

H. J. Russell was the epitome of the American entrepreneur. Despite all the obstacles in his way, he worked hard to achieve his dreams. His business started as a plastering company, and he grew it into one of Atlanta's best real estate developers. Anywhere you look in Atlanta, you will see the incredible landmarks that the H.J. Russell Company has worked on: the Georgia Dome, Hartsfield-Jackson Airport, and Castleberry Hill. As a business guy myself, I am inspired by all that Herman J. Russell did in his life. Simply put, Atlanta would not be what it is today without H.J. Russell and the H.J. Russell Company. His children carry on this entrepreneurial spirit to this day. I recently had the opportunity to visit with his sons Michael and Jerome. They and their sister Donata Russell Ross are dedicated to continuing Black entrepreneurship.

Recently, I had the privilege of visiting the Russell Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship—RCIE—with Housing and Urban Development Secretary Ben Carson. The Russell Center assists African-American entrepreneurs by providing workspace, networking opportunities, and educational resources. In 2019, RCIE converted a 43,000-square-foot corporate headquarters into space for 100 emerging entrepreneurial companies. RCIE is a testament to the efforts of African-American entrepreneurs to uplift each other.

As the Georgia Greater Black Chamber and other organizations in my State look to support growth in Black business and entrepreneurship, I will continue to work to support them. Through a recent conversation with Dr. David Thomas, president of Morehouse College, I was made aware that approximately 45 percent of the young men who start as freshmen at Morehouse will not graduate. I have appealed to the Georgia business community to support HBCU's and hire their graduates as part of the solution to this problem. I was also proud to work with Congressman David Scott on a scholarship program for the "1890s" land grant institutions like Fort Valley State to help ensure they can continue to produce farmers and agribusinesses that are of critical importance to Georgia's economic future.

African-American entrepreneurship and business ownership accounts for nearly 3 million businesses in the United States and nearly a million employees. Before COVID-19, African-American unemployment was at its lowest point in U.S. history. These are remarkable statistics, but we must continue to advance the important work of supporting Black businesses, as this is key to empowering communities and individuals to move out of poverty and into prosperity.

I look forward to working with the Georgia Great Black Chamber of Commerce and other Chambers in Georgia to ensure Georgia remains the best place in America for all businesses.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE ON SEPTEMBER 24, 2020

At 1:28 p.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, without amendment:

S. 785. An act to improve mental health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 1646. An act to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in St. Augustine, Florida, as the "Leo C. Chase Jr. Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic".

S. 4072. An act to designate the clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Bend, Oregon, as the "Robert D. Maxwell Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic".

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 451. An act to repeal the requirement to reallocate and auction the T-Band spectrum, to amend the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 to clarify acceptable 9-1-1 obligations or expenditures, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1925. An act to designate the Manhattan Campus of the New York Harbor Health Care System of the Department of Veterans Affairs as the "Margaret Cochran Corbin Campus of the New York Harbor Health Care System".

H.R. 3798. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for limitations on copayments for contraception furnished by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4983. An act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Gilbert, Arizona, as the "Staff Sergeant Alexander W. Conrad Veterans Affairs Health Care Clinic".

H.R. 5023. An act to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Youngstown, Ohio, as the "Carl Nunziato VA Clinic".

H.R. 5245. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a bar on the recovery of certain payments or overpayments made by the Department of Veterans Affairs by reason of delays in processing of certain information, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7105. An act to provide flexibility for the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in caring for homeless veterans during a covered public health emergency, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a retraining assistance program for unemployed veterans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7347. An act to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Ann Arbor, Michigan, as the "Lieutenant Colonel Charles S. Kettles Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center".

