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Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, help us to so live that the generations to come will know about Your mighty acts. Today give our lawmakers the singularity of heart to seek, find, and follow Your will so that their legacy will be exemplary.

Lord, guide them in the path You have created, inspiring them with the potency of Your powerful presence. May they trust You in times of adversity and prosperity, knowing that they will reap a productive harvest if they persevere. Keep them from underestimating the power of Your great Name as You make them instruments of Your peace.

Help us to not pray primarily in our distress and need but rather also in joy's fullness and in our gratitude for abundant living.

Lord, we ask for Your healing for the victims of the New York City and New Jersey explosions and the Minnesota stabbing attacks.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COATS). The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 3348

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3348) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require candidates of major parties for the office of President to disclose recent tax return information.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

ATTACKS IN NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY, AND MINNESOTA

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, over the weekend, several incidents that appear to be acts of terrorism left dozens injured and many across the country shaken. While we are thankful that no loss of life has been reported, we also know that the injured will face a difficult road to recovery and healing. Our prayers are with each of them and all of those affected in this trying time.

Authorities acted expeditiously to uncover the facts, and just hours ago they captured a suspect in connection to the New York and New Jersey bombings. We thank them for their swift ac-

tions and continued efforts to keep Americans safe. Although an arrest has now been made, there is still much we do not know about these incidents, including whether there was involvement of a terrorist organization overseas. Investigators are continuing their work even as we speak, and we are monitoring that situation closely as it unfolds.

No matter the motive behind these incidents, it is clear that we must do everything we can to bolster security measures and counter the threats facing our homeland. These acts are very real reminders of the national security threats and challenges that we face both from beyond our borders and from within. Ensuring the safety of all Americans remains our top priority, so we will continue to do our part in working with our intelligence community, military leaders, and our law enforcement personnel in their efforts to protect the American people.

CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, Members have been working toward an agreement on a continuing resolution that will fund the government and provide critical resources to support veterans and combat Zika. Senate Republicans stand ready to move forward with this important measure now.

I encourage our colleagues across the aisle to work with us to complete the negotiations so we can advance this important measure.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

CAPTAIN MATTHEW D. ROLAND

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, today I rise in honor of Kentucky's bravest young men, one of whom, Capt. Matthew D. Roland, of Lexington, KY, gave his life in service to our country on August 26, 2015.

Captain Roland was a proud airman and member of the 23rd Special Tactics

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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Squadron in Hurlburt Field, FL. He was 27 years old.

Captain Roland was killed in combat at Camp Antonik in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. He was driving the lead vehicle in a convoy when that convoy was attacked by enemy combatants dressed as friendly Afghan forces.

It was a complex attack. The first warning that something was wrong came when an enemy combatant approached Captain Roland's vehicle. When he was within 5 feet of the vehicle, he began to raise his weapon. Without hesitation, Captain Roland's first thoughts were for the safety of his fellow servicemembers. He yelled "Insider attack" while radioing a warning to all vehicles in the convoy. Simultaneously, he drove in reverse, away from the gunmen, to protect his passengers.

Tragically, a split second later, the lead gunman who had approached the vehicle, shot Captain Roland, instantly killing him, but the message he had conveyed over the radio gave the other personnel in his convoy the opportunity to take cover and ready their weapons. Because of his warning, American casualties were fewer and the enemy combatants were neutralized, including the one who killed Captain Roland.

For his actions, Captain Roland was posthumously awarded the Silver Star for Valor. The citation accompanying the award read:

Captain Roland's actions are in keeping with the finest traditions of military heroism and reflect distinct credit upon himself, the NATO Special Operations Component Command . . . and the United States Air Force.

Over the course of his military career, Captain Roland received several other awards, medals, and declarations, including the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, Air Force Organizational Excellence Award, National Defense Service Medal, and NATO Medal.

Captain Roland was born at Ellsworth Air Force Base in Rapid City, SD. His father, retired U.S. Air Force Col. Mark Roland, moved frequently for assignments, and Matthew grew up in Abilene, TX, and Albuquerque, NM, before the family settled in Lexington, KY, where Matthew attended Lexington Catholic High School.

In high school, it was clear to many that Matthew was a driven young man who knew what he wanted out of life. Tim Wiesenhahn, his cross-country coach at Lexington Catholic, remembered that. Tim said:

He really wanted to be successful. I like to say he was driven to succeed. You just kind of knew he was going to be a leader. . . . The best runners really work at it, and Matt really wanted to be successful, and he put in the work.

A friend of Matthew's from high school, Clint Roberts, saw the same determination in the future airman. He said:

I don't remember a time when Matt didn't know what he wanted to do with his life.

From the time we met at cross-country practice in high school until the last time I talked to him, Matt always seemed like he controlled his life and path in a way that everyone strives to.

Matthew attained the Eagle Scout rank in Boy Scouting and graduated from Lexington Catholic in 2006. He entered the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO, where he graduated in 2010 with a bachelor of science degree in aeronautical engineering. Matthew then completed the rigorous special tactics program in 2012 to become a special tactics officer. As an STO, he was a team leader who supervised combat preparedness training for a 35-member team. He was a military static line and free-fall parachutist, Air Force combat scuba diver, and a joint terminal attack controller. He led reconnaissance, strike, and recovery missions. He was deployed three times over his 5 years of service in the Air Force, twice to Afghanistan and once to Africa, and wherever he served, he gained a reputation as a rock during stressful times, always cool under pressure yet always easy to befriend.

Capt. Ben Self, a fellow special tactics officer, said:

The attribute that stood out to me most was his unflinching stoic presence when we needed it most. I relied on Matt when times were toughest, and I will continue to do so as his memory lives on through all of us.

"Matt was anything but typical," says Col. Paul Brister, his commander. "On the battlefield, he was a lion—lethal, precise, humble and compassionate. He was always flawless. I'm convinced I learned more from him than he could ever learn from me."

Another airman said of Matthew: "He was unquestionably our leader . . . not just by the [regulations] or rank, but through his ability to command our respect and trust as men."

A letter written to Matthew's parents after his death revealed what Matthew did when off duty. "Besides Matt's great qualities as a teammate, air commando and USAF officer, Matt has two memorable habits," wrote LTC John Sannes and CSM Dwight Utley.

The letter continued:

He loved to walk around in his American flag shorts, and he loved his mom's chocolate chip cookies. As a testimony to Matt's generous heart, he burned his legs helping a contractor weld a gate while wearing his flag shorts, and he always shared his cookies with the guys on his team.

Matthew's loved ones are foremost in our thoughts as I share his story with my Senate colleagues and the entire Nation today. They include his parents, Colonel Mark and Barbara Roland; his sister, Erica Roland; his niece, Willamina Roland; his grandparents, Dr. and Mrs. Earl Roland; his grandmother, Rita Thomas; and many other beloved family members and friends.

Matthew's final resting place is Arlington National Cemetery, not far from where we stand. He was buried with full military honors.

One of Matthew's fellow airmen said this about hearing of his death:

[Matthew] brought America to the tent flaps and mud walls of our enemies on two continents. . . . He did not compromise on what he believed, and the nation is lucky he spent his time and energy protecting her.

I couldn't agree more. I am sure my colleagues agree that America is indeed lucky to have had Capt. Matthew D. Roland fighting for our freedoms. I would like his family to know that the Members of the Senate honor his service and his sacrifice and will be forever grateful.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority leader is recognized.

CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have been asked a number of times walking into my office this morning if there has been an agreement on the Zika funding and the continuing resolution, which is to keep our government open and funded. No, we have not is the answer. We have made progress. I am encouraged by the headway we have made. But as I said before, as Democrats, we are going to be cautious. There is still work to be done before we can say there has been an agreement made.

TERROR ATTACKS IN NEW JERSEY, NEW YORK, AND MINNESOTA

Mr. REID. Mr. President, many Americans are taking the news about this weekend's terror attacks in New Jersey, New York, and even Minnesota very seriously. As a country, we are always stunned when these violent acts occur, and we are absolutely sickened by the acts of violence of this terrorist activity. We grieve with the victims, their families, and their loved ones.

I had a long, thorough briefing today by the FBI. I appreciate their good work always. They have a difficult job doing everything they can to make sure we are safe.

I am aware of the many people injured in these cowardly attacks, including police officers. I wish them all a full and complete recovery. Despite the many injured, we are very grateful that no one was killed in these attacks. It is a credit to both law enforcement and America's terrific, good, brave first responders.

Earlier today, the suspect wanted in connection with these cowardly attacks was shot and apprehended by police officers, but, of course, not before he wounded two of these police officers. These officers' quick response most likely kept Americans safe.

These events remind us of these brave men and women who risk their lives every day to protect the American people. First responders in New York, New Jersey, and Minnesota rushed into danger this weekend to protect innocent people. They certainly saved lives. Now we must do everything we can to ensure justice is

served and law enforcement gets the support needed to conduct their investigation.

It is not enough to simply offer help after these heinous attacks take place. Congress must do more to prevent these acts of terrorism altogether. There are things we can do, and some of them are really easy. Right now, as we speak, there is a loophole in our law that allows potential FBI terror suspects to legally purchase guns and explosives. Stop and think about that for just a moment. A person with suspected ties to terrorism can walk into a store now and buy all of the explosives, all the guns, and all the ammunition they want.

In Nevada, a man who has been so charitable has set up a camp for children every summer. It costs him lots of money. It is in a beautiful part of the mountain area right outside of Las Vegas. We have, within 10 minutes of Las Vegas, a 12,000-foot mountain. At the foot of those mountains, he has a beautiful camp.

Here is what they are doing now. You can go to a gun store in Las Vegas, and you can buy explosives. They put them up in the trees. We don't have that many trees in Nevada. They will put explosives up in a tree, and they shoot at it, and it blows up. It blows up the tree and anything around it. That is for sport.

Anyone can walk into a gun store and buy explosives. It doesn't matter who it is. You can also be a terrorist and do the same thing. Again, I ask everyone to think about that. A person with suspected ties to terrorism can walk into a store now and buy all of the explosives they want. They can buy all the guns they want.

