall that President Trump said Mexico would pay for and his administration's abusive immigrant detention policies. For that reason, any nominee to this position merits heightened scrutiny.

I am alarmed by rampant overcrowding and squalid conditions in DHS detention facilities. Despite DHS IG reports and numerous congressional inquiries and hearings, the Department has consistently mismanaged these facilities and shown a disregard for the care of those in its custody. To date, 674 detainees and 39 detention facility personnel have tested positive for COVID-19. Notwithstanding its failure to ensure the safety of its facility personnel and detainees, the Department has continued to use its transfer and reprogramming authority to increase the number of detention beds. Last August, DHS transferred or reprogrammed \$271 million, including \$155 million from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund, to expand ICE operations at the southern border.

A promise to notify Congress does nothing to stop these activities. I am confident that anything short of a statutory limitation on transfer and reprogramming authority will be ignored and that any official who stands in the way of these efforts will be circumvented or fired. The Senate should not confirm a nominee with the power to approve such actions until reasonable limits are enacted into law. For that reason, I voted against this nominee.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, our Nation commemorates National

Police Week in May, bringing together law enforcement officers, families, and public safety advocates from across the country to the Nation's Capital to pay respect to law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the line of duty last year.

The coronavirus outbreak in our country has disrupted the public tributes in Washington and in communities across the country. However, COVID-19 will not diminish our heartfelt gratitude to the fallen and those they left behind. This year, an online virtual candlelight vigil has replaced an in-person national ceremony to honor fallen officers from across the Nation.

Sadly, the State of Mississippi lost four officers in the line of duty last year. These brave men are being recognized this week, and their names have been added to the National Law Enforcement Memorial here in Washington, DC.

On May 5, 2019, Officer Robert McKeithen, 58, of Biloxi, was ambushed and tragically murdered. An Air Force veteran, Officer McKeithen served with the Biloxi Police Department for 24 years and planned on retiring by the end of the year. He was dearly loved by his family, friends, and fellow officers.

Constable Willie West, known as Hoot, was first elected in 1971 as constable of Lowndes County District 1 and was serving his 13th consecutive term. He had previously served with the Columbus Police Department and Lowndes County Sheriff's Office. He had a total of 52 years of law enforcement service and was a founding member and first president of the Mississippi Constables Association. On May 6, 2019, Constable West was serving civil papers when his vehicle struck a tree. He succumbed to his injuries a few days later at the age of 81, leaving behind a son, two daughters, five grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, his mother, brother, and two sisters.

Chickasaw County Deputy Sheriff Jeremy Voyles died in a single automobile crash while conducting an investigation on August 27, 2019. He was assigned to the North Mississippi Narcotics Unit. Prior to joining the sheriff's department, Voyles served as a law enforcement officer with the Mississippi Department of Transportation. He is survived by his wife, two young children, and his parents.

On December 12, 2019, Panola County Constable Eula Ray "Raye" Hawkins, 57, was killed when his vehicle was struck by a stolen pickup truck being pursued by other officers. Constable Hawkins served in law enforcement for 29 years. He is survived by his son, who serves with the Batesville Police Department, a daughter, one grandson, and two sisters.

I join the families, fellow officers, and communities of these four Mississippi officers, who dedicated themselves to bravely serving the people of my State, honoring their lives with a

deep sense of gratitude for their service.

My heart aches any time a law enforcement officer is lost, whether it is in the line of duty or not. Their names may not grace a national memorial, but their service still merits recognition.

For instance, long-time Lawrence County Deputy Sheriff Robert Ainsworth and his wife, Paula, were among the 14 Mississippians who lost their lives in terrible tornadoes that hit my State on Easter Sunday. In his last act, Deputy Ainsworth, a Marine Corps veteran who died trying to shield his wife from harm, demonstrated the selflessness and bravery that is characteristic of so many in law enforcement.

Law enforcement officers risk their lives daily to help keep us safe, and any loss of an officer profoundly affects entire communities. My admiration for the law enforcement community, who remain deeply dedicated despite the dangers of their noble profession, knows no bounds. We acknowledge their brave service and fortify our support of their work to serve and protect our families and our communities.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the pursuant to section 201(b) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6431), and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Speaker appoints the following individuals on the part of the House of Representatives to the Commission on International Religious Freedom for a term effective May 14, 2020, and ending May 14, 2022: Ms. Anurima Bhargava of Chicago, Illinois and Dr. James W. Carr of Searcy, Arkansas.

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-4504. A communication from the Senior Legal Advisor for Regulatory Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Small Business Administration Business Loan Program Temporary Changes; Paycheck Protection Program - Additional Criterion for Seasonal Employers" ((RIN1505-AC67) (31 CFR Part 120)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 12, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4505. A communication from the Senior Legal Advisor for Regulatory Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Filing Fees for Notices of Certain Investments in the United States by Foreign Persons and Certain Transactions by Foreign Persons Involving Real Estate in the United States" ((RIN1505-AC65) (31 CFR Part 800 and 802)) received in the Office of the President