

interested in proposing a partisan plan. Instead, we offer a plan that is both reasonable and feasible because it calls for strategic decision-making that allows for the least disruption possible for our constituents as the executive branch implements \$85 billion in spending cuts over the next 7 months.

Further underscoring the need for a comprehensive flexibility plan, several members of Congress introduced this week amendments to a funding bill called a continuing resolution that propose flexibility in implementing sequestration for individual agencies or departments that were immediately hit by the effects of the automatic budget cuts. These amendments are mainly focused on providing flexibility for particular agencies, while the bipartisan Udall-Collins approach proactively provides for strategic decision-making and flexibility across all agencies in our Government.

Coloradans know we are all in this together. When the pioneers had a wagon train breakdown, they didn't quibble about who was to blame. They fixed the wheel. When bad weather rolled in while crossing the divide, they didn't argue about who put them in harm's way—they came together and supported each other in order to survive.

In that vein, we ought to continue working on a Simpson-Bowles inspired plan that raises revenue by closing tax loopholes and asks the well-off to do a little more, reforms our entitlements to shore them up over the long term, and finds areas of our budget where we can pare back Government spending. If we can finally agree on a balanced solution like this, we would—in effect—fix the wagon wheel and get us through the storm so that we can move on to the other serious challenges confronting our country, like energy and immigration reform, fighting terrorists and building an economy that is set to lead the global economic race.

At this point, we are left with very few workable options. The sequester will be damaging no matter what, but let's work together to ensure its impact is not unnecessarily debilitating to our Government, our national security, and our economy. Most importantly, let's not do unnecessary harm to hardworking, middle-class families across this Nation.

I urge my colleagues to join Senator COLLINS and me in supporting our amendment to give Congress and the White House the authority to more strategically implement the sequestration cuts. By working together, we can make the best out of a bad situation and agree on a wholesale, balanced and bipartisan plan to address our fiscal imbalances.

WHITE CLAY CREEK WILD AND SCENIC RIVER EXPANSION ACT

Mr. COONS. Mr. President, today the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee voted to endorse a bill I in-

troduced that would add approximately 9 miles of White Clay Creek and its tributaries to the existing Wild and Scenic Rivers designation for the waterway. The White Clay Creek Wild and Scenic River Expansion Act of 2013 (S.393) now awaits consideration by the full Senate, which passed this legislation with bipartisan support during the 112th Congress.

Growing up, I spent considerable time in the White Clay Creek watershed and know that it is an important resource for Delaware and the region. Years ago, my grandmother donated some of her land along the banks of White Clay Creek to help protect it. It is up to all of us to fight to protect our natural resources. I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues to get this legislation passed by the full Senate.

The legislation, which comes at no cost to taxpayers, would expand the original Wild and Scenic Rivers designation to include two small stream sections that were omitted from the original designation, including a 1.6-mile stretch of Lamborn Run in Delaware that was originally omitted due to its consideration as an option for a dam to supply drinking water for northern Delaware. It has since been removed from consideration and New Castle County is supportive of the designation.

The bill also includes a 7.4-mile stretch of stream in Pennsylvania's New Garden Township that was originally omitted due to its consideration for a dam. That consideration has since been withdrawn and the township is now supportive of the designation.

In February, Representative JOSEPH PITTS (R-Pa.) and I reintroduced the White Clay Creek Wild and Scenic River Expansion Act in our respective chambers. Senator TOM CARPER, as well as Rep. JOHN CARNEY are cosponsors.

In 2000, Congress designated a large majority of White Clay Creek and its tributaries as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Then-Senator Joe Biden was the lead sponsor for the Senate bill and Representative Mike Castle was the lead sponsor for the House version. This marked the first time a whole watershed, rather than individual river segments, had been designated into the system. The proposal to expand the designation was led by former Senator Ted Kaufman in the Senate and Representative PITTS in the House.

The 69,000-acre White Clay Creek watershed is home to 33 species of mammals, 21 species of fish, 27 species of reptiles and amphibians, and over 90 species of birds. White Clay Creek is also stocked with brown and rainbow trout, and is an important resource for fishermen. Protected land in the watershed also provides recreational opportunities for hikers, bikers, birders, hunters, and others. White Clay Creek and the Cockeysville aquifer that lies beneath portions of the watershed are

important sources of drinking water for over 128,000 citizens in Pennsylvania and Delaware.

The bill is supported by the White Clay Creek Watershed Management Committee, which is comprised of 40 local, State, and Federal agency representatives, as well as organizations and businesses. Among its members are the National Park Service, Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, New Castle County Department of Land Use, London Britain Township, United Water Delaware, White Clay Outfitters, the Brandywine Conservancy, the Delaware Ornithological Society, Stroud Water Research Center, Chester County Planning Division, and SE Regional Office Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources.

The Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources also voted to pass the First State National Historical Park Act (S. 347), a bill authored by Senator CARPER, of which I am an original cosponsor. I was proud to lead my colleagues on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee in voting to bring Delaware one step closer to its first national park. For more than a decade, Senator CARPER has worked tirelessly to bring a national park to our State. A national park will preserve and celebrate our State's vibrant history while boosting Delaware's economy and creating jobs. Senator CARPER and I will continue to work together toward passage in the full Senate.

TRIBUTE TO NANCY LEE BASS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, with the passing of Nancy Lee Bass, the State of Texas has lost one of its finest citizens. I consider it a great honor to have known Nancy and her husband, Perry, and I join a grateful State in mourning her passing and celebrating the remarkable life she led.

A native daughter of Fort Worth, Nancy dedicated her life to her city. A mother of four, she was a community leader and philanthropist of the highest order, working endlessly for the greater good of her fellow citizens. Nancy's generosity was matched by her hard work and her unyielding support of the arts, health care services, and education. Her good works have touched the lives of countless people, not just in Fort Worth and Texas, but across our country.

Nancy Lee Bass has left a legacy of generosity that epitomizes the highest ideals of our great State. She will be missed, but we will find solace in the notion that her giving spirit will forever live on as both an inspiration and an aspiration for all Texans.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO PRESTON HENNE

• Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I am proud to honor on the floor of the Senate, Mr. Preston "Pres" Henne, for his

44-year career in the aerospace industry as he prepares for his retirement from Gulfstream Aerospace on March 31, 2013, as senior vice president for Programs, Engineering and Test.

During Pres' 19 years with Gulfstream, he was responsible for leading the teams that designed, developed, tested and certified the Gulfstream V and G550 aircraft. This earned him the Robert J. Collier trophies from the National Aeronautics Association in 1997 and 2003, respectively, which are awarded annually for the greatest achievement in aeronautics and astronautics in North America.

Under Pres' direction, Gulfstream developed and certified six new aircraft, the G650, G550, GV, G450, G280 and G150. In conjunction with these new products, Pres was also responsible for launching a number of industry-leading product enhancements, including the Gulfstream Enhanced Vision System and Synthetic Vision-Primary Flight Display.

Most recently, Pres oversaw the development of the company's much-anticipated G650, one of the world's most sophisticated business-jet aircraft. The G650, which entered service in 2012, was designed with technological advances such as a digital fly-by-wire system, triplex flight management systems, auto emergency descent and enhanced and synthetic vision systems. Pres also supervised the design and development of the G280, an aircraft that has been noted for its best-in-class performance, cabin comfort and technology.

From my conversations with Gulfstream officials and my knowledge of Pres' tremendous accomplishments, I know that the loss will be great. However, with the team Pres has led and his strong vision, I have no doubt the future of Gulfstream is as bright as Pres' own future beyond Gulfstream. Congratulations to Pres on taking the next steps in life.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:01 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 890. An act to prohibit waivers relating to compliance with the work requirements for the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 890. An act to prohibit waivers relating to compliance with the work requirements for the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

S. 558. A bill to prohibit the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from awarding any grant, contract, cooperative agreement, or other financial assistance under section 103 of the Clean Air Act for any program, project, or activity outside the United States.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

S. 582. A bill to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline.

S. 583. A bill to implement equal protection under the 14th article of amendment to the Constitution for the right to life of each born and preborn human person.

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-812. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tetrachlorvinphos; Extension of Time-Limited Interim Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9380-9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 12, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-813. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of General James N. Mattis, United States Marine Corps, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-814. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Economic Development Conveyances Report to Congress"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-815. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Annual Report of the Reserve Forces Policy Board for 2012; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-816. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Flood Elevation Determinations" ((44 CFR Part 67) (Docket No. FEMA-2013-0002)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2013; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-817. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Ohio; Cleveland-Akron-Lorain and Columbus 1997 8-Hour Ozone Maintenance Plan Revisions to Approved Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets" (FRL No. 9790-2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 12, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-818. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division,

Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Georgia; Control Techniques Guidelines and Reasonably Available Control Technology" (FRL No. 9791-1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 12, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-819. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; Idaho" (FRL No. 9791-2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 12, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-820. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Indiana; Consent Decree Requirements" (FRL No. 9789-9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 12, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-821. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision to Ambient Nitrogen Dioxide Monitoring Requirements" (FRL No. 9789-2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 12, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-822. 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 "Work Opportunity Tax Credit Transition Relief" (Notice 2013-14) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-823. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, an addendum to a certification, transmittal number: DDTC 13-011, of the proposed sale or export of defense articles and/or defense services to a Middle East country regarding any possible affects such a sale might have relating to Israel's Qualitative Military Edge over military threats to Israel; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-824. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the notification that groups designated by the Secretary of State as Foreign Terrorist Organizations will be published in the Federal Register; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-825. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to overseas surplus property; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-826. A communication from the Executive Analyst (Political), Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 12, 2013; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-827. A communication from the Deputy Director for Policy, Legislative and Regulatory Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer