

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

of the Senate on May 12, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4506. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on discretionary appropriations legislation relative to sec. 251(a)(7) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-4507. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rev. Proc. 2020-21" (Rev. Proc. 2020-21) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 12, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4508. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Bond remarketing relief" (Notice 2020-25) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 12, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4509. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Notice Proposing Revenue Procedure Updating Group Exemption Letter Program" (Notice 2020-36) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 12, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4510. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension of Certain Timeframes for Employee Benefit Plans, Participants, and Beneficiaries Affected by the COVID-19 Outbreak" (26 CFR Part 54) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 12, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4511. A communication from the Director, Office of Labor-Management Standards, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Labor Organization Annual Financial Reports For Trusts In Which a Labor Organization is Interested, Form T-1" (RIN1245-AA09) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 12, 2020; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4512. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-244, "Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development Limited Grant Making Authority for Check It Enterprises Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4513. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-302, "Ivory and Horn Trafficking Prohibition Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4514. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-300, "Crowdy Court Designation Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4515. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-301, "Leave to Vote Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4516. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-303, "Marion S. Barry, Jr. Building Designation Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4517. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-304, "Improving Voter Registration for New Tenants and Homeowners Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4518. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-305, "Transportation Benefits Equity Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4519. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-306, "Potomac River Bridges Towing Compact Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4520. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-307, "Professional Art Therapist Licensure Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4521. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-308, "Health Care Reporting Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4522. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-309, "Public Charter School Closure Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4523. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-310, "Better Access for Babies to Integrated Equitable Services Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4524. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-311, "Kappa Alpha Psi Way Designation Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4525. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-312, "Poison Center Designation Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4526. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-313, "Ward 8 Senior Housing Fund Establishment Temporary Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4527. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-314, "Adams Morgan Business Improvement District Temporary Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4528. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Colum-

bia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-315, "Firearms Safety Omnibus Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4529. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-316, "Children's Hospital Research and Innovation Campus Phase I Temporary Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4530. A communication from the Acting Chairman of the Administrative Conference of the United States, transmitting, a report entitled "Equal Access to Justice Act Awards Report to Congress Fiscal Year 2019"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-193. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of New Jersey urging the federal government to create a federal COVID-19 Business and Employee Continuity and Recovery Fund; to the Committee on Appropriations.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 65

Whereas, The United States faces an unprecedented public health crisis in the form of the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic; and

Whereas, There have already been over 15,000 confirmed cases of coronavirus disease 2019 in the State of New Jersey and that number is expected to climb higher throughout the month of April and beyond; and

Whereas, Under Executive Order 107, the Governor has directed all residents to remain at home until further notice, in an effort to promote social distancing and stop the spread of the disease through personal contact; and

Whereas, Social distancing has caused considerable business disruption, with many businesses closed or operating at a reduced capacity indefinitely; and

Whereas, This has caused considerable financial hardship to employees who have been laid off, furloughed, or are working reduced hours, and to business owners who have seen a considerable reduction in income; and

Whereas, This situation is consistent in every state in the country, and even those states that have not enacted orders to stay at home have seen economic hardships resulting from voluntary social distancing; and

Whereas, Without government intervention, this large-scale business disruption will result in rampant unemployment, long-term damage to financial markets, and irreparable harm to communities across the country; and

Whereas, Government intervention in the form of the provision of liquidity to affected businesses would be of considerable assistance to any business, regardless of industry, location, or size; and

Whereas, The proposed COVID-19 Business and Employee Continuity and Recovery Fund allows for the distribution of federal funds and liquidity to impacted businesses and their employees; and

Whereas, Funding provided by the COVID-19 Business and Employee Continuity and Recovery Fund will help businesses retain and rehire employees, maintain worker benefits, and meet operating expense obligations, and includes strong anti-abuse provisions, including audits and Special Inspector General oversight; and