H.R. 8247. An act to make certain improvements relating to the transition of individuals to service from the Department of Veterans Affairs, suicide prevention for veterans, and care and services for women veterans, and for other purposes.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR ON SEPTEMBER 24, 2020

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

S. 4675. A bill to amend the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 5245. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a bar on the recovery of certain payments or overpayments made by the Department of Veterans Affairs by reason of delays in processing of certain information, and for other purposes.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 45. Concurrent resolution providing for the use of the catafalque situation in the crypt beneath the Rotunda of the Capitol in connection with memorial services to be conducted in the Supreme Court Building and the Capitol for the late honorable Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mrs. MURRAY:

S. 4739. A bill to amend the Arms Export Control Act to provide for better monitoring and verification of the use of defense articles and defense services by countries of concern, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. CASEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BENNET, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. REED, Ms. SMITH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 4740. A bill to support public health infrastructure; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 4741. A bill to prohibit transfers of individuals between ICE facilities and Federal, State, and local facilities, to ensure physical distancing inside ICE facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BURR (for himself and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 4742. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to promote access to lifesaving therapies for Medicaid enrollees by ensuring coverage of routine patient costs

for items and services furnished in connection with participation in qualifying clinical trials, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ROUNDS:

S. 4743. A bill to amend the Act of August 10, 1956, to provide for the payment of pay and allowances for certain officers of the Army who are assigned to the Corps of Engineers; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. 4744. A bill to authorize the Daughters of the Republic of Texas to establish the Republic of Texas Legation Memorial as a commemorative work in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. HASSAN, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 4745. A bill to prevent surprise medical bills with respect to COVID-19 testing; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DAINES:

S. 4746. A bill to permit reenrollment and establishment by retiree beneficiaries of monthly enrollment fee payment for TRICARE Select at any time during 2021, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 4747. A bill to amend title IV of the Social Security Act to require States to provide information about available benefits and services to kinship caregivers; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH:

S. 4748. A bill to require the Bureau of Prisons to submit to Congress an annual summary report of disaster damage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 4749. A bill to address the public health risks posed by wildlife markets, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. HEINRICH:

S. 4750. A bill to assist Tribal entities in deploying broadband using the 2.5 GHz spectrum band; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. 4751. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to limit the charitable deduction for certain qualified conservation contributions; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. WARREN:

S. 4752. A bill to establish the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policy in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 4753. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a pilot program to furnish doula services to veterans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PERDUE (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 4754. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish COVID Recovery Bonds, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 4755. A bill to prohibit private passenger automobile insurers from using certain income proxies to determine insurance rates and eligibility; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 4756. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to narrow the scope of the

limitation on liability provided under section 230 of that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 4757. A bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to establish additional requirements for dealers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 4758. A bill to require reporting of suspicious transmissions in order to assist in criminal investigations and counterintelligence activities relating to international terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. PERDUE (for himself, Mrs. LOEFFLER, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. Res. 726. A resolution honoring Rosalynn Smith Carter's 50 years of mental health advocacy; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 350

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 350, a bill to restore the application of the Federal antitrust laws to the business of health insurance to protect competition and consumers.

S. 511

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of S. 511, a bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors.

S. 514

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 514, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the benefits and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs to women veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 764

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 764, a bill to provide for congressional approval of national emergency declarations, and for other purposes.

S. 997

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 997, a bill to recognize and honor the service of individuals who served in the United States Cadet Nurse Corps during World War II, and for other purposes.

S. 1190

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms.

ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1190, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for payments for certain rural health clinic and Federally qualified health center services furnished to hospice patients under the Medicare program.

S. 1480

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1480, a bill to protect law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S. 2473

At the request of Mrs. LOEFFLER, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2473, a bill to extend certain provisions of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act until September 30, 2030, and for other purposes.

S. 2561

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 2561, a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to clarify provisions enacted by the Captive Wildlife Safety Act, to further the conservation of certain wildlife species, and for other purposes.

S. 2886

At the request of Ms. MCSALLY, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2886, a bill to prohibit the use of animal testing for cosmetics and the sale of cosmetics tested on animals.

S. 3064

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3064, a bill to oppose violations of religious freedom in Ukraine by Russia and armed groups commanded by Russia.

S. 3067

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3067, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to combat the opioid crisis by promoting access to non-opioid treatments in the hospital outpatient setting.

S. 3595

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 3595, a bill to require a longitudinal study on the impact of COVID-19.

S. 3608

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3608, a bill to amend the CARES Act to