The so-called terror gap is outrageous and terribly reckless. How can something like this go unaddressed in modern-day America?

Democrats have tried repeatedly for the past year to close that loophole, but we have been prevented from doing that by the Republicans. We can argue from now on about whether this bill could have prevented this weekend's attacks, but one thing is for sure: It could prevent the next attack.

But we know this loophole shouldn't exist. We know terror suspects shouldn't be given a free pass to buy all the guns and all the explosives they want, and we know the American people want this loophole closed. Eighty-five percent of the people in Indiana, in Nevada, in Kentucky—85 percent of the people in America—support legislation keeping explosives and guns out of the hands of suspected terrorists. If you can't fly, why should you be able to buy a gun? If you can't fly, why should you be able to buy explosives? The only reason the FBI terror suspects are allowed to buy guns and explosives is simply because of Republican opposition. That is the reason.

This state of affairs defies belief. It is hard to believe that in America today an FBI terror suspect who cannot fly

on an airplane can walk into a gun store in Las Vegas, New York City, or anyplace and legally purchase explosives and assault weapons. But it is true because Republicans refuse to close the terror gap loophole.

In the aftermath of these attacks, our constituents are looking for us to help. They want to feel safe. They want to be safe. We can help provide that safety by closing the terror loophole, but Democrats can't do it alone. We need help from the Republicans.

Mr. President, I see no one seeking recognition, so I ask the Chair to announce the business of the day.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017—MOTION TO PROCEED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 5325, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 516, H.R. 5325, a bill making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

ZIKA VIRUS FUNDING

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, we have a bit of good news because earlier today the CDC, or the Centers for Disease Control, announced that it had lifted its travel advisory to not go into a section north of downtown Miami called Wynwood. It is the neighborhood where the first locally transmitted Zika virus was found. So the fact that they said today that this area is no longer considered an area of active transmission is certainly good news, not only for those who live there but for those businesses that are dependent on those who are planning to visit there. That is just one area of Florida.

There are now 835 active cases of Zika-infected people in the State of Florida. If you compare that to the number for the total United States, talking about infections, in 49 of the 50 States, it is 3,132. If you add our brothers and sisters in Puerto Rico and the territories, fellow American citizens, 17,315 are infected with the Zika virus. In Florida, 86 pregnant women are infected with the Zika virus. The total in the Nation is 731. In Puerto Rico—pri-

marily there, although bringing in all the territories, it is 1,156. Combining Puerto Rico, the territories, and the United States, we are talking about close to 2,000 pregnant women infected with the Zika virus.

We know that the CDC has said that there is anywhere from a 1-percent to 12-percent chance—if a woman is infected in the first trimester of pregnancy, there is a 1- to 12-percent chance that her baby will be born with defects. If you do the math on the nearly 2,000 pregnant women, we are talking about a substantial number of birth defects, including the possibility of what we have heard about and seen—microcephaly, babies with a deformed brain and shrunken head. In Puerto Rico they already had one live birth of microcephaly and they had one who did not live after birth.

We can expect to see huge numbers coming on down the line. That is all the more reason for us—since we started our request for funding last spring—to get at this by doing a Zika vaccine. It is now ready to go into the FDA first trials. A vaccine is at least 2 years away, but we have to get started, and that costs money.

The administration has been robbing Peter to pay Paul, finding every little pot of money that it can borrow from since last spring in order to try to fund the preventive measures of a vaccine, mosquito control, and all the attendant health expenditures through our health care centers that are sponsored and paid for by the government, and particularly for the very poor. As a matter of fact, the government raided the Ebola fund of \$576 million to advance it to Zika. Well, we need to pay back all of those funds that were raided, and that is incumbent upon us now here at the last minute before we adjourn to go home to campaign before the election. You know, those words are suddenly similar to the words we used in early July, trying to get that done before the summer recess for the political conventions. Yet we did not.

The good news is that it looks as though there is now an agreement on Zika. As a result, we can come up with a funding bill to keep the government open until we can pass a permanent funding bill for this fiscal year starting October 1. We will pass a temporary one until sometime in early December. That will give us a chance to try to do the permanent one. In the meantime, the government has to stay open. We have to fund the functions of government, including national security and the U.S. Department of Defense.

So one would think that this bill would be all done, but, unrelated to Zika, there are other issues that are threatening the funding bill. At the end of the day, we will get it done. Some of the issues are over as arcane a subject as who is going to administer the issuance of domain names on the Internet. There seems to be some controversy over that. As a result, we are here at the last minute, at the last

hour, having to act on a funding bill, and now we have issues that are now all wound around the axle again.

I want to say very positively that I appreciate the progress that is being made on the Zika funding. It is not as if we haven't tried this before. Last May we had a bill that passed in a bipartisan fashion for \$1.1 billion that did not have the attached political riders. It passed in the Senate by 89 votes out of 100 Senators. Then, of course, the bill in the House of Representatives got all wound up with all kinds of political messaging. I want to state very positively that I am very happy that it seems as if those issues have been put aside and there has been an agreement reached. Now let's get through the rest of this on the funding bill and go ahead and execute our responsibilities that we have to the United States of America.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

TRIBUTE TO EMOGENE STEGALL

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I want to praise the work of a local elected official in Florida who has admirably served as supervisor of elections in Lake County, FL. This is an elected position in which she has now served for 44 years, and she is going to retire from her position as the chief elections officer after this upcoming election in November. That is an incredible tenure of public service, and Emogene Stegall should be commended for being the longtime supervisor of elections.

"Emogene" is a name that is almost synonymous with "Lake County" because she has been an elected official for nearly half a century. What is so special about her is not only how many years she has held the office but how she embodied the details and the ideals of public service.

Since she was first elected in 1972, a lot has changed about the way elections are conducted, but through all of those decades, the same fundamental principles have guided Emogene Stegall's work: a dedication to treating all voters fairly without any regard for party affiliation and safeguarding taxpayer dollars—no partisan politics, no attention-grabbing headlines, just humble public service.

Before being elected supervisor, Emogene had already worked 14 years as the supervisor's deputy, starting in 1958. At that time there were only about 17,000 registered voters in Lake County and a handful of voting machines. Most of it was done by paper ballot. Her office used typewriters and carbon paper to function, and voting results were announced on the radio.

Fast-forward to today. Emogene has been reelected many times over since winning her first election in 1972, and the number of registered voters in the county has gone from 17,000 to over 200,000. Now the supervisor's office is filled with computers, and computer programs tally the votes on election day before publishing them on the

Internet so the voters receive almost instant results.

Even with all these changes, Emogene is still there, opening her office to constituents of all political stripes and working long hours to make sure election day runs smoothly and that all citizens in Lake County can exercise their constitutional right to vote. Her principled approach to fulfilling her responsibilities explains why she has continued to be reelected to her post time and time again even though she is a registered Democrat in a county that shifted to Republican control long ago.

The changes Emogene has witnessed run deeper than the office equipment and the party politics. When she was first elected, Lake County, along with much of the South of the United States, was still suffering from the scourge of Jim Crowe. African Americans in particular were often denied the right to vote. Even after the civil rights legislation was passed in the 1960s, the country still needed public servants to implement the law without prejudice in order to usher in change and combat racism. Emogene's steadfast commitment to ensuring the people's right to vote helped achieve that transformation and in a way brings our Nation closer to realizing the ideal of equality that we have reached and have tried to reach since our founding.

It is also notable that Emogene Stegall served as the first woman elected official and community leader at a time when women's educational and professional opportunities were much more limited than today.

After so many decades of public service, Emogene will oversee her last election day this November. But her legacy for being a committed and tireless public servant will continue to be remembered. She has used her position to benefit the community she was elected to serve. She never was elected, nor used it, for herself or her own interests.

Emogene Stegall is an example for all of us in public service. So I am honored to share her story and acknowledge her accomplishments on this occasion today on the floor of the Senate as Emogene Stegall will conduct and is preparing for her last election as Supervisor of Elections.

What a great public service. What a great public servant whom we can honor today.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

JUSTICE AGAINST SPONSORS OF TERRORISM ACT

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, over the weekend, we were reminded once again of the threat that terrorism poses to our communities all across this coun-

try. I know we are all grateful the explosions that occurred in New Jersey and Manhattan and the knife attack in Minnesota did not hurt more people.

I am thankful for the authorities, the law enforcement officials, the emergency medical officials and others who have responded so heroically. I am grateful there has already been a suspect detained in the New York and New Jersey incident before he could attempt additional attacks.

This is just another reminder, as if we needed more reminders, of the importance of remaining vigilant to the threat of terrorism in the United States. Our values and our way of life seem to be under near constant attack, certainly under constant threat. We have a responsibility to do everything we can within our power to support and protect those affected by the evil of terrorism within our borders.

Last week, the Senate sent a piece of legislation, an important piece of legislation from my perspective, called the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act to President Obama for his signature. He has until Friday to act on it.

I want to clarify for my colleagues exactly what is contained in this legislation because I have heard from some stories that make me think they are being misled by some but also maybe there is just some confusion I can help clear up. This legislation, the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act, or sometimes called the 9/11 families bill, makes some narrow amendments to a longstanding Federal statute, the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act, and the anti-terrorism act. What it does provide is for Americans to be able to seek recourse in a court of law from governments or people who sponsor terrorist attacks on American soil.

You would think that would not be particularly controversial. Put another way, this bill does not allow a lawsuit to proceed against a foreign nation unless they are alleged to have been behind a terror attack on American soil. As I said, this is pretty straightforward, which is why it passed the Senate and the House unanimously.

I want to be clear what the bill does and does not do. First of all, the legislation does not single out any particular country for some kind of unfair treatment. It stands for the simple proposition that Americans should have recourse against those involved in terrorist attacks on our homeland, just as they do against others who commit other wrongs.

I have had some of my colleagues say: Yes, but perception is reality. Well, misperception is not reality. The fact is, there is no country mentioned in the legislation, this extension of existing law. To the extent it singles out anybody, it only singles out countries, without naming any, that fund terrorists who commit terrorism on our soil.

Some have suggested this could hurt our relationship with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in particular. This bill has nothing to do, on its face, with our

strong partnership with Saudi Arabia, which is based on mutual interests. The reality is, the nuclear deal struck by President Obama involving the country of Iran has done far more to damage our relationship with our allies in the Middle East, including the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

It has caused many of our allies, not just the Saudis but others in the Middle East, to question whether we are a reliable ally in the areas where we do share a common interest.

We know many of our Gulf State allies, including the Saudis, believe the President has not done enough to achieve his own stated goal of defeating the terrorist army of ISIS, which threatens Saudi Arabia from Iraq, just across its northern border. Quite to the contrary, we know President Obama ignored the advice of his own military advisers and unwisely withdrew all combat forces from Iraq in a precipitous way before that country was ready and able to defend itself, only to see ISIS rush in and fill the vacuum left after the departure of American leadership and ground forces.

The bottom line is that this legislation should not upset our relationships with any country with which we share common interests, including the Saudis. They should not take passage of this legislation as a reason to somehow question our commitment to an alliance based on shared values or shared interests.

This bill targets those who fund terrorist activity against us—plain and simple. I should also add that all this bill does is to give victims an opportunity to have their case heard in court. It doesn't decide the merits of the case. It simply gives them an avenue for justice.

Second, I want to debunk this idea that somehow the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act will suddenly result in lawsuits being filed against Americans by foreign governments. The reality is this already happens. We have an entire office at the Justice Department—the Office of Foreign Litigation—that defends the United States in foreign courts.

As its Web site explains, that litigation includes “litigation arising from U.S. agency or military activities in foreign countries,” which is one reason why, before we pulled out all of our troops from Iraq, President Obama and his administration should have done a better job pursuing a status of forces agreement with the country of Iraq. But because they did not negotiate that, they decided to pull out, and we have reaped the whirlwind as a result.

While likely a minority, there are cases, in fact, brought abroad that implicate our own overseas activity. For example, in 2010, CBS News reported on a case in Pakistan in which the CIA was sued for an alleged drone strike. This is a matter of public record that CBS News reported. The point is that today foreign governments allow suits against the United States from time to

time, and they are defended based on international law and based on the merits of the case. That is because of their legal systems and domestic politics. Our laws are simply not consulted as a determining factor. Why would a foreign country apply American law or precedent or procedure?

But let me also make clear: The Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act makes only modest changes to current foreign sovereign immunity laws—laws that have already been passed by the U.S. Congress—and it has been written in a narrow manner to prevent such suits should any reciprocal law be passed.

Finally, I remind my colleagues that this legislation was crafted and created through consensus. Before the Senate passed it several months ago, my colleagues and I took great care to address concerns from Members on both sides of the aisle, as you would expect. Working with other Members, we made changes to the legislation they requested so we could keep support for this legislation and support for the families of victims strong. It then unanimously passed the Senate in May.

Over in the House, it passed without dissent. I have to say that it is hard to find any piece of legislation that can pass unanimously in the Senate and in the House of Representatives. It just doesn't happen very often.

But even with so much bipartisan, bicameral support, President Obama still says he intends to veto the legislation. As I have said before, that is his prerogative, but I hope he does so soon so that Congress has the opportunity to vote to override his veto. Once he does veto it, I hope Congress will quickly act.

I have been reminded of a passage in Henry Kissinger's book called “World Order,” where he talks about how the West, in particular, often views the world as an orderly rules-based system. Of course, the problem with that is reality. The world does not all acknowledge a rules-based system, no matter who imagines it. Other countries will take actions based on what they perceive to advance their own interests, not because they just want to follow a certain set of rules that somebody else wrote up. That will remain true for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia even after the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act becomes law. That is why our relationship with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will continue, because they have been fighting terrorism on their own soil and we know that we share other interests as well.

But at the end of the day, we need to do what is right for the American people, just as other countries would do right for their own citizens. We should not change our domestic laws because of our concerns about other countries perhaps being offended or because they have other interests other than what we are trying to vindicate here, which are the rights of the families who lost loved ones on 9/11 due to a terrorist at-

tack on American soil. They should have the opportunity to make their case if they can, and nothing in this judges the merits of the case or makes any conclusion about whether they will be successful or not. But, certainly, they represent part of the American people who we work for, and they are entitled to get access to the courts for the purpose of making the case if they can.

This bill sends a clear signal to every country that the United States is not afraid to stand and ensure that our countrymen and countrywomen have the ability to pursue justice here in our courts. That is nonnegotiable.

I hope the President will act quickly. The President can string this out into next week if he wants, but he has already said he is going to veto it. So why put the families through any more delay, anguish, and uncertainty? The President should go ahead and veto the legislation. Then the Senate and the House of Representatives should take up a veto override vote. I am confident of what the outcome of that would be, based on the unanimous consent to the bill in the Senate and the unanimous vote in the House of Representatives.

Madam President, I don't see any other Senator interested in speaking.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. ERNST). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 5985

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that at 5 p.m. today, the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 5985; further, that there be 30 minutes of debate equally divided in the usual form; that following the use or yielding back of time, the bill be read a third time and the Senate vote on passage of the bill with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, the cloture motion on the motion to proceed to H.R. 5325 ripen at 2:15 p.m. on Tuesday, September 20.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GARDNER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

RECOGNIZING THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Mr. GARDNER. Madam President, I rise to recognize the U.S. Air Force on the occasion of its 69th birthday.

On September 18, 1947, President Truman signed the National Security Act, which established the U.S. Air Force as an independent service equal to the U.S. Army and U.S. Navy. The mission of the U.S. Air Force is to fly, fight, and win in airspace and cyberspace, and Colorado is proud to call itself home to units that play a vital role in executing all aspects of the Air Force mission.

Although it is the youngest of the armed services, the Air Force has accomplished a tremendous amount—a tremendous amount—in those 69 years. With a combined force strength of more than 660,000 Active, Reserve, National Guard, and civilian personnel within the U.S. Air Force, it is a force to be reckoned with. The U.S. Air Force's ability to maintain air superiority is evidenced by the fact that the last time an American ground troop was killed by ordnance delivered from an enemy aircraft was in 1953.

On any given day, there are more than 21,000 Air Force personnel deployed to 179 worldwide locations, 16,000 airmen deployed to the CENTCOM area of operations, and more than 1,000 airmen working directly with partner nations. While American airmen serve all over the world, there are thousands of airmen in my State of Colorado protecting our Nation's interests.

Colorado is home to five major Air Force installations that include Buckley Air Force Base, Schriever Air Force Base, Peterson Air Force Base, Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station, and the United States Air Force Academy.

Buckley Air Force Base is home to the 460th Space Wing and has air operations, space-based missile warning capabilities, space surveillance operations, space communications operations, and support functions. If North Korea, Iran, or any adversary fires a missile at the U.S. homeland, Buckley would be the first to see it. Buckley is also one of 18 bases nationwide being considered by the Air Force to host the next-generation F-35 jet, and it is my firm belief it fully merits that designation as well.

Peterson Air Force Base, named after 1st Lt. Edward J. Peterson, a Colorado native, has been in operation since 1926. Over its 90-plus years, Peterson Air Force Base has served a variety of operational and training missions and is currently home to the 21st Space Wing and Air Force Space Command as well. Peterson is also home to the U.S. Northern Command—NORTHCOM—and the North American Aerospace Defense Command, or NORAD. NORAD-NORTHCOM is responsible for protecting the U.S. homeland from the myriad of threats we face in today's complex global security environment. On a day like today, when we reflect on what happened in Minnesota, when we

reflect on what happened in New Jersey, and when we reflect on what happened in New York, we know that efforts to protect our homeland are critically important.

In a recent letter to the President, several colleagues and I expressed grave concerns about the rapid advancement of North Korea's nuclear ballistic missile program. That regime represents a grave threat to global peace and stability and is a direct threat to the U.S. homeland—and that is what our bases in Colorado are responsible for. While we in Congress urge the President to take actions to counter the North Korean threat, the American people rely on the hard-working men and women at NORAD-NORTHCOM to protect us from this rogue regime.

Just down the road from Peterson Air Force Base is Schriever Air Force Base, which is home to the 50th Space Wing of the Air Force Space Command. Schriever provides command and control for over 170 Department of Defense warning, navigational, and communications satellites. The global positioning satellite, or GPS, is operated by the 2nd Space Operations Squadron at Schriever. If you successfully use your Google Maps today, it is because of the good work by the satellite operators at Schriever.

Schriever is home to the Joint Interagency Space Operations Center, or JICSpOC. Established in 2015, the JICSpOC consolidates efforts between the DOD, U.S. Strategic Command, and the intelligence community to create unity of effort and facilitate U.S. information-sharing across the national security space enterprise. JICSpOC will enhance U.S. space operations, contribute to operational command and control within the Department of Defense, and improve the Nation's ability to protect and defend critical infrastructure in an increasingly contested space environment.

Since 1966, Cheyenne Mountain Air Force, stationed in Colorado Springs, has been a synergistic hub for tracking security threats worldwide and serves as an essential component to the defense of North America and global security. Cheyenne Mountain is an engineering marvel that provides an electromagnetic pulse-hardened facility to protect our Nation's most vital interests. Many of the people around the country may know Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station as the site of Matthew Broderick in the movie "WarGames."

Last but not least of the major Air Force installations in Colorado is the U.S. Air Force Academy. Since the 1955 swearing-in of its first class of cadets, the Air Force Academy has been developing leaders of character to lead the world's best Air Force. The Air Force Academy educates, trains, and inspires men and women to become officers of character, motivated to lead the U.S. Air Force in service to our Nation.

In addition to celebrating the Air Force's 69th birthday, I would also like

to recognize that this year, 2016, is the 40th anniversary of women cadets enrolling in the U.S. Air Force Academy. Just as the Air Force leads the way as the preeminent global air power, the Air Force Academy has been leading the way with the integration of women cadets into the Cadet Wing.

In 1972, the Air Force Academy issued Operational Plan 36-72, which laid the groundwork for the arrival of its first 156 female cadets in the summer of 1976. In the proceeding 40 years, women cadets and graduates have made extraordinary contributions to both the academy and to the Air Force. These contributions are exemplified by women such as Michelle Johnson, who in 1980 became the first woman cadet wing commander, which is the highest ranking cadet in the academy, and then in 1981 she became the first woman cadet to become a Rhodes scholar. In 2013, Lt. Gen. Michelle Johnson became the first female superintendent of any military service academy when she became the superintendent of the U.S. Air Force Academy. Heather Wilson was the first female veteran to serve in Congress. Lt. Gen. Susan J. Helms was the first woman graduate of the Air Force Academy to go into space. Lieutenant Roslyn Schulte became the first female graduate killed by enemy action in 2009. These women and countless others are why the State of Colorado is proud, honored, and humbled to host the U.S. Air Force Academy.

On behalf of all Coloradoans and a grateful nation, I wish the U.S. Air Force a happy 69th birthday. Aim high, fly, fight, and win.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COATS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Will the Senator withhold.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EXPIRING AUTHORITIES ACT OF 2016

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of H.R. 5985, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5985) to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend certain expiring provisions of law administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There will now be 30 minutes of debate equally divided in the usual form.

The Senator from Connecticut is recognized.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I see my friend and colleague, the chairman of the VA Committee, here. I will happily yield to him to speak first, or I can proceed and then yield to him afterwards.

Mr. ISAKSON. I appreciate that. I yield to the Senator from Connecticut to begin.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I am pleased and honored to be here today to speak in support of H.R. 5985, the Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act. We will vote on it shortly. I thank my colleagues for what I expect to be an overwhelmingly positive vote to affirm our commitment to the veterans of America and that neither dysfunction nor distraction of what is happening during this season of elections will prevent us from keeping the lights on in the Veterans Affairs Department.

As its name implies, this measure would maintain 27 vital ongoing programs and services that the VA provides through the next year. I commend Chairman MILLER and Ranking Member TAKANO in the House for drafting this bipartisan measure that is so important and necessary. We have worked collaboratively with them. Chairman ISAKSON and I have met with them numerous times, and it has truly been a cooperative and collaborative effort.

This legislation authorizes an increase in the existing VA caregivers program of \$10 million, going from \$724 million to \$734 million, as well as a grants program that assists homeless veterans and provides them with support services.

The bill we will vote on this evening will also give the Secretary of the VA the exact same power as the Secretary of Education has with respect to title IV in the event of a university's sudden loss of accreditation. It is critically important. As we have seen with ITT and Corinthian, for-profit colleges have abruptly closed, leaving veterans stranded. This bill will empower the VA Secretary to provisionally approve programs for use with the GI bill so that veterans may transition to another course of study. Without this provision becoming law now, veterans who attended those schools like ITT may find themselves in a similar untenable, unacceptable, unfair situation. They lose education benefits and, equally troubling, benefits for their housing and food allowance, which they so critically need.

I am pleased we can vote on this measure tonight and send it to the President's desk for his signature. But the simple, stark fact is that this bill is simply a small down payment—a small step in the direction that we must move and that the Senate must accomplish in the days that remain in this session to honor all who have served. It is just one of a series of congressional actions that are needed before we recess to ensure that for-profit schools that put their profits before

veterans' rights to an education do not hurt our veterans as their business model collapses.

The Senate should also pass the Veterans Education Relief and Reinstatement Act that Senator TILLIS of North Carolina and I have introduced. This bill is bipartisan, as is this bill, and would grant an emergency housing stipend to those students who are adversely affected by destabilizing permanent school closures. Corinthian College and, more recently, ITT give a voice and face to this staggeringly real problem for so many veterans who are the victims of the exploitation by these for-profit schools.

Our mission of ensuring that no veteran is left behind will not be completed by the vote we take this evening. It is just a down payment. I urge my colleagues to join with me in supporting H.R. 5985 and beginning and concluding the hard work of passing other bills that have been reported out of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, with the strong bipartisan work, collaboration, and partnership among the chairman, Senator ISAKSON, and myself.

I thank Senator ISAKSON for being here this evening, and I will be honored to yield to him now.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I am honored to join the ranking member, Senator BLUMENTHAL from Connecticut, on this important day.

This morning when I woke up, I began preparing for a speech I made at Oglethorpe University at 11 o'clock this morning on Constitution Day, and it reminded me of what an important September day today is.

Senator Robert Byrd, the distinguished Democrat, majority leader, and President pro tempore of the Senate for many years and who served here for many decades, amended an appropriations act on September 19, 2004, to designate today as Constitution Day. So it is a great honor for me to speak on the floor to honor our veterans on the day we honor our Constitution because, without our veterans, there would be no Constitution. Without those who fight to defend our freedom and our liberty around the world, there would be no Constitution. So it is a great day to do this.

I wish to express my agreement with exactly what Senator BLUMENTHAL said. This is a mere down payment. It is an acknowledgment. There is lots of work to be done. Critically, though, this extender bill addresses any number of programs in the VA that will expire at the end of the fiscal year unless they are extended. Most importantly are homeless programs, which are critically important, and adaptive sports programs, which are critically important as well.

So by adopting this bill, our homeless programs will stay in place and our adaptive sports programs will stay in place. As Senator BLUMENTHAL said,

should the Secretary of Education shut down an institution midterm, this provides help to that student who is a veteran to see to it that they don't lose their benefit and they can continue their education.

Again, this is a small down payment. We have other things yet to be done. Hopefully, they will be done after we come back for the lameduck session after the election. But tonight, all Members of the Senate from both parties—Republicans and Democrats—can help us make a down payment on Constitution Day to those who make our freedom and liberty possible—our veterans of the United States of America.

I urge an "aye" vote from each Member of the Senate.

I yield back the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I yield back all time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time is yielded back.

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS), and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) would have voted "yea" and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) are necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) would vote yea.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LANKFORD). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 89, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 143 Leg.]

YEAS—89

Alexander	Ernst	Murphy
Ayotte	Feinstein	Murray
Baldwin	Fischer	Nelson
Barrasso	Flake	Paul
Bennet	Franken	Perdue
Blumenthal	Gardner	Peters
Blunt	Gillibrand	Portman
Booker	Graham	Reed
Boozman	Grassley	Reid
Boxer	Hatch	Risch
Brown	Heinrich	Roberts
Burr	Heitkamp	Rounds
Cantwell	Heller	Rubio
Capito	Hirono	Sasse
Cardin	Hoeben	Schatz
Carper	Inhofe	Schumer
Casey	Isakson	Shaheen
Cassidy	King	Shelby
Coats	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Cochran	Lankford	Tester
Collins	Leahy	Thune
Corker	Lee	Tillis
Cornyn	Manchin	Toomey
Cotton	Markey	Udall
Crapo	McCain	Vitter
Cruz	McCaskill	Warren
Daines	McConnell	Whitehouse
Donnelly	Menendez	Wicker
Durbin	Merkley	Wyden
Enzi	Moran	

NOT VOTING—11

Coons	Mikulski	Sessions
Johnson	Murkowski	Sullivan
Kaine	Sanders	Warner
Kirk	Scott	

The bill (H.R. 5985) was passed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to speak for up to 15 minutes.

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

VOTING RIGHTS

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, last year our country celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, one of the most important pieces of legislation that was passed in the 20th century. It opened the door for millions of Americans to exercise their constitutional right to vote. But this year will mark the first Presidential election in half a century without the full protections guaranteed by that landmark law. One of the worst decisions this corporate-dominated Supreme Court made was *Shelby County v. Holder*, which struck down a key part of the law, taking the teeth out of provisions that protect voters from suppression laws.

Since that misguided decision, States across the country have passed new voting restrictions that would disenfranchise hundreds of thousands of Americans. At least 17 States have passed new voting restrictions since the *Shelby County* restriction. We

know who is hurt most by these laws—African Americans, Latinos, young people, and seniors.

In North Carolina, before enacting one of these laws, the State legislature specifically asked for data on voting patterns by race. Once they had this data, they decided to eliminate or limit the voting methods used by African-American voters. Thankfully, the Fourth Circuit Court struck down this blatant attempt to disenfranchise one group of voters, writing: “The new provisions target African Americans with almost surgical precision.”

In my State of Ohio, the courts have shamefully allowed laws such as these to stay on the books. Last week we were dealt multiple blows.

First, the Supreme Court refused to hear an appeal on the Sixth Circuit’s decision ending “Golden Week”—created by a Republican legislature a decade ago—when voters can register and vote on the same day during the 1 week early-voting period. In May, Judge Watson—a George W. Bush appointee in the Southern District in Columbus—found that the laws limiting early voting and registration would disproportionately impact African Americans. Judge Watson did the right thing, but the ultraconservative Sixth Circuit ruled to overturn that ruling, ending “Golden Week.” Last week the Supreme Court nodded 4 to 4 because the Republican majority leader won’t let the Senate do its job to have hearings and confirmation on Judge Garland. The Supreme Court declined to intervene.

Then the Sixth Circuit overturned a lower court ruling that had thrown out new Ohio laws imposing stricter requirements on absentee and provisional voters. Judge Damon Keith’s dissent in this case captured what these restrictions are really all about. He notes that during the committee debate over the law, one legislator asked: “Should we really be making it easier for those people who take the bus after church on Sunday to vote?”—making it crystal clear exactly what they were targeting and whom they were targeting.

Judge Keith continues:

Democracies die behind closed doors.

Voting is the ultimate expression of self-government. Instead of making it easier for all persons, unrestrained and unfettered, to exercise this fundamental right to vote, legislators are making it harder.

States are audaciously nullifying a right for which our ancestors relentlessly fought and—in some instances—even tragically died.

I would point out that only about a decade ago, this body and the House overwhelmingly, bipartisanly renewed the Voting Rights Act that the Court struck down. Now one political party is digging in in opposition to that. It is no secret what these laws are about. State legislators have made it perfectly clear.

In 2008, African Americans voted early in person at a rate more than 20 times greater than White voters. We all remember the scenes from Cuyahoga

County, Cleveland, in 2004 when some voters waited as long as 7 hours to vote. For hourly workers, college students who work a third shift, parents who have to drop their children off at school, and many others, early voting ensures that their voices will be heard. In 2012, 10 percent of the electorate—600,000 people—voted early in my State. That is 600,000 voices that might not have been heard were it not for early voting. But some judges who dress in suits and lead very privileged lives with generous benefits from taxpayers have decided these voices aren’t worth hearing. As Judge Keith said, democracies die behind closed doors. This body refuses to hold a hearing on the nominee who would have allowed the Supreme Court to hear the appeal on the “Golden Week” issue and issue a real decision.

This body refuses to bring to the floor the bipartisan Voting Rights Advancement Act.

In 1981, when signing an extension to the Voting Rights Act, President Reagan called the right to vote “the crown jewel of American liberties.” Ronald Reagan would have seen his political party today going in exactly the opposite direction, and that is sad.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SEAMAN 1ST CLASS WILLIAM WELCH

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I rise to honor Seaman 1st Class William W. Welch, a native of Springfield, OH—an American hero who laid down his life for our country during the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Seaman Welch was known to his family as Billy. He enlisted in the Navy, as so many did in those days, at 17. He left during his senior year at Springfield Catholic Central High School, so determined was he to serve his country. On December 7, 1941, Welch was stationed on the USS *Oklahoma*, docked at the U.S. Naval Base at Pearl Harbor. The *Oklahoma* was the first to be hit that fateful morning by the Japanese.

Of the more than 1,300 crew aboard, 429 perished that day—a loss of life second only to the better known USS *Arizona*. The ship capsized, and Billy Welch was among the first of so many Americans to make the ultimate sacrifice for our Nation during World War II. Billy’s grieving family was dealt an additional blow when their son’s remains were not returned to them, and they were unable to give him a burial befitting his sacrifice.

It wasn’t until 1943 that the Navy was able to right the *Oklahoma* and began trying to identify the remains. By then, with the technology available in the 1940s, it was too late for most sailors. Billy and his fellow sailors were buried as “unknowns,” and they had rested in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu until last year.

In 2014, Billy Welch’s nephew, Michael, contacted my office. He was

fighting—for want of a better term—with the Department of Defense, begging them to try to identify his uncle's remains with the new technology available in 2014. He was part of a movement of families and veterans trying to piece together where their loved ones were buried and get them returned home.

In 2015, the Pentagon announced plans to exhume and attempt to identify the fallen sailors and soldiers buried in the Pacific. DOD began removing caskets and using dental records and DNA to identify the remains and return those fallen heroes to their families.

Billy Welch was identified. Now, with the help of dedicated staff in my office, next month he will finally be returned to Springfield and buried with full military honors in his hometown. It will be my honor to stand with Seaman Welch's family at Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Springfield and witness this hero be shown the honor and appreciation he deserves and his family has been denied for so long.

Billy and his fellow sailors may not have known the contribution they were making that day on the USS *Oklahoma* to future generations at home and around the world as the first to sacrifice their lives fighting tyranny during the Second World War. That makes their actions all the more heroic. There is a reason we call them the "greatest generation."

We are losing more and more of that generation with each passing day. Less than 700,000 World War II veterans remain with us. We lose some 430 of those heroes each day. My father, a World War II veteran stationed in New Zealand and Iran—what he always called Persia World War II—passed away back in the year 2000.

Projects like this one are all the more important and more timely. We need to identify these sailors and soldiers now, while their loved ones are still with us and still able to pay their proper respects. We owe William Welch and all those who gave their lives for our country a burial and, equally important, a tribute that befits their service and their sacrifice. I will be honored to take part in that tribute for Seaman Welch next month.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

TRIBUTE TO ROY SCHOTT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to a hard-working businessowner, veteran, and respected Kentuckian, Mr. Roy Schott. Mr. Schott recently celebrated 61 years of work as a mechanic and service station owner and 55 years as a U-Haul outlet.

His dedication to his work is something to be admired by us all.

Mr. Schott's journey began at the age of 15 when he discovered his interest and aptitude in mechanics. This led him to his first job in a garage, where he repaired motor vehicles. In 1951, he left his job and home to serve our country in the Korean war as a motor sergeant.

Upon returning to London, KY, from his time in the military, he and a friend opened a service station. Mr. Schott made an addition to his business in 1961 after seeing a U-Haul ad in the paper. The service station became Schott Marathon and U-Haul Dealership. At that time, U-Haul charged only \$3 a day to rent a trailer, later adding a \$1 fee for hitch rentals.

Mr. Schott's secrets to U-Haul success are good help, good customer service, and a good field manager. To this day, he has remained active in his business, coming every day to work alongside his loyal employees and interacting with his customers. After the loss of his wife in 2002, Mr. Schott considered retiring, but ultimately decided that he loves his job too much to ever stop.

I am very honored to represent Mr. Schott here in the U.S. Senate and want to wish him congratulations on his many years of service not only to the people of London, KY, but also to this nation. I am sure my U.S. Senate colleagues join me in expressing gratitude and admiration for his service as well. He truly represents the finest of Kentucky.

Mr. President, an area publication, the *Sentinel-Echo*, published a compelling article on Roy Schott's life. I ask unanimous consent that the article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the *Sentinel-Echo*, Aug. 22, 2016]

STILL GOING STRONG: ROY SCHOTT CELEBRATES 61 YEARS OF KEEPING VEHICLES ON THE ROAD

(By Nita Johnson)

London businessman Roy Schott has many memories.

He will share some of those, but often says they are not important.

But after 61 years of operating Schott's Service Station on Main Street, he has a lot of memories and a lot of knowledge to go with it.

"Be sure to find out what kind of oil it needs," he said to a customer who called his business on Thursday afternoon, before going into the service section and assisting an employee with loosening bolts on a car part.

Schott said he got involved in the mechanic business because it paid better than some other vocations available in 1943.

"I started working at a garage that is where the *Sentinel-Echo* is now," he said. "I got \$1.50 a day. Other places only paid \$1 a day, except the railroad and it paid \$1 an hour."

Schott learned to weld as part of his job, recalling that parts weren't manufactured then as they are today.

"If a bus came in with a broken window, you had to fix it with a piece of tin," he said.

Schott left the business in 1951 with many other Laurel Countians who went to serve

their country in the Korean War. He served two years during that conflict "when all hell was going on." War is no good memory for Schott, who still tears up when he thinks about the end of World War II.

"When World War II ended, the bell at the courthouse rang all day," he said. "There would be four or five bodies of boys come in every day."

Schott served as combat engineer in Korea, where he was a motor sergeant and oversaw 23 trucks. He remembers those trying times through a book presented to Korean veterans by the Korean government. The book shows pictures of the devastation during and following the war there, but highlights the achievements made over the years as the country rebuilt.

Once safely back home after the Korean War, Schott opened his service station on South Main Street near the former Ormsby Hardware. While also operating his service station, Schott became an authorized U-Haul rental facility. He credits Bill Ormsby for that venture—one that earned him recognition from U-Haul last year for 55 years as an authorized dealer.

"I'm the oldest one in the state, probably the oldest one in the country," he laughed.

But in 1955, Schott got a loan to start his own business. He remembers that day when his loan was approved.

"It was August 28, 1955," he said. "When you borrow money you know the date you got it."

He moved the business to its current spot on North Main Street across from London Elementary School in 1960. Now, 56 years later, he continues the tradition he began, still working performing his magic on brakes, tires and air conditioning units. The business has served him well, providing for his four children over the years. He also has grandchildren, of whom he cannot hide his pride.

"Let me tell you about my grandchildren. No, that would take too long," he said with a laugh.

Schott plans to continue to work until he is no longer able, refusing to retire. When asked if he still works on vehicles himself, he holds out his hands as proof.

"I guess I do," he said.

He once considered retirement following the death of his wife 14 years ago. But his son-in-law quickly talked him out of it.

"He said, 'What are you going to do, climb the walls?' so I decided to stay open," he said.

He believes working and staying busy is why he continues to be able to serve residents in the London and Laurel areas.

"A friend who retired told me to work all I could," he said. "He said the walls would close in on you after a little while. So when people ask me if I'm going to stay here until they have to carry me out, I tell them I guess they will."

GEAR UP HAWAII

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, today, September 19, marks the beginning of National Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs, GEAR UP, Week, and I would like to recognize the meaningful work of GEAR UP in Hawaii.

Since 1998, GEAR UP has provided support and resources to low-income students across the country to inform them about, prepare for, and succeed in college. GEAR UP helps these students, many who are first-generation college students, overcome the challenges they face in their communities.

GEAR UP Hawaii serves over 16,000 students each year from low-income and underserved communities throughout the State in grades 7 through 12 and in their first year in college. The program equips students with the tools they need to succeed in college and their careers. GEAR UP delivers a number of services to students, including supporting early college-level academic preparation in high school, providing opportunities for early college options, increasing college access and financial aid information to students and families, and advising students during their first year of college to increase first-year completion. GEAR UP Hawaii has gained national recognition for its success in closing the achievement gap among groups traditionally underrepresented in higher education and helping low-income students prepare for college.

Through its collaborative partnerships between Hawaii's State Department of Education, K-12 schools, the University of Hawaii, local businesses, and community organizations, GEAR UP Hawaii inspires students to see postsecondary education as something they can achieve. The early outreach GEAR UP Hawaii performs is key to improving access to postsecondary education for students from low-income families in our State.

The program's results demonstrate that GEAR UP Hawaii is making significant strides towards increasing the number of low-income students who are prepared for and enroll in college. For example, 20 percent of Step Up Scholars, a GEAR UP Hawaii program, graduated from high school in June 2015 with the Board of Education Recognition Diploma, BOERD, compared to 14 percent of students statewide. The BOERD is an honors diploma that requires students to earn a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 and complete a senior project. Additionally, GEAR UP has increased the availability of High School Based Running Start, HBRBS, courses, which allow high school students to attend University of Hawaii classes to earn both high school and college credits. For the Hawaii class of 2014, 83 percent of students who took at least one HBRBS course enrolled in college the semester after graduation compared to the statewide average of 56 percent. Thanks to these programs, thousands of Hawaii's students graduate from high school every year better prepared for college and for their futures.

