

Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration for the period from April 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3187. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and a Management Report for the period from April 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3188. A communication from the General Counsel, Office of Special Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the vacancy in the position of Special Counsel, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 8, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3189. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-322, "Grounds for Divorce, Legal Separation, and Annulment Amendment Act of 2023"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3190. A communication from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to notifying Congress that the Commission did not complete or initiate competitive sourcing for conversion in fiscal year 2023, nor do they plan to do so in fiscal year 2024; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-3191. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Candidate Salaries" (Notice 2023-19); to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-3192. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Technological Modernization" (Notice 2023-20); to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-3193. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The Attorney General's Fourth Quarterly Report of Fiscal Year 2023 on the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3194. A communication from the Regulation Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Payments Under State Home Care Agreements for Nursing Home Care" (RIN2900-AR62) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 30, 2023; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3195. A communication from the Regulation Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Reevaluation of Claims for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation" (RIN2900-AR76) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 30, 2023; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3196. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Television Broadcasting Services; Jacksonville, Oregon" (MB Docket No. 23-285) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 13, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3197. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of the Low Power Protection Act" ((FCC-23-112) (MB Docket No. 23-126)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3198. A communication from the Deputy Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Wireless Emergency Alerts, Amendments to Part 11 of the Commission's Rules Regarding the Emergency Alert System" ((FCC23-88) (PS Docket Nos. 15-91 and 15-94)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 20, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3199. A communication from the Program Analyst, International Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Expediting Initial Processing of Satellite and Earth Station Applications" (FCC 23-73) (IB Docket Nos. 22-411 and 22-271)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 13, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3200. A communication from the Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Promoting Telehealth in Rural America" ((FCC 23-110) (WC Docket No. 17-310)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3201. A communication from the Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Supporting Survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence; Lifeline and Link Up Reform Modernization; Affordable Connectivity Program" ((RIN3060-AL48) (WC Docket Nos. 22-238, 11-42, and 21-450)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 20, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3202. A communication from the Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementing the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act: Prevention and Elimination of Digital Discrimination" ((RIN3060-AL56) (GN Docket No. 22-69)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 20, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### 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-92. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of California applying to the United States Congress to call a constitutional convention under Article V of the Constitution of the United States for the purpose of proposing a constitutional amendment relating to firearms; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 7

Whereas, Approximately 49,000 Americans died in 2021 as a result of gun violence, and firearms are the leading cause of death for children under 18 years of age in the United

States and the most common method of both homicide and suicide, and

Whereas, it is estimated that there are approximately 393,000,000 firearms in civilian hands in the United States as of 2023, meaning that firearms now outnumber people in our country; and

Whereas, Gun safety laws are proven to lessen the scourge of gun violence, as evidenced by the fact that since some of California's most significant gun safety laws took effect in the early 1990s, California has cut its rate of gun death in half, and the state's gun death rate is 39 percent lower than the national average as of 2023; and

Whereas, Precedents of the Supreme Court of the United States, including its decision in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. v. Bruen* (2022) 142 S.Ct. 2111, have limited the ability of the states to enact and enforce reasonable restrictions on the public carry of firearms, and prompted challenges to many other common sense regulations, such as those allowing law enforcement officials to assess the potential dangerousness of individuals seeking to obtain firearms and prohibit possession of firearms by those deemed dangerous, and those restricting possession of certain particularly dangerous weapons, including weapons of war; and

Whereas, Modern technology and capabilities, including semiautomatic firing mechanisms, capacity, range, accuracy, and use of specialized ammunition, of the firearms commercially available today make them far more lethal than anything the founders could have imagined in the 18th century, when most weapons needed to be reloaded after every shot; and

Whereas, Common sense public safety regulations limiting aspects of firearms acquisition, possession, public carry, and use by individuals, including, but not limited to, the types of firearms and ammunition that private individuals may possess, categories of private individuals who may not acquire or possess firearms, and locations where private individuals may carry firearms, as well as procedures to ensure that individuals possessing or seeking to acquire or publicly carry firearms will not pose a threat to the safety of themselves or others or use a firearm in furtherance of otherwise unlawful conduct, are proven to save lives; and

Whereas, Since state leaders first announced their intention to introduce this joint resolution in June 2023, the Supreme Court of the United States has granted review in *United States v. Rahimi*, yet another case in which a court struck down a commonsense gun safety regulation, and the scourge of gun violence has continued unabated, with recent mass shootings bringing tragedy to communities across the country, further underscoring the need for urgent action; and

Whereas, Amending the United States Constitution as described herein will ensure that federal, state, and local government can effectively pursue common sense solutions to this deadly nationwide problem, consistent with the understanding that throughout American history private, individuals have possessed firearms for home defense, hunting, and recreational purposes; and

Whereas, Article V of the Constitution of the United States requires the United States Congress to call a constitutional convention upon application of two-thirds of the legislatures of the several states for the purpose of proposing amendments to the United States Constitution; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of California, jointly*, That the Legislature of the State of California, speaking on behalf of the people of the State of California, hereby applies to the United States Congress to call a constitutional convention

under Article V of the Constitution of the United States for the purpose of proposing a constitutional amendment that would do either, or both, of the following:

(a) Affirm that federal, state, and local governments may adopt public safety regulations limiting aspects of firearms acquisition, possession, public carry, and use by individuals, and that such regulations are consistent with the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution and the understanding that throughout American history private individuals have possessed firearms for home defense, hunting, and recreational purposes;

(b) Impose, as a matter of national policy, the following firearms regulations and prohibitions: (1) universal background checks as a prerequisite to purchase or acquisition of a firearm, (2) a prohibition on sales, loans, or other transfers of firearms to those under 21 years of age, subject to limited exceptions, (3) a minimum waiting period after the purchase or acquisition of a firearm before that firearm may be delivered to the buyer or acquirer, and (4) a prohibition on the sale, loan, or transfer of assault weapons and other weapons of war to private civilians; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this application is for a limited constitutional convention and does not grant Congress the authority to call a constitutional convention for any purpose other than those set forth herein and that this application shall be void if ever used at any stage to consider any constitutional amendments on subjects other than those specified herein; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this application shall be considered as covering the same subject matter as applications from other states to the United States Congress to call a convention to propose a constitutional amendment for each respective purpose set forth herein and that this application—shall be aggregated with such applications for the purpose of attaining the two-thirds of states necessary to require Congress to call a limited convention on each respective subject, but shall not be aggregated with any other applications on any other subject; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the State of California intends that this application shall constitute a continuing application, considered together with any applications on the respective subject that other states have adopted or may in the future adopt, until such time as two-thirds of the several states have applied for a convention and said convention is convened by Congress; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, the Minority Leader of the United States Senate, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.

POM-93. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Michigan urging the United States Congress, Department of Defense, and Department of Veterans Affairs to prioritize research and investment in non-technology treatment options for servicemembers and veterans who have psychological trauma as a result of military service; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5

Whereas, The men and women who voluntarily sign-up to serve our nation in the United States Armed Forces, and the additional uniformed services, generally do so

with an understanding that such service may ultimately impact their physical and mental well-being. Even with this knowledge, they still answer the call to serve; and

Whereas Members of the active-duty Air Force, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy, and Space Force, and their reserve components the Army and Air National Guard, may have experiences that increase the risk for developing behavioral health problems, including traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, and depression. Effective treatment options for these conditions vary from servicemember to servicemember, and

Whereas, Upon return from a deployment, members of the reserve components and the National Guard are demobilized and must reintegrate back into civilian life, while simultaneously losing access to the full range of services offered by the military health system and having to emotionally deal with the same experiences as their active-duty counterparts; and

Whereas, Non-technology treatment options, such as buddy-to-buddy programs, controlled use of psychedelics in clinical settings, outdoor therapy, and easier access to service animals, among others, have shown promise to help veterans improve their mental health and find a new normal while dealing with the invisible wounds of war and service; and

Whereas, The families of servicemembers must also not be forgotten, and resources should be made available to help them understand and assist their loved ones who may be suffering from psychological trauma. Family members of servicemembers or veterans with behavioral health problems may experience family violence and aggression, lower parenting satisfaction, and child behavior problems. Resources should include services that will help family members deal with the impacts of their family members' service; and

Whereas, The need to address veteran mental health is of key importance in Michigan. In 2021, it was reported that there were 554,281 veterans living in Michigan, making Michigan rank eleventh out of fifty-three states and territories in veteran population. However, between 2016 and 2020, it was reported that there were 882 Michigan veterans who died by suicide; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (The Senate Concurring)*, That we urge the United States Congress Department of Defense, and Department of Veterans Affairs to prioritize research and investment in non-technology treatment options for servicemembers and veterans who have psychological trauma as a result of military service; and be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, the Chair and Ranking Members of the Committees on Veterans Affairs and Armed Services, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-94. A petition from citizens of the State of Massachusetts relative to urging the United States Congress to act expeditiously to enact legislation relative to comprehensive immigration reform and, in doing so, help resolve the dual crises of a dysfunctional immigration system and a rapidly-developing domestic workforce shortage; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

POM-95. A resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Elizabeth, New Jersey, opposing the use of public and private property in the City of Elizabeth for the purposes of the federal government detaining detaining immigrants awaiting due process; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### 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 Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. VANCE, Mr. CRAMER, and Ms. ROSEN): S. 3565. A bill to appropriate funds for the Affordable Connectivity Program of the Federal Communications Commission; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. PAUL (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. LEE, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 3566. A bill to require a full audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal reserve banks by the Comptroller General of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. VANCE):

S. 3567. A bill to establish within the Department of Veterans Affairs a Veterans Affairs History Office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. WARNER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 3568. A bill to amend chapter 3081 of title 54, United States Code, to enhance the protection and preservation of America's battlefields; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. TILLIS:

S. 3569. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a report on the disclosure process for intellectual property created under a Federal grant, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 3570. A bill to designate the United States courthouse located at 500 West Pike Street in Clarksburg, West Virginia, as the "Irene M. Keeley United States Courthouse", and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 3571. A bill to protect the right of parents to direct the upbringing of their children as a fundamental right; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LUJÁN (for himself and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 3572. A bill to direct the Secretary of Labor, in consultation with the Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts, to award grants for arts and creative workforce programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 3573. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase data transparency for supplemental benefits under Medicare Advantage; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 3574. A bill to amend chapter 3 of title 36, United States Code, to designate the mastodon as the national fossil of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 3575. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to give a preference, with respect to project grants for preventive health