

implement changes to the Indian Housing Block Grant allocation formula until all changes to data sources are fully evaluated by the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee established under section 106(b) of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4116(b)) at a publicly noticed, in-person session as part of the official, regular meeting process of the Committee.

SA 2869. Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CARPER, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. CASEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2812 proposed by Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. REED) to the bill H.R. 2577, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 54, line 11, strike "\$1,101,500,000" and insert "\$1,711,500,000".

SA 2870. Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Mr. NELSON, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2812 proposed by Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. REED) to the bill H.R. 2577, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 105.

SA 2871. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2577, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the amendment, add the following:

SEC. _____. None of the amounts appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act may be used to provide or administer assistance to aliens admitted, on or after November 13, 2015, as refugees or asylees under section 1157 or 1158 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1157 and 1158) who were nationals of any of the following countries or territories:

- (1) Afghanistan.
- (2) Algeria.
- (3) Bahrain.
- (4) Bangladesh.
- (5) Egypt.
- (6) Eritrea.
- (7) Indonesia.
- (8) Iran.
- (9) Iraq.
- (10) Jordan.
- (11) Kazakhstan.
- (12) Kuwait.
- (13) Kyrgyzstan.
- (14) Lebanon.
- (15) Libya.
- (16) Mali.
- (17) Morocco.
- (18) Nigeria.
- (19) North Korea.
- (20) Oman.

- (21) Pakistan.
- (22) Qatar.
- (23) Russia.
- (24) Saudi Arabia.
- (25) Somalia.
- (26) Sudan.
- (27) Syria.
- (28) Tajikistan.
- (29) Tunisia.
- (30) Turkey.
- (31) United Arab Emirates.
- (32) Uzbekistan.
- (33) Yemen.
- (34) Palestinian Territories.

SA 2872. Mr. PORTMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2812 proposed by Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. REED) to the bill H.R. 2577, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title IV, add the following:

SEC. _____. It is the sense of the Senate that bridges classified as structurally deficient or functionally obsolete should receive priority funding under the national highway performance program under section 119 of title 23, United States Code.

SA 2873. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mrs. ERNST) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1550, to amend title 31, United States Code, to establish entities tasked with improving program and project management in certain Federal agencies, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 11, line 22, strike "in accordance" and insert "consistent".

On page 12, lines 18 and 19, strike "the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016" and insert "chapter 87 of title 10".

On page 15, lines 16 and 17, strike "the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016" and insert "chapter 87 of title 10".

NOTICE OF INTENT TO OBJECT TO PROCEEDING

I, Senator CHARLES E. GRASSLEY, intend to object to proceeding to the nomination of Thomas A. Shannon, Jr. to be Undersecretary of State (Political Affairs), dated November 19, 2015.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 19, 2015, at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 19, 2015, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 19, 2015, at 2 p.m. to conduct a hearing entitled "ISIS's Impacts on the Homeland and Refugee Resettlement."

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 19, 2015, at 10 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 19, 2015, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled, "Human Trafficking Investigation."

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 19, 2015, at 2:30 p.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EAST ASIA, THE PACIFIC, AND INTERNATIONAL CYBERSECURITY POLICY

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 19, 2015, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "Democratic Transitions in Southeast Asia."

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

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Democratic leader, pursuant to Public Law 96-114, as amended, appoints the following individual to the Congressional Award Board: Karlos R. LaSane II of Nevada.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the

consideration of Calendar Nos. 379 through 382 and all nominations on the Secretary's desk in the Coast Guard; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order, that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

COAST GUARD

The following named officer for appointment to serve as Director of the Coast Guard Reserve pursuant to Title 14, U.S.C., section 53(b) in the grade indicated:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. Kurt B. Hinrichs

AMTRAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Derek Tai-Ching Kan, of California, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors for a term of five years.