A college education is a path of opportunity for our students. GEAR UP Hawaii has been and will continue to be critical in supporting the State's goal of having 55 percent of working-age adults in the State earn a college degree by 2025. I commend GEAR UP Hawaii for the vital role it plays in helping Hawaii's students access and excel in their higher education.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING BEN CRAIG

• Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, all who knew Ben Craig know that his passing marks the loss of an exceptional family man, local leader, and community banker. Ben was a great neighbor and a shining example of a Kansan who improved the lives of all he knew.

The youngest of five children, Ben was born in 1929 to Benjamin D. Craig, Sr., and Orpha (Cox) Craig. He grew up and went to school in Baxter Springs, where he was an avid baseball player and sports fan. During high school, he was the pitcher for the Baxter Whiz Kids, the local regional team.

He attended the University of Kansas, and during his college years, he pursued his minor league baseball dreams playing with the New York Yankees and the St. Louis Browns.

After the Korean war began in 1950, Ben enlisted in the Air Force and spent 18 months stationed in Tripoli, Libya. Following his deployment, he returned to the States and was stationed at Sewart Air Force Base near Nashville, TN. He was joined by his new bride, Evadean Talbot, who he married after returning home from Tripoli. In 1954, he was honorably discharged from the service as an E-5 tech sergeant.

Ben's long career in business began after leaving the Air Force when he took a job with the Cassville, MO, chamber of commerce. He later worked with the Kansas City, KS, chamber before beginning a banking career that would span decades. Ben served as president of Metcalf Bank in Kansas City for 35 years and then as chairman of the board until 2007. When the bank was sold in 2007, Ben remained on the board of directors and served as chairman emeritus until his death.

In addition to strengthening the Kansas City economy with his work in the banking community, where small businesses and families alike could depend on Ben for solid financial assistance and advice, Ben served in leadership positions in a number of local charities and service organizations. For 52 years, he had perfect attendance in the Overland Park Rotary Club, which is where I first met him. He also played a key role in establishing many of the Kansas City institutions we know today, such as Johnson County Community College, Shawnee Mission Medical Center, and the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce.

Ben was preceded in death by his wife of 52 years, Evadean. He leaves behind his friend and companion of the last 10 years, Vivian Sirratt, along with his daughters, Denise Koonse (Charles), Kellee Hearst (Rex), granddaughters, Amanda Lubiewski (Michael), Kelsey Houchen (Andrew), and great-granddaughters, Abigail and Emily Lubiewski.

Ben's dedication to public service and constant desire to find ways he could help others will benefit generations of

Kansans to come. He had a kind heart and giving nature. Ben was a natural leader who freely gave his time to all he knew. I am thankful for my friendship with him. May he rest in peace.●

REMEMBERING RODGER MCCONNELL

• Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, on July 21, 2016, shortly before his 72nd birthday, the United States lost a great man, an outstanding soldier, and an unparalleled advocate for his fellow veterans—and I lost a great friend. Rodger McConnell's legacy will be forever remembered as one of perseverance, passion, a humbling work ethic, and an enduring love of Starbucks coffee.

Born in August 1944, Rodger graduated high school in 1962 and found employment with a local gas company for several years.

Answering the call of duty, Rodger enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1966. He saw combat in Vietnam as a cavalry troop forward observer for mortars and artillery with the 9th Infantry Division and the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment before his honorable discharge a year later.

In his postwar years, Rodger overcame several personal hardships, including homelessness and posttraumatic stress disorder, but he remained undaunted and undefeated. It was these struggles that created an empathetic man, who became a tireless and fearless advocate for other struggling veterans.

Eventually receiving a liberal arts degree from Carroll College and a master's degree in K-12 education from Montana State University-Northern, Rodger spent several years as an educator before he retired in 2003 and launched into his unwavering service for veterans in Cascade County.

Working with State District Judge Greg Pinski, Rodger helped create a veterans court to help veterans navigate the justice system and get the help and treatment they need to get back on their feet. Rodger also played a pivotal role in constructing the Montana Veterans Memorial, which serves as a landmark in Great Falls to honor those who have served.

Most notably, Rodger spearheaded the "Stand Down" event in Great Falls, providing veterans with clothing and access to job training and health services. Through this important event, Rodger made a difference in the lives of hundreds of veterans.

Rodger was also an extremely active volunteer, contributing to the Great Falls community by registering voters, hosting a radio show on a local Great Falls station, and volunteering with the local Optimist Club.

In Rodger's eyes, the community was his family, and he was theirs.

Let us now take a moment to recognize the exceptional life of Rodger McConnell and the legacy he left behind. It is a legacy I hope each of us can aspire towards.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

S. 3348. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require candidates of major parties for the office of President to disclose recent tax return information.

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-6862. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Aspergillus flavus strains TC16F, TC35C, TC38B, and TC46G; Temporary Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9951-44) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6863. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Ammonium persulfate; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9951-08) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6864. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Thiabendazole; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9950-05) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6865. A communication from the Chairman, Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Releasing Information; Availability of Records of the Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation; Fees for Provision of Information" (RIN3055-AA12) received in the Office of the President pro tempore of the Senate; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6866. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on politically motivated act of boycott of, divestment from, and sanctions against Israel; to the Committees on Appropriations; and Foreign Relations.

EC-6867. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on politically motivated act of boycott of, divestment from, and sanctions against Israel; to the Committees on Appropriations; and Foreign Relations.

EC-6868. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment" (RIN0790-AJ42) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6869. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "TRICARE; Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Treatment" (RIN0720-AB65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6870. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Professional U.S. Scouting Organization Operations at U.S. Military Installations Overseas; Technical Amendment" (RIN0790-AI98) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6871. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of two (2) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of rear admiral (lower half) in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6872. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the Entity List" (RIN0694-AH00) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6873. A communication from the Chair, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2015 Annual Report of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC); to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6874. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Russian Sanctions: Addition of Certain Entities to the Entity List" (RIN0694-AH02) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2016; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6875. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendments to Existing Validated End-User Authorization in the People's Republic of China: Boeing Tianjin Composites Co. Ltd." (RIN0694-AH05) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2016; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6876. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Wassenaar Arrangement 2015 Plenary Agreements Implementation, Removal of

Foreign National Review Requirements, and Information Security Updates" (RIN0694-AG85) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 13, 2016; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6877. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to an alternative plan for monthly basic pay increases for members of the uniformed services for 2017; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6878. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: New Designated Country—Moldova" ((RIN0750-AJ07) (DFARS Case 2016-D028)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 15, 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6879. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department's anti-personnel landmine (APL) policy; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6880. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program" (RIN0790-AJ40) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 15, 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6881. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Department of Energy Property Management Regulations" (RIN1991-AB73) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-6882. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations and Standards Branch, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Oil and Gas and Sulfur Operations on the Outer Continental Shelf—Oil and Gas and Production Safety Systems" (RIN1014-AA10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 7, 2016; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-6883. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Revision to Chapter 7, 'Instrumentation and Controls' of NUREG-0800, 'Standard Review Plan (SRP) for the Review of Safety Analysis Reports for Nuclear Power Plants: LWR Edition'" (NUREG-0800) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 15, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6884. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Steam Generator Materials and Design" (NUREG-0800) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 15, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6885. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval of California Air Plan Revisions, Department of Pesticide Regulations"

(FRL No. 9951-19-Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6886. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Partial Approval and Partial Disapproval of Air Quality Implementation Plans; NJ; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for 2008 Lead, 2008 Ozone, 2010 Nitrogen Dioxide, 2010 Sulfur Dioxide, and 2012 PM_{2.5}, 2006 PM₁₀ and 2011 Carbon Monoxide NAAQS: Interstate Transport Provisions" (FRL No. 9952-41-Region 2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6887. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval of Iowa's Air Quality Implementation Plans; Correction" (FRL No. 9952-44-Region 7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6888. 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; Maryland; Control of Volatile Organic Compounds Emissions from Fiberglass Boat Manufacturing Materials; Withdrawal of Direct Final Rule" (FRL No. 9952-47-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6889. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Tennessee; Revision and Removal of Stage I and II Gasoline Vapor Recovery Program" (FRL No. 9952-50-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6890. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; SC Infrastructure Requirements for the 2010 1-hour NO₂ NAAQS" (FRL No. 9952-28-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6891. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Ohio; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2012 PM_{2.5} NAAQS" (FRL No. 9952-42-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6892. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Alabama; Volatile Organic Compounds" (FRL No. 9952-30-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6893. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval/Disapproval; MS

Infrastructure Requirements for the 2010 NO₂ NAAQS" (FRL No. 9952-33-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6894. 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; Texas; Infrastructure or Requirements for the 2008 Ozone and 2010 Nitrogen Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standards" (FRL No. 9950-77-Region 6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6895. 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; State of Colorado; Second Ten-Year PM₁₀ Maintenance Plan for Lamar" (FRL No. 9952-09-Region 8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6896. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; VT; Prevention of Significant Deterioration, PM_{2.5}" (FRL No. 9952-11-Region 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6897. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; GA; Infrastructure Requirements for the 2010 1-hour NO₂ NAAQS" (FRL No. 9952-32-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6898. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval and Disapproval; North Carolina: New Source Review for Fine Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5})" (FRL No. 9952-31-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6899. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Materials Reliability Program: Primary Water Stress Corrosion Cracking Mitigation by Surface Stress Improvement (MRP-335 Revision 3)" (TAC No. MF2429) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6900. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Removal of Environmental Considerations Regulations" ((RIN1660-AA87) (Docket No. FEMA-2016-0018)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 30, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6901. 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 Imple-

mentation Plans; Texas; Revisions to the General Definitions for Texas New Source Review and the Minor NSR Qualified Facilities Program" (FRL No. 9950-32-Region 6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6902. 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 "Relief for Victims of Louisiana Storms" (Announcement 2016-30) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6903. 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 "Waiver of 60-Day Rollover Requirement" (Rev. Proc. 2016-47) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6904. 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 "Examinations of Returns and Claims for Refund, Credit, or Abatement; Determination of Correct Tax Liability" (Rev. Proc. 2016-46) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6905. 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 "Definition of Real Estate Investment Trust Real Property" ((RIN1545-BM05) (TD 9784)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6906. 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 "Definition of Terms Relating to Marital Status" ((RIN1545-BM10) (TD 9785)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6907. 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 "Management Contracts Safe Harbors" (Rev. Proc. 2016-44) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6908. 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 "Eliminating Business Purpose and Device as No-Rules under Section 355" (Rev. Proc. 2016-45) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6909. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Emergency Preparedness Requirements for Medicare and Medicaid Participating Providers and Suppliers" ((RIN0938-A091) (CMS-3178-F)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 13, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6910. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003,

a semiannual report detailing telecommunications-related payments made to Cuba pursuant to Department of the Treasury licenses; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6911. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the interdiction of aircraft engaged in illicit drug trafficking; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6912. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 16-008); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6913. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 16-010); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6914. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 16-026); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6915. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 16-034); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6916. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 16-054); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6917. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 16-061); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6918. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a section of the Arms Export Control Act (RSAT 16-5068); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6919. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2016-0105 - 2016-0116); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6920. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "International Traffic in Arms: Revisions to Definition of Export and Related Definitions" (RIN1400-AD70) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 6, 2016; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6921. A communication from the Deputy Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Priorities—Enhanced Assessment Instruments" ((CFDA No. 84.368A.) (Docket No. ED-2016-OESE-0004)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 13, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6922. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services,

transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Maximum Civil Money Penalty Amounts; Technical Amendment" (Docket No. FDA-2016-N-1745) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6923. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties for Inflation" (RIN0970-AC0) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6924. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the Developmental Disabilities Programs for fiscal years 2011-2012; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6925. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Pre-market Approval of Pediatric Uses of Devices—Fiscal Year 2014"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6926. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Division of Select Agents and Toxins, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Possession, Use, and Transfer of Select Agents and Toxins—Addition of *Bacillus cereus* Biovar anthracis to the HHS List of Select Agents and Toxins" (RIN0920-AA64) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 13, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6927. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semi-annual reports of the Attorney General relative to enforcement actions taken by the Department of Justice under the Lobbying Disclosure Act for the period from July 1, 2015, through December 31, 2015; to the Committees on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; and the Judiciary.

EC-6928. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to an alternative plan for pay increases for civilian Federal employees covered by the General Schedule and certain other pay systems in January 2017, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 1, 2016; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6929. A communication from the Director, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Interpretation, Exemptions and Waiver Guidance Concerning 18 U.S.C. 208 (Acts Affecting A Personal Financial Interest): Amendment to Definition of 'Employee'" (RIN3209-AA09) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2016; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6930. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Guidance for Executive Order 13673, 'Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces'" (RIN1290-ZA02) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 26, 2016; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6931. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to an order that would cancel debts assessed against the Yakama Nation; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-6932. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to settlements and consent decrees and orders; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-6933. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to settlements and consent decrees and orders; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-6934. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Agency, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedules of Controlled Substances: Placement of PB-22, 5F-PB-22, AB-FUBINACA and ADB-PINACA into Schedule I" (Docket No. DEA-433) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 6, 2016; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-6935. A communication from the Secretary of the Commission, Bureau of Competition, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Premerger Notification; Reporting and Waiting Period Requirements" (16 CFR Part 803) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2016; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-6936. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Coming Into Focus: The Future of Juvenile Justice Reform, 2014 Annual Report"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-6937. A communication from the Chief of the Border Security Regulations Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Technical Corrections Relating to Issuance of Notices to Appear, Warrants of Removal, Exercise of Power by Immigration Officers, and Standards for Enforcement Activities" (CBP Dec. 16-14) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 1, 2016; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-6938. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Government Contracting, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustments" (RIN3245-AG80) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2016; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-6939. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the recommendations and underlying objectives offered by the Commission on Care, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 1, 2016; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-6940. A communication from the Office Program Manager, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Telephone Enrollment in the VA Healthcare System" (RIN2900-AP68) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 13, 2016; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-6941. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal

No. FAA-2016-6983) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6966. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Textron Aviation, Inc. Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2016-8992)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6967. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd and Co KG Turbofan Engines" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2006-25513)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6968. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Great Egg Harbor Bay, Marmora, NJ" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2016-0665)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6969. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Dredging, Shark River, NJ" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2016-0824)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6970. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Caribbean Fantasy, Vessel on Fire; Punta Salinas, Toa Baja, Puerto Rico" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2016-0832)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6971. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Security Zone; Kailua Bay, Oahu, HI" ((RIN1625-AA87) (Docket No. USCG-2015-1030)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6972. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Security Zone; U.S. Navy/U.S. Coast Guard Assets Demonstration in Conjunction with Fleet Week San Diego, San Diego Bay; San Diego, CA" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2016-0756)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6973. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Upper Mississippi River, St. Louis, MO" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2016-0689)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6974. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Port Huron Float-Down, St. Clair River, Port Huron, MI" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2016-0751)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6975. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Hackensack River, Jersey City, NJ" ((RIN1625-AA09) (Docket No. USCG-2016-0173)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6976. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulated Navigation Area; Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery, ME and Portsmouth, NH" ((RIN1625-AA09) (Docket No. USCG-2016-0513)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6977. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "International Fisheries; Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species; Closure on Purse Seine Fishery in the ELAPS in 2016" (RIN0648-XE741) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6978. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries" (RIN0648-XE725) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6979. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Snapper-Grouper Resources of the South Atlantic; Trip Limit Reduction" (RIN0648-XE824) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6980. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Bluefish Fishery; Quota Transfer" (RIN0648-XE782) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6981. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the West Yakutat District of the Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648-XE772) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6982. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Atka Mackerel in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (RIN0648-XE833) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6983. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class E Airspace; Slaton, TX" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2016-3785)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6984. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class E Airspace; Dupree, SD" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2015-3599)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6985. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (76); Amdt. No. 3709" (RIN2120-AA65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6986. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (15); Amdt. No. 3708" (RIN2120-AA65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6987. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (112); Amdt. No. 3707" (RIN2120-AA65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6988. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (86); Amdt. No. 3710" (RIN2120-AA65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6989. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Part 95 Instrument Flight Rules; Miscellaneous

Amendments; Amendment No. 528" (RIN2120-AA63) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6990. A communication from the Secretary of the Commission, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Labeling Rule" (RIN3084-AB15) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6991. A communication from the Secretary of the Commission, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rules, Regulations, Statements of General Policy or Interpretation and Exemptions Under the Fair Packaging and Labeling Act" (RIN3084-AB33) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6992. A communication from the Paralegal, Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Public Transportation Safety Program" (RIN2132-AB22) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 1, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6993. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Reciprocal Waivers of Claims for Licensed or Permitted Launch and Reentry Activities" ((RIN2120-AK44) (Docket No. FAA-2014-1012)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6994. A communication from the Trial Attorney, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "System Safety Program" (RIN2130-AC31) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6995. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "MU-2B Series Airplane Training Requirements Update" ((RIN2120-AK63) (Docket No. FAA-2006-24981)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6996. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Reclassification of Specially Denatured Spirits and Completely Denatured Alcohol Formulas and Related Amendments" (RIN1513-AB59) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6997. A communication from the Deputy Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rates for Interstate Inmate Calling Services" ((FCC 16-102) (WC Docket No. 12-375)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 13, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6998. A communication from the Program Analyst, Office of Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2016" ((FCC 16-121) (MD Docket No. 16-166)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6999. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Chesapeake Bay, Hampton, VA" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2016-0371)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petition or memorial was laid before the Senate and was referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-205. A petition from a citizen of the Commonwealth of Kentucky relative to veterans' benefits; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. ROBERTS, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

H.R. 2647. An act to expedite under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and improve forest management activities on National Forest System lands, on public lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, and on tribal lands to return resilience to overgrown, fire-prone forested lands, and for other purposes.

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. RUBIO:

S. 3351. A bill to prohibit certain transfers of individuals detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to prohibit funds from being made available for the closure of that Naval Station, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 3352. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide student loan deferment for victims of terrorist attacks; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. ALEXANDER):

S. Res. 570. A resolution recognizing the importance of substance abuse disorder treatment and recovery in the United States;

to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MANCHIN:

S. Res. 571. A resolution providing official recognition of the massacre of 11 African-American soldiers of the 333rd Field Artillery Battalion of the United States Army who had been captured near Wereth, Belgium, during the Battle of the Bulge on December 17, 1944; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 241

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 241, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the payment of temporary compensation to a surviving spouse of a veteran upon the death of the veteran, and for other purposes.

S. 391

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 391, a bill to preserve and protect the free choice of individual employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations, or to refrain from such activities.

S. 746

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 746, a bill to provide for the establishment of a Commission to Accelerate the End of Breast Cancer.

S. 1473

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1473, a bill to authorize the appropriation of funds to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for conducting or supporting research on firearms safety or gun violence prevention.

S. 1604

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1604, a bill to establish the Transition to Independence Medicaid Buy-In Option demonstration program.

S. 1651

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1651, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 1679

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1679, a bill to amend the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 to require that certain buildings and personal property be covered by flood insurance, and for other purposes.

S. 1766

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Michigan

(Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1766, a bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to review the discharge characterization of former members of the Armed Forces who were discharged by reason of the sexual orientation of the member, and for other purposes.

S. 1858

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1858, a bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and for other purposes.

S. 2253

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2253, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide veterans affected by closures of educational institutions certain relief and restoration of educational benefits, and for other purposes.

S. 2268

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2268, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the United States Army Dust Off crews of the Vietnam War, collectively, in recognition of their extraordinary heroism and life-saving actions in Vietnam.

S. 2541

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2541, a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to clarify provisions enacted by the Captive Wildlife Safety Act to provide the conservation of prohibited wildlife species.

S. 2748

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2748, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the number of permanent faculty in palliative care at accredited allopathic and osteopathic medical schools, nursing schools, social work schools, and other programs, including physician assistant education programs, to promote education and research in palliative care and hospice, and to support the development of faculty careers in academic palliative medicine.

S. 2799

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2799, a bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop a voluntary patient registry to collect data on cancer incidence among firefighters.

S. 2895

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from

Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2895, a bill to extend the civil statute of limitations for victims of Federal sex offenses.

S. 2932

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2932, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the provision of emergency medical services.

S. 2953

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2953, a bill to promote patient-centered care and accountability at the Indian Health Service, and for other purposes.

S. 2999

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) were added as cosponsors of S. 2999, a bill to prohibit the transfer of any individual detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

S. 3065

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) were added as cosponsors of S. 3065, a bill to amend parts B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act to invest in funding prevention and family services to help keep children safe and supported at home, to ensure that children in foster care are placed in the least restrictive, most family-like, and appropriate settings, and for other purposes.

S. 3183

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3183, a bill to prohibit the circumvention of control measures used by Internet ticket sellers to ensure equitable consumer access to tickets for any given event, and for other purposes.

S. 3188

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3188, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the incentives for biodiesel.

S. 3198

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) were added as cosponsors of S. 3198, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the provision of adult day health care services for veterans.

S. 3217

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr.

DONNELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3217, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for an annuity supplement for certain air traffic controllers.

S. 3296

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3296, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an exemption to the individual mandate to maintain health coverage for individuals residing in counties with fewer than 2 health insurance issuers offering plans on an Exchange.

S. 3330

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3330, a bill to reduce the benefits of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs who are medical professionals and were convicted of violent crimes against veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 3335

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3335, a bill to require reporting regarding certain drug price increases, and for other purposes.

S. 3346

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) were added as cosponsors of S. 3346, a bill to authorize the programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 432

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 432, a resolution supporting respect for human rights and encouraging inclusive governance in Ethiopia.

S. RES. 527

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 527, a resolution recognizing the 75th anniversary of the opening of the National Gallery of Art.

S. RES. 564

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 564, a resolution condemning North Korea's fifth nuclear test on September 9, 2016.

S. RES. 565

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from California

(Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 565, a resolution designating the week beginning September 12, 2016, as "National Hispanic-Serving Institutions Week".

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 570—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE DISORDER TREATMENT AND RECOVERY IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. ALEXANDER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 570

Whereas National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month is observed in September of 2016;

Whereas, in 2015, an estimated 17,000,000 individuals in the United States were dependent on, or abused, alcohol;

Whereas substance use disorders are a serious public health threat in the United States, and are associated with—

- (1) mental and physical health conditions;
- (2) lower educational attainment;
- (3) underemployment or unemployment;
- (4) involvement with the criminal justice system;
- (5) victimization and perpetration of violence; and
- (6) homelessness;

Whereas, in 2014, 9.4 percent of adolescents in the United States used illicit drugs during the month before being surveyed;

Whereas young adults between the ages of 18 and 25 have higher rates of alcohol dependence and abuse and illicit substance dependence and abuse as compared to other age groups;

Whereas the rates of alcohol dependence or abuse and illicit substance dependence or abuse are higher among individuals—

- (1) without health insurance;
- (2) living in households with incomes less than 100 percent of the Federal poverty level; and
- (3) living in metropolitan areas;

Whereas 90 percent of individuals with alcohol dependence or abuse do not receive, or perceive a need for, treatment for their alcohol use;

Whereas the most recent epidemic of substance use disorders relates to prescription opioids and heroin, and approximately 600 individuals begin using heroin each day;

Whereas overdose deaths from opioids have nearly quadrupled since 1999;

Whereas drug-related suicide attempts leading to emergency department visits have increased by 51 percent since 2005;

Whereas 23,500,000 individuals in the United States are in recovery from substance use disorders;

Whereas the stigma associated with substance use disorders is an additional barrier to people of the United States who strive toward recovery every day;

Whereas substance use treatment has been shown to be effective in reducing substance use, and can produce positive outcomes for individuals; and

Whereas there is a nationwide need for—

- (1) increased education regarding substance use;
- (2) increased access to substance use treatment; and

(3) increased attention to reducing substance use stigma: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the importance of National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month;

(2) affirms the continued need of the United States to provide resources for substance use education, treatment, and research; and

(3) honors the significant achievements of people of the United States who are in recovery from substance use disorders.

SENATE RESOLUTION 571—PROVIDING OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF THE MASSACRE OF 11 AFRICAN-AMERICAN SOLDIERS OF THE 333RD FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY WHO HAD BEEN CAPTURED NEAR WERETH, BELGIUM, DURING THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE ON DECEMBER 17, 1944

Mr. MANCHIN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 571

Whereas, during the Battle of the Bulge in Belgium in December 1944, elements of the 333rd Field Artillery Battalion, an African-American unit, were among the units of the United States Army overrun in the initial German attack;

Whereas 11 soldiers from different batteries of the 333rd Field Artillery Battalion attempted to escape capture and return to the lines of the United States;

Whereas the 11 soldiers were Curtis Adams of South Carolina, Mager Bradley of Mississippi, George Davis, Jr. of Alabama, Thomas Forte of Mississippi, Robert Green of Georgia, James Leatherwood of Mississippi, Nathaniel Moss of Texas, George Motten of Texas, William Pritchett of Alabama, James Stewart of West Virginia, and Due Turner of Arkansas;

Whereas the 11 soldiers were captured by a German patrol composed of SS soldiers, who, after dark, marched the unarmed soldiers to a nearby field and massacred them;

Whereas the massacre of the 11 African-American soldiers of the 333rd Field Artillery Battalion in Wereth remains unknown to the vast majority of the people of the United States; and

Whereas, in 2004, a permanent monument was dedicated in Wereth to the 11 African-American soldiers of the 333rd Field Artillery Battalion who lost their lives in Wereth during the Battle of the Bulge in an effort to defeat fascism and defend freedom: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate officially recognizes the dedicated service and ultimate sacrifice on behalf of the United States of the 11 African-American soldiers of the 333rd Field Artillery Battalion of the United States Army who were massacred in Wereth, Belgium, during the Battle of the Bulge on December 17, 1944.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the

Senate on September 19, 2016, at 5 p.m., to hold a classified briefing entitled "Assessing the Recent North Korea Nuclear Event, Missile Tests and Regional Dynamics."

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

WEST LOS ANGELES LEASING ACT OF 2016

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 5936, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5936) to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into certain leases at the Department of Veterans Affairs West Los Angeles Campus in Los Angeles, California, to make certain improvements to the enhanced-use lease authority of the Department, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

The Chair hears none.

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 5936) was passed.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I further ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL WALL OF REMEMBRANCE ACT OF 2016

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 572, H.R. 1475.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1475) to authorize a Wall of Remembrance as part of the Korean War Veterans Memorial and to allow certain private contributions to fund that Wall of Remembrance.

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Korean War Veterans Memorial Wall of Remembrance Act".

SEC. 2. WALL OF REMEMBRANCE.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 8908(c) of title 40, United States Code, the Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation, Inc.,

may construct a Wall of Remembrance at the site of the Korean War Veterans Memorial.

(2) REQUIREMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Wall of Remembrance shall include a list of names of members of the Armed Forces of the United States who died in the Korean War, as determined by the Secretary of Defense, in accordance with subparagraph (B).

(B) CRITERIA; SUBMISSION TO THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.—The Secretary of Defense shall—

(i) establish eligibility criteria for the inclusion of names on the Wall of Remembrance under subparagraph (A); and

(ii) provide to the Secretary of the Interior a final list of names for inclusion on the Wall of Remembrance under subparagraph (A) that meet the criteria established under clause (i).

(3) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.—The Wall of Remembrance may include other information about the Korean War, including the number of members of the Armed Forces of the United States, the Korean Augmentation to the United States Army, the Republic of Korea Armed Forces, and the other nations of the United Nations Command who, in regards to the Korean War—

(A) were killed in action;

(B) were wounded in action;

(C) are listed as missing in action; or

(D) were prisoners of war.

(b) COMMEMORATIVE WORKS ACT.—Except as provided in subsection (a)(1), chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the “Commemorative Works Act”), shall apply.

(c) NO FEDERAL FUNDS.—No Federal funds may be used to construct the Wall of Remembrance.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendment be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed, and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

The bill (H.R. 1475), as amended, was passed.

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces, on behalf of the Democratic leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 114-215, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the John F. Kennedy Centennial Commission: the Honorable EDWARD J. MARKEY of Massachusetts.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 20, 2016

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, September 20; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 5325; finally, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come be-

fore the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:29 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, September 20, 2016, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON
PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

MARKOS KOUNALAKIS, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2017, VICE LYNDON L. OLSON, JR., TERM EXPIRED.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE
HUMANITIES

GAIL O'CONNOR MELLOW, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE HUMANITIES FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 26, 2022, VICE ALBERT J. BEVERIDGE III, TERM EXPIRED.

DANA A. WILLIAMS, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE HUMANITIES FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 26, 2022, VICE JOHN UNSWORTH, TERM EXPIRED.

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES

CLAUDIA SLACK, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 20, 2019, VICE PATRICIA M. LOUI, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TINA S. KAIDANOW, OF MARYLAND, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (POLITICAL-MILITARY AFFAIRS), VICE PUNEET TALWAR, RESIGNED.

JUSTIN H. SIBERELL, OF MARYLAND, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE COORDINATOR FOR COUNTERTERRORISM, WITH THE RANK AND STATUS OF AMBASSADOR AT LARGE, VICE TINA S. KAIDANOW, RESIGNED.

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

ELIZABETH A. FIELD, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, VICE PATRICK E. MCFARLAND, RESIGNED.