COAST GUARD

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Coast Guard Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203(a):

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Andrew S. McKinley

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Coast Guard to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 271(e):

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Captain Matthew T. Bell

Captain Melissa Bert

Captain David M. Dermanelian

Captain Robert P. Hayes

Captain Andrew J. Tjongson

Captain Anthony J. Vogt

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

COAST GUARD

PN919 COAST GUARD nominations (56) beginning Ladonn A. Allen, and ending Jeffrey V. Yarosh, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 28, 2015.

PN920 COAST GUARD nominations (13) beginning Sharif A. Abdrabbo, and ending Wilbur A. Velarde, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 28, 2015.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 136, 194, 195, 321, 322, 323, 324, 338, 344, 376, and 377; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc without intervening action or debate; that following disposition of the nominations, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nominations; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations of Shelly Colleen Lowe, of Arizona, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2018; Steven M. Wellner, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years; William Ward Nooter, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years; Juan Carlos Iturregui, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation for a term expiring June 26, 2020; Luis A. Viada, of New York, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation for a term expiring September 20, 2018; Diane Helen Rodriguez, of California, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2018; Francine Berman, of New York, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2020; Patricia Nelson Limerick, of Colorado, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2018; Ann Calvaresi Barr, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, United States Agency for International Development; Victoria A. Lipnic, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term expiring July 1, 2020; and Michael Herman Michaud, of Maine, to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session.

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 288, S. 1550.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1550) to amend title 31, United States Code, to establish entities tasked with improving program and project management in certain Federal agencies, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

S. 1550

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Program Management Improvement Accountability Act".

SEC. 2. DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR MANAGEMENT.

(a) ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS.—Section 503 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(c) PROGRAM AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT.—“(1) REQUIREMENT.—Subject to the direction and approval of the Director, the Deputy Director for Management or a designee shall—

“(A) adopt governmentwide standards, policies, and guidelines for program and project management for executive agencies;

“(B) oversee implementation of program and project management for the standards, policies, and guidelines established under subparagraph (A);

“(C) chair the Program Management Policy Council established under section 1126(b);

“(D) establish standards and policies for executive agencies, in accordance with widely accepted standards for program and project management planning and delivery;

“(E) engage with the private sector to identify best practices in program and project management that would improve Federal program and project management;

“(F) conduct portfolio reviews to address programs identified as high risk by the Government Accountability Office;

“(G) not less than annually, conduct portfolio reviews of agency programs in coordination with Project Management Improvement Officers designated under section 1126(a)(1) to assess the quality and effectiveness of program management; and

“(H) establish a 5-year strategic plan for program and project management.

“(2) APPLICATION TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to the Department of Defense to the extent that the provisions of that paragraph are substantially similar to or duplicative of the provisions of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016.”.

(b) DEADLINE FOR STANDARDS, POLICIES, AND GUIDELINES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Deputy Director for Management of the Office of Management and Budget shall issue the standards, policies, and guidelines required under section 503(c) of title 31, United States Code, as added by subsection (a).

(c) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the standards, policies, and guidelines are issued under subsection (b), the Deputy Director for Management of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Program Management Policy Council established under section 1126(b) of title 31, United States Code, as added by section 3(a), and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, shall issue any regulations as are necessary to implement the requirements of section 503(c) of title 31, United States Code, as added by subsection (a).

SEC. 3. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT OFFICERS AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT POLICY COUNCIL.

(a) AMENDMENT.—Chapter 11 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§1126. Program Management Improvement Officers and Program Management Policy Council

“(a) PROGRAM MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT OFFICERS.—

“(1) DESIGNATION.—The head of each agency described in section 901(b) shall designate a senior executive of the agency as the Program Management Improvement Officer of the agency.

“(2) FUNCTIONS.—The Program Management Improvement Officer of an agency designated under paragraph (1) shall—

“(A) implement program management policies established by the agency under section 503(c); and

“(B) develop a strategy for enhancing the role of program managers within the agency that includes